

Weather Forecast

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

Until My Last Breath, I Will Defend Sanatana Dharma - Pawan Kalyan

Is Rama Only the God of the North? Not Ours?

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: At the Varahi Sabha in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena leader Pawan Kalyan delivered a fiery speech, defending the cultural and religious importance of Lord Rama in the country. Kalyan emphasized that Lord Rama is not just the God of the North but is worshipped across the entire country.

In his passionate address, Pawan Kalyan said, "The whole country worships Lord Ram, but if Lord Ram is paraded with shoes, should we just watch? Should we sit in our rooms and cry in silence?" He expressed frustration, referring to the incident where Lord Rama's head was desecrated at Ram Tirtha, and added, "What did we do when Lord Rama's head was severed? We cursed ourselves in fear, afraid to speak out lest we be labeled as fanatics."

He criticized the theory that Lord Rama is only the God of the North, saying, "This idea that Rama is the God of the North is a misconception. Rama is the backbone of our country's culture. Is God not for all of us?" Pawan explained the universality of Sanatana Dharma, stating, "Rama is in the blue cloud, Krishna is in the blue cloud, and Goddess Kali is black. Sanatana Dharma has no color discrimination."

Criticism of Secularist Views and Udayanidhi Stalin's Comments

Pawan Kalyan did not hold back in criticizing certain political leaders and secularists. He condemned those who trivialized the Ayodhya Ram Janmabhoomi Pratishtha ceremony, citing how an opposition leader insulted it as a mere 'dance and song' event. "Can any Hindu ques-



tion this? Should we sit quietly as they mock Lord Rama?" he asked, lamenting the derogatory remarks made about the Ramayana.

Pawan Kalyan also addressed recent controversial comments made by Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister Udayanidhi Stalin, who had referred to Sanatana Dharma as a virus. Speaking in Tamil and English, Pawan Kalyan warned, "Sanatana Dharma is like a virus, some young leaders are talking about eradicating it. But no one can destroy Sanatana Dharma. If anyone tries, they will be wiped out."

Pawan Kalyan, in his speech, declared his un-

wavering commitment to protecting Sanatana Dharma, stating that he is willing to sacrifice his life if necessary. "I will not be afraid, even if I lose my position as Deputy CM.

I will fight for Dharma," he declared. He also criticized the courts for seemingly protecting those who attack Sanatana Dharma, expressing disappointment at the lack of action against such individuals. Through his remarks, Pawan Kalyan reinforced his stance as a staunch defender of Sanatana Dharma and made it clear that any threats to this ancient faith would be met with strong resistance.



Tirupati Laddu Controversy Supreme Court to Take Up Inquiry Today

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The controversy surrounding the use of adulterated ghee in Tirumala's Srivari Laddu has reached the Supreme Court. The hearing on the petitions filed regarding this issue will continue today (October 4). However, due to the bench headed by Justice BR Gavai needing to hear another important case, the Laddu case has been adjourned until 10:30 AM on Friday.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appealed to the court, stating that an important case hearing was scheduled for today, and it would not be appropriate to delay it for the Laddu case. Considering his request, the Supreme Court decided to prioritize the other case, postponing the Laddu case until tomorrow.

Recently, senior BJP leader Subrahmanyaswamy filed a petition requesting that the investigation into the laddu adulteration case be conducted under the supervision of the Supreme Court. YCP Rajya Sabha member and former TTD chairman YV Subbareddy has also approached the Supreme Court regarding this dispute.

The Supreme Court had previously heard these petitions on September 30 and scheduled the next hearing for October 3. However, due to the importance of today's other case, it was not possible to continue the Laddu case investigation.

Govt Steps Up Efforts Towards a Drug-Free AP

Technology Should be Used to Clamp Down on Cannabis, Says Minister Nara Lokesh



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh government has intensified its efforts to tackle drug abuse, with a particular focus on controlling the cultivation and use of cannabis in the state. Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized the need for strict measures during the second meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on the Control of Narcotics, held at the Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita and included key ministers such as Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra, Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav, Tribal Welfare Minister Gummidi Sandhyarani, DGP Dwarka Tirumala Rao, and other senior police officers.

Minister Lokesh stressed the urgency of the issue, warning that, "If we don't take strict action now, we will lose an entire generation." He called for a comprehensive approach, including door-to-door awareness campaigns to educate the public on the harmful effects of cannabis. The minister also proposed the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other technologies to track and control the supply of gan-

ja from neighboring states.

Lokesh suggested learning from best practices implemented in other states and emphasized the need for both visible and invisible policing. He proposed involving women police officers and staff from village and ward secretariats in the fight against drug abuse. As part of the awareness initiative, videos will be shown to students from KG to PG, and partnerships with celebrities will be established to spread the message about the dangers of drug use.

The meeting also discussed the procedures for the soon-to-be-formed AP Anti-Narcotics Task Force. Senior police officials presented the steps already taken within the first hundred days of the alliance government's rule. Plans were unveiled for the establishment of Narcotic Control Cells in all 26 districts and a dedicated narcotics police station in Amaravati. A toll-free helpline (1908) will also be set up for the public to report drug-related issues.



Nagarjuna's Defamation Suit Against Minister Konda Surekha

- Akkineni Nagarjuna files a case in Nampally court

- Nagarjuna claims the minister has damaged the honor of his family

TPN, Hyderabad: Film actor Akkineni Nagarjuna has filed a defamation suit against Telangana Minister Konda Surekha. The suit was filed in the Nampally court, where Nagarjuna requested that criminal action be taken against the minister. Nagarjuna took legal action following the minister's comments, alleging his involvement in the separation of actresses Samantha and Naga Chaitanya. He claimed that Konda Surekha's statements have defamed his family, and he urged the court to initiate criminal proceedings.

Complaint at Banjara Hills Police Station

Several women corporators from the BRS party lodged a complaint against Minister Konda Surekha at the Banjara Hills Police Station. The complaint was filed following her sensational allegations against KTR and film celebrities. The corporators expressed their disapproval of her comments.

Speaking on the occasion, the women corporators said that Konda Surekha's recent comments have brought embarrassment to members of society. They claimed her allegations were baseless and demanded a public apology from her, as well as a retraction of her statements regarding KTR.



CM with Family to Offer Silk Clothes at Tirumala Brahmotsavam



4th to 12th, 2024. As part of the grand festivities, Andhra Pradesh's former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, along with his wife Nara Bhuvaneshwari, will present traditional silk clothes to the deity on October 4th (Today). This ceremonial offering is made on behalf of the state government as a mark of devotion and respect to Lord Venkateswara.

The Brahmotsavam, one of the most revered events in the Hindu calendar, attracts thousands of devotees to the sacred Tirumala Kshetra each year. This year's festival is expected to be especially grand, with meticulous preparations already in place to accommodate the influx of pilgrims.

Chandrababu Naidu, known for his deep connection to the temple, will not only participate in the silk clothes offering but will also attend the Peda Sesa Vahana Seva on October 5th, a significant ritual where the deity is taken on a grand procession atop the majestic seven-headed serpent, Adishesha.

The two-day visit of the CM and his wife highlights the significance of the Brahmotsavam and reinforces the importance of state leaders paying homage to Lord Venkateswara. As the temple gears up for the week-long celebrations, devotees eagerly await the spiritual upliftment and divine blessings that the Brahmotsavam brings.

The festival will continue with various sevas and processions until October 12th, offering a chance for devotees to seek blessings and participate in the sacred rituals.

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Tirumala, often referred to as the Kaliyuga Vaikuntam, is set to host the annual Brahmotsavam of Sri Venkateswara Swamy from October



Visakha Steel Plant Decision Reversed, Workers Secure Victory

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The workers of Visakha Steel Plant have achieved a significant victory. The management, under pressure from the workers, has agreed to reinstate contract labor. An agreement to this effect was made in the presence of the Labor Commissioner. The management, which had earlier decided to lay off 4,200 contract employees in September, has now reversed its decision and reinstated them.

The united fight of the Visakha steel workers led to this crucial victory. The management's plan to significantly reduce contract workers as part of the privatization process was thwarted. As the workers' protests showed signs of intensifying, the management was forced to reconsider. Negotiations with trade unions were initiated, and the management gave a written commitment in the presence of the Labor Commissioner that no worker would be terminated. This victory has brought joy to the workers, and the trade unions, along with the Visakha Steel Conservation Struggle Committee, have vowed to continue their fight to block privatization and ensure the plant's merger with SAIL.

Initially, despite large-scale protests, the management refused to negotiate with the trade unions. However, a long discussion was held between the steel plant management and contract labor

unions on Wednesday, from 12 noon to 7 pm, in the presence of the Labor Commissioner. Ultimately, the management agreed not to terminate any contract workers and to reinstate the labor passes of the 3,700 workers who had already been let go. They also agreed to restore the biometric database in the system and continue using the old format for gate passes.

The management assured that the renewal process for the workers would be completed online within seven days. During the talks, labor leaders emphasized that they would not stand by if any workers were mistreated. Labor Commissioner Mahanthi urged the management to focus on protecting workers' employment and increasing production at the steel plant.

All-party trade union leaders warned the central BJP government that if the Visakha Steel Plant is not merged into SAIL and if its own mines are not allocated, they will intensify their protests. They also declared that if the government's privatization policies are not abandoned, they will showcase their collective strength. Meanwhile, protests at the GVMC Gandhi statue, part of the ongoing state-wide efforts by the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of trade unions to protect the Visakha Steel Plant, continued.



YCP Govt Will Return Unjust Rule Continues in the State ... - YS Jagan

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, the leader of the YSR Congress Party (YCP) and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, met with ZPTC members and other leaders from the joint West Godavari district today. During the meeting, Jagan sought to reassure YCP workers, asserting that the unjust rule in the state is ongoing and that the YCP government will return to power.

Jagan emphasized the importance of credibility and character in politics, stating that standing by the people in times of need is crucial for achieving victory. He assured party workers that the YCP has fulfilled every promise made to the people over the past five years.

Criticizing the opposition, Jagan claimed that Chandrababu Naidu's lies have now turned into frauds and that public anger against Naidu is steadily increasing. He further commented that the people have noticed the clear difference between the YCP and the TDP, asserting that the YCP represents true governance.

Addressing concerns about legal cases against party workers, Jagan urged them not to be afraid. He reiterated that despite the current unjust rule in the state, the YCP government will return to power, bringing justice and good governance back to the people.

AP Cabinet Meeting Scheduled for October 10, Key Issues to be Discussed



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, will convene on October 10 at 11 AM at the Velagapudi Secretariat. Chief Secretary Nirab Kumar Prasad issued an official order on Wednesday, directing Special Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, and Secretaries of all departments to prepare proposals for discussion. These proposals, in the prescribed format, must be submitted to the General Administration Department by 4 PM on October 8.

Several significant issues are expected to be discussed during the meeting, including the implementation of the promises made in the election

manifesto. Among the key topics is the progress of the Amaravati capital construction and the Polavaram project, two of the state's most important infrastructural ventures.

Another major item on the agenda is the scheme for distributing free gas cylinders, a key welfare measure, along with the possible approval of the P-4 program. Additionally, the Cabinet is likely to take a decision on abolishing the garbage tax currently imposed in the state.

Other important discussions will include door-to-door tap water installation through the Jal Jeevan Mission and a key decision on the

notification of the DSC (District Selection Committee) exams. The AP TET (Teacher Eligibility Test) exams, which began on October 3, will also be reviewed, with CM Chandrababu Naidu previously announcing that the DSC notifications would be released in December following the exams.

The meeting will also touch upon district-wise development issues and new programs to be launched for the welfare of the people. This cabinet session is expected to approve several critical decisions that will shape the immediate future of Andhra Pradesh's governance and development.

Johnny Master Gets Temporary Relief in Court

- Rangareddy District Court grants interim bail
- Bail granted from the 6th to the 10th of this month
- Court decision made to allow him to receive a national award



TPN, Telangana: Famous choreographer Johnny Master, who is accused of sexually assaulting a young woman who worked as an assistant choreographer for him, received some relief from the Rangareddy District Court. He has been granted interim bail, with the court issuing orders that allow him bail from the 6th to the 10th of this month. This bail was granted so he could attend the ceremony to receive a national award.

Johnny Master had filed a bail petition, stating that he was scheduled to receive a national award in Delhi and requested interim bail for five days to attend the event. The court considered his petition and granted the requested bail.

Obscured Systems Will Soon Be Put in Order - Minister Ramanaidu

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has announced that defunct systems will soon be set right. He alleged that the YCP government left Rs. 18,000 crore in arrears in the water resources department alone.

Minister Ramanaidu also claimed that Andhra Pradesh suffered significant losses under Jagan Mohan Reddy's government. He argued that the damage done to the state during the YCP regime from 2019-24 was greater than the harm caused by the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.



He pointed out that some officials are still adhering to outdated systems, but assured that everything will be corrected. The Minister emphasized that there is a need for change at the higher levels of administra-

tion and within the system itself. He also criticized certain senior officials, stating that in their efforts to support the YCP's removal, they seem to have forgotten proper procedures.

Jagan's "Navaratnalu" promises were nothing but Nine Deceptions

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: State Social Welfare Minister Dola Shri Bala Veeranjanya Swamy launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Speaking to the media on Thursday, the Minister expressed his frustration, stating that Jagan cannot sit idle and is constantly "spewing pollution" against the government. He criticized Jagan for canceling the "Anna Canteen" initiative, which helped feed the poor, and accused him of taking away more from the people than he gave over the past five years under the guise of pressing buttons for schemes.



Minister Dola also remarked that Jagan's "Navaratnalu" promises were nothing more than "navamosa" (nine deceptions), and people have now chased him past the "navagrahas" (the nine planets, symbolizing difficulties). He praised current Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, stating that Naidu governs with a focus on both development and welfare, in contrast to Jagan, who failed to deliver on promises.

would implement the "Super Six" promises, which would deal a "super stroke" to the YCP. He criticized Jagan for his stance on various cases, calling it hypocritical for someone who has faced numerous legal issues to talk about justice and fairness. He further accused Jagan of canceling the free sand distribution program and enabling the sand mafia to loot crores.

Minister Dola concluded by stating that Jagan's talks about justice and dharma are shameful, especially considering his actions during his tenure as Chief Minister.

Dola also emphasized that the government

YS Sharmila Claims Credit for Vizag Steel Plant's Decision to Retain Contract Workers

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: As the controversy over the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant continues in Andhra Pradesh, another major issue recently emerged: the termination of 4,200 contract employees by the plant's management. After the announcement of their dismissal, workers once again took to the streets in protest.

YS Sharmila, the Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) chief, expressed solidarity with the workers yesterday and issued an ultimatum to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. She warned that if the termination of the contract workers was not reversed, she would launch a protest. In response, the steel plant management today made an unexpected announcement, reversing their decision to dismiss the employees.

Welcoming the decision, YS Sharmila issued a statement, celebrating the reinstatement of the 4,200 contract workers. She credited the Congress party for this victory, claiming that the management's reversal was a result of her firm warning and planned initiation of protests. "This is the victory of the Congress party," Sharmila declared, emphasizing her role in advocating for the workers.

She further assured the workers of the Congress party's continued support, stat-



ing that they would stand by them and fight for their rights. Sharmila also vowed to escalate their campaign against the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, rallying against the central government's decision. She called upon the workers and the public to protect the dignity and self-respect of the iconic steel plant, promising that her fight against privatization would continue with greater momentum.

YS Sharmila's intervention has brought relief to the workers, who now look forward to retaining their jobs. Meanwhile, the Congress party is positioning itself as a key defender of workers' rights and public assets in Andhra Pradesh.

Home Minister Anitha Issues Warning Over Eluru Call Money Incident

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Home Minister Vanagalapudi Anita has issued a stern warning regarding the recent Eluru call money scandal, stating that the government will not tolerate high interest rates and illegal collections. She emphasized that anyone involved in such activities will face criminal charges and added that special surveillance has been set up across the state to prevent these incidents from occurring.



Anita reiterated the government's commitment to taking the call money and interest business seriously. She made it clear that individuals who harass common people with daily interest schemes would not be spared.

The incident in Eluru came to light when victims of the call money scam reported harassment by a YCP

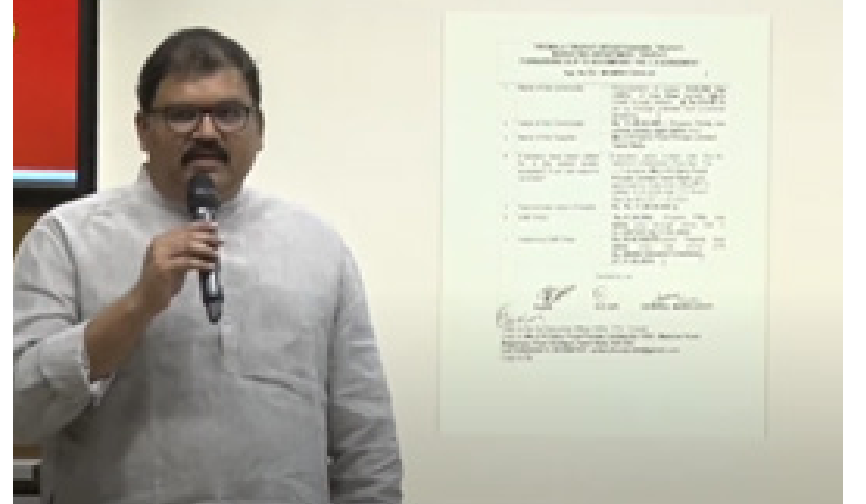
leader. They claimed that they were charged exorbitant interest rates on loans and were subjected to abuse if they failed to pay on time. The victims also alleged that they were being dragged to court over promissory notes taken during the loan process.

It is reported that Minister Anita has already discussed the issue with the Eluru District SP to take appropriate action.

In response to the complaints, Minister Anita expressed her anger over the exploitation of people through excessive interest rates and illegal charges. She criticized the practice of collecting inflated interest before the loan installment due date and doubling the interest after deadlines. "Those who exploit innocent people with unlawful fees will face severe punishment," she warned.

An Unforgivable Sin As been Done By YCP - Pattabhiram

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Telugu Desam Party National Spokesperson, Kommareddy Pattabhiram, has accused the YCP government of supplying adulterated ghee, mixed with animal fat, to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) for the preparation of Venkateswara Swamy's laddu prasadam. He stated that the government has not only defiled the TTD but also hurt the sentiments of devotees worldwide.



At a press conference held today at the Telugu Desam Party's central office in Mangalagiri, Pattabhiram revealed several key documents to the media, alleging that the YCP government had awarded a contract worth Rs. 31.98 crores to AR Foods for the supply of ghee, which turned out to be adulterated.

Pattabhiram strongly condemned the YCP government for committing what he termed as an "unpardonable sin" by using adulterated ghee in the sacred prasadam. He accused the government of awarding the contract for 10 lakh kilograms of pure cow ghee to AR Foods despite the company's inability to meet the supply requirements. He presented further evidence to the public, asserting that the company's production capacity was far less than what was needed for the contract.

Pattabhiram explained that the YCP government issued a purchase order to AR Foods Dairy on May 15, 2024, a day before Chandrababu Naidu took charge as Chief Minister. The tender process had been initiated on March 12 and finalized on May 8, with the agreement signed on June 11. He noted that a TTD technical team had inspected AR Foods Company in November 2023 and concluded that the company had only supplied 14,940 kg of ghee for the year 2022-2023, while its monthly production capacity was around 16 tons. Despite this, AR Foods was given a contract to supply

1,000 tons of ghee in six months, which Pattabhiram described as impossible given the company's limited capacity.

Pattabhiram also raised concerns over suspicious delays in the transportation of ghee tankers from AR Foods to TTD. He pointed out that one tanker took 8 days to cover a distance of just 500 kilometers from Dindigul to Tirumala, raising questions about the possibility of adulteration during this time.

He provided details of several other tankers, which also experienced unusually long travel times, further fueling suspicions. Pattabhiram questioned whether AR Foods was sending the tankers to different locations to fill them with adulterated ghee before delivering them to TTD.

Pattabhiram clarified that the government had set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to uncover the truth behind the adulterated ghee supplied by AR Foods. He assured that the investigation, conducted under the guidelines of the Supreme Court, would be expedited and that those responsible for this "unpardonable sin" would be punished severely.

Btech Ravi Condemns MP Avinash Reddy's Comments

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Pulivendula TDP in-charge Btech Ravi has strongly condemned the comments made by Kadapa MP Avinash Reddy regarding illegal activities in Pulivendula. Avinash had accused the current government of allowing gambling and matka to flourish in the constituency. In response, Btech Ravi defended the government's actions and targeted the YS family, claiming that they have been involved in illegal mining for over 40 years.



Ravi criticized the YS family, accusing them of running illegal mining operations and using dynamite, which he claims destroyed many families. He also stated that the illegal activities Avinash referred to are actually rooted in the YS family's actions, not the current coalition government. Ravi emphasized that the coalition government has not engaged in illegal mining and, in fact, worked to eliminate matka operations from Pulivendula after coming to power.

in Pulivendula and alleged that gambling activities were being conducted openly. He also accused the government of negligence, stating that the law and order situation had deteriorated.

Avinash further alleged that detonators and gelatin sticks were found scattered in Pulivendula, claiming that illegal mining was being conducted under the current administration. He raised concerns about the impact of the government's policies on education, specifically citing the loss of 750 medical seats in the state, including 50 seats in Pulivendula.

Avinash's Criticism of the Government

Earlier, MP Avinash Reddy had criticized the coalition government, accusing it of creating chaos within just 100 days of coming to power. He claimed that TDP leaders, including Btech Ravi, were attacking YCP leaders

Both sides have escalated their rhetoric, with Ravi defending the coalition government and accusing the YS family of longstanding illegal activities, while Avinash Reddy continues to criticize the administration's handling of law and order and education in Pulivendula.

Lokesh Pledges Support for Development of Para Sports in AP



TPN, Vijayawada: Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh has assured para athletes that he will work towards the development of para sports in Andhra Pradesh. A group of para athletes, led by Aditya Mehta, the founder of the Aditya Mehta Foundation (AMF), met with Minister Lokesh at his residence in Undavalli. During the meeting, Lokesh expressed his commitment to promoting para sports and standing in support of the athletes.

special congratulations to Sheikh Arshad, who recently showcased remarkable talent at the Paralympics in Paris. He praised Arshad for his achievements and promised to take steps to improve the infrastructure and opportunities for para athletes in the state.

Lokesh's assurance to para athletes highlights his dedication to fostering inclusivity in sports and ensuring that talented athletes receive the recognition and support they deserve.

On this occasion, Lokesh extended

Corruption and Mismanagement Plague Rythu Bazars in AP



TPN, Vijayawada: Established in January 1999 by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Rythu Bazars were intended to provide farmers with a fair market for their crops. However, recent developments indicate that these markets have devolved into "broker bazaars," prioritizing political agendas over farmers' welfare.

Farmers in key markets such as Tirupati, Vijayawada, and Visakhapatnam are now facing significant challenges, as the essence of Rythu Bazars has been compromised. Reports suggest that Executive Officers (EOs) are colluding with brokers, negatively impacting farmers' earnings and experiences at these markets.

Allegations have surfaced that EOs are engaging in various irregularities, including preferential stall allocations and support for those who fail to pay their stall rents. Farmers

are reportedly being denied farmer cards, which are essential for selling their crops, and renewals for existing cards are also being mishandled, further complicating the farmers' struggles in the market.

The prolonged tenure of the same EOs in Rythu Bazars has raised concerns about corruption in stall allocations and rent collection. Despite the requirement for EOs to be transferred every two years, this protocol has not been followed, leading to allegations of collusion among higher officials to maintain the status quo.

The lack of action regarding the transfer of EOs raises questions about the government's commitment to supporting farmers. As frustrations mount, stakeholders are keenly awaiting the coalition government's response to the ongoing issues within Rythu Bazars.

Ex-Minister Devineni Uma Visit Durga Temple On 1st Day Navaratri Utsav

TPN, Vijayawada: On the first day of the Devi Sarannavaratra opening ceremony, former Minister and Telugu Desam Party State General Secretary Sridevini Umamaheswara Rao participated in a pooja at a local Vinayaka temple alongside numerous devotees. Continuing a tradition he has upheld for the past two decades, he joined the free darshan queue to connect with the community, emphasizing his commitment to serving the people, whether in power, as an opposition MLA, or as a minister.



devotees visiting the Goddess during Sharannavaratri do not face any inconvenience.

As part of the Dasavatars celebration over the ten-day festival, Goddess Balatripura is scheduled to bless the devotees today.

Reflecting on a recent natural calamity, Umamaheswara Rao remarked, "Amma saved Vijayawada from the flood that occurred recently. Despite receiving a deluge of 11 lakh 90 thousand cusecs from the Munneru, all the people in this area survived thanks to the grace of Amma's mother, Krishnamma."

During his visit, Umamaheswara Rao praised the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam for implementing all necessary precautions to ensure the comfort of devotees. "For the past two decades, it has been customary for

me to walk with devotees in the free darshan queue to understand their problems," he stated.

This year, fresh water is being provided to children along the route. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has directed authorities to coordinate across departments to ensure that the lakhs of

He extended wishes for Vijayadashami, emphasizing that devotees in the free queue should be prioritized and provided with all necessary facilities throughout the festival.

Amaravati Hospital Superintendent Defies High Court Orders on Canteen Permissions

TPN, Amaravati: The Superintendent of the Government General Hospital (GGH), Venkateswara Rao, is facing allegations of defying a High Court order regarding the operation of canteens within the hospital premises. It has come to light that he granted permission for canteens to operate in Vellampally and Taneti, seemingly turning a blind eye to the District Collector's directives.



Collector, Delhi Rao, during the nomination process.

The High Court had previously issued a plea order stipulating that tenders must be called for canteen operations in government hospitals according to established rules. However, Superintendent Rao is accused of ignoring this directive and allowing the canteen operations to proceed without proper tendering.

The matter has led to a petition filed in the High Court, challenging the decision made by Superintendent Rao and accusing him of concealing information from the then District

A hearing on the contempt petition related to the High Court's Public Interest Litigation (PIL) order is scheduled for Monday. The case has raised concerns about adherence to legal procedures and the proper management of government resources.

AP Aims to Lead the Nation in Power Sector, Says Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar

TPN, Amaravati: Power Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar has affirmed the Andhra Pradesh government's commitment to establishing the state as a leader in the power sector. Speaking at a Power Investors Review Meeting held at the Secretariat, Minister Kumar outlined the steps being taken under Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's leadership to enhance the state's standing in the energy industry. The meeting was attended by key representatives from various prominent renewable energy companies, along with AP Gen Co MD Chakradhar Babu and AP Trans Co JMD Kirti Chekuri.



During the meeting, Minister Kumar pledged to address the concerns raised by private power generation companies, assuring attendees that their issues would be communicated to Chief Minister Naidu for prompt resolution. He acknowledged that the power sector has been hindered by ill-advised decisions made by the previous government but emphasized the current administration's commitment to strengthening it.

He reiterated that the government is dedicated to creating a business-friendly environment for investors in the power sector, stating that the doors are open 24/7 for power generation companies. Kumar referenced the Chief Minister's ongoing efforts under the "Ease of Doing Business" initiative, first announced during an investor conference in Gujarat. The minister discussed specific issues raised by investors, including Generation Based Incentives (GBI), Late Payment Surcharge (LPS), Tax Pass Through (TPT), and Capacity Utilization Factor (CUF).

Furthermore, Kumar expressed optimism about Andhra Pradesh becoming a

preferred destination for entrepreneurs. He announced that the state government would soon introduce the AP Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024, designed to encourage investment in the sector. The minister also highlighted the lingering challenges faced by investors, such as the cancellation of power purchase agreements and ongoing legal disputes from the previous administration.

For the first time in five years, investors expressed satisfaction with the alliance government's willingness to engage in dialogue, reporting that the government's assurances and recognition of their concerns have boosted their confidence in future investments.

AP Aims to Become a Major Cargo Hub with Expanded Services

TPN, Vijayawada: In a significant move to boost the state's economy, the Andhra Pradesh government is taking special steps to establish the region as a major cargo hub. The state aims to enhance the export of aqua products, including fish, prawns, vegetables, flowers, fruits, and chillies, through expanded cargo services.



On Thursday, a 'Stakeholder Consultation' meeting was held in Vijayawada, organized by the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB), Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation Limited (APADCL), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO). Government Secretary S. Suresh Kumar attended the program as the chief guest, emphasizing the importance of connectivity in facilitating exports to distant markets.

Andhra Pradesh, noting that the state ranks first in chicken egg production and boasts five ports and three international airports. Plans are underway for the establishment of new industry

clusters in Kuppam, Moolpet, and other areas, with a focus on agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, pharmaceuticals, food processing, and health sectors. He pointed out the state's long

coastline of 974 km as a unique advantage for trade.

Government Secretary A. Babu stated that a cluster-based approach will enhance efficiency and sustainable growth in the agricultural sector. Meanwhile, N. Yuvraj, Government Secretary for Industries & Commerce, emphasized the government's commitment to industrial progress and economic growth through quality productivity.

As the state government works towards making Andhra Pradesh a leading cargo hub, officials predict an increase in air cargo services and improved regional connectivity, which will significantly accelerate the transportation of goods. The initiative reflects a broader vision to enhance the state's position in the global export market, particularly in the agricultural and aquaculture sectors.

Suresh Kumar highlighted the achievements of



FILM INDUSTRY SLAMS MINISTER KONDA SUREKHA OVER REMARKS LINKING KT RAMA RAO TO NAGA-SAMANTHA DIVORCE

A storm of controversy erupted after Telangana Minister Konda Surekha made derogatory remarks linking Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader KT Rama Rao to the divorce of popular actors Naga Chaitanya and Samantha Ruth Prabhu. The remarks have sparked outrage within the Telugu film industry, with top stars and industry figures expressing their strong disapproval and calling for respect and privacy for individuals in the public eye.

The controversy began when Minister Konda Surekha, during a political exchange, claimed that KT Rama Rao, son of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, had played a role in the couple's divorce. She accused him of tapping the phones of actresses, blackmailing them, and driving them into drug addiction, linking the minister directly to the breakup of Naga Chaitanya and Samantha. The minister's baseless claims were widely condemned as inappropriate, offensive, and aimed at scoring political points.

Chiranjeevi: "We Stand United Against Vicious Verbal Assaults"

Leading the film fraternity's response was Megastar Chiranjeevi, who expressed deep pain over the "disgraceful remarks" in a post on X (formerly Twitter). Chiranjeevi highlighted the industry's frustration with being soft targets for political attacks.

"It is a shame that celebrities and members of the film fraternity become easy targets to gain attention. We, as the Film Industry, stand united in opposing such vicious verbal assaults," Chiranjeevi wrote. He stressed that dragging unconnected people, especially women, into political disputes was unacceptable. "We choose our leaders to improve society, not contaminate it with such distasteful discourse. I trust the concerned individuals will withdraw these malicious remarks immediately," he concluded.

Mahesh Babu Calls statements of Minister as "Cheap and Baseless"

Actor Mahesh Babu has joined the growing list of voices condemning Telangana Minister Konda Surekha's controversial remarks about the film industry, particularly her comments targeting actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu. In a tweet, Mahesh Babu expressed his deep disappointment and hurt over the incident, stating that as a father to a daughter, a husband to a wife, and a son to a mother, he found the minister's comments deeply painful and unacceptable.

The actor emphasized that while freedom of speech is important, it should not come at the cost of hurting others' sentiments. He condemned Surekha's statements as cheap and baseless, and firmly stated that such behavior is not acceptable in public discourse.

Mahesh Babu also made an appeal to politicians and the public to avoid targeting the film industry, reminding everyone that the industry should not be taken lightly or disrespected. He urged that the women in the film industry, and across the country, deserve respect and consideration, calling for a more respectful and thoughtful approach in such discussions.

Jr NTR: "Public Figures Must Maintain Dignity"

Another major voice to condemn the minister's remarks was actor Jr NTR, who said dragging personal lives into politics was a "new low." The 'RRR' star emphasized the responsibility that comes with holding a public office.

"Public figures, especially those in responsible positions, must maintain dignity and respect for privacy. It's disheartening to see baseless statements thrown around carelessly, especially about the film industry," Jr NTR stated, adding that the film fraternity would not sit quietly while baseless allegations were made. He called on political figures to respect boundaries and ensure such reckless behavior does not become normalized.

Allu Arjun: "#FilmIndustry Will Not Tolerate"

In a post tagged with "#FilmIndustryWillNotTolerate," actor Allu Arjun joined the chorus of condemnation. The 'Pushpa' star said the minister's comments were deeply disrespectful and against the values of Telugu culture.

"I strongly condemn the baseless derogatory comments made about film personalities and families. Such irresponsible actions should not be accepted as normal. I urge those involved to act responsibly and respect individual privacy, especially towards women. We must promote respect and dignity in our society," Allu Arjun said in his statement.

Nani: "Disgusting to See Politicians Get Away With Nonsense"

Actor Nani also expressed his anger, calling it "disgusting" that politicians felt they could get away with making baseless remarks. In a post on X, Nani criticized the irresponsible nature of the minister's comments, stating that it reflected poorly on those in leadership positions.

"It is not okay for someone in such a respectable position to talk utter baseless rubbish in front of the media and think it is acceptable. We all should condemn such practices, which reflect poorly on our society," Nani added.

Nagarjuna Akkineni Condemns False Allegations

Veteran actor Nagarjuna Akkineni, father of Naga Chaitanya, also spoke out, condemning the minister's comments as completely false and irrelevant. He called for respect for individuals' privacy and urged Minister Surekha to withdraw her remarks.

"Don't use the lives of movie stars who stay away from politics to criticize your opponents. As a woman in a responsible position, your comments and accusations against our family are completely irrelevant and false. I request you to withdraw your comments immediately," Nagarjuna said.

Nagarjuna has filed a defamation suit against Telangana Minister Konda Surekha. The suit was filed in the Nampally court, where Nagarjuna requested that criminal action be taken against the minister. Nagarjuna took legal action following the minister's comments, alleging his involvement in the separation of actresses Samantha and Naga Chaitanya. He claimed that Konda Surekha's statements have defamed his family, and he urged the court to initiate criminal proceedings.

Samantha and Naga Chaitanya Address the Issue

Both Naga Chaitanya and Samantha Ruth Prabhu, the actors at the center of the controversy, responded to the allegations with dignity and clarity. Naga Chaitanya addressed the personal pain involved in a divorce, explaining that it had been a mutual decision based on different life goals.

"Today, the claim made by Minister Konda Surekha garu is not only false, it is absolutely ridiculous and unacceptable. Taking advantage and exploiting the personal life decisions of celebrities for the sake of media headlines is shameful," Naga Chaitanya said.

Samantha echoed this sentiment, calling for respect for her personal journey. "My divorce is a personal matter, and I request that you refrain from speculating about it. Our choice to keep things private doesn't invite misrepresentation," she stated in a social media post.

Rakul Preet Singh's Bold Response to Konda Surekha's Comments

In a tweet, Rakul expressed her outrage over being unnecessarily dragged into the controversy. She firmly rejected the baseless rumors, stating, "The Telugu film industry has earned worldwide fame, and I've had a beautiful journey in it. It is disheartening to see such unfounded and malicious gossip being spread. What's more disappointing is that it's coming from a woman in a responsible position."

She continued, "We often choose silence out of respect, but that should not be mistaken for weakness. I have no political affiliations, and I urge people to stop using my name to tarnish my reputation for political gains."

Rakul further urged people to refrain from dragging creative artists into political agendas. "Stop creating fabricated stories and linking artists' names just to make headlines," she wrote on X (formerly Twitter), making her stance clear against the irresponsible use of her name in political narratives.

Minister Issues Clarification, Faces Defamation Notice



Amid mounting backlash, Minister Konda Surekha issued a clarification, stating that her remarks were aimed at questioning KT Rama Rao's treatment of women, not at hurting Samantha. Despite this, KT Rama Rao has sent a defamation notice to the minister, accusing the Congress party of indulging in "disgusting and nauseating politics."

The massive response from the film fraternity has prompted Telangana Congress chief Mahesh Goud to intervene. Goud urged film personalities to put an end to the controversy, emphasizing that the minister had apologized and withdrawn her comments.

This row has highlighted the growing frustration within the film industry over being dragged into political disputes and underscores the demand for greater respect for privacy and dignity in public discourse.

Congress Represents Nepotism and Casteism: PM Modi

In a last-minute push against the Congress party just hours before campaigning concluded for the Haryana Assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a series of sharp critiques. He asserted that Congress embodies corruption, casteism, communalism, and nepotism, urging voters to reject its "divisive and negative" politics.

In his tweets on X, Prime Minister Modi expressed confidence in the BJP's prospects for a third consecutive term, citing his recent travels across Haryana and the enthusiastic response from the public. He contrasted the BJP's governance in Haryana since 2014, which he claimed has focused on prosperity and welfare for all, with the failures of Congress administrations in neighboring states like Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka.

"The people of Haryana understand that Congress guarantees corruption and selfish politics, embodied in the 'bapubete ki rajneeti' (father-son politics)," he wrote in Hindi. He argued that the infighting within Congress, even while in opposition, indicates that the party is incapable of providing a stable government for the state.

Modi also indirectly targeted Rahul



Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, referencing recent comments made by Gandhi about reservation policies during his trip to the United States. Modi asserted that the Congress could never strengthen India and called on Haryana voters to support the BJP in order to contribute to the nation's growth.

In a rally held earlier in Nuh, Rahul Gandhi countered Modi's assertions, framing the electoral battle as one between love and hatred. He emphasized

the importance of rejecting hate and highlighted that India should be a nation rooted in love and compassion. Gandhi accused the BJP and the RSS of undermining the Constitution, arguing that without it, the poor would suffer the most.

With polling set to take place in all 90 Assembly constituencies in Haryana on Saturday, the political landscape remains charged as both parties make their final appeals to voters before counting begins on October 8.



I have faith in judiciary Truth will prevail, says Karnataka CM

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, facing scrutiny over the MUDA (Mysuru Urban Development Authority) 'scam,' asserted his confidence in the truth prevailing during the inaugural ceremony of the ten-day Dasara celebrations at the Chamundeshwari temple in Mysuru. In response to opposition calls for his resignation, he emphasized, "Satyameva Jayate," highlighting his belief that honesty will triumph.

Despite pressures from the BJP and JD(S) for his resignation, Siddaramaiah expressed his conviction that as long as he has the people's support and the blessings of Chamundeshwari, he remains unshaken. "No one can do anything against me," he stated, reinforcing his commitment to serve the state.

Siddaramaiah received unexpected support from JD(S) leader G T Devegowda, who defended him against resignation demands, indicating that the truth behind the allegations should be acknowledged. The Chief Minister, reflecting on his political journey, reminded the audience of his successful electoral history, having won multiple elections from the Chamundeshwari constituency.

In his address, Siddaramaiah reiterated that he had done nothing wrong and highlighted his long-standing political career, which spans over 40 years. He expressed gratitude to G T Devegowda for his supportive remarks, stating, "His statement that truth will triumph has instilled more strength in me."

India Rejects USCIRF Report as Malicious and Biased

India on Thursday strongly dismissed a report from the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), labeling it as "malicious" and accusing the organization of harboring a "political agenda." The USCIRF's report highlighted concerns regarding the deteriorating state of religious freedom in India and recommended that the country be classified as a "Country of Particular Concern."

Indian officials expressed dismay at the commission's conclusions, arguing that the report fails to accurately reflect the reality of religious freedom in the country. They emphasized that India is a diverse nation that respects and upholds the rights of all its citizens, irrespective of their religious beliefs.

The USCIRF has repeatedly criticized India in its annual reports, alleging that the government has implemented policies that adversely affect minority communities. However, the Indian government contends that the commission's assessments are based on selective information and lack an understanding of the country's complexities.

In response to the USCIRF's latest recommendation, a spokesperson for the Indian Ministry of External Affairs reiterated the government's stance, stating that such reports are not only biased but also politically motivated. They asserted that the findings do not take into account the efforts made by the Indian government to promote religious harmony and protect the rights of all citizens.

The ongoing debate over religious freedom in India has attracted international attention, with various organizations weighing in on the issue.

J&K turnout at 63.88%, lower than 2014 elections



The recently concluded three phases of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections saw an overall voter turnout of 63.88%, a decline compared to the turnout during the last Assembly elections in 2014. The Election Commission (EC) released this data on Thursday, highlighting the participation rates among different demographics.

In terms of gender, male voters recorded a turnout of 64.68%, while female voters had a slightly lower turnout of 63.04%. Interestingly, in the third phase of the elections held on Tuesday, the turnout was notably higher at 69.69%. Female participation in this phase outperformed male participation, with 70.02% of women voting compared to 69.37% of men.

The overall turnout of 63.88% this year contrasts with the 65.52% recorded in the last Assembly elections, which included postal ballots. This decrease in voter participation has raised questions about voter engagement and the factors contributing to the lower turnout.

The EC is likely to analyze the reasons behind this decline to improve future electoral processes. Factors such as political dynamics, voter sentiment, and the security situation in the region may have played a role in influencing the turnout figures.

Despite the lower overall turnout, the data from the third phase indicates a strong participation rate among women, suggesting that efforts to encourage female voters may be yielding positive results.

As the region continues to navigate complex political and social issues, understanding voter behavior and preferences will be crucial for all political parties involved. The EC's assessment and subsequent strategies could potentially enhance voter engagement in future elections.

Overall, while the turnout this year fell short of previous levels, the data presents a mixed picture, with signs of increasing female participation that could signal shifts in voter dynamics in Jammu and Kashmir.



CJI DY Chandrachud Issues Stern Rebuke to Lawyer

In a recent session of the Supreme Court, Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud expressed his frustration towards a lawyer who inappropriately questioned the court master about the details of an order he had dictated. The incident occurred on October 3, just weeks before Chandrachud's retirement on November 10.

"How dare you ask the court master what I dictated in the court? Tomorrow you will come to my house and ask my personal secretary what I am doing. Lawyers have lost all sense of decorum," the CJI admonished. His remarks underscored his insistence on maintaining order and respect within the courtroom, especially as he approached the end of his tenure.

Chandrachud, known for his firm stance on court decorum, reiterated his authority during this brief remaining period, cautioning the lawyer not to attempt similar tactics again. "These are my last days in the court," he added, emphasizing the importance of professionalism in legal proceedings.

This confrontation follows another incident earlier in the week where the CJI reprimanded a lawyer for informally responding with "yeah" during a hearing. "This is not a coffee shop! What is this 'yeah, yeah'? I am very allergic to this 'yeah, yeah'. This cannot be allowed," he stated, reinforcing the need for respect in legal discourse.

Additionally, while addressing the high-profile electoral bonds scam case, CJI Chandrachud was critical of a lawyer who raised his voice in court. "Don't shout at me. This is not a Hyde Park corner meeting; you are in court. If you want to move an application, file an application. You have got my decision as Chief Justice; we are not hearing you."



Ashok Tanwar Rejoins Congress After BJP Stint

Former Lok Sabha MP Ashok Tanwar made headlines once again as he rejoined the Congress party during a rally led by Rahul Gandhi in Mahendragarh, Haryana, on Thursday. This move marks Tanwar's return to the Congress fold after a series of political shifts over the past few years.

Tanwar, who previously served as the Haryana Congress chief from 2014 to 2019, left the party amid internal disagreements and subsequently ventured into other political realms. He joined the Trinamool Congress in 2021, before shifting allegiance to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) the following year. However, his tenure with AAP was short-lived as he departed before the Lok Sabha elections, primarily due to his opposition to AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal's alliance with the Congress.

After a challenging election campaign where he represented the BJP but did not succeed, Tanwar's decision to return to Congress is seen as an effort to reconnect with his political roots. His re-entry into the party comes at a crucial time when Congress is looking to strengthen its position in Haryana, a state where it has faced significant challenges in recent elections.



Japan's PM To Introduce Happiness Index In First Parliamentary Speech

Japan's newly appointed Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba is set to unveil a new happiness index during his inaugural parliamentary policy speech on Friday, according to local media reports. This index, developed through collaboration between the public and private sectors, aims to complement Ishiba's plans to strengthen the economy and address the nation's declining population.

Ishiba, who assumed office on Tuesday after winning a closely contested leadership vote within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), has indicated intentions to call a snap election on October 27. This move aims to solidify his mandate for implementing policies that enhance support for regional governments and low-income households.

While details regarding foreign policy remain uncertain, reports suggest that Ishiba will likely reaffirm his commitment to combating inflation and announce a new monetary stimulus package. Following his election as party leader, the yen experienced a surge due to Ishiba's endorsement of the Bank of Japan's plans to shift away from its ultra-loose monetary policies. However, his subsequent remarks about not supporting further interest rate hikes led to a decline in the currency's value.

In addition to these economic strategies, Ishiba plans to increase Japan's average minimum wage to 1,500 yen (\$10.22) by 2030, up from the current rate of 1,055 yen. These initiatives are part of a broader vision to enhance the public's quality of life and boost per-capita GDP in Japan, the world's fourth-largest economy.

Ishiba is expected to address the challenges posed by the country's rapidly aging population, which he has described as a "silent crisis" impacting the nation's core. Furthermore, he plans to propose the establishment of a new disaster management ministry to better prepare for earthquakes and floods, as well as emphasize the importance of nuclear energy.

The topic of nuclear power remains controversial in Japan, with support from the business sector but public apprehension following the 2011 Fukushima disaster. Analysts suggest that Ishiba's speech will reflect a strong awareness of the impending general election, with an emphasis on consolidating power and securing electoral support.

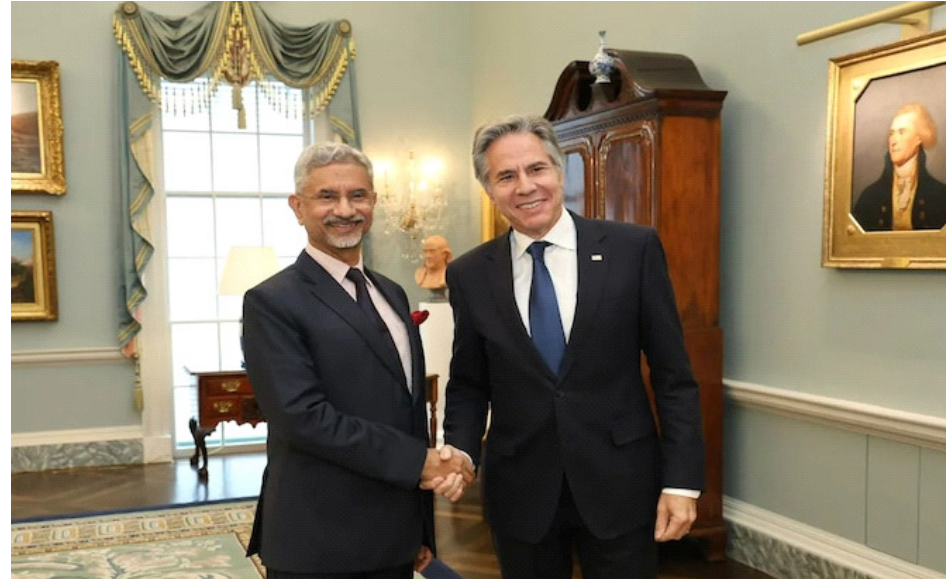
Jaishankar and Blinken Discuss Strengthening US-India Ties in Washington

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Washington, D.C., to discuss collaboration on regional and global challenges. This marked Jaishankar's first visit to the US capital since the third Modi government took office. The meeting took place at the US State Department's Foggy Bottom headquarters.

Following their discussions, Blinken emphasized the ongoing partnership between the US and India. He stated, "Together, the US and India are working to address regional and global challenges," highlighting their cooperation on issues such as the climate crisis and promoting regional security and prosperity.

Jaishankar expressed his pleasure in holding talks with Blinken, noting the continuation of discussions from the recent bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden, as well as the QUAD meetings involving leaders from Australia and Japan. He mentioned that their conversation included deepening bilateral cooperation, the situation in West Asia, developments in the Indian subcontinent, the Indo-Pacific, and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller reiterated the commitment from both countries to en-



hance bilateral ties. He noted that Jaishankar and Blinken discussed advancing cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, alongside plans for expanding collaboration on clean energy initiatives to tackle the global climate crisis.

Welcoming Jaishankar, Blinken highlighted the unprecedented warmth and ambition in the US-India relationship, underscoring the significance of their partnership across various sectors, including strategic technology, space, and semiconductors. He acknowledged India's critical role on the global stage in promoting peace and stability.

Jaishankar's visit also included participation in a discussion at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where he reflected on the fruitful recent meetings between the leaders of both countries. He emphasized that the meetings provided an opportunity to evaluate progress in multiple areas and address pressing global issues.

Overall, the talks between Jaishankar and Blinken reflect the strengthening ties between the US and India, with both nations committed to working together for the benefit of their people and the broader international community.



Nasrallah And Netanyahu Agreed To Ceasefire: Lebanon Minister

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reportedly reached an agreement for a ceasefire just hours before Nasrallah was killed in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut, according to Lebanon's Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib. In an interview with PBS, Bou Habib stated that the decision to cease hostilities had received full backing from Lebanon and was communicated to both the United States and France.

Nasrallah was killed on September 27 when Israeli bombs struck his bunker. Although Hezbollah did not officially confirm the cause of death, reports indicated he succumbed to blunt trauma from the blasts. Bou Habib detailed that Nasrallah had agreed to a ceasefire with Netanyahu, a decision that involved consultations with Hezbollah and was communicated to American and French officials.

"The Lebanese House Speaker, Mr. Nabih Berri, consulted with Hezbollah, and we informed the Americans and the French about the agreement. They confirmed that Netanyahu also agreed to the statement issued by both presidents," he explained.

Prior to these developments, the U.S., France, and other allies had prepared a 21-day ceasefire plan, initiated on September 25 following a meeting between President Joe Biden and President Emmanuel Macron during the UN General Assembly in New York. However, Netanyahu rejected the ceasefire agreement the next day, instructing the military to continue its operations.

In the days leading up to Nasrallah's death, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei advised him to flee the country, highlighting the precarious situation he faced.

Iran Claims 'Execution List' of Israeli Leaders, Including Netanyahu

Iran has reportedly circulated an "execution list" that includes high-profile Israeli figures, such as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant. The list, shared on the social media platform X, also names commanders from Israel's Army, Navy, and Air Force. This development has raised tensions amid ongoing hostilities between the two nations.

The poster was shared by an account named @Revenge_is_near, although neither the Iranian nor Israeli governments have officially commented on its authenticity. Sources within Iranian military intelligence indicate that senior Israeli leaders, including Netanyahu, could be potential targets.

The list features other notable military figures, such as Chief of General Staff Herzi Halevi, his deputy Amir Baram, and the heads of Israel's Northern, Southern, and Central Commands—Major Generals



Ori Gordin, Yehuda Fox, and Eliezer Toledani. Additionally, Aharon Haliva, the chief of military intelligence, is named.

If the list proves to be genuine, it may reflect Iran's intent to respond aggressively to perceived threats from Israel, particularly following

reports that Israel aims to exploit recent setbacks faced by Hezbollah, the Iran-backed militant group. The situation has escalated since Israel reportedly targeted the leadership structure of Hezbollah, raising concerns that it may consider actions against Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The heightened rhetoric and actions from both sides come amid a backdrop of longstanding hostilities, with each nation maintaining a fraught relationship characterized by mutual distrust and military posturing. As tensions escalate, the international community watches closely, wary of potential conflict in an already volatile region.

The implications of this "execution list" could further complicate the already delicate dynamics in the Middle East, emphasizing the ongoing cycle of threats and counter-threats that characterize Israeli-Iranian relations.

Kamala Harris's Campaign Faces Challenges with Muslim and Arab Voters

A senior adviser to Vice President Kamala Harris met with American Muslim and Arab leaders on Wednesday as her presidential campaign seeks to regain support from voters frustrated with U.S. backing for Israel amid ongoing conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon. Phil Gordon, Harris's national security adviser, communicated the administration's stance during a virtual meeting, emphasizing support for a ceasefire in Gaza, diplomatic efforts in Lebanon, and stability in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.



However, community leaders like Ali Dagher, a Lebanese-American attorney, expressed skepticism about the outreach, stating, "It's too little, too late." Dagher, who did not participate in the meeting, reflected broader sentiments among constituents disillusioned with the current administration's handling of the Israel-Palestine situation.

As Harris, a Democrat, prepares to face former President Donald Trump on November 5, polls indicate a competitive race. President Joe Biden, who previously secured a significant portion of Muslim and Arab votes in 2020, has seen a notable decline in support among these communities during Israel's military actions against Hamas in Gaza. Activists argue that both Biden and Harris have not done enough to address the humanitari-

an crisis unfolding in the region.

According to Palestinian health authorities, the Israeli military offensive has resulted in over 41,000 Palestinian deaths. The violence escalated following an incursion by Hamas on October 7, 2023, which Israel claims resulted in around 1,200 fatalities and approximately 250 abductions. Gaza is currently facing a severe humanitarian crisis, with nearly all of its 2 million residents displaced and widespread hunger.

In Lebanon, over 1,900 individuals have died, with thousands more injured due to ongoing cross-border clashes between Israel and Hezbollah. The rising death toll has heightened tensions within the community.

Tim Walz and JD Vance Engage in Civil Vice Presidential Debate

In a notable event, Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Tim Walz and his Republican counterpart JD Vance faced off in a debate on Wednesday, capturing the attention of millions of Americans ahead of the November 5 election. Unlike the often contentious presidential debates, this vice-presidential encounter was marked by a calm, structured, and surprisingly civil atmosphere, with both candidates primarily focusing on policy issues rather than personal attacks.



Throughout the debate, Walz and Vance opted to critique the opposing presidential candidates rather than engage in slanderous remarks, which was a refreshing change after a long, divisive election season characterized by personal insults, derogatory language, and inflammatory rhetoric. Both candidates, who have previously exchanged barbs during the campaign, maintained a respectful tone, showcasing their ability to engage in a more dignified discourse.

However, the debate did experience some heated moments, particularly when Vance was questioned about his stance on Donald

Trump and the legitimacy of the 2020 election. Vance, known for his refusal to acknowledge Biden's victory, sidestepped the inquiry about whether he would challenge the outcome of this year's election if Trump were to lose again.

Walz seized on this evasiveness, linking Vance's reluctance to Trump's unfounded claims of voter fraud, which fueled the violent attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. "He is still saying he (Trump) didn't lose the election," Walz asserted, directly pressing Vance with the question, "Did he (Trump) lose the 2020 election?"

Geopolitical Meltdown Tensions Shake Domestic Markets

Israel-Iraq Conflict Sparks Market

War turmoil in West Asia has shaken domestic stock markets. The Israel-Iraq war and geopolitical tensions have severely dented investor sentiment. Indices crashed wildly on concerns that Israel bombing Iraq's oil fields would further increase oil prices, Sebi's tightening of F&D norms and foreign institutional investors looking to China. Investors also sold their shares. Due to this, Sensex lost more than 1700 points and Nifty more than 500 points. Experts say that till the uncertainty is cleared, the indices may be subject to similar tides.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 84,266 in the previous session, opened at 83,002 today. It touched an intraday low of 82,434. It touched an intraday high of 83,752. It eventually closed at 82,497, a loss of 1769 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 25,452 and touched a low of 25,230 and a high of 25,639. The total fell by 546 points to close at 25,250. Bank Nifty fell 1077 points to settle at 51.45.

In Nifty50, 2 companies gained while 48 lost. JSW Steel, ONGC are the top gainers. Shares of BPCL, Shriram Finance, LT, Axis Bank and Reliance were the top losers. All sectoral indices turned red today. Realty indices crashed by 4.36 percent. Bank, auto, finance, media, private bank, oil and gas indices fell by more than 2 percent.

Nifty support is at 25,420 and resistance is at 25,500. Investors can buy shares of Tata Steel, SBI, Ajanta Pharma, BSE and Hindustan Zinc in the short term.

BCL Industries is all set to buy Goyal Distillery. This will further increase the capacity of the company's ethanol and power plants. Pinnacle Life Sciences Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary company of Artidrug, has been certified by the UK MHRD. Rama Steel Tubes Acquisition and Allotment Committee has given approval to set up an associate company named Over Green Energy Limited. Maruti Suzuki sales fell 8.7% in September 2024 compared to last year. It produced 159743 units this September. Rights and DMRC have signed the MoU. Compared to Q2 of the last financial year, Sai Silks recorded higher turnover this time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated GAIL Compressed Bio Gas Plant in Ranchi. JK Infra has received orders worth Rs 1847 crore from MMRDA..

Tata Steel
Tata Steel has shown resilience due to strong demand for steel



in global markets, but the recent geopolitical tensions have put pressure on commodity stocks. The stock is nearing support levels, and if it holds, a bounce-back could be expected. Consider buying on dips if the market stabilizes tomorrow.

SBI (State Bank of India)

Banking stocks, including SBI, have been under pressure due to global market weakness, but long-term fundamentals remain robust. Given its strong fundamentals, SBI remains a solid stock. However, with current market volatility, caution is advised. Buy on confirmation of a market reversal.



Ajanta Pharma

Pharma stocks often act as defensive bets in times of market uncertainty. Ajanta Pharma has seen consistent performance with decent quarterly results. If market uncertainty continues, Ajanta Pharma could outperform other sectors. It may be a good defensive buy in volatile markets.



BSE Ltd

BSE's performance is often linked to the overall market sentiment, and with broader indices under pressure, BSE could face short-term weakness. BSE stock may see short-term weakness. Look for stability before entering fresh positions.



Hindustan Zinc

Hindustan Zinc, being in the metals sector, is also impacted by global commodity prices and market sentiment. Recent geopolitical tensions have weighed down the stock. If the stock tests support levels successfully, a short-term buy opportunity may arise. Watch global commodity movements for cues.



Oil Price Spike Mean For India's Macro Economy

Iran's recent ballistic missile strike on Israel has heightened fears of a wider regional conflict in the Middle East, resulting in crude oil prices surging by nearly 4% overnight. This spike is raising concerns about potential supply disruptions, which could have serious economic implications for countries like India, heavily dependent on energy imports.



leading to a broader rise in prices for goods and services," Sachdeva explained. The cascading effect of higher oil prices can squeeze household budgets and impact overall economic growth.

Jigar Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst for Currencies & Commodities at Reliance Securities, echoed these concerns. He warned that escalating oil prices could result in higher dollar outflows from India, thereby exerting additional pressure on the Indian rupee. A weaker rupee can further exacerbate inflationary pressures, as the cost of imports rises, compounding the challenges faced by consumers and businesses alike.

Experts are sounding alarms over the repercussions of rising oil prices on India's economy. Sugandha Sachdeva, Founder of SSWealth Street, noted that every \$10 increase in oil prices corresponds to a 0.3% rise in inflation for India. Additionally, such a price hike can widen the current account deficit (CAD) by approximately \$12.5 billion, translating to about 43 basis points (bps) of gross domestic product (GDP).

"This scenario can significantly reduce consumer purchasing power, as increased fuel costs elevate transportation and input expenses,

World Economic Forum Launches Playbook to Boost Funding for Developing Countries

The World Economic Forum has unveiled the Playbook of Solutions, a digital platform showcasing 100 effective strategies to secure funding for clean energy initiatives across 47 developing countries. This initiative aims to accelerate the transition to renewable energy by highlighting how policy reforms, financial instruments, and strategic partnerships can attract investment.



To meet the ambitious global target of tripling renewable energy by 2030, there is an urgent need to significantly boost investment in clean energy, particularly in emerging economies, which are expected to drive the majority of global energy demand by 2035.

Currently, these regions receive only a small fraction of worldwide clean energy investments due to various risks and regulatory hurdles.

The playbook emphasizes several key policy measures, including providing incentives like feed-in tariffs and streamlining licensing processes for renewable projects. It advocates for

climate policies that set long-term emissions reduction goals and implement carbon pricing. Additionally, it recommends financial market policies that improve access to long-term financing and bolster credit ratings for renewable initiatives.

To mitigate risks, the playbook suggests diverse investment strategies such as blended finance, which combines public and private funds, and the use of guarantees and insurance to protect investors. It also discusses various financial mechanisms, including equity and debt financing, issuing bonds for project funding, and utilizing carbon financing from emissions reduction efforts.

Adani Group and Google Join Forces for Clean Energy

The Adani Group and Google have announced an exciting partnership aimed at enhancing the supply of clean energy across India. This collaboration will see the development of a new project within the world's largest renewable energy plant located in Gujarat. According to a joint release, the solar-wind hybrid energy project in Khavda is anticipated to commence operations after mid-2025.



ing their carbon footprint."

Both companies emphasized that this partnership aligns with their shared sustainability goals and aims to contribute significantly to India's energy grid. By integrating renewable resources, they hope to increase the availability of clean energy throughout the country.

In addition to this new initiative, the Adani Group plans to strengthen its focus on commercial and merchant segments, facilitating the decarbonization of various industries. This strategic move is expected to enhance the overall impact of the partnership, ensuring a broader application of clean energy solutions.

The release highlighted Adani's expertise in managing large-scale renewable projects, stating, "With proven capabilities in delivering large-scale wind, solar, hybrid, and energy storage projects, Adani is well-positioned to provide customized renewable energy solutions to commercial and industrial (C&I) customers. This will help meet their energy needs while reduc-

Moreover, the collaboration plays a crucial role in advancing Google's ambition to achieve "24/7 carbon-free energy." The partnership aims to ensure that Google's cloud services and operations in India are supported entirely by clean energy sources, aligning with its commitment to sustainability.

New RBI MPC Members Could Bring Call for Rate Cuts, Economists Suggest

India's newly appointed Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) members may introduce a different dynamic during their upcoming meeting, with at least one economist expected to advocate for a rate cut. This speculation arises following the government's recent appointments of Ram Singh, Saugata Bhattacharya, and Nagesh Kumar as external members of the Reserve Bank of India's rate-setting panel.



diminished.

Shilan Shah of Capital Economics noted that while there may still be a dissenting voice advocating for lower rates, the overall balance has shifted. Approximately 80% of economists surveyed by Reuters anticipate

The reshuffle is significant as it could potentially alter the previously divided opinions within the six-member MPC. In August, two external members had voted in favor of a rate cut, arguing that persistently high inflation-adjusted real interest rates could negatively impact economic growth. With the departure of these "dove" members, analysts suggest the likelihood of a rate cut in the forthcoming meeting has

that the Reserve Bank of India will maintain the current interest rates in its October policy review. However, as the U.S. Federal Reserve has initiated its own rate-cutting cycle, calls for a shift in the Indian central bank's stance have intensified.

The MPC's next meeting will be closely watched as the new members may bring different perspectives on balancing inflation control with economic growth. The prevailing economic conditions, including inflation levels and global monetary policy trends, will play a crucial role in shaping their discussions.

Bank of Baroda Approves Sale of Oman Operations to Bank Dhofar

State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) announced on October 3 that it has approved the sale of its Oman operations to Bank Dhofar as part of a strategy to rationalize its foreign operations. The decision marks a significant move for BoB as it seeks to streamline its international business portfolio.



overall efficiency.

Bank Dhofar, based in Oman, is well-positioned to integrate BoB's operations into its existing framework, potentially enhancing its market share in the country.

In an exchange filing, the bank confirmed that it has accepted an offer for the acquisition of its banking business in Oman by Bank Dhofar, a move that aligns with its focus on optimizing operations. The exact financial terms of the sale are yet to be determined, and the transaction is subject to approval from the relevant regulatory authorities.

The acquisition will enable Bank Dhofar to expand its footprint and offer a wider range of services to its customers.

The sale reflects a trend among Indian banks to reassess their international operations, especially in regions where profitability may be impacted by economic fluctuations or increased competition. By divesting from Oman, Bank of Baroda can redirect its focus and resources toward more lucrative markets or strengthen its presence in India.

The total business volume of Bank of Baroda's operations in Oman was reported to be approximately 113.35 million Omani Rial, while its net worth stood at around 25.54 million Omani Rial. This indicates that the Oman branch had a relatively stable business presence in the region, but the decision to sell suggests a broader strategy to concentrate resources and improve

As the banking sector continues to evolve in response to changing economic landscapes, this strategic move by BoB highlights the importance of adapting to market conditions. Stakeholders will be keenly observing the regulatory approvals and subsequent integration process as both banks navigate this transition.



Is Konda Surekha Digging Congress's Political Grave in Telangana?



TPN, Prudhvi Gagarin: Telangana Minister Konda Surekha's controversial comments about KT Rama Rao (KTR) and actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu have triggered widespread outrage, with strong reactions from the public and film industry figures alike. Many celebrities condemned her remarks, calling for a public apology, which Surekha ultimately issued, stating that her words were spoken in the heat of the moment and not intended to harm any family.

However, the damage seems to have already been done. This incident highlights the increasing personal attacks and the low point that political discourse in Telangana has reached in recent months. Leaders are frequently crossing the line, resorting to character assassination, and Surekha's remarks about a fellow

woman have taken these attacks to an alarming level.

The situation mirrors a similar controversy in Andhra Pradesh, where leaders of the YSR Congress Party (YCP) made inappropriate comments about Nara Bhuvaneshwari, the wife of opposition leader Chandrababu Naidu. At the time, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy did not take action against those responsible, a decision that later became a factor in YCP's declining popularity.

Now, Surekha's comments have put Congress in a precarious position. While she has retracted her statements, the damage to both her reputation and the party's image is evident. By dragging in members of the film industry in her critique of political rival KTR, Surekha has overstepped boundaries, especially

considering that her remarks targeted another woman, which has intensified the public backlash.

The spotlight is now on Telangana Congress chief and Chief Minister candidate Revanth Reddy, who is under pressure to address the controversy. His response, or lack thereof, will have significant consequences for Congress. If he fails to take decisive action, as YS Jagan did during the Bhuvaneshwari episode, it could be seen as tacit approval of such behavior and may further damage Congress's credibility.

The way Revanth Reddy handles this situation will be crucial in determining whether Congress can recover from the fallout, or if this controversy will accelerate its decline in Telangana's political landscape.

On Coordinated Efforts By Certain NGOs Against Indian Businesses

The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) of 2010, and its subsequent amendments, were established to regulate foreign funding of individuals, associations, and companies in India, ensuring that such funds are not misused for activities detrimental to national interests. However, recent investigations and scrutiny of several high-profile NGOs have raised serious questions about how foreign contributions are utilized and whether some organizations are deviating from their stated goals.

When the UPA government amended the FCRA in 2010, it did so with the awareness that some influential NGOs with external connections were involved in activities that raised concerns for national security and developmental interests. Yet, despite initial recognition of the problem, significant action was not taken against these organizations at the time. NGOs, especially those receiving large foreign donations, wielded substantial financial power and often enjoyed backing from influential sections of society, including the media, academia, and political circles. Many in power feared that cracking down on these organizations would be perceived as an attack on civil liberties.

This dynamic changed following the election of the Modi government in 2014, which ushered in a renewed sense of national pride and development. The government

emphasized economic growth and security, leading to greater scrutiny of NGOs that appeared to be hindering these goals. The growing concerns were that some NGOs were not merely advocating for human rights or environmental protection, but were involved in stalling key infrastructure and industrial projects, often supported by foreign interests.

For instance, a recent investigation by the Income Tax Department revealed that from 2015 to 2021, NGOs such as Care India, Oxfam, and the Environics Trust received the vast majority of their funding from foreign sources. The concern isn't foreign funding per se, but the potential misuse of these funds to undermine India's economic interests. In Oxfam India's case, investigations pointed to their involvement in campaigns to halt Adani Group's projects in Australia, suggesting collusion with foreign entities under the guise of charitable activities. The allegations pointed toward a coordinated effort among some NGOs to disrupt economic projects, creating law and order issues and hindering India's growth.

The growing influence of foreign-funded NGOs in disrupting major developmental projects through litigation and protests has also raised alarm bells. Projects such as those by Adani Group and JSW have been stalled due to legal challenges initiated by NGOs, often under the pretext of environmen-

tal or civil rights concerns. These activities have delayed infrastructure developments, affecting economic progress and employment generation. According to investigations, some NGOs have gone so far as to re-route funds through "puppet NGOs" when their FCRA licenses are revoked, continuing their campaigns under different guises.

The government has responded by tightening the regulations under the FCRA, with the Ministry of Home Affairs cancelling or allowing the expiration of thousands of NGO licenses. As of now, over 20,000 NGOs have lost their FCRA licenses, reflecting the government's firm stance on ensuring transparency and accountability in foreign-funded activities. However, each time a crackdown occurs, left-leaning groups and some intellectual circles claim that these actions curb freedom of speech and dissent. The broader question remains: is the government merely targeting NGOs for political reasons, or is it justified in its efforts to safeguard national interests? The evidence suggests that while NGOs play a vital role in civil society, there are instances where some organizations misuse their platforms and foreign funding to serve agendas that conflict with India's developmental goals. The government's actions, therefore, aim to strike a balance between ensuring the freedom of civil society and protecting national interests from undue foreign influence.

AP In Crisis: ₹10 Lakh Cr Debt & ₹1 Lakh Cr Interest??



The financial management of a state is one of the most critical responsibilities of any government. When a government mismanages state finances, it not only cripples the economy but also burdens future generations with unsustainable debt. The recent revelations by former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu underscore the gravity of the fiscal crisis gripping the state. According to Naidu, the previous administration under Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy left Andhra Pradesh with a staggering ₹10 lakh crore in debt, along with an annual interest liability of ₹1 lakh crore. This debt burden raises important questions about the accountability of governments in managing public finances.

Debt Crisis: A Consequence of Fiscal Mismanagement

Debt, when utilized effectively, can serve as a tool for growth by financing infrastructure projects, education, healthcare, and other essential services. However, reckless borrowing without a clear plan for repayment can lead to disastrous consequences. In Andhra Pradesh's case, Chandrababu Naidu argues that the state's fiscal crisis stems from the mismanagement of funds and unplanned borrowing during the Jagan administration.

The former government, led by Jagan, frequently took secured and unsecured loans to finance Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) schemes without considering the long-term fiscal sustainability of such actions. These DBT schemes, while aimed at short-term voter appeasement, resulted in a skyrocketing debt burden that the state is now struggling to manage. Borrowing for welfare schemes without ensuring proper revenue generation or economic growth to offset these costs is not a sustainable fiscal strategy.

The Price of Debt: ₹1 Lakh Crore Interest Payments

One of the most alarming aspects of Andhra Pradesh's current financial situation is the colossal interest burden of ₹1 lakh crore annually. This figure alone highlights the scale of the debt crisis. When a state is forced to allocate such a significant portion of its budget to interest payments, it leaves very little room for development initiatives, infrastruc-

ture projects, or essential services like healthcare and education.

Paying off interest is just one part of the problem; eventually, the principal amount will also need to be repaid. Without strong fiscal discipline, economic growth, and strategic planning, the state will continue to sink deeper into debt, with taxpayers and future governments bearing the brunt of the burden.

The Importance of Responsible Fiscal Governance

This situation serves as a stark reminder of the importance of responsible fiscal governance. Governments must adopt a balanced approach to public spending, ensuring that welfare programs are adequately funded without jeopardizing long-term financial stability. Every loan taken must be backed by a clear plan for repayment, either through increased revenue generation or by driving economic growth that benefits all sectors of society.

Governments must also prioritize transparency and accountability in their financial dealings. Citizens have a right to know how their money is being spent and what the long-term implications of government borrowing are. Open discussions about public debt and clear communication about financial strategies are essential to maintaining public trust.

Chandrababu Naidu has expressed his commitment to addressing the debt crisis left behind by his predecessor. He has outlined a plan that includes strict financial management, securing funds from the central government, and implementing his "Super Six" program, which focuses on key development areas. Despite the challenging financial environment, he remains determined to fulfill promises, starting with a free gas cylinder distribution program.

The situation in Andhra Pradesh highlights the need for governments to adopt sustainable financial practices that prioritize long-term growth over short-term political gains. Effective management of state finances is not just a fiscal responsibility; it is a moral obligation to ensure the economic well-being of future generations.

AI-powered Apps Detect Depression Through Facial Analysis



Depression is often a silent killer, posing a serious threat to mental well-being while individuals frequently mask their inner struggles. Early detection of depression is crucial for timely intervention and treatment. A recent study from the Stevens Institute of Technology suggests that smartphones could play a vital role in identifying early signs of depression through advanced technology.

Researchers, led by Professor Sang Won Bae and doctoral candidate Rahul Islam, have developed two innovative smartphone applications designed to analyze facial expressions and eye movements as indicators of mental health. This approach marks a significant breakthrough in utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) for early mental health detection.

Facial gestures and eye movements can provide valuable insights into an individual's emotional state. The researchers' apps leverage AI algorithms to interpret these subtle cues, potentially identifying symptoms of depression in users. By transforming commonly used smartphones into diagnostic tools, this technology represents a major step forward in accessible and efficient mental health screening.

The implications of this research are profound. Given the widespread use of smartphones, the ability to screen for depression through a simple app could make mental health support more reachable for many individuals. This approach allows for a less invasive and more convenient way to monitor mental wellness, potentially leading to earlier interventions and better outcomes for those struggling with depression.

As society increasingly acknowledges the importance of mental health, these apps offer a promising solution to facilitate awareness and early detection. By providing individuals with the tools to understand their mental state, the apps could encourage proactive steps toward seeking help and receiving appropriate treatment.

In conclusion, the development of these AI-powered applications highlights the potential of technology to enhance mental health care. By integrating mental health diagnostics into everyday devices, researchers aim to create a future where early detection of depression becomes commonplace, ultimately improving the lives of countless individuals.

Amazon Launches Refreshed Fire HD 8, Affordable AI Tablet In The World

If you're in the market for an AI tablet, options from major brands like Apple, Google, and Samsung can be quite pricey. However, the latest Amazon Fire HD 8 stands out as an affordable alternative. Priced at a starting point of \$99.99, it is one of the most budget-friendly AI tablets available. As part of the ongoing Prime Big Deal Days sale, the Fire HD 8 can even be snagged for as low as \$54.99, making it an enticing offer for budget-conscious shoppers.

The Fire HD 8 boasts an impressive range of features that make it a competitive option in the tablet market. With a vibrant display, solid performance, and access to a wide array of apps and services, it is well-suited for both entertainment and productivity. Users can enjoy streaming, reading, and browsing with ease, all while benefiting from the integration of Amazon's Alexa, which adds an AI layer to its function-



ality.

However, it's important to note that the availability of the Fire HD 8 tablet is limited to select markets, including the US.

Unfortunately, it seems unlikely that Amazon will launch its tablets in India, as the company currently does not sell its devices there. This limitation could be a drawback for those looking for an affordable tablet option in regions where it isn't available.

Overall, the Amazon Fire HD 8 presents a compelling case for anyone seeking a functional AI tablet without breaking the bank. With its significant discounts during sales

events, this device is hard to overlook for those wanting a reliable tablet for everyday use. Whether for watching shows, reading, or casual browsing, the Fire HD 8 delivers quality performance at an unbeatable price point.

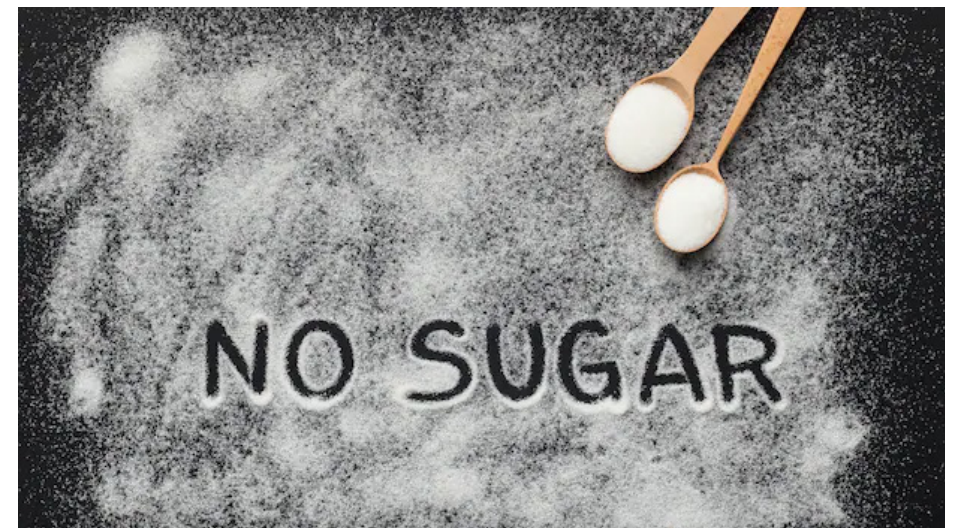
The Sweet Danger: Sugar's Role in Cancer Risk

Recent research has increasingly spotlighted the connection between sugar consumption and cancer, suggesting that sugar may not be just a harmless source of calories but a significant contributor to cancer development and progression. This article explores how sugar affects the body, its links to cancer risk, and strategies for reducing sugar intake.

Sugar, especially in the form of glucose, serves as a primary energy source for our cells. When we consume carbohydrates, they break down into glucose, which enters the bloodstream and fuels cellular energy. Insulin, produced by the pancreas, regulates blood sugar levels by helping cells absorb glucose. However, excessive sugar intake can disrupt this delicate balance.

High sugar consumption leads to elevated insulin levels and increased production of insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1). Both of these hormones promote cell growth and proliferation, potentially contributing to cancer development. Chronically high insulin levels, known as hyperinsulinemia, are associated with heightened risks for various cancers, including breast, colon, and pancreatic cancers.

Obesity, often a result of excessive



sugar intake, is another significant cancer risk factor. It can cause chronic inflammation and hormonal imbalances, both of which create an environment conducive to cancer. For instance, adipose tissue produces estrogen, and elevated estrogen levels have been linked to increased risks of breast and endometrial cancers.

Diets high in sugar can also lead to chronic inflammation, which damages DNA and encourages the survival and proliferation of mutated cells, fostering cancer progression. Furthermore, high sugar consumption is a key element of metabolic syndrome, a cluster of conditions that include insulin resistance and abdominal obesity, both of which

significantly elevate cancer risk.

Epidemiological studies have shown a correlation between high sugar intake and increased cancer risk. Research indicates that cancer cells consume glucose at higher rates than normal cells, a phenomenon known as the Warburg effect. Clinical trials have even suggested that reducing sugar intake, such as through ketogenic diets, may help slow tumor growth in certain cancers.

Understanding the impact of sugar on cancer can empower individuals to make informed dietary choices and potentially reduce their cancer risk.

Archaeologists Discover 50 Viking Age Burials in Denmark



A significant archaeological discovery in Denmark has unveiled an extraordinary burial ground containing the remains of around 50 individuals from the Viking Age, dating back to the 900s. This remarkable find occurred during preparatory work for electrical cable installation near the village of Åsum on Funen Island. Over the past six months, archaeologists from Museum Odense have excavated these graves, providing a rare opportunity to study human remains from this pivotal era.

The preservation of skeletal remains from the Viking Age is typically rare in Scandinavia, primarily due to the region's acidic soil, which does not retain bones well. Consequently, the excavation of 50 graves marks a significant breakthrough in understanding Viking culture. Archaeologist Michael Borre Lundø from Museum Odense emphasized the exceptional nature of this discovery, which allows for a variety of scientific analyses to reveal insights into the health, diet, and origins of those buried at the site.

The burial ground also sheds light on

the social hierarchy of Viking society. Many of the individuals interred appear to have been of high status, as indicated by the accompanying grave goods. One particularly notable burial features a woman placed in a Viking wagon, adorned with luxurious items such as a stunning glass bead necklace, an iron key, a knife with a silver-threaded handle, and a small glass shard possibly used as an amulet.

The richness of these grave goods—including a finely crafted wooden chest and a decorative bronze buckle—suggests that those buried at Åsum were likely linked to extensive trade networks flourishing during the Viking Age. Items like rock crystal, which is not native to Denmark, further highlight the wealth and international connections of Viking society.

This discovery enhances our understanding of Viking burial customs and underscores the cultural significance of the region during the Viking Age, particularly under the rule of King Gorm "the Old" and Queen Thyra.

Chopping Board Has More Bacteria Than A Toilet Seat

Many people may not realize that their chopping boards could be a significant breeding ground for bacteria. In fact, some claim that chopping boards are even dirtier than toilet seats. To get to the bottom of this debate, we consulted experts in the field.

Dietician Suhani Seth Agarwal, Head of the Department of Dietetics at Yatharth Super Speciality Hospital in Noida, notes that chopping boards can harbor harmful bacteria such as E. coli and Salmonella. This is largely due to their frequent contact with raw meats and vegetables, which can lead to cross-contamination if not handled properly.

The materials of chopping boards also play a crucial role in hygiene. Wood, for example, is porous and can trap bacteria, making it harder to clean thoroughly. On the other



hand, plastic boards are generally easier to sanitize but can develop grooves over time, which can also harbor bacteria. Agarwal emphasizes that proper cleaning and maintenance are essential for both types.

To ensure your chopping board remains hygienic, it's vital to wash it with hot, soapy water immediately after use, particularly after cutting raw meat. Experts recommend using a separate board for raw meats and another for vegetables to pre-

vent cross-contamination. Regularly inspecting boards for deep grooves or discoloration is also essential, as these signs may indicate that they need replacement.

Additionally, sanitizing your chopping board with a solution of vinegar or bleach after washing can further reduce bacterial presence. Allowing it to air dry completely is also crucial, as moisture can promote bacterial growth.

In conclusion, while chopping boards can indeed harbor more bacteria than toilet seats under certain conditions, proper hygiene practices can significantly mitigate the risks. Being vigilant about kitchen hygiene, including the care of your chopping boards, can help keep your food preparation areas safe and clean.

India Aims for Strong Start Against New Zealand in Women's T20 World Cup

As India prepares to face New Zealand in their opening Group A match of the Women's T20 World Cup on Friday, a stellar performance from senior players is essential. The team is looking to make a strong start in this tournament, determined to overcome the ghosts of past near-misses.



Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, likely participating in her final T20 World Cup, has experienced several heart-wrenching moments throughout her career. Among the most memorable is India's disappointing defeat to Australia in the final at Melbourne in 2020, a loss that still lingers in the minds of players and fans alike. Kaur's leadership will be crucial as she aims to guide her team past those painful memories and into a successful campaign.

like Smriti Mandhana and Poonam Yadav to deliver strong performances and provide stability during critical moments of the game.

The match against New Zealand presents an opportunity for India to assert their presence early in the tournament. With a mix of experienced players and fresh talent, the squad has the potential to make a significant impact. Kaur will be relying on seasoned players

India's bowling attack, led by the experienced Yadav and backed by emerging stars, will need to be on point to restrict New Zealand's batting line-up. The team's ability to execute

their plans effectively will be vital in setting the tone for the tournament.

In recent years, India has shown promise in T20 cricket, but they have often fallen short at crucial junctures. This World Cup presents a chance for redemption, and the players are well aware of the stakes involved. The desire to clinch

the title and make history adds to the pressure, but it also fuels their determination.

As the team gears up for this important clash, fans will be hoping for a display of skill, teamwork, and resilience, hoping to witness India take a significant step toward their ultimate goal in the tournament.



Babar Azam's Sudden Exit as Pakistan Captain

Babar Azam's abrupt resignation from the captaincy of Pakistan's white-ball teams has been attributed to a damning report submitted by former India coach Gary Kirsten. Following a disappointing T20 World Cup in July, where Pakistan's performance fell short, insiders suggest that Babar's enthusiasm for the role significantly waned.

Sources close to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) revealed that Babar was deeply affected by Kirsten's observations, which appeared to place the blame for the team's failures squarely on his shoulders. "Babar was not happy with the report's conclusions and felt unfairly targeted," an insider stated. The situation escalated to the point where Babar communicated to the board his lack of interest in continuing as captain after parts of Kirsten's critique became public.

Furthermore, Babar expressed disappointment to several PCB officials regarding their failure to acknowledge his previous successes and the trust he had eroded within the organization. Tensions rose when the PCB opted not to name him captain for the ODI squad while still confirming his leadership of the T20 team ahead of the World Cup.

Kirsten's report not only evaluated the team's dressing room dynamics but also addressed concerns about player behavior and cooperation during the England series and the World Cup. It raised doubts about Babar's ability to handle the pressures of captaincy, especially given the mental strain he has endured over the past year.

As for Babar's successor, the PCB has reportedly taken a cautious approach. They are not rushing to announce a new white-ball captain, preferring to allow Kirsten, selector Asad Shafiq, and the selection committee to deliberate thoroughly before making a recommendation. PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi has emphasized the importance of documenting the selection committee's discussions to ensure transparency in the decision-making process.

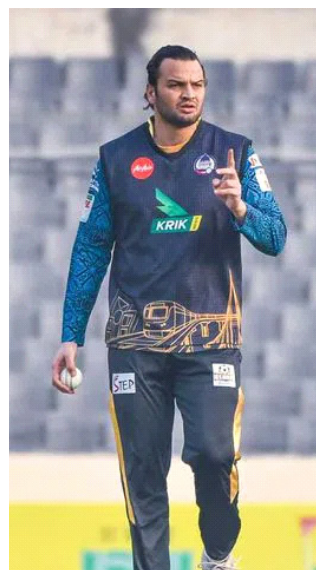
With the cricketing world closely watching, the PCB's next steps will be crucial as they seek to stabilize the team and restore confidence among players and fans alike.

Usman Qadir Announces Retirement from Pakistan Cricket

Leg-spinner Usman Qadir has officially announced his retirement from Pakistan cricket at the age of 31. The son of legendary spinner Abdul Qadir, Usman represented Pakistan in 25 T20 Internationals and one One Day International, claiming a total of 32 wickets from 2020 to 2023.

In a heartfelt statement shared on his X account, Usman expressed his gratitude for the journey he has had in cricket. "Today, I am announcing my retirement from Pakistan cricket, and as I reflect on this incredible journey, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude. It has been an immense honor to represent my country," he stated.

He extended thanks to his coaches and teammates, acknowledging their support throughout his career. "From unforgettable victories to the challenges we faced together, each moment has shaped my career and enriched my life," Usman added. He also expressed deep appreciation for the passionate fans who stood by him during his time on the field, emphasizing that their unwavering support has meant the world to him.



Looking ahead, Usman shared his intention to continue his father's legacy in cricket. "As I step into this new chapter, I will be continuing my dad's legacy, embracing both my love for cricket and the lessons he instilled in me. I carry with me the spirit of Pakistan cricket and the cherished memories we created together," he wrote.

Usman Qadir's announcement marks the end of an era, but he remains committed to honoring his father's contributions to the sport. His journey has been filled with memorable moments, and as he moves forward, he aims to inspire the next generation of cricketers, just as his father did. Thanking everyone who played a role in his career, Usman closed his statement with a heartfelt, "Thank you for everything."

Emiliano Martinez's Stunning Save Secures Aston Villa's Victory Over Bayern Munich

A palpable tension filled Villa Park as the clock ticked down to the 96th minute. Bayern Munich launched a desperate final assault, sending the ball into the Aston Villa box. Harry Kane lurked ominously, ready to pounce. Joshua Kimmich delivered a precise lob, targeting Kane's head. The England captain met the ball with intention, directing a powerful strike that seemed destined to shatter Villa's dreams.



But Aston Villa's goalkeeper, Emiliano Martinez, had other ideas. In a moment of sheer brilliance, the Argentine World Cup winner soared through the air, his outstretched hand connecting with the ball just in time. He expertly deflected the shot, denying Kane and preserving Villa's slender lead. The roar of relief from the home crowd echoed around the stadium, a collective sigh of disbelief and joy as they celebrated an unforgettable victory.

Aston Villa's folklore. The sight of their team holding off one of Europe's giants stirred memories of past glories, reinforcing the belief that Villa could compete at the highest level.

Martinez's heroic performance, a pivotal role in a game that will be remembered for years to come.

This moment wasn't just a win on the pitch; it was a historic reminder of the club's rich legacy. Fans couldn't help but recall the iconic 1-0 victory over Bayern Munich in the 1982 European Cup final, a triumph that has since become part of

As the final whistle blew, players embraced each other, the joy on their faces reflecting the significance of the moment. The match not only showcased Villa's resilience but also highlighted

In the aftermath, discussions of tactics and strategies could wait; for now, the spotlight was on the jubilant home fans, celebrating a victory that transcended mere points—a testament to the spirit of Aston Villa and a reminder that in football, anything is possible.

West Indies Awards Historic Multi-Year Contracts to 9 Cricketers



landscape. Among the recipients are ODI vice-captain Alzarri Joseph, emerging pace sensation Shamar Joseph, and women's T20I captain Hayley Matthews, along with her deputy Shemaine Campbelle. This initiative reflects CWI's commitment to recognizing and rewarding talent across both men's and women's cricket.

CWI announced that contracts were offered to 15 senior men's players, with six of them receiving multi-year agreements based on their performances during the 2023-2024 evaluation period. This is a crucial step towards ensuring the development and stability of West Indies cricket, as it provides players with long-term security and a clear incentive to excel.

For the women's team, 15 senior players were evaluated, and three have been awarded multi-year contracts. This decision highlights CWI's dedication to enhancing the profile of women's cricket, offering female athletes the recognition and support they deserve.

The inclusion of prominent players like Alzarri Joseph and Hayley Matthews in the multi-year contract list not only underscores their contributions to West Indies cricket but also sets a precedent for future contracts. These agreements aim to foster a culture of excellence and commitment, encouraging players to remain dedicated to their craft and contribute to the team's success.

CWI's approach of granting multi-year contracts aligns with global trends in cricket, where similar initiatives have been implemented to ensure player retention and development. By offering these contracts, CWI is not only investing in the current talent pool but also laying a strong foundation for the future of West Indies cricket.

As the cricketing world looks on, this landmark decision by Cricket West Indies signifies a hopeful and promising future for the team, ensuring that its players are supported as they strive for excellence on the international stage.

In a historic move, Cricket West Indies (CWI) has awarded multi-year contracts to nine cricketers, marking a significant milestone for the region's cricketing

Salman Khan to Make Cameo in Varun Dhawan's Baby John



Exciting news for fans of Bollywood! Salman Khan is set to make a cameo appearance in the much-anticipated film "Baby John," starring Varun Dhawan. Trade analyst and film critic Taran Adarsh confirmed this buzz on Instagram, sharing a close-up shot of Varun's character from the action drama.

In his post, Taran Adarsh revealed that Salman Khan will commence filming his cameo this weekend. He described the sneak peek of "Baby John" as a celebration of mass cinema, stating, "BABY JOHN' GLIMPSE: MASS CINEMA AT ITS BEST... SALMAN KHAN SHOOTS HIS CAMEO *THIS WEEKEND*." Taran expressed his enthusiasm about Varun Dhawan's performance in a more rugged, mass avatar, remarking that the over five-minute preview he watched was nothing short of outstanding. He credited director Atlee's expertise, particularly in light of the success of his recent hit "Jawan."

Moreover, Taran mentioned that Salman Khan's cameo is set to be a "sparkling" addition to the film, raising expectations among fans. He expressed confidence in the producers—Jyoti Deshpande from Jio Studios, Priya Atlee, and Murad Khetani—along with director Kalees, suggesting they have a potential hit on their hands, provided the film lives up to the high bar set by its sneak peek.

The anticipation surrounding "Baby John" continues to build, especially with the involvement of Salman Khan, a superstar with a massive fan following. His cameo promises to add an extra layer of excitement to the film, making it a must-watch for Bollywood enthusiasts. As the weekend approaches, fans are eager to see what this collaboration will bring to the big screen. Stay tuned for more updates on "Baby John" as it prepares for its release!

Thalapathy 69: Major Cast Announcements Unveiled

Filmmaker and actor Gautham Vasudev Menon, Pooja Hegde, Mamitha Baiju, Priyamani and Gautham Menon has officially joined the star-studded cast of the tentatively titled Tamil film "Thalapathy 69," directed by H. Vinoth. The announcement was made via KVN Productions' official Instagram page, which featured a poster showcasing Menon's involvement in the project.

The post excitedly read: "Inga Yenna solludhu.. indha surprise update ungalala thala keezha potu thirupirkum-nu Welcome onboard @gauthamvasudevmenon #Thalapathy69CastReveal #Thalapathy @actorvijay sir #HVinoth @iambobbydeol @hegdepooja @mamitha_baiju @anirudhofficial @jagadish_palanisamy @lohitnk."

Menon is known for directing acclaimed films such as "Minnale," "Vaaranam Aayiram," "Vinnaiyaandi Varuvaayaa," "Kaakha Kaakha," "Vettaiyaadu Vilaiyaadu," and "Yennai Arindhaal," among others. His inclusion in "Thalapathy 69" adds significant weight to the film, which is already generating considerable buzz.

On October 2, it was also announced that Pooja Hegde would be sharing the screen with superstar Vijay once again. She previously worked with him in the 2022 film "Beast." The announcement celebrated their reunion, stating: "Bring-



ing the stunning duo back to the big screen once again. We know you've already cracked it, but officially... Welcome onboard @hegdepooja #Thalapathy69CastReveal #Thalapathy @actorvijay sir #HVinoth @thedeol @anirudhofficial @Jagadishbliss @LohithNK01 #Thalapathy69."

Directed by H. Vinoth, who debuted with "Sathurangam Vettai" in 2014, the film follows a successful trajectory with hits like "Theeran Adhigaaram Ondru," "Nerkonda Paarvai," "Valimai," and "Thunivu."

Earlier this week, it was revealed that popular actors Bobby Deol and Mamitha Baiju had also joined the film's ensemble. Produced by Venkat K. Narayana under the KVN Productions banner, "Thalapathy 69" is set for release in October 2025 across Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi languages.

Sreenidhi Shetty Team Up for HIT 3

Director Sailesh Kolanu is set to bring Nani back into the spotlight for the third installment of the HIT franchise. Currently in production, the film recently announced the addition of Sreenidhi Shetty as the leading lady. This marks an exciting chapter for both the film and Shetty, who has been seeking a breakthrough in her career.

Despite her notable role in the blockbuster KGF, Sreenidhi's journey in the industry has been somewhat rocky. Her recent Tamil film, Cobra, co-starring Vikram, failed to create a significant buzz at the box office. However, her collaboration with Nani in HIT 3 is seen as a potential turning point that could elevate her status in Telugu cinema.

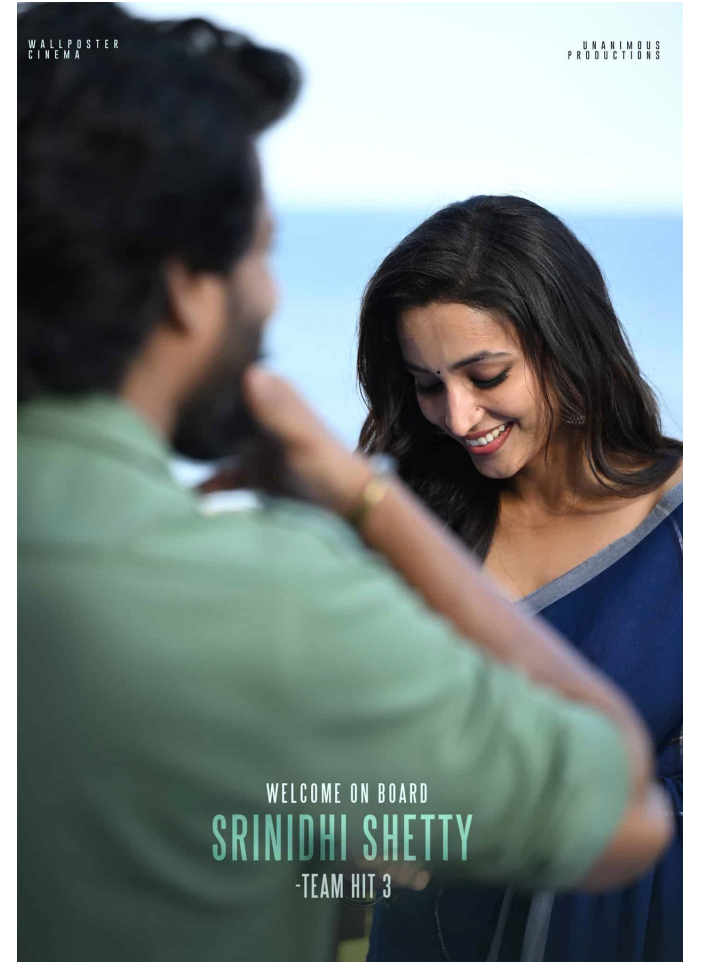
Nani, who is also producing the film, expressed his excitement about Sreenidhi's involvement on social media, stating, "Other side of the madness ☑️ Welcome on board @SrinidhiShetty7." His enthusiasm reflects the high expectations surrounding this project.

In HIT 3, Nani takes on the role of Arjun Sarkar, a violent police officer, which promises to add depth and intensity to the narrative. Known for his natural acting skills, Nani's portrayal of a complex character is anticipated to resonate well with audiences and elevate the film's emotional stakes.

With Sailesh Kolanu at the helm, the franchise is poised to reach new heights. Trade experts are optimistic about HIT 3's potential to surpass its predecessors when it hits theaters in the summer of next year. The combination of a gripping storyline, Nani's star power, and Sreenidhi's fresh energy could well be the recipe for success that both actors and the franchise need.

As the production progresses, fans are eagerly awaiting more updates on this promising film, which aims to blend action and emotion seamlessly.

Vivek Agnihotri announces release date for "The Delhi Files – The Bengal Chapter"



National Award-winning filmmaker Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri has officially announced his upcoming project, "The Delhi Files – The Bengal Chapter," set to release on August 15, 2025. This film will be the first of a two-part series, with "The Bengal Chapter" serving as the initial installment. Agnihotri, known for his impactful works like "The Tashkent Files," "The Kashmir Files," and "The Vaccine War," shared the exciting news on X, formerly known as Twitter.

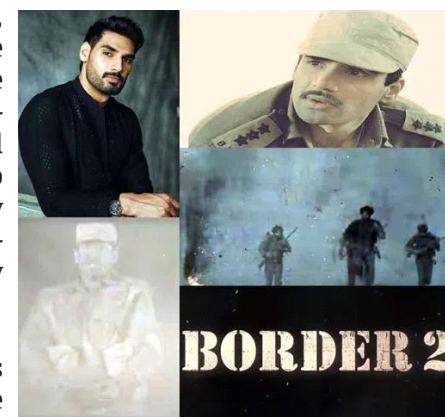
The announcement included a striking poster depicting a silhouette of a child with raised hands against a backdrop of the national emblem. Agnihotri's post stated: "MARK YOUR CALENDAR: August 15, 2025. After years of research, the story of #TheDelhiFiles is too pow-

erful for one part. We're excited to bring you The Bengal Chapter – the first of two parts, unveiling a significant chapter in our history."

The film will feature Agnihotri's wife, Pallavi Joshi, who is also co-producing the project. The ensemble cast includes prominent actors such as Mithun Chakraborty, Anupam Kher, Puneet Issar, Babbu Maan, Govind Namdev, and Palomi Ghosh, among others. Agnihotri has reportedly invested significant time in research, immersing himself in over 100 books and 200 articles related to the historical events that the film will explore. His research team traveled across 20 states, compiling more than 7,000 pages of research and over 1,000 archived articles to ensure accuracy and depth in storytelling.

Ahan Shetty Joins Star-Studded Cast of "Border 2"

Bollywood actor Ahan Shetty, who made his debut with the film "Tadap," is set to continue his father Suniel Shetty's legacy in the highly anticipated sequel, "Border 2". The film also stars prominent actors Sunny Deol, Diljit Dosanjh, and Varun Dhawan, and is directed by Anurag Singh.



While the original "Border" was inspired by the events of the Battle of Longewala during the 1971 Indo-Pak War, "Border 2" is expected to focus on the Kargil War, which took place in 1999. This conflict involved Pakistani troops infiltrating Indian territory, primarily in the Kargil district, leading to a significant military and diplomatic response from India. Official reports indicate that India successfully regained control of 75% to 80% of the intruded area and nearly all high ground during this intense period.

The original "Border", released in 1997, featured a stellar ensemble cast, including Suniel Shetty, Jackie Shroff, Akshaye Khanna, Sudesh Berry, and Puneet Issar, along with supporting performances from actors like Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Tabu, and Pooja Bhatt.

Set to hit theaters on January 23, 2026, "Border 2" is gearing up to provide an unforgettable cinematic experience. Sunny Deol, known for his intense action roles, is expected to deliver a powerful performance, while Diljit Dosanjh and Varun Dhawan will bring their unique styles to the film. Ahan Shetty's addition to the cast adds a fresh dynamic, making this sequel one of the most eagerly awaited releases in the coming years.