

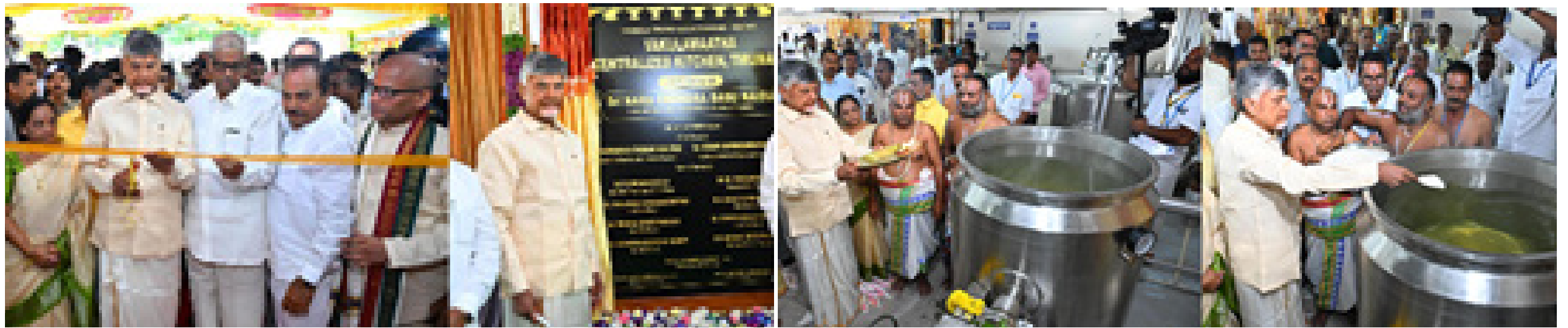


Weather Forecast

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

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CM Inaugurates Vakulamata Kitchen in Tirumala

TPN, Tirumala: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu today inaugurated the Vakulamata Central Kitchen in Tirumala, built at a cost of Rs. 13.40 crores. This modern facility is set to serve Annaprasadam to 1.25 lakh people daily. Speaking at the event, Chandrababu expressed his happiness at opening the new kitchen, which aims to improve the quality of services offered to the devotees visiting Srivari.

He highlighted that the kitchen can serve 18,000 people with a single dish in just 30 minutes. With the inclusion of Tarigonda Vengamamba, Akshaya, and Vakulamata kitchens, Tirumala will now be able to provide Annaprasadam to 3 lakh devotees each day. Chandrababu emphasized that these modern kitchens have been established to better serve the pilgrims.

"Annadanam began during NTR's regime, and today, we are feeding 3 lakh people daily. We will continue to strengthen the programs of food and life donations," he said. The Chief Minister also announced measures to improve cleanliness, the quality of offerings, and the management of queue lines in Tirumala. Chandrababu added that the government would take feedback from devotees to further enhance services and ensure a peaceful and sacred atmosphere. He underlined the importance of maintaining Tirumala's divine status and preserving the biodiversity of the region.

He stressed that there would be no compromise on the quality of prasadam, noting that in the past, concerns raised by devotees had been ignored. "From raw materials to the final product, we are taking utmost care. The sacred Srivari Laddu, which holds a patent, along with other offerings like Jilebi, Mysore Pak, and Vada, will always maintain their unique quality," he assured. Tirumala continues to be a central point of devotion for Hindus worldwide, and CM Naidu reiterated his commitment to preserving its sanctity.

Pawan Kalyan's Tweet on MGR, A Strategic Move Against DMK?



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan recently made headlines with an intriguing tweet dedicated to Tamil Nadu's former Chief Minister and legendary actor, M.G. Ramachandran (MGR). This tweet coincides with the 53rd anniversary of the AIADMK party's founding, set to be celebrated on October 17.

In his tweet, Pawan expressed his long-standing admiration for "Purachi Thalaivar" MGR, recalling how his affection for the legendary figure began during his childhood in Chennai. He wrote, "Love and admiration for 'Purachi Thalaivar' and Shri MGR have been an integral part of me since I was a child in Chennai. Those feelings are still intact. My best wishes to all the admirers and fans of 'Purachi Thalaivar' on the occasion of the upcoming 53rd birthday of AIADMK (October 17)."

Pawan's homage to MGR comes at a time when political tensions are escalating between his party, Jana Sena, and the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu. Political analysts suggest that this tweet serves as a strategic maneuver to check the DMK government, which has recently been critical of Pawan Kalyan, particularly in light of Udayanidhi Stalin's controversial remarks about Sanatana Dharma during a meeting in Tirumala.

The DMK's social media wing has been actively trolling Jana Sena, including posts that mention Chiranjeevi, urging him to "control his emotions." Pawan Kalyan's tribute to MGR is seen as a direct counter to these attacks, with speculation that the AIADMK could rally behind Jana Sena against the DMK's criticism.

As political dynamics shift, Pawan Kalyan's tribute to MGR may not only strengthen his ties with the AIADMK but also fortify his position against the DMK, ensuring that he garners support from MGR's loyal fanbase in Tamil Nadu.

Police Case on DCM Pawan Kalyan in Tamil Nadu

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: A police complaint has been lodged against Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Pawan Kalyan, following his recent remarks criticizing Tamil Nadu Deputy CM, Udayanidhi Stalin, over the latter's controversial statement regarding Sanatana Dharma.

Pawan Kalyan, who has been an ardent advocate of Sanatana Dharma, made critical comments on Stalin's vow to eradicate Sanatana Dharma, which sparked backlash from certain sections. The complaint was filed by Vanchinathan, an advocate based in Madurai, at the Madurai City Commissioner's office.

In his complaint, Vanchinathan alleged that Pawan Kalyan's remarks were incendiary and intended to provoke communal unrest. He accused the Andhra Pradesh Deputy CM of making derogatory statements against minorities and inciting religious conflicts. The issue has drawn considerable attention as Tamil Nadu minorities reportedly took offense to Kalyan's remarks, accusing him of attempting to stir social tensions between different religious communities.



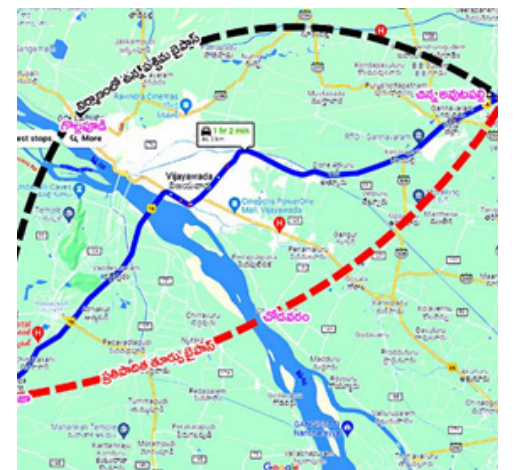
While this case is part of the Indian political landscape, where such controversies are not uncommon, it highlights the growing tensions surrounding discussions on Sanatana Dharma in Tamil Nadu. Further developments are awaited as the situation unfolds.

Green Signal for Vijayawada East Bypass

- The Center has sanctioned funds for 9 projects in Andhra Pradesh.
- A 50 km Vijayawada East Bypass will be constructed.
- Rs. 2,716 crore sanctioned for the construction of the bypass.

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Efforts by AP Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu have borne fruit, as the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has included key projects like the Vijayawada East Bypass in its 2024-25 annual plan. Among these projects is also the construction of a 7-km superstructure bridge in Vijayawada. In total, 9 projects across the state have been included in the plan, with the Central Government sanctioning Rs. 12,029 crore for these developments.

A new bypass, the Eastern Bypass, will be constructed by NHAI, running parallel to the current Vijayawada Bypass, which stretches from Chinna Avutapalli to Kaja. The new bypass will span 50 kilometers, and Rs. 2,716 crores have been allocated for its construction.



Congress Likely to Win Haryana, Miss Majority in Jammu & Kashmir: Exit Polls

TPN, New Delhi: Exit polls suggest that the Congress party is poised to form the next government in Haryana, ending the 10-year reign of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Additionally, in Jammu and Kashmir, the Congress-National Conference alliance is predicted to stay ahead but fall short of a majority, with a fractured mandate expected.

In Haryana, an aggregate of four exit polls predicts the Congress will win 55 of the state's 90 assembly seats, comfortably surpassing the halfway mark of 45. The BJP, which has held power for a decade, is projected to secure only 24 seats. However, two polls, Dhruv Research and People's Pulse, suggest the BJP could win up to 32 seats.

Other key parties in Haryana, such as Abhay Chautala's INLD (Indian National Lok Dal) and the BJP's former ally, the JJP (Jannayak Janata Party), are expected to win 3 and 1 seat, respectively. Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party, despite its strongholds in neighboring Delhi and Punjab, is unlikely to secure any seats in Haryana.



Congress Likely to Win Haryana, Miss Majority in Jammu & Kashmir: Exit Polls

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In Jammu and Kashmir, which saw its first assembly elections after a decade due to delimitation, the Congress-National Conference alliance is projected to win 43 out of 90 seats, three short of the majority. The BJP is expected to win 26 seats, far from the majority required to form the government. Mehbooba Mufti's Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is likely to win 8 seats and could play a decisive role as a potential kingmaker, although Mufti has ruled out any tie-up with the BJP, signaling interest in a "secular alliance."

Despite these projections, exit polls have been known to miscalculate actual results, and the final outcome could differ. The elections in Jammu and Kashmir hold significant interest due to the potential for a hung assembly, which could lead to intense post-election negotiations.

APPCB Implements Key Measures to Combat Environmental Pollution

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In a significant move to address environmental pollution in Andhra Pradesh, the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB), led by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, has introduced several important initiatives aimed at enhancing public engagement and accountability.

One of the key decisions taken by the APPCB is the organization of multiple workshops across the state to discuss and develop strategies for tackling various pollution issues. These workshops aim to educate the public and gather input on environmental concerns, fostering a collaborative approach to improving the state's ecological health.

In addition to workshops, the APPCB has set aside designated hours for 'Public Grievances' at all regional, zonal, and headquarters offices. From 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, officials will be available to receive complaints from the public regarding environmental issues. To facilitate this process, help desks will be established in these offices, ensuring that citizens can easily access assistance during these designated hours.

These initiatives reflect the APPCB's commitment to engaging with the community and addressing the pressing environmental challenges facing Andhra Pradesh. By creating opportunities for public involvement and feedback, the APPCB aims to foster a more sustainable and environmentally conscious state.

Rumors of Jerry Found in Srivari's Annaprasad Are Untrue - TTD



TPN, Tirumala: The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has responded to rumors regarding a jerry (cockroach) allegedly found in Venkateswara Swamy's Annaprasad. TTD clarified that the allegations made by a devotee, who claimed that a jerry was found in the Annaprasad they ate at Madhava Nilayam, are entirely false.

In its statement, TTD expressed surprise at the claim, noting that the staff regularly prepares large quantities of Annaprasad to serve the thousands of devotees who come for the darshan of Tirumala Shrivari. TTD emphasized that even under the heat conditions in

which the food is prepared, it is highly unlikely for a cockroach to remain intact as described by the devotee.

TTD further explained the process of preparation, stating that if curd is to be added to the prasadam, the heated rice is thoroughly mixed first, followed by the curd. It is implausible for a jerry to remain intact in such a scenario, making the allegation completely baseless.

TTD urged devotees not to believe such false propaganda and assured that utmost care is taken in the preparation of Annaprasad for all pilgrims.

Jagan Slams Chandrababu for Playing Politics Over Tirumala Laddu

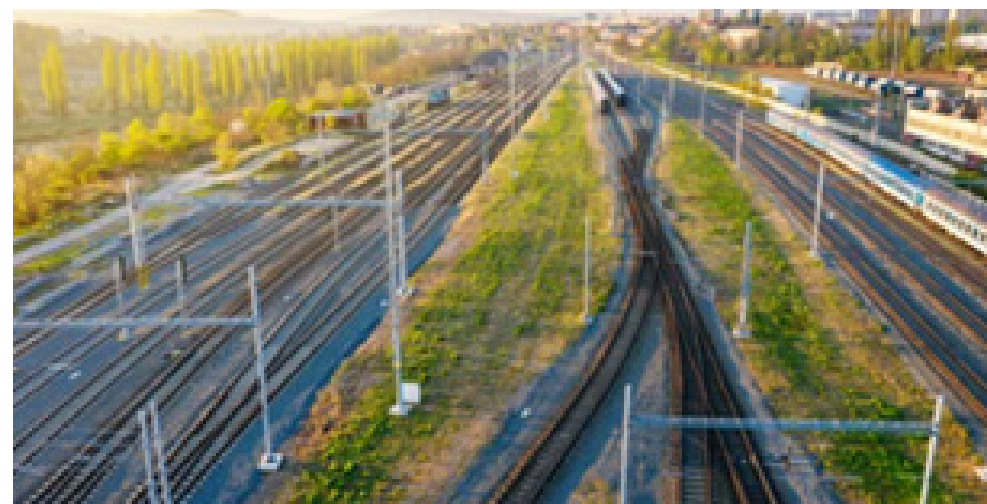
TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YCP chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has once again criticized Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him and the TDP of continuing to politicize the Tirumala Laddu prasadam controversy despite the Supreme Court's stern remarks. In a tweet today, Jagan expressed his frustration, stating that even after the court's clear verdict, the TDP is still engaging in political games over the sacred laddu. He tagged

several political parties, current and former Chief Ministers, as well as the BJP, in his tweet.

During a media conference held yesterday, Jagan also lashed out at Chandrababu, accusing him of twisting the Supreme Court's judgment. He angrily stated, "The Supreme Court handed down the verdict, yet they are shamelessly misrepresenting it." Jagan further criticized the TDP for allegedly spreading lies regarding

the laddu adulteration case, despite the court taking the matter seriously.

The YCP chief also stressed that one should have some devotion to God, indirectly accusing Chandrababu of lacking sincerity in his approach to the Tirumala prasadam issue. Jagan's remarks highlight the ongoing political tension surrounding the matter, even as the Supreme Court has weighed in on the controversy.



Good News From Central Govt... New Railway Lines In AP

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) governments at both the center and in Andhra Pradesh are set to enhance the state's connectivity with the proposal of a new railway line. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is actively collaborating with central authorities to secure necessary funding for this significant development. Plans are underway to establish a railway line connecting the state capital, Amaravati, to various parts of the country, with work expected to commence soon.

A survey has already been com-

pleted for the Errupalem-Amaravati-Nambur railway line in Krishna district, measuring a total of 57 kilometers. While the Railway Department plans to initially construct a single line, Chandrababu is advocating for a double line to be built simultaneously. Land acquisition processes are already in motion, with notifications released to facilitate the project. The new railway line will feature nine stations, including Peddapuram, Chinaraoulapalem, Gottimukkala, Paritala, Kothapeta, Vaddamanu, Amaravati, Tadikonda, and Koppurauru, with Amaravati designated

as the main station. The line will connect with existing routes towards Vijayawada and Guntur near Nambur.

In a meeting with MPs from Andhra Pradesh, Arun Kumar Jain, the General Manager of South Central Railway, discussed ongoing railway projects in the state, which are projected to cost Rs. 2,600 crores. He shared that 73 railway stations across the state are undergoing modernization, with Vijayawada railway station being developed through a public-private partnership. Additionally, Jain an-

nounced that 36 new trains were introduced last year, including six Vande Bharat trains. A notable feature of the Amaravati railway line project will be the construction of a three-kilometer bridge over the Krishna River between Kothapeta and Vaddamanu, with an estimated project cost of Rs. 2,600 crores.

This new railway line is expected to greatly enhance transportation and connectivity for the people of Andhra Pradesh, driving further economic development in the region.

Veteran Actor Rajendra Prasad's Daughter Gayatri Passes Away



TPN, Hyderabad: Gayatri, the 38-year-old daughter of veteran actor Rajendra Prasad, has passed away after suffering from chest pain late last night. Despite being rushed to a corporate hospital in Hyderabad for immediate treatment, she succumbed to her illness in the early hours of the morning, despite all medical efforts to save her.

Rajendra Prasad, who was on a film shoot, hurried back to see his daughter but unfortunately arrived too late. The news of her death has plunged the entire family into mourning.

Recently, Gayatri had been in the tabloids due to her love marriage, and it was reported that she and her father had reconciled after years of estrangement. Rajendra Prasad had previously expressed his emotions regarding their relationship at a film function, highlighting the significance of their renewed bond.

Gayatri's last rites will take place today in Hyderabad, where family, friends, and members of the film industry are expected to gather to pay their final respects. This tragic event has cast a shadow over the film fraternity, with numerous celebrities extending their condolences to Rajendra Prasad and his family during this incredibly difficult time.

Didn't Know How to Console Him - Chiranjeevi

Top actor Chiranjeevi visited Rajendra Prasad's residence in Kukatpalli to express his deep sorrow over the tragic loss at his friend's house. Chiranjeevi became emotional as he shared that he didn't know how to console Rajendra Prasad, a man who has made everyone laugh throughout his life.

"I heard the devastating news about Rajendra Prasad's daughter's sudden death this morning. It was something that shouldn't have happened, and I was deeply shocked. I can't imagine how my friend (Rajendra Prasad) can endure such pain," Chiranjeevi said. "It is heartbreaking that a young life has ended so early."

Chiranjeevi mentioned that he met with Rajendra Prasad, who, despite the unbearable grief, was speaking like a philosopher. "Every now and then, God puts us to the test... we must learn to accept everything," Rajendra Prasad said, which left Chiranjeevi deeply moved. "When young ones, who haven't even lived half their life, leave this world, the pain felt by their parents is indescribable."

Chiranjeevi concluded by praying for his dear friend, "I pray to God that Rajendra Prasad finds the strength to recover from this tragedy and makes us all smile again," he said.

We expected Jagan to welcome the Supreme Court's orders.

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: TDP leader and Union Minister Rammohan Naidu has expressed concerns that Andhra Pradesh Former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is fearful of the SIT (Special Investigation Team) probe into the Tirumala laddu adulteration case. He criticized Jagan for allegedly diluting the investigation, stating, "There is no SIT, no Git," and questioning the sincerity of the process. Naidu remarked that they initially believed Jagan would welcome the Supreme Court's orders regarding the probe, but his response has been underwhelming. He assured that the truth would emerge once the SIT completes its investigation.

In addition to his political remarks, Rammohan Naidu took part in a significant development for the region by inaugurating the Indigo flight service between Tirupati and Delhi. Speaking at the event, the Union Minister highlighted the rapid growth of aviation infrastructure under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



"Earlier, there were only 75 airports across the country, but after Modi became Prime Minister, that number has increased to 156," Naidu stated. He also shared plans to inspect potential sites for new airports in Ongole, Nellore, and Puttaparthi, with the foundation stones expected to be laid soon.

Naidu reiterated his commitment to working in accordance

with the vision of Prime Minister Modi and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, aiming to bring further development to the state and country.

This combination of political criticism and infrastructure development marks another eventful day in Andhra Pradesh politics, with Rammohan Naidu at the center of it.

Pawan Kalyan's Remarks on Sanatana Dharma Spark Political Debate in Tamil Nadu

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Janasena chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's recent comments on the preservation of Sanatana Dharma have become a hot topic in Tamil Nadu's political circles. His remarks, made during the Varahi Sabha in Tirupati, seemed to indirectly criticize Tamil Nadu's Deputy Chief Minister and DMK youth wing chief, Udayanidhi Stalin, who had earlier made controversial statements about Sanatana Dharma.

Udayanidhi Stalin had previously drawn widespread backlash for his comparison of Sanatana Dharma to diseases like dengue and malaria, suggesting that it needed to be eradicated. His comments triggered protests, and now, Pawan Kalyan's remarks have reignited the debate.

While addressing the gathering in Tirupati, Pawan Kalyan criticized Udayanidhi's earlier statements without directly mentioning his name. This prompted a strong reaction from DMK supporters, with Udayanidhi himself responding to the comments.

Amidst this political tension, a tweet from Pawan Kalyan's personal account drew further attention. In a surprising move, he expressed support for AIADMK, the rival party



of DMK, by congratulating AIADMK on its 53rd foundation day, celebrated on October 17. Pawan Kalyan's tweet featured a cover photo of AIADMK founder and former Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran (MGR), who he described as Puratchi Thalaivar (revolutionary leader). Kalyan also shared how MGR had inspired him during his childhood in Chennai, where he had the opportunity to meet him through a Tamil teacher while studying in Myslapore.

In addition, Pawan Kalyan quoted verses from the Thirukkural, emphasizing virtues like benevolence, forgiveness, and concern for the people as essential traits of leadership, which he linked to MGR's legacy.

The combination of these remarks and the unexpected nod to AIADMK has stirred up further debate in Tamil Nadu's already dynamic political landscape.

Minister Narayana Blames YCP for Vijayawada Flooding



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration Minister, P. Narayana, has accused the previous YCP government of causing the flooding in Vijayawada due to irregularities in the management of the Budameru river. Speaking to the media during his visit to various parts of Nellore city, Minister Narayana alleged that YCP leaders arbitrarily occupied the Budameru river, leading to poor drainage management and flooding in Vijayawada. He further criticized the former YCP government for neglecting the issue, which, according to him, contributed to the deterioration of the state.

Minister Narayana highlighted the flood crisis in Vijayawada, emphasizing the hardships faced by the residents due to the improper handling of Budameru. He assured that under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, an initiative called "Operation Budameru" would be implemented statewide to prevent similar issues in the future.

Narayana also discussed development plans for Nellore city. He reminded the public of the 2015 floods that submerged several areas of Nellore and assured that major changes would be made to enhance the city's infrastructure. He stated that Chief Minister Naidu had instructed officials to take immediate measures to avoid such incidents across the state.

The Minister revealed that a special committee is currently inspecting various parts of Nellore, and a report will be submitted within ten days. Based on the findings, the government will initiate the development of the city's canals and carry out repairs where necessary. Narayana also promised that construction work would be carefully managed to ensure minimal disruption to local residents.

Minister Narayana reaffirmed the government's commitment to bringing significant reforms and development to Nellore, ensuring that past mistakes, like those in Vijayawada, would not be repeated.

Peddireddy Criticizes Govt's Silence Over Child's Murder in Punganur



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YCP MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy and MP Mithun Reddy visited the family of Aspiya, a child who was kidnapped and brutally murdered in Punganur. Expressing shock over the incident, Peddireddy criticized the government's lack of response, highlighting that despite the gravity of the crime, neither the Chief Minister nor any ministers have addressed the tragedy.

During the visit, Peddireddy

pointed out the absence of CCTV footage and the delayed release of the postmortem report, calling attention to the gaps in the investigation. He further criticized the government's priorities, recalling that when there was a fire at the Madanapalle sub-collector's office, a helicopter was immediately provided for the DGP. However, when a child has lost their life, the government has remained silent.

Peddireddy demanded swift action from the police to bring the culprits to justice. He also informed that YCP chief and Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy will visit the victim's family on the 9th of this month, offering some hope of official acknowledgment and support.

The tragedy has sparked outrage in the community, with many questioning the slow response from the authorities.

Mantena Ramaraju Takes Charge as APIIC Chairman

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Mantena Ramaraju officially assumed his role as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC) this morning. In a statement to the media, Ramaraju expressed his gratitude to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, and the alliance leaders for believing in him and giving him the opportunity to lead APIIC. He shared his enthusiasm for taking charge of the prestigious organization and acknowledged its crucial role in the state's development.

Ramaraju highlighted the achievements of the previous TDP government, noting how industries like Kia and Hero were brought to Andhra Pradesh under Chandrababu's leadership through APIIC, propelling the state's industrial growth. He contrasted this with the YCP regime, criticizing that

APIIC had been weakened during their tenure.

Looking ahead, Ramaraju assured that under the coalition government, APIIC would be made more accessible to entrepreneurs. He emphasized plans to create industrial layouts in each constituency to promote business development. He also stated that several industries had already been advanced within the first 100 days of the coalition government, reflecting the administration's commitment to industrialization.

He further reiterated the government's pledge, as outlined in their manifesto, to create 20 lakh jobs, noting that all ministers are actively working toward this goal. Ramaraju's vision for APIIC promises renewed focus on industrial expansion and employment generation in Andhra Pradesh.



YV Subbareddy Reacts to Supreme Court Verdict on Tirumala Laddu Case

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YV Subbareddy, YCP Rajya Sabha member and former TTD Chairman, has responded to the Supreme Court's verdict on the Tirumala Laddu adulteration case, making it clear that he does not view the decision as a personal or party victory. In a media statement, Subbareddy emphasized that the matter concerns millions of devotees, and the truth will come out through the independent Special Investigation Team (SIT) mandated by the court.

Subbareddy expressed frustration over the alliance leaders accusing him and YCP President Jagan Mohan Reddy of involvement in the laddoo adulteration. He pointed out that there were allegations of irregularities during the previous gov-



ernment and hopes that justice will prevail with the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

According to Subbareddy, the Su-

preme Court has ordered the formation of an independent SIT, which will include two officials from the central government, two from the state, and an expert from the Food

Safety Authority. The SIT will submit its findings to the Supreme Court.

He also addressed the pain caused by the allegations from the NDA alliance, clarifying that the investigation is under the court's jurisdiction, and further comments cannot be made. Subbareddy revealed that AR Foods dairy ghee, which is at the center of the controversy, was not supplied during his tenure as TTD Chairman or during Bhumana Karunakar Reddy's term. The supply from AR Foods began after the new government took charge, and the SIT investigation will reveal during whose tenure the tenders were issued. Subbareddy concluded by stating that he is confident the Supreme Court will ensure justice.



MP Keshineni Shivanath Announces New Terminal at Vijayawada Airport



TPN , Vijayawada: MP Keshineni Shivanath announced that the new terminal at Vijayawada Airport will be operational by June 2025, following the completion of concrete work scheduled for January of the same year. He made this announcement during the Airports Advisory Committee meeting held on Saturday.

Alongside AAC Chairman MP Valabhaneni Balashouri, Shivanath discussed strategies to expedite the construction of the new terminal and improve facilities for passengers. The committee decided to hold weekly review meetings to monitor progress on ongoing projects.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, MP Shivanath highlighted the success of flight services initiated since the NDA coalition came to power, noting that they are currently operating at full capacity. He also emphasized the need to enhance connectivity to various pilgrimage sites and commercial hubs across the country.

Addressing specific operational challenges, he mentioned that the police and revenue departments would jointly assess and resolve issues related to the new terminal. He proposed introducing cab services at the airport to assist travelers coming from distant areas, ensuring a smooth transit experience once the new terminal is operational.

Shivanath remarked on the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's focused attention on developing the only airport in Amaravati and noted that connectivity to multiple regions has increased since Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu took charge. He

expressed confidence that the new terminal, set to open post-June, would not only meet passenger needs but also impress international visitors.

The long-term goal, he stated, is to rank Vijayawada Airport among the top ten airports in the country within the next five years.

Earlier in the meeting, Chairman MP Balashouri instructed contractors and officials to expedite construction efforts and discuss enhancing connectivity to various regions. The issue of drinking water supply at the airport was also raised, with plans to bring in Krishna and Godavari water to resolve the problem.

Furthermore, discussions included starting Emirates flights to Dubai and aspirations for direct flight services to New York by 2029. The meeting was attended by Krishna District Collector Balaji, Krishna District SP R. Gangadhar, committee members, and officials from relevant departments.

Actor Varun Tej Graces Vijayawada for "Matka" Teaser Launch



TPN , Vijayawada: Actor Varun Tej made a vibrant appearance in the city for the teaser launch of his upcoming film "Matka," held at the Raj

Yuvaraj Theater. The event witnessed the presence of the film's director Karunakumar, cinematographer Kishore Kumar, and producer Dr. Vijender Reddy Thigala, among others.

During the teaser release, Varun Tej expressed his excitement, stating, "I'm thrilled to present the teaser of 'Matka' to the audience in Vijayawada. This film, set in the 1960s, is sure to captivate viewers."

He conveyed his hopes for the film's success, saying, "With the blessings of Durga Devi, I wish for this film to be a big hit. 'Matka' is set to release on November 11, and I will appear in a brand-new look that audiences will

surely appreciate."

The director, Karunakumar, known for his work in "Palasa," expressed confidence in the film, while cinematographer Kishore Kumar showcased stunning visuals that promise to enhance the cinematic experience. Music director GV Prakash's songs are also anticipated to resonate well with the audience.

Varun Tej urged the Telugu audience to support "Matka," emphasizing the film's unique storyline and presentation. With enthusiastic discussions and high expectations, the team is looking forward to a successful release.

Vijayawada Municipal Commissioner Calls for Flawless Arrangements Ahead of Dasara Festival

TPN , Vijayawada: In preparation for the upcoming Dasara festival, Municipal Commissioner Dhyanchandra has ordered officials to ensure impeccable arrangements throughout the city, emphasizing the importance of maintaining sanitation and continuing development works without any disruptions.

On Saturday morning, Commissioner Dhyanchandra convened a review meeting with department heads at the Command Control Room to discuss festival preparations, sanitation management, and ongoing development projects. During the meeting, he addressed various issues concerning the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation and received updates on post-flood repair work, actions taken so far, and outstanding tasks from department officials. He instructed the department heads to collaborate with secretariat staff to tackle problems within their respective areas.

Additionally, the Commissioner directed Deputy Director of Horticulture, Ram Mohan, to provide a comprehensive report on the development of parks in vacant spaces and identify issues in existing parks, along with recommendations for resolution.

The newly appointed Chief Engineer and Superintending Engineers were urged to conduct field visits to identify problems and propose solutions.

Commissioner Dhyanchandra stressed the necessity for coordination among all department heads to ensure that residents do not encounter any inconveniences during the festival period.

The meeting was attended by key officials, including Chief City Planner G.V.G.S.V. Prasad, Chief Engineer R. Srinath Reddy, Deputy Commissioner of Revenue G. Srujana, and several Superintending Engineers, alongside other department personnel.

The Vijayawada Municipal Corporation is committed to providing a seamless experience for citizens and visitors during the festive season, with a focus on both sanitation and urban development.

Machilipatnam District Achieves 100% E-Crop Registration, Ensuring Farmer Welfare



TPN, Machilipatnam: Machilipatnam District Collector DK Balaji announced that the district has successfully registered 100% e-crop, emphasizing the government's commitment to ensuring that farmers benefit from various welfare schemes.

On Saturday, the Collector inspected e-crop registrations carried out by the agriculture department staff in Ramarajupalem village of Guduru mandal. During the inspection, he evaluated the paddy crop cultivated by farmer Dokku Siva Shankar Venkatakrishna Lakshmi Varaprasad, reviewing details such as survey number 9/3, account number 89, and the MTU 1262 rice variety.

Collector Balaji noted that while the registration of crops in the district had reached 99%, he mandated that officials complete the remaining registrations to achieve full compliance. He emphasized the importance of registering crops and completing Know Your Customer (KYC) processes, which are essential for farmers to access the government's welfare schemes designed to enhance their livelihoods.

District Agriculture Department Officer N. Padmavathi and AA Sivaprasad were also present during this program, highlighting the collaborative effort to support the agricultural community in the district.

Food Safety Officials Reject Consignments at Durgamma Temple



TPN, Vijayawada: Food safety officials have once again rejected consignments intended for the Kanaka Durgamma Temple during the ongoing Dussehra celebrations. A total of 200 boxes of Kiss Miss sweets were returned after failing to meet the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) standards.

This incident marks the third rejection of sweets within ten days due to quality concerns. The sweets were originally intended for distribution on the first day of the Dussehra festival but did not adhere to safety regulations, prompting officials to take immediate action.

In response to the repeated violations, the contractor responsible for the supplies is preparing to sub-

mit a comprehensive report to the Andhra Pradesh state government. Authorities have indicated that action will be taken against the contractor following the dismissal of the in-charge of the stores due to these issues.

Meanwhile, the Nagarotsavam celebrations continued with grandeur on the third day of Dussehra at Indrakiladri. The procession featured Ganga and Parvati, along with Malleśwaraswamy, carried in a ceremonial Seshavahanam along the Kanaka Durganagar and Ghat Road. The event attracted a large number of devotees, creating a vibrant atmosphere filled with traditional kolatas and drum sounds, highlighting the cultural significance of Dussehra in the region.

Raghuramakrishna Visits Indrakiladri During Dussehra Celebrations



TPN, Vijayawada: During the Dussehra Sharannavaratri festival, Raghuramakrishna paid a visit to Goddess Indrakiladri, marking a significant return after five years. Reflecting on his visit, he expressed gratitude for the opportunity to worship the goddess, stating, "Five years ago, Amma came to visit them. The previous government imposed restrictions on entry into Andhra, but now, after five years, I have come again to visit Amma."

The Raghuramakrishna praised the arrangements made for the festivities on Indrakiladri, noting that everything was well-organized. He emphasized the importance of the laddu prasadam, stating, "Laddu prasadam is considered to be prasadam in Tirumala or Ammavari, and we eat it." His visit signifies a moment of spiritual significance during one of the most revered festivals in the region, connecting the royal family with the cultural and religious traditions of Andhra Pradesh.

TDP's Varla Ramaiah Honors Dalit Weightlifter and Calls for Support

TPN, Vijayawada: In a heartfelt address at the Mangalagiri Central Office, TDP politburo member Varla Ramaiah praised the remarkable achievements of Dalit weightlifter Manpalli Srinivasa Rao, who has made significant strides in international competitions. Ramaiah emphasized that TDP leader Chandrababu Naidu has long advocated for extracting "rubies from the soil," referring to the hidden potential within the state's talent pool.

Srinivasa Rao, a professional driver at the Kakinada APSRTC depot, has successfully balanced his job while excelling in weightlifting. Recently, he competed in the 105 kg weight category in weightlifting events held in Malaysia and Singapore, lifting an impressive total of 520 kg and securing the gold medal. Ramaiah expressed admiration for Rao's determination and hard work, noting that he achieved these accolades with his own resources and the support of friends.

During the event, Ramaiah committed to assisting Srinivasa Rao in his aspirations to compete in the upcoming Commonwealth Games in 2026. He acknowledged Chan-



drababu Naidu's leadership in promoting sports across India, highlighting the development of sports infrastructure during Naidu's tenure. Ramaiah mentioned plans to enhance the Mangalagiri Stadium to host international events, further supporting athletes like Srinivasa Rao.

He called on Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to provide the necessary financial backing and resources to enable Srinivasa Rao to compete on an international stage. Ramaiah believes that with proper support, Srinivasa Rao has the potential to bring recognition to the state, echoing Naidu's legacy of organizing major sporting events such as the Afro-Asian National Games.



Climate Change Forces Italy and Switzerland to Redraw Their Borders

The dramatic impact of climate change is being felt across the globe, but in the Alpine region of Europe, it has reached a point where it is reshaping not just the environment but also national boundaries. Switzerland and Italy, two nations deeply connected by the Alps, are now in the process of redefining their shared border due to the melting of glaciers, which traditionally served as natural demarcation lines.

The Role of Alpine Glaciers in Defining Borders

The majestic Alpine glaciers, particularly those around the iconic Matterhorn mountain, have long served as a natural boundary between Switzerland and Italy. These glaciers, embedded deep in the Alpine range, have historically marked the highest points on the landscape, which in turn defined where one country's territory ended and the other's began.

However, as climate change intensifies and the rate of glacier melt accelerates, these once-stable borders are shifting. Swiss glaciers, like many others around the world, are rapidly losing ice. In 2023, Swiss glaciers experienced a volume loss of approximately 4%, following a larger 6% loss in 2022. This ongoing decline in ice mass is indicative of a larger global issue, but for Switzerland and Italy, it's more than an environmental concern—it's a territorial one.

Tourism and Economic Impact

The Alps are a significant driver of tourism for both Switzerland and Italy, with visitors flocking to these countries for skiing, mountaineering, and other outdoor activities that are intrinsically tied to the health of the glaciers. As the glaciers retreat, not only are borders shifting, but so too is the landscape of Alpine tourism.

Ski resorts, for example, rely heavily on the presence of glaciers to maintain their slopes and attract visitors. The shrinking ice sheets mean that resorts must adapt, either by moving their operations or investing in artificial snow, which comes with its own set of environmental and financial challenges. The changing landscape can also affect hiking routes, mountaineering paths, and even the aesthetics that draw tourists to these scenic areas.

Both countries, though reliant on tourism in these regions, must now balance the immediate economic needs of their Alpine industries with the long-term implications of climate change on their natural environments. For instance, while Switzerland is gaining land as glaciers recede, this "gain" comes at the cost of losing a portion of the environment that supports its tourism-driven economy.

Redrawing the Border



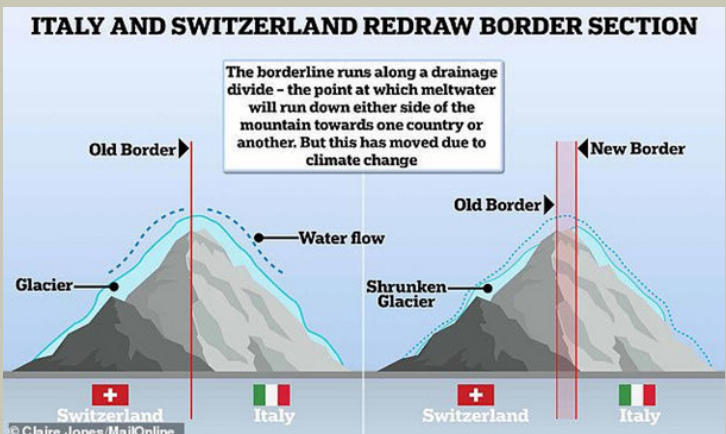
In May 2023, Switzerland and Italy reached an agreement to redraw their border near the Matterhorn mountain, a prominent peak shared by both nations. This agreement, finalized by Switzerland in September 2023 and currently awaiting ratification from Italy, marks a significant moment in how countries are adapting to the realities of climate change. The melting glaciers have shifted the highest points on the landscape further into Italian territory, meaning Switzerland is effectively gaining land as the glaciers recede.

Though the change in land area is minor in the grand scheme of things, it symbolizes a much larger trend. Natural features that once seemed unchanging are now moving, forcing nations to reconsider how they define their geographic boundaries. This is not an isolated case. In 2006, Italy and Austria also had to modify their borders due to the shifting glaciers along their shared border.

Climate Change and Geopolitical Boundaries

The agreement between Switzerland and Italy underscores how climate change is becoming a geopolitical issue, influencing not just national policies but also the very borders between countries. Historically, borders have been shaped by wars, treaties, and political negotiations, but now they are being influenced by the natural world and its response to human-induced climate change.

As the glaciers retreat, the highest points of the landscape—those that once served as the clear dividing line between nations—are moving. In this case, as the glaciers on the Matterhorn shift, Switzerland is gaining a slight advantage in land area, a rare example of how a country can "grow" due to climate change. However, this is no victory. The loss of glaciers is a far greater concern for both nations, as it signals a profound environmental shift that will have far-reaching consequences beyond the adjustment of borders.



A Broader Trend

The adjustment of borders due to melting glaciers is not unique to Switzerland and Italy. The 2006 agreement between Italy and Austria demonstrated that this issue has been on the horizon for some time. The ongoing effects of climate change, particularly in regions that rely on glaciers for both natural boundaries and economic activities, suggest that more countries may need to revisit their borders as the environment changes.



In conclusion, the redrawing of borders between Switzerland and Italy is a stark reminder of the pervasive impact of climate change. What was once thought to be permanent—the icy Alpine glaciers and the borders they defined—has now become fluid, literally melting away. As these countries work to navigate the new realities imposed by climate change, their cooperation offers a glimpse into how nations might need to rethink their geographic and economic futures in the face of a rapidly changing world.





Congress Being Run By Gang Of Urban Naxals: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a rally in Washim district, Maharashtra, on Saturday, sharply criticizing the Congress party, which he described as being controlled by a "gang of urban Naxals." He urged citizens to come together to combat what he termed the "dangerous agenda" of Congress.

Modi emphasized that the Congress party believes that unity among the people will thwart their plans to divide the nation. He stated, "They think that if we all unite, then their agenda to divide the country will fail." He further accused Congress of aligning with individuals who do not have the country's best interests at heart.

Highlighting concerns about drug trafficking, Modi noted the recent seizure of drugs worth thousands of crores in Delhi, claiming that a Congress leader is suspected to be involved as a kingpin. He alleged that the party aims to fund its electoral campaigns through money derived from drug-related activities that target the youth.

The Prime Minister criticized Congress for its historical approach to governance, stating, "Congress' thinking has been foreign from the very beginning." He compared their behavior to that of British colonial rulers, suggesting that they do not regard Dalits, backward classes, and tribal communities as equals. Modi argued that Congress seeks to maintain power for one family, thus fostering a derogatory attitude toward marginalized communities like the Banjara.

Modi's remarks reflect the ongoing political tensions in India, where he is rallying support to strengthen his party's position against Congress ahead of future elections.



2 Terrorists Killed As Army Foils Infiltration Attempt In J&K's Kupwara

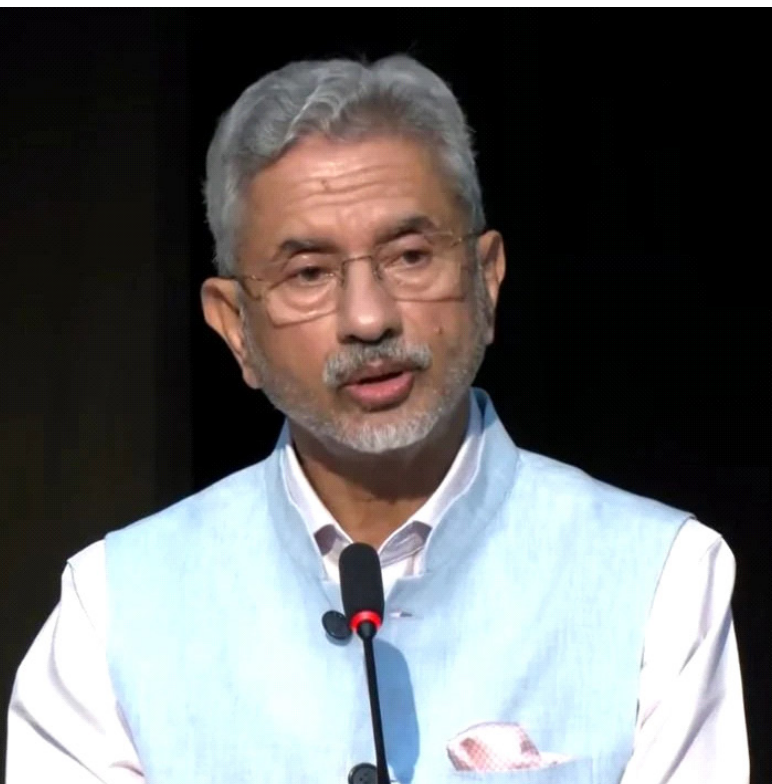
The Indian Army announced on Saturday that it successfully thwarted an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir, resulting in the deaths of two terrorists. The operation, named 'Operation Gugaldhar', was carried out in Kupwara's Gugaldhar region following credible intelligence regarding the infiltration.

On Friday, the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps had reported the launch of a joint operation involving both the Army and local police forces to address the potential threat. The operation focused on the Gugaldhar area, which has been a hotspot for infiltration attempts in the past.

On Saturday, the Chinar Corps confirmed that two terrorists had been neutralized during the operation. This successful mission underscores the ongoing efforts of security forces to maintain peace and security in the region, particularly in light of increasing infiltration attempts.

The Indian Army remains vigilant in its commitment to counter-terrorism and to protect the sovereignty of the nation. Further details about the operation are expected to be released as investigations continue.

Jaishankar Clarifies Pakistan Visit Focused on SCO Summit, Not Bilateral Relations



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar clarified on Saturday that his upcoming visit to Pakistan is strictly for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit and not for discussions on India-Pakistan relations. Speaking at the Sardar Patel Lecture on Governance in New Delhi, he emphasized that he will be attending the SCO meeting as a "good member" of the organization.

Jaishankar confirmed his travel plans for the SCO heads of government meeting scheduled for mid-October in Islamabad, explaining that Pakistan, like India, is a relatively recent member of the bloc. He acknowledged the anticipated media interest due to the sensitive nature of India-Pakistan relations but reiterated that his focus would be on the multilateral event rather than bilateral discussions.

"The meeting is taking place in Pakistan because they are also a recent member," he said, referencing the tradition of Prime Ministers attending high-level SCO meetings. Jaishankar also indicated that he is preparing thoroughly for the summit, considering various scenarios that may arise.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has officially confirmed that Jaishankar will lead India's delegation to the SCO summit on October 15-16. This visit marks the first time an Indian External Affairs Minister will travel to Pakistan since Sushma Swaraj in 2015.

Earlier this year, in May, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari visited India for an SCO meeting in Goa, marking the first visit by a Pakistani Foreign Minister to India in six years. The SCO, founded in 2001, is a major intergovernmental organization that includes nine member states, among them India and Pakistan, as well as several observer states.

West Bengal Junior Doctors' Forum Withdraws Cease-Work but Issues Ultimatum

The West Bengal Junior Doctors' Forum (WBJDF) announced on Friday that it would withdraw its cease-work demonstration, initially launched in response to the horrific rape and murder of a junior doctor from R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital in August. The decision comes in light of the need to prioritize the interests of the public seeking medical services at state-run hospitals.

Despite this withdrawal, WBJDF representative Debasish Halder warned that junior doctors would initiate a fast-unto-death protest if their demands, which fall under the jurisdiction of the West Bengal government, are not met within 24 hours. The organization had previously outlined conditions for ending their ongoing agitation, which resumed on Tuesday.

The first of their ten demands concerns the prolonged judicial process necessary to secure justice for the victim, with fulfillment dependent on the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Supreme Court. Halder stated that the success of the remaining nine demands would rely on the state government's

commitment to addressing them.

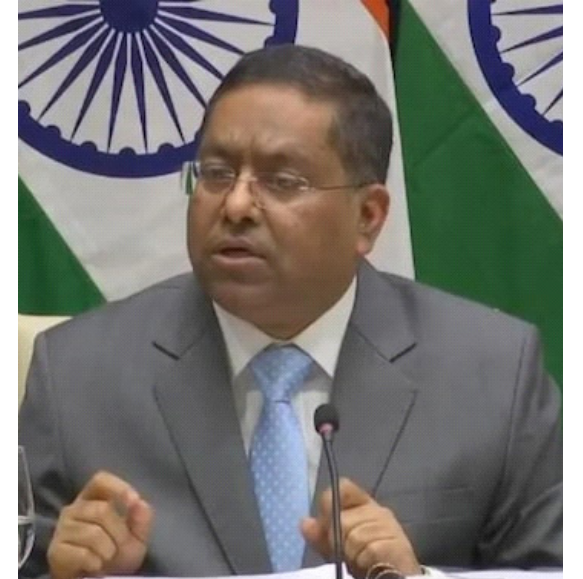
The remaining demands include the immediate removal of the state health secretary, the introduction of a centralized referral system, and the establishment of a digital bed vacancy monitor. Additionally, the forum seeks the creation of task forces in each medical college with elected junior doctor representation, enhanced police protection in hospitals, and the filling of vacant positions for doctors, nursing staff, and health workers.

They are also calling for the formation of inquiry committees in every medical college to investigate individuals involved in threat syndicates and ensure accountability. At the state level, they demand an inquiry into rampant corruption and lawlessness within the West Bengal Medical Council and the West Bengal Health Recruitment Board, alongside immediate elections for student councils in every medical college.

The junior doctors emphasize that their next steps will hinge on the government's response to these urgent issues.



Situation Is Deep Concern For Us: India On West Asia Tensions



The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) expressed deep concern regarding the escalating tensions in West Asia, particularly involving Israel, Iran, and Lebanon. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasized the importance of preventing the conflict from widening into a broader regional crisis.

In a press briefing, Jaiswal reiterated India's call for restraint among all parties involved and the need to protect civilians. He stated, "We had reiterated a call for restraint by all concerned and also the protection of civilians. It is important, in our opinion, that this conflict doesn't take a wider regional dimension." He urged that all issues be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy.

India's advisory to its nationals noted the deteriorating security situation in the region, particularly following Iran's ballistic missile attack on Israel, which prompted retaliatory actions and military engagement between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon. The MEA has advised Indian citizens to exercise caution and avoid non-essential travel to Iran, urging those residing there to stay vigilant and maintain contact with the Indian Embassy in Tehran.

As for repatriation, Jaiswal clarified that there are currently no evacuation processes in place for Indian nationals in Israel, Iran, or other affected countries. He stated, "As of now, flights are running from Israel, Iran, and other countries, so people have the option if they want to leave." Families have reached out to Indian embassies, but no formal evacuation efforts have been initiated.

Canada Reaffirms Strong Support for India's Territorial Integrity

The Canadian government has reiterated its firm stance on India's territorial integrity, labeling it as "absolute." David Morrison, Canada's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, made this statement while testifying before the foreign interference commission in Ottawa. He emphasized that Canada's policy is clear: there is only one India, and this position is unwavering.

Morrison, whose role is akin to that of India's Foreign Secretary, highlighted ongoing private discussions between Canada and India. "We have open channels and are continuing to engage with them," he remarked.

During his testimony, he acknowledged reports that Canada views certain actions by pro-Khalistan groups as "awful, but lawful," indicating a commitment to freedom of speech, even for views that may be contentious. Morrison stressed that while some activities are troubling, they are protected under Canadian law.



He also noted that the diplomatic situation has improved since September 18 of the previous year. This was a critical point when Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau raised "credible allegations" suggesting a possible connection between Indian agents and the killing of Hardeep

Singh Nijjar, a pro-Khalistan activist, in Surrey, British Columbia.

"Thankfully, many aspects of our relationship with India have gradually been restored over the past nine months," Morrison stated, reflecting a cautious optimism about the future of Canada-India relations.



Climate Change Activists Stage Dramatic Protest Outside UN Agency in London

On Friday, climate activists from Ocean Rebellion staged a striking demonstration outside the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in London, drawing attention to the environmental threats posed by Liquid Natural Gas (LNG). The protest featured a dramatic act where activists pretended to drown in oil and gas, symbolizing the peril facing the oceans.

The group, which has become a familiar presence on London's streets, staged this unsettling scene on the steps of the UN agency responsible for regulating maritime transport. One activist, adorned as an "ocean goddess," wore a fishbowl filled with black liquid, depicting a harrowing image of drowning. The visual was powerful, with the activist appearing to scream as the liquid engulfed her, only to drain away moments later.

Surrounding her were other protesters clad in gas masks and holding petrol pumps, which spewed flames, enhancing the dramatic effect of the demonstration. Ocean Rebellion shared images of the protest on X, emphasizing the urgent message behind their actions.



Joe Biden requests Israel to avoid attacking Iran's oil fields

President Joe Biden has urged Israel to reconsider its military response to Iran's recent ballistic missile attack, specifically advising against strikes on Iranian oil fields. This call for restraint comes as tensions escalate in the region following Iran's launch of approximately 200 missiles at Israeli targets earlier this week.

During a press briefing at the White House, Biden acknowledged that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is likely to respond to the attacks but emphasized the importance of avoiding actions that could lead to a broader conflict. "If I were in their shoes, I'd be thinking about other alternatives than striking oil fields," Biden remarked, highlighting concerns that an attack on critical oil infrastructure could significantly disrupt global energy markets, particularly affecting supply to countries like China. Biden's comments reflect a broader effort to manage the situation, as he noted that Israel had not yet finalized its plans for retaliation. His administration has previously cautioned against targeting Iran's nuclear facilities as well, seeking to prevent a spiral into all-out war.

Hit Iran's Nuclear Sites First Trump's Advice To Israel



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump stated on Friday that he believes Israel should target Iran's nuclear facilities in response to the recent missile attacks from the Islamic Republic. Speaking at a campaign event in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Trump referenced a recent question posed to President Joe Biden regarding potential strikes against Iran's nuclear program.

At the event, Trump recalled Biden's response, which suggested restraint: "They asked him, what do you think about Iran, would you hit Iran? And he goes, 'As long as they don't hit the nuclear stuff.' That's the thing you want to hit, right?"

Trump criticized Biden's stance, asserting, "I think he's got that one wrong. Isn't that what you're supposed to hit? I mean, it's the biggest risk we have, nuclear weapons." He emphasized that if action is to be taken, it should focus on nuclear targets first.

Biden, in a statement earlier in the week, firmly opposed military strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, stating, "The answer is no," when asked if he would support such actions. He acknowledged the recent Iranian missile barrage toward Israel but underscored the importance of proportional response, saying, "We'll be discussing with the Israelis what they're going to do."

This back-and-forth comes amid heightened tensions in the Middle East, particularly following Iran's launch of nearly 200 missiles aimed at Israel. Trump, engaged in a competitive election battle against Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris, has been relatively quiet on recent Middle Eastern escalations but issued a critical statement blaming Biden and Harris for the crisis.



Iran's Supreme Leader Declares Missile Strikes on Israel as 'Legal and Legitimate'

Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has asserted that the recent military operation against Israel was "completely legal and legitimate." He made this statement during his address to a large congregation at the weekly Friday prayers in Tehran, discussing the missile attack executed by Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) targeting Israel, as reported by Xinhua.

Khamenei described the missile strike as a necessary response to what he termed the "astonishing crimes" perpetrated by Israel and the United States in the West Asia region. He emphasized that the actions taken by the Iranian armed forces were merely the "least punishment" for Israel, highlighting Iran's commitment to responding forcefully. "We will neither hesitate nor be negligent, nor hurry in fulfilling our responsibilities," he stated.

He further clarified that any future actions would be executed at the appropriate time, based on the assessments of military and political leaders. Khamenei indicated that similar operations would continue if deemed necessary.

On Tuesday, the IRGC launched approximately 180 missiles aimed at strategic sites in Israel. This attack was presented by Iran as retaliation for the targeted assassinations of key figures, including Hamas Politburo Chief Ismail Haniyeh, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, and senior IRGC commander Abbas Nilforoushan. Khamenei condemned these assassinations and characterized Israel's actions, supported by the U.S., as part of a broader pattern of aggression against both Lebanese and Palestinian groups.

Khamenei's remarks underscore Iran's intent to assert its military capabilities and commitment to its regional allies in the face of perceived threats, marking a significant moment in the ongoing tensions between Iran and Israel.

Pak Capital Locked Down As Imran Khan's Supporters Try To Seize The Streets

Pakistan's capital was heavily fortified on Saturday as security forces swarmed the city and mobile internet services were shut down. This lockdown coincided with protests by supporters of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan, who were determined to take to the streets despite significant government pushback.

Khan, who has been barred from participating in the upcoming February elections due to a series of legal challenges and allegations of rigging, remains a pivotal figure in Pakistani politics. His party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), has defied a government crackdown, continuing to organize protests to challenge the current administration.

Supporters of PTI began their journey to Islamabad from Khan's stronghold in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Friday, but were met with roadblocks created by shipping containers and tear gas. Despite these obstacles, small convoys of protesters made their way toward the capital on Saturday, even as the government deployed troops to



ensure security ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit set to begin on October 15.

In a show of solidarity, Khan issued a message on social media, praising his supporters for their resilience. "I am so proud of all our people. You showed unflinching courage as you came out yesterday and overcame unbelievable obstacles," he wrote.

In addition to the protests in Islam-

abad, demonstrations were planned in Lahore, but the main motorway linking the eastern city to the capital was blocked by security forces. Amnesty International criticized the government's actions, stating that the communication blackouts and roadblocks violate citizens' rights to free expression, peaceful assembly, and movement. They expressed concern over what they described as a disturbing trend toward suppressing the right to protest in Pakistan.

DON'T PANIC, PICK UP STOCKS DURING THE DOWNTURNS

Wars Offer a Window of Opportunity for Long-Term Investors

MARKETS DURING CONFLICTS	% change			
	Day 1	After 1 week	After 1 month	After 3 months
Kargil war (1999)	-2.14	-0.94	3.49	23.97
Iraq-US war (2003)	-2.13	-0.91	3.65	23.51
Karabakh war (2020)	1.18	0.72	-4.38	10.68
Azerbaijan and Armenia	1.10	0.99	-6.30	8.83
Russia-Ukraine war (2022)	-4.72	1.05	5.62	-0.88
Ukraine	-4.78	1.54	6.00	-0.76
Israel-Hamas war (2023)	0.55	0.44	-1.57	8.12
India	0.55	0.50	-1.23	9.46



The sharp correction in the stock market following the escalating Iran-Israel conflict presents a key opportunity for long-term investors to buy quality stocks at lower prices. Financial experts advise against panic, as markets have historically shown resilience during geopolitical crises, often recovering within a week. Lower valuations for quality stocks create an ideal entry point for those who believe in the long-term growth prospects of companies. Additionally, dividend-paying stocks become more attractive as their yields increase relative to the overall market.

Experts recommend that investors avoid impulsive decisions based on short-term market fluctuations. "The current market conditions could provide a favorable environment for those seeking to build a strong portfolio". Overvalued stocks with high price-to-earnings ratios are correcting to more reasonable levels, offering investors with cash reserves a chance to buy at more attractive prices.

While midcaps and small caps have been leading the recent bull run, they are now showing signs of a pullback. "Large caps with a long-term outlook could be a more prudent option now," advises Moorti Naidu Padam, partner at Nifty Master.

In times of market downturns, experts emphasize the importance of staying focused on long-term goals and using lower valuations to build a robust investment portfolio.



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Oil soars 10% in five days, logs biggest weekly gain in one year

Oil prices surged on Friday, marking their largest weekly gains in over a year amid escalating tensions in the Middle East. Brent crude futures rose by 43 cents, settling at \$78.05 per barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude increased by 67 cents to close at \$74.38 per barrel.

The uptick in prices was driven by the threat of regional conflict following a missile barrage from Iran aimed at Israel. Israel has vowed to retaliate, escalating fears of broader warfare. Despite the surge in oil prices—nearly 2% at one point—gains were tempered after U.S. President Joe Biden suggested that Israel should consider alternatives to attacking Iranian oil facilities.

Earlier in the week, oil prices had jumped over 5% after Biden confirmed that the U.S. was in discussions with Israel regarding a potential strike on Iranian energy infrastructure. For the week, Brent crude gained over 8%, its

most significant increase since January 2023, while WTI saw a 9.1% rise, the largest since March 2023.

Analysts from JPMorgan indicated that while an Israeli strike on Iranian energy facilities might not be the preferred option, the current low levels of global oil inventories—at 4.4 billion barrels, the lowest on record—could keep prices elevated until the situation stabilizes. Brokerage StoneX warned that if Iranian oil infrastructure were targeted, prices could spike by \$3 to \$5 per barrel.

Amid these tensions, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei publicly called for increased resistance against Israel. Iranian officials have threatened to target Israeli energy installations in retaliation for any attacks, highlighting the risks to the region's oil supply. Iran, a member of OPEC, produces around 3.2 million barrels per day, or 3% of global output. Analysts noted that OPEC's spare production capacity could mitigate potential disruptions to Iranian supplies.

SBI Classifies MTNL Loans as Non-Performing Assets



State Bank of India (SBI) has declared the loan accounts of the debt-laden state-owned telecom firm MTNL as sub-standard non-performing assets (NPAs) due to ongoing non-payment of installments and interest. According to a regulatory filing by MTNL, as of September 30, the total outstanding on its loan account was ₹325.52 crore, as detailed in an SBI letter dated October 1.

The declaration took effect on September 28, 2024, and was triggered by the firm's failure to make necessary payments since June 30. SBI's letter indicates that the specific

loan account (Term Loan Account Number 36726658903) has now been categorized under the NPA – Sub Standard classification. This classification applies to accounts with a default period of less than 12 months, suggesting they may have the potential to clear their dues.

As of the latest update, ₹281.62 crore of MTNL's loan is overdue and requires immediate payment to regularize the account. SBI has also requested clarification regarding the government's assurances to cover MTNL's outstanding dues.

Additionally, the public sector bank is seeking updates on various monetization projects that MTNL is pursuing, including a significant agreement with NBCC to develop 13.88 acres of land into residential and commercial properties. This move could potentially generate revenue and help address the telecom firm's financial challenges.

The situation underscores the ongoing difficulties faced by MTNL, which has struggled with financial stability amid increasing competition in the telecom sector.

SEBI Approves Jio Financial and BlackRock's Mutual Fund Venture



Jio BlackRock aims to leverage BlackRock's global expertise in investment management, risk management, and technology, alongside JFS's deep understanding of the Indian market and its digital infrastructure. Together, they intend to introduce innovative financial solutions to Indian investors, creating a unique player in the burgeoning mutual fund sector.

Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFS), a subsidiary of Reliance Industries led by Mukesh Ambani, announced on October 4 that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has granted in-principle approval for JFS and BlackRock Financial Management to co-sponsor a new mutual fund. The final registration approval will be contingent upon the fulfillment of specific requirements outlined by SEBI.

This announcement follows the July 26, 2023, agreement between JFS and BlackRock to establish "Jio BlackRock," a joint venture with equal stakes from both companies. This collaboration marks BlackRock's return to the Indian financial market after its exit in 2018.

The partnership is expected to focus on offering a diverse range of investment products tailored to the needs of Indian consumers, enhancing the accessibility and efficiency of mutual funds in the country. With JFS's established digital capabilities and BlackRock's robust investment strategies, the joint venture is poised to make a significant impact in the competitive financial landscape.

As the financial services sector in India continues to evolve, this collaboration is seen as a strategic move that could reshape the market dynamics, providing investors with new opportunities and enhancing the overall investment ecosystem.



India's per-capita income almost doubling: Nirmala Sitharaman

At the Kautilya Economic Conclave in New Delhi on Friday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman expressed optimism about India's economic future, predicting that per capita income could nearly double within the next five years. She highlighted that the ongoing growth of the economy will contribute significantly to rising living standards, marking a transformative era for the average Indian.

Citing data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Sitharaman noted that the current per capita income stands at \$2,730 (approximately ₹2.29 lakh) and could increase by an additional \$2,000 (around ₹1.68 lakh) in just five years. She emphasized that while India is poised for steady economic expansion, challenges in the global landscape could im-

pact this growth trajectory.

"The global backdrop is no longer the same," she stated, acknowledging both the potential challenges and opportunities presented by the current international environment. Sitharaman pointed out that the Indian economy must adapt to these changing dynamics, particularly as Prime Minister Narendra Modi aims to transform India into a developed nation by 2047—marking a century since independence. Achieving this ambitious goal would require sustained growth rates exceeding 8% over the next 25 years, economists suggest, alongside efforts to bridge the existing inequality gap.

In her speech, Sitharaman also outlined key strategies for India's economic advancement.

She noted that global geopolitical shifts could be advantageous for the country, encouraging the creation of "robust supply chains" with other nations. Furthermore, she stated that India is benefiting from the evolving international order, which better reflects current power dynamics.

Addressing fiscal matters, Sitharaman reaffirmed the government's commitment to reducing the fiscal deficit, targeting a decrease from 5.6% of GDP in the 2023-24 fiscal year to 4.9% by March 2025. She highlighted that a larger share of the deficit is now allocated to capital outlays, indicating a focus on investment-oriented deficit financing. This approach underscores the government's aim to enhance the quality of its expenditures while fostering economic growth.



Impact of Iran-Israel Conflict on India's Basmati Rice Exports



The ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel has begun to cast a shadow on India's agricultural export market, specifically impacting its famed basmati rice industry. Iran, one of the major importers of Indian basmati rice, has been at the center of the conflict, creating uncertainty and slowing down the demand for this essential commodity. This disruption has already caused significant ripples in India's domestic grain markets, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, which is a key region for basmati rice production.

Slump in Paddy Prices

In the grain market of Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad, one of the key hubs for basmati rice, the effects of the Iran-Israel conflict have become starkly visible. The price of the Paddy (Dhan) Basmati 1509 variety, a popular variant for exports, has dropped significantly. Over the past two days, prices have decreased by ₹200 to ₹300 per quintal. The current price for this variety has fallen to ₹2,700 per quintal, down from the ₹3,500 per quintal it commanded last year.

The primary reason for this sudden drop is the decline in demand from exporters, who are no longer placing large orders. Exporters, fearing the uncertainty stemming from the Iran-Israel conflict, have reduced their procurement, causing distress among farmers. Many farmers are now concerned that their incomes will shrink dramatically due to this slowdown in demand from one of their key markets.

Impact on Indian Basmati Exports

India is the world's largest exporter of basmati rice, with Iran being one of its biggest customers. Around 25% of India's basmati rice exports are sent to Iran. The Middle Eastern nation has long been a crucial partner in India's basmati trade. The ongoing conflict, however, has led to a severe disruption in trade relations.

The All India Rice Exporters Association (AIREA) has raised alarms about the situation. Ajay Bhalotia, the General Secretary of AIREA, has warned that the conflict is putting India's basmati rice industry in jeopardy. "Of the total basmati rice exported from India, 25% is exported to Iran, while 20% goes to Iraq. The combined value of these exports amounts to over two million tonnes, valued at more than \$2 billion," he explained.

The prospect of losing this substantial market has left farmers and exporters anxious. If exports to Iran and Iraq come to a halt, it will severely impact farmers' profits, with some expecting to lose nearly half of their earnings.

Insurance Complications and Government Intervention

Adding to the exporters' concerns is

the halt in export insurance. Insurance companies have stopped providing coverage for exports to Iran due to the heightened risk caused by the conflict. Without insurance, exporters are unable to ship their rice to Iran, effectively cutting off a crucial market.

Bhalotia and other industry leaders have called on the Indian government to intervene. They are urging the government to negotiate with insurance companies to provide coverage for exports to Iran and Iraq. "We request the government to ask the insurance companies to give us insurance so that we can continue some level of exports and ensure fair prices for our farmers' produce," Bhalotia said.

Recent Developments in Basmati Rice Exports

It is worth noting that just last month, India removed the minimum export price (MEP) for basmati rice in an effort to boost exports. The MEP had been seen as a barrier to selling certain grades of basmati rice, particularly in markets across the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. The removal of the MEP was expected to create more opportunities for global buyers, allowing them access to a wider range of basmati rice options from India.

However, the unforeseen conflict between Iran and Israel has cast a shadow on these optimistic developments. Iran remains a critical market for India's basmati rice industry, and the current conflict has thrown a wrench in what was shaping up to be a positive export season.

The Broader Geopolitical Conflict

The latest round of violence between Iran and Israel was triggered when Israel killed Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah in an airstrike in Beirut. In retaliation, Iran launched missiles at Israel, escalating tensions between the two nations. Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, further stoked tensions by stating in a public sermon that Iran and its regional allies would not back down in the face of Israeli aggression.

This conflict has disrupted not only the political landscape but also the economic relations between countries like India, which depend on Iran for trade. As the situation unfolds, it remains to be seen how India's government will manage the economic fallout from this conflict and whether exporters will be able to navigate these choppy waters without suffering long-term damage.

For now, farmers in regions like Uttar Pradesh are left hoping for a swift resolution, as the decline in basmati rice prices threatens their livelihoods. The impact of this conflict is not only a matter of international diplomacy but also one of economic survival for thousands of Indian farmers and traders.

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC): A Crucial Body in India's Economic Policy

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is an essential decision-making body responsible for formulating India's monetary policy, specifically determining key interest rates that directly impact inflation and economic growth. The central government recently reconstituted the MPC by appointing three new external members for a period of four years, reinforcing its role in guiding India's economic trajectory.

What is the MPC?

The MPC is a statutory body established under Section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934, which was amended in May 2016 to provide a legal mandate for the committee. Its primary responsibility is to set the policy interest rate required to achieve the inflation target, which is crucial for ensuring price stability and fostering sustainable growth.

Composition of the MPC

The MPC consists of six members, with equal representation from the RBI and the central government. These six members include:

- The RBI Governor, who serves as the ex-officio Chairperson of the committee.
- The Deputy Governor of the RBI in charge of monetary policy.
- One officer of the RBI, nominated by the Central Board of the RBI.
- Three external members, appointed by the central government. These external members are independent economists or financial experts who bring diverse perspectives to the committee.

The external members are appointed for a period of four years and cannot be reappointed. This mix of government-nominated members and RBI representatives ensures that the committee has a balanced view of both governmental policy goals and central banking objectives.

Key Functions of the MPC

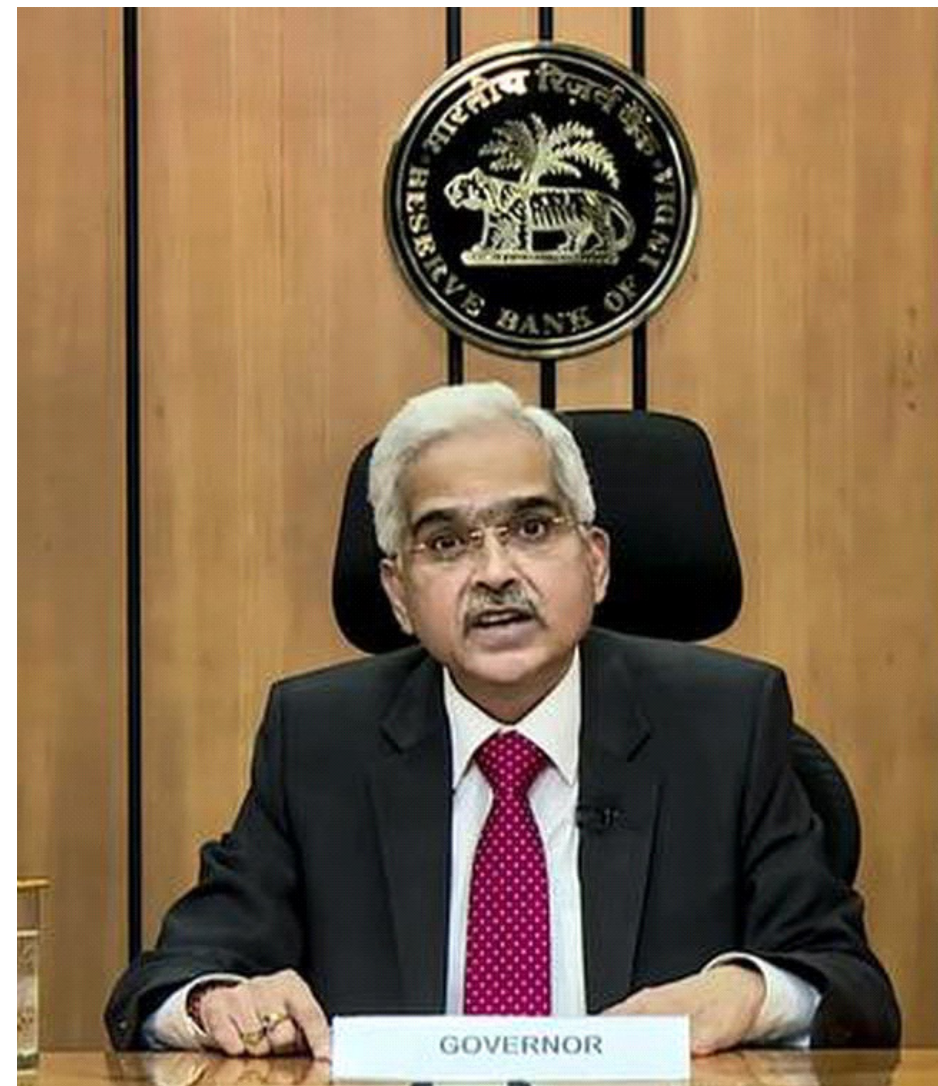
The central function of the MPC is to determine the benchmark interest rates for the economy. These rates directly influence lending and borrowing rates across the financial system. The primary rates determined by the MPC include:

- **Repo Rate:** The rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks. Changes in the repo rate can make borrowing more or less expensive, influencing overall economic activity.
- **Reverse Repo Rate:** The rate at which the RBI borrows money from commercial banks. This rate affects the liquidity available in the banking system.
- **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF):** A mechanism by which banks can borrow funds from the RBI overnight in case of liquidity shortages, but at a higher rate than the repo rate.
- **Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF):** A tool used by the RBI to manage liquidity in the banking system, including the repo and reverse repo rates.

Through adjustments in these interest rates, the MPC plays a pivotal role in influencing inflation, controlling money supply, and promoting economic stability.

Objectives of the MPC

The primary goal of the MPC is to maintain price stability, a crucial precondition for ensuring sustained economic growth. Price stability refers to maintaining a stable inflation rate, ensuring that the economy does not face the adverse effects of



rising or falling prices. Excessive inflation can erode purchasing power, while deflation can lead to stagnation. Therefore, a balanced inflation rate is key to sustainable growth.

The inflation target is currently set at 4%, with a tolerance band of ±2%. This means the MPC aims to keep inflation between 2% and 6%. The policy interest rates decided by the MPC are critical for achieving this inflation target.

While price stability is the primary mandate, the MPC also keeps in mind the broader objective of supporting economic growth. The committee must strike a balance between curbing inflation and fostering growth, especially during times of economic downturns or crises.

Legislative Background

The establishment of the MPC in 2016 marked a significant shift in how India's monetary policy is determined. Before the formation of the MPC, monetary policy decisions were made solely by the RBI, without a formalized committee structure. The amendment to the RBI Act in 2016 created a framework that ensured transparency, accountability, and shared decision-making between the government and the central bank.

According to **Section 45ZB** of the RBI Act, the central government is empowered to constitute the six-member MPC. This legal provision ensures that the MPC functions within a clear legislative frame-

work, with defined responsibilities and objectives.

Importance of Price Stability and Sustainable Growth

Price stability is considered a ****necessary precondition**** for achieving sustainable economic growth. When inflation is stable and predictable, businesses can plan their investments and consumers can make spending decisions with greater confidence. Conversely, high inflation or deflation can create uncertainty, discouraging both spending and investment.

By managing inflation through monetary policy, the MPC plays a crucial role in maintaining the overall health of the economy. In this context, the interest rates decided by the committee not only influence inflation but also affect employment, consumption, and production levels in the economy.

Conclusion

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a cornerstone of India's economic policy framework. With the central government appointing three new external members for a term of four years, the committee is now set to continue its crucial work in balancing price stability with economic growth. As inflation remains a key concern in today's global economic environment, the MPC's decisions on interest rates will be critical in steering India's economy through both immediate challenges and long-term growth objectives.

Facebook seeks to attract young adults with new community features

Meta is on a mission to rejuvenate Facebook's appeal, particularly among younger audiences who have increasingly gravitated towards platforms like Instagram and TikTok. Traditionally seen as a space for parents and grandparents, Facebook aims to reposition itself as a hub for making new connections and expanding social networks.



Meanwhile, the Explore tab curates content based on users' interests, making it easier for them to discover relevant topics and communities.

Tom Alison, head of Facebook at Meta, explained that while the platform initially focused on connecting family and friends, its future lies in facilitating new relationships. "We see young adults turn to Facebook when they make a transition in life," Alison noted. For example, young adults relocating to new cities often utilize Marketplace to furnish their homes, while new parents frequently join parenting groups.

These updates are part of a broader strategy to create a more dynamic and engaging experience on Facebook, aligning the platform's offerings with the evolving needs of its users. By focusing on community engagement and personalized content, Meta hopes to entice younger generations back to Facebook, ensuring it remains a relevant social networking option in an ever-changing digital landscape.

In line with this vision, Facebook recently announced the testing of two new tabs, Local and Explore, in select cities. The Local tab is designed to showcase nearby events, community groups, and local items for sale, thereby encouraging users to engage with their surroundings.

As the platform tests these new features, the company is optimistic about rekindling interest among younger users and fostering a sense of community that resonates with the lifestyle transitions many face today.

Swiggy Launches 'Bolt' for 10-Minute Meal Deliveries

Swiggy, the leading food delivery and quick commerce platform, has unveiled its new service, 'Bolt', which promises to deliver quick-to-prepare meals in just 10 minutes. This innovative offering aims to cater to the growing demand for speedy food deliveries without sacrificing taste, freshness, or quality.



bucks, and Chaayos. It also supports local favorites, showcasing restaurant partners like Karachi Bakery and G Pulla Reddy Sweets in Hyderabad, MM Mithaiwala in Mumbai, Bhartiya Japana and Anand Sweets in Bangalore, Sethi Ice-cream in Delhi, and Irani Cafe in Pune, among others.

With 'Bolt', Swiggy focuses on delivering meals from popular restaurants and quick service restaurants (QSRs) located within a 2 km radius of the customer. The service highlights a carefully curated selection of dishes that require minimal preparation time, including favorites like burgers, hot and cold beverages, breakfast items, and biryani. In addition to these, 'Bolt' will also feature ready-to-pack treats such as ice cream, sweets, and snacks, making it a convenient option for customers on the go.

By launching 'Bolt', Swiggy aims to enhance the convenience of meal delivery, addressing the needs of busy individuals who seek quick and satisfying meal options. The service is set to revolutionize the way people order food, making it easier than ever to enjoy a delicious meal in record time.

The service includes a range of well-known brands such as KFC, McDonald's, Burger King, Baskin Robbins, Star-

As Swiggy continues to innovate and expand its offerings, 'Bolt' represents a significant step forward in the fast-paced world of food delivery, allowing customers to savor their favorite meals almost instantaneously. With this new feature, the company is well-positioned to meet the ever-evolving demands of modern consumers.

Delhi Police's Hilarious Road Safety Advisory Features 'Ganji Chudail'

The Delhi Police have once again demonstrated their knack for blending humor with important messages on social media. In a recent post, they cleverly utilized the viral 'Ganji Chudail' meme, originally popularized by the YouTube channel and Instagram account 'Majedar Kahani', to promote road safety and helmet use.



SABKO HELMET PEHNATE HAIN DELHI POLICE WALE

The post featured an animated image of the meme character donning a helmet, accompanied by the playful text, "Sabko helmet pehnate hain Delhi Police wale" (Delhi Police makes everyone wear helmets). The caption further emphasized the message with a witty twist: "Mujhse nahi, chot se daro! Helmet pehno!" (Don't be afraid of me, be scared of getting hurt. Wear a helmet).

The response from users has been overwhelmingly positive, with comments ranging from admiration to humor. One user quipped, "Ganji chudail is not so ganji (bald) anymore," while another expressed, "Delhi police dil ki police" (Delhi Police are the police of the

heart). Many users praised the Delhi Police for their creative outreach, with one remarking, "Delhi police is on a roll," and another humorously stating, "We got ganji chudail in a helmet before GTA 6."

This clever use of a trending meme highlights the police's efforts to engage the public in a lighthearted manner while addressing critical safety issues. Last month, the Delhi Police also raised awareness about online fraud related to concert ticket sales, particularly for the upcoming mega concert by singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh on October 26. They warned fans against falling victim to scams by clicking on fraudulent links, urging them to always verify sources before making any payments.

Through these innovative campaigns, the Delhi Police continue to effectively communicate vital messages, ensuring public safety while keeping their audience entertained.

Meta Unveils Movie Gen: A New AI Tool for Video Creation



Meta, the parent company of Facebook, announced the launch of its new AI model, Movie Gen, designed to create realistic video and audio clips based on user prompts. This innovative tool aims to compete with leading media generation platforms like OpenAI and ElevenLabs, marking a significant advancement in generative AI technology.

In a recent blog post, Meta showcased samples of Movie Gen's capabilities, including videos featuring animals swimming and surfing, as well as clips utilizing real photographs of individuals engaged in various activities, such as painting on a canvas. The AI model can also generate background music and sound effects that are synced to the video content, enhancing the overall viewing experience.

One notable demonstration involved Movie Gen inserting pom-poms into the hands of a man running in the desert, while another example transformed a dry parking lot into one with splashing puddles as a man skateboarded through it. This level of detail and creativity underscores the potential of Movie Gen in the realm of video editing and production.

According to Meta, the videos generated by Movie Gen can last up to 16 seconds, while the accompanying audio can run for 45 seconds. The company conducted blind tests that indicated Movie Gen's performance is competitive with tools from startups such as Runway, OpenAI, ElevenLabs, and Kling.

This announcement comes at a time when the film industry is grappling with how to effectively utilize generative AI technologies. The interest in such tools was piqued earlier this year when Microsoft-backed OpenAI showcased Sora, its AI model capable of creating feature film-like videos from text prompts.

While many in the entertainment industry are eager to adopt these tools to streamline filmmaking, there are concerns regarding the ethical implications, particularly regarding the training of these AI systems on copyrighted materials without proper permission. As Meta continues to innovate, the launch of Movie Gen highlights the growing intersection of technology and creativity in content creation.

US Men Smash Record For Highest Egg Drop Without Breaking It

Guinness World Records (GWR) continues to dazzle audiences with its array of incredible achievements, and a recent food-related record has captivated social media users. This latest feat involved an ingenious experiment testing the limits of an egg's durability when dropped from a significant height.

In a video shared by GWR on Instagram, a group of men from the United States demonstrated their creative approach to this challenge. They meticulously placed an egg inside a protective shell constructed from straws and cushioned paper. Once secured, the entire setup was transported to a high altitude using a climbing device.

The dramatic moment arrived when the egg was launched into the air, equipped with a small parachute. To everyone's amazement, it successfully landed without cracking. Upon descent, the team revealed the egg, showcasing its pristine condition to the camera, which proved their method's effectiveness.



To validate that the egg was real and not a plastic substitute, one of the men dramatically threw the egg onto the ground, resulting in a satisfying crack. The video caption highlighted their achieve-

ment: "Greatest height to drop a protected egg without breaking: 25.3 m (82 ft 1.43 in) by Matthew Ma, Charlie Gawthrop, Jeffrey Wang, Derrick Wood, and Breckin Shefflerwood, US."

According to the GWR website, this impressive experiment took place in West Chester, USA, on August 18, 2024. Before their official attempt, the team used a drone to practice and refine their design, ensuring a successful outcome.

This isn't the first time egg-related records have made headlines. Previously, Gregory Da Silva from West Africa balanced a staggering 735 eggs on his hat, taking nearly three days to achieve this remarkable feat. Another notable record was set by Christopher Sander from the United States, who cracked open 18 eggs with one hand in just 30 seconds.

With such innovative and entertaining records, GWR continues to inspire both awe and amusement around the world.



Indian Team To Bounce Back Against Pakistan

India's women's cricket team faces a crucial challenge as they prepare to take on arch-rivals Pakistan in their second group A match of the Women's T20 World Cup in Dubai. After suffering a disappointing 58-run defeat to New Zealand in their opening game, the pressure is on captain Harmanpreet Kaur and her team to regroup and address their team combination issues.

Currently, India's chances of advancing to the semifinals are precarious, with a negative run-rate of -2.99, necessitating substantial victories in their remaining matches against Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Australia. In their previous match, the team struggled in all areas, highlighted by the fact that Harmanpreet's highest score was just 15 runs.

To bounce back, the Indian side must refine their line-up. Against New Zealand, they opted for an extra pacer, leaving them one batter short and forcing a reshuffle in batting positions. Harmanpreet, typically solid at No. 4, was moved to No. 3, where she has historically struggled, failing to score a fifty in 19 previous attempts.

While the decision to field three pacers seemed strategic given the conditions, it ultimately backfired as key players like Pooja Vastrakar and left-arm spinner Radha Yadav were underutilized. Head coach Amol Muzumdar faces a critical task in reassessing the team combination, as another loss could jeopardize India's semifinal aspirations.

In contrast, Pakistan enters the match buoyed by their victory over Sri Lanka. With their own talented bowling lineup led by Fatima Sana and Nida Dar, they will pose a significant challenge to India.

With potential adjustments on the horizon, including the inclusion of Dayalan Hemalatha to strengthen the batting, the Indian team is eager to put their earlier missteps behind them. As they prepare for this high-stakes encounter, the focus will be on reclaiming their fighting spirit and restoring confidence against their formidable rivals.

West Indies Announce Squad for Sri Lanka T20I Series

The West Indies cricket team will face a significant challenge in the upcoming three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka, set to take place from October 10-27. The squad will be without senior players Andre Russell, Nicholas Pooran, Akeal Hosein, and Shimron Hetmyer, who have opted out for personal reasons.

In response, the revamped selection committee, under head coach Darren Sammy, has called up Evin Lewis and Brandon King, both of whom bring valuable experience to the side. Lewis returns to the fold after his absence since the 2022 T20 World Cup, while King makes a comeback after recovering from a side injury that hampered his participation

earlier this year.

Rovman Powell retains his role as captain, with Roston Chase continuing as vice-captain. Sammy expressed confidence in the squad's depth, emphasizing the opportunity to evaluate players in various situations due to the absence of several senior members. "This series allows us to assess our talent and compete strongly against Sri Lanka," he stated in a release.

The West Indies recently moved up to third in the T20 rankings following a clean sweep of South Africa, and the series against Sri Lanka presents a chance to further solidify their position.



Yashasvi Jaiswal's Stunning Start in Test Cricket

Yashasvi Jaiswal has made an explosive entry into Test cricket, emerging as a formidable force in the format. Since his debut against the West Indies in July 2023, he has amassed 1,217 runs in just 11 Tests, making him the highest run-scorer globally since his debut. With an impressive average of 64.05 and a strike rate of 71.67, Jaiswal stands out, following only cricket legends Sir Don Bradman and Kamindu Mendis in average among players with over 1,000 runs.

In 2024 alone, Jaiswal is the third-highest run-getter, racking up 929 runs in eight Tests, showcasing his consistency. He was instrumental in India's recent seven-wicket victory over Bangladesh, scoring 72 runs off 51 balls in the first innings and 51 off 45 in the second, embodying the aggressive batting philosophy reminiscent of England's 'Bazball.'

His ability to adapt was highlighted during his debut, where he scored a remarkable 171 runs, spending over eight hours at the crease and facing 387 deliveries. Jaiswal's skills have led him to become the third-fastest player to reach 1,000 Test runs, achieving the milestone in just 16 innings, just behind Vinod Kambli and Kamindu Mendis.

Notably, he also joined an elite group by scoring 209 runs in a single innings against England, with no other batsman surpassing 50 runs.

Romelu Lukaku Shines as Napoli Defeats Como to Retain Serie A Lead

Romelu Lukaku continued to impress for Napoli, scoring once and providing two assists in a commanding 3-1 victory over Como on Friday. This win allowed Napoli to maintain its position at the top of the Serie A table for at least another week. Lukaku set the tone early by assisting Scott McTominay just 25 seconds into the match, marking the latter's first goal in Italy's top flight. He later converted a penalty seven minutes after halftime, before assisting David Neres, helping Napoli extend its lead to four points.

With Juventus trailing closely behind, they have a chance to narrow the gap to just one point if they win their upcoming match against Cagliari. Since joining Napoli under coach Antonio Conte, Lukaku has made an immediate impact, scoring three goals and providing four assists in five league appearances, demonstrating his readiness to help the team challenge for the title.

"It's going to take time because I got here late, but it's all thanks to my teammates, coaching staff, and fans that we're doing so well," Lukaku said in an interview with Sky.

The match at Stadio Diego Armando Maradona wasn't without challenges, as Como, managed by Cesc Fabregas, equalized before halftime with a stunning long-range effort from Gabriel Strefezza. Como threatened to upset the game further when Nico Paz hit the woodwork. However, Lukaku's assist for Neres' late goal in the 86th minute sealed the victory.

McTominay, who has quickly become a key player since his summer transfer from Manchester United, praised the team's quick start and acknowledged the tactical adjustments made during halftime.



Mumbai Regains Irani Cup Title After 27 Years



Ajinkya Rahane's Mumbai team celebrated a historic victory on Saturday, reclaiming the Irani Cup by defeating the Rest of India (RoI) side at the Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow. This win marked a significant milestone, as it ended a 27-year wait for the prestigious trophy, with Mumbai last securing the title in 1997-98.

The victory was achieved based on Mumbai's first-innings lead, allowing them to clinch the Irani Cup for the 15th time, a record number for any team in the Ranji Trophy's history. Rahane's squad had previously reached the finals eight times since their last triumph, showcasing their consistent performance in domestic cricket.

Mumbai's rich cricketing legacy continues to shine as they reaffirm their dominance in Indian cricket. The team's return to glory in the Irani Cup is a testament to their resilience and talent, especially in a format that celebrates the best of Indian domestic cricket.

Following this win, the players and coaching staff expressed their elation, highlighting the significance of the title for the team and its supporters. This achievement not only adds to Mumbai's storied history but also serves as a reminder of the enduring spirit of cricket in the city.

As Mumbai looks ahead, they will aim to build on this momentum, aspiring for further success in the domestic circuit and nurturing the next generation of cricketing talent. The Irani Cup victory is a proud moment for Mumbai cricket and its fans, signaling a promising future for the team.

Varun Tej's "Matka" Teaser Unveiled



Mega Prince Varun Tej stars in the upcoming film "Matka," directed by Karuna Kumar and produced by Vyra Entertainments and SRT Entertainment. The teaser, which premiered at Raj Yuvraj Theatre in Vijayawada, has generated significant buzz for its intriguing storyline and impressive visuals.

"Matka" follows the life of Vasu, an underdog from the slums who dreams of becoming the Matka king. Instead of succumbing to a life of poverty, he embarks on a journey to achieve greatness. The teaser effectively portrays Vasu's transformation without revealing too much of the plot, captivating audiences with its depth.

Set against the vibrant backdrop of Vizag, the film spans 24 years, showcasing Vasu's remarkable evolution. Director Karuna Kumar skillfully captures this progression, highlighting Varun Tej's ability to portray different age stages convincingly. His dedication to embodying the character's variations is evident, particularly in the standout portrayal of an older version of Vasu, accentuated by distinct voice modulation.

The teaser also features popular actress Nora Fatehi and Meenakshi Chaudhary, while Naveen Chandra makes a notable appearance,

closely observing Vasu's journey. An action sequence with an NTR cut-out in the background adds an exciting touch to the narrative.

Cinematographer A Kishor Kumar's work contributes significantly to the film's retro aesthetic, while GV Prakash Kumar's compelling score elevates the overall experience. The production values are top-notch, indicating a well-crafted film.

With a release date set for November 14, "Matka" is poised to be a potential winner, drawing audiences into Vasu's inspiring tale of resilience and ambition.

Jayam Ravi's Next Film JR 34 Announced



Actor Jayam Ravi has officially announced his next project, tentatively titled JR 34, which will be directed by Ganesh K Babu. The announcement was made on social media by Ganesh K Babu, who expressed excitement about the collaboration, thanking Jayam Ravi, music composer Harris Jayaraj, and the production team.

Harris Jayaraj, a long-time collaborator with Ravi, is set to compose the music for this film. The duo has previously teamed up for successful projects such as Dhaam Dhoom, Engeyum Kadhal, and Vanamagan. Fans are eager for more details about the cast and crew, which are expected to be revealed soon.

In addition to JR 34, Jayam Ravi is preparing for the release of his upcoming film Brother, directed by M Rajesh, known for his work on Siva Manasula Sakthi and Oru Kal Oru Kannadi. Brother co-stars Priyanka Mohan and is set to hit theaters this month.

Ravi's busy schedule also includes another project titled Genie, directed by Arjunan Jr., featuring co-stars Krithi Shetty, Kalyani Priyadarshan, and Wamiqa Gabbi. Furthermore, he is working on Kadhalikka Neramillai, directed by Kiruthiga Ud-hayanidhi, alongside Nithya Menen.

Highly-anticipated sequel falls flat at Indian box office

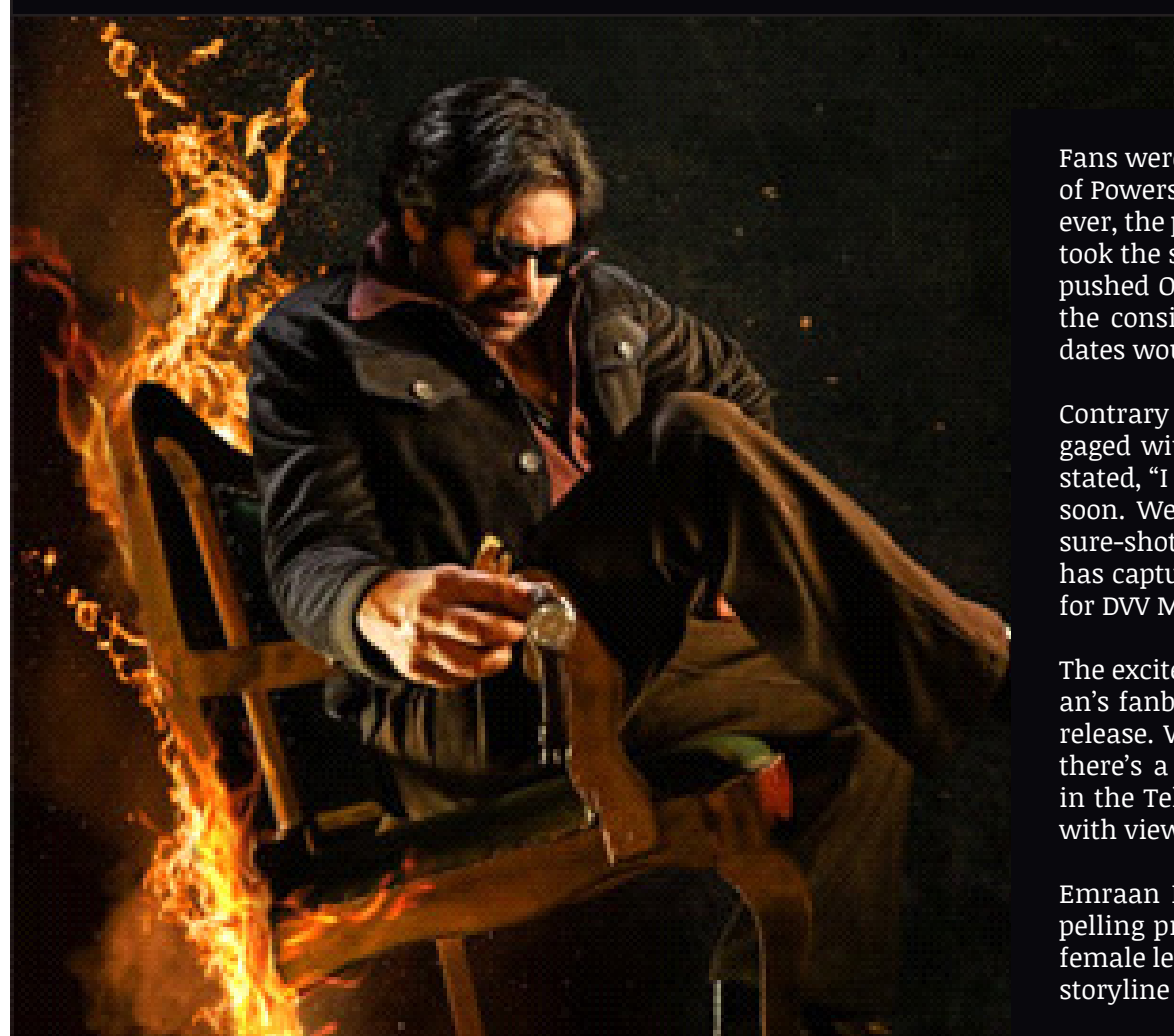


The highly anticipated sequel, *Joker: Folie à Deux*, hit Indian theaters on Gandhi Jayanti, aiming to recreate the magic of its predecessor, which earned Joaquin Phoenix an Academy Award. However, the film has fallen short of expectations, struggling to connect with audiences.

As of now, *Joker 2* has garnered a disappointing box office collection of just over Rs. 8 crore. Each day sees a decline in earnings, which poses a significant setback for Warner Bros. and DC Studios. Despite the star-studded cast featuring Lady Gaga, Brendan Gleeson, Catherine Keener, and Zazie Beetz, the film directed by Todd Phillips has failed to captivate viewers.

With the weekend approaching, hopes are pinned on whether the film can recover its footing and attract more audiences. Early reviews and audience reactions suggest that the sequel has not resonated as strongly as anticipated, leaving many fans disappointed. The industry now watches closely to see if *Joker: Folie à Deux* can turn things around or if it will continue to struggle at the box office.

Anticipation Builds for Pawan Kalyan's OG as Updates Emerge



Fans were initially anticipating that OG would be the first release of Powerstar Pawan Kalyan following the general elections. However, the period action drama Hari Hara Veera Mallu unexpectedly took the spotlight, with a release date set for March 28, 2025. This pushed OG to a potential release in the latter half of 2025. Given the considerable time before its debut, many fans believed updates would be scarce.

Contrary to those expectations, OG's music composer Thaman engaged with fans on X, addressing their requests for updates. He stated, "I see everyone asking about OG updates. We'll share more soon. We're making great progress, and I'm confident it'll be a sure-shot blockbuster. Sujeeth has nailed it, and Ravi K Chandran has captured the visuals beautifully. This film will be the biggest for DVV Movies."

The excitement surrounding OG extends beyond just Pawan Kalyan's fanbase; the broader audience is keenly awaiting the film's release. With a strong narrative and production team behind it, there's a real possibility that OG could break box office records in the Telugu film industry, provided the content resonates well with viewers.

Emraan Hashmi is set to play the antagonist, bringing a compelling presence to the film, while Priyanka Mohan stars as the female lead. The collaboration of talented artists and a promising storyline heightens the anticipation for OG.

Sudheer Babu's Maa Nanna Superhero Trailer Released



Sudheer Babu is gearing up for the release of his latest film, *Maa Nanna Superhero*, directed by Abhilash Reddy Kankara. As the title suggests, the movie revolves around the deep bond between a father and son, exploring the complexities of family relationships. A unique twist in the storyline features both a biological father and an adopted father, which adds layers to the emotional narrative.

In this feel-good entertainer, Sudheer Babu portrays a character raised by his adopted father, played by Sayaji Shinde, due to unavoidable circumstances surrounding his birth. The plot takes an intriguing turn when his biological father, portrayed by Sai Chand, reenters his life, prompting a dramatic shift in their dynamics.

Despite experiencing neglect from his adopted father, the son finds joy in the small moments they share together. A lighthearted moment in the film involves a humorous exchange between Sudheer Babu and Sai Chand about the former's name, Mahesh Babu, which injects some wit into the storyline.

Sudheer Babu delivers an emotionally rich performance, skillfully capturing the nuances of his character. Aarna stars as the leading lady opposite him, adding depth to the film's emotional landscape.