

# ADG's Key Report on Collector Attack Underway

- \* **ADG key report on Vikarabad incident**
- \* **The ADG will give a report to the government on the incident of attack**
- \* **BRS activist Suresh is suspected to be the mastermind**
- \* **Cases against several BRS leaders**



**TPN , Vikarabad :** The Telangana government has taken the recent attack on the Vikarabad District Collector, who was conducting a public opinion survey on an industrial corridor in Lagacharla, Polepalli of Dudyala mandal, very seriously. DGP Jitender has been directed to submit a comprehensive report on the incident.

ADG Mahesh Bhagwat has been tasked with reviewing the law and order situation in the area and preparing the report. This report is expected to play a crucial role in determining the government's subsequent actions, as strict measures against those responsible are anticipated.

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# Strict Action Promised for Collector Assault

- |                                                                             |                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| * If you do rowdyism or gangism, we will punish you                         | * Attack on the officials according to a plan      |
| * The conspirators of the attack will be revealed soon                      | * If we are developing, they are trying to stop us |
| * KCR gave loans as inheritance                                             | * Minister Sridhar Babu in media conference        |
| * The minister is angry at the failure of the police in the attack incident |                                                    |

**TPN, Hyderabad:** In response to the recent attack on the Vikarabad District Collector, IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu issued a stern warning. Speaking at the CLP media point on Tuesday, Minister Sridhar Babu emphasized the gravity of the incident and assured that the investigation would soon uncover those responsible for planning the attack 10 days prior.

## Attack Was Pre-Planned

Minister Babu revealed that the Vikarabad District Collector had taken the initiative to address the concerns of the local population. However, he alleged that some innocent farmers were misled and provoked into carrying out the attack according to a premeditated plan. He assured the public that the government has already launched an inquiry to determine the masterminds behind the incident.

### Criticism of BRS Leaders

The minister did not hold back in criticizing the opposition, particularly the

leaders of the BRS party, accusing them of obstructing the government's development efforts. He highlighted that the government was committed to acting with a democratic spirit and expressed frustration over the alleged conspiracies to disrupt progress. Sridhar Babu condemned the behavior of BRS leaders, accusing them of inciting trouble and hindering the establishment of industries in the districts.

## Investigation and Consequences

Minister Babu affirmed that all aspects of the attack would be thoroughly investigated and that the responsible parties would face strict action. He called out the leaders of opposition parties, accusing them of attempting to derail the government's development projects and create chaos. He stressed that such interference would be exposed, and those accountable would be punished.



# Congress Diverting Rs 300 Crore for Maha Election

- \* False promises are being made in Maharashtra elections
- \* Hundreds of crores are crossing the border from Telangana
- \* EC should increase security at Telangana-Maharashtra border
- \* Revanth is acquiring land in Kodangal for his son-in-law's pharma company
- \* Minister Ponguleti's son Raghava Construction has given a contract of hundreds of crores



**TPN , Hyderabad :** BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao has accused the Congress government in Telangana of misappropriating approximately Rs. 300 crore from state funds to finance its campaign for the upcoming Maharashtra elections. Speaking to media representatives in Delhi, KTR alleged that these funds were used for advertisements in Maharashtra newspapers, showcasing misleading claims about Tel-

angana's achievements.

KTR criticized the Congress for having funds to promote false narratives in Maharashtra while failing to implement its own election promises in Telangana. “Rahul Gandhi is spreading lies, claiming that Congress schemes have been executed in Telangana when, in reality, they remain unfulfilled,” he said. KTR pointed out that key promises such as

farmer loan waivers and financial assistance have not been delivered. He described commitments like Rs. 2,500 monthly aid to women and increased social security for the elderly as “blatant lies.” According to him, the Congress claims to prioritize welfare but diverts state funds for election campaigns elsewhere.

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# MLA Disqualification Case Judgment Reserved

- \* Shock to the MLAs who defected from the party...
- \* Arguments of both sides concluded in court

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# Collector Assault

*continued from P-1*

### BJP and BRS Criticized

Sridhar Babu also commented on the political dynamics, accusing BRS of conspiring alongside BJP, claiming that BJP-governed states acted as “ATMs” for their party. He criticized former Chief Minister KCR for the financial crisis created during his tenure and predicted a Congress victory in the upcoming Jharkhand and Maharashtra assembly elections.

### Support for Government Employees

The minister expressed his dismay at the attack in Lagacharla village and questioned the failure of authorities in preventing it. Following a meeting with the Collector, SP, and IG, Sridhar Babu ordered the police to take strict action. He condemned any form of violence against government employees and stressed that such incidents discouraged officials from carrying out their duties, ultimately harming the public. He urged democratic forms of protest, warning that taking the law into one’s hands would not be tolerated.

## Collector Attack Underway

*continued from P-1*

Meanwhile, the police have registered four cases against BRS leaders and others linked to the incident. Investigations revealed that Suresh, a key follower of Patnam Narendra Reddy, incited the crowd to attack. Suresh was reportedly in frequent contact with Reddy and even spoke to BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao before the incident.

Suresh, who has a history of criminal cases, including a rape accusation, allegedly benefited from Reddy’s influence to dismiss past charges. The police are actively working to bring all details to light and ensure accountability.

## Maha Election

*continued from P-1*

He called on the Election Commission of India to intensify efforts to curb the flow of illicit funds between Telangana and Maharashtra, urging voters in Maharashtra to scrutinize Congress’ claims and verify them with Telangana residents. “Congress failed in Telangana—why should Maharashtra trust their false promises?” he questioned.

Referring to Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge’s remarks on MLA defection, KTR accused the Congress of initiating political horse-trading. “Congress is crying about MLAs being bought like goats, but they are the architects of defection,” he said, claiming that the Congress government in Telangana lured around 10 opposition MLAs, undermining democratic integrity.

KTR also targeted Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, alleging misuse of his position by awarding government contracts to his son’s company, Raghava Constructions. He questioned the BJP’s silence regarding Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids on ministerial properties. “Why are BJP and ED silent? What deals are being made behind closed doors?” he asked. On Ponguleti’s threats of arresting him, KTR responded boldly, saying he was prepared to face any inquiry. “File any case, deploy any agency—I am ready to face it. Can Ponguleti and Revanth Reddy say the same?” he challenged.

Addressing unrest in Kodangal, KTR accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of forcibly acquiring land for his son-in-law’s pharma company, which sparked protests. He denied any involvement in arresting villagers and reiterated that the allegations were politically motivated.

## MLA Disqualification Case Judgment Reserved

- \* Shock to the MLAs who defected from the party...
- \* Arguments of both sides concluded in court

**TPN , Hyderabad :** The Telangana High Court has reserved its judgment on the disqualification petitions filed against three MLAs—Dana Nagender, Telam Venkatarao, and Kadiam Srihari—who defected from the BRS party to the Congress after winning their seats. This development comes as arguments in the case concluded recently, although the exact date of the verdict is yet to be announced.

The disqualification petitions have been under discussion for the past few days, with extensive arguments presented before the High Court. Previously, a single bench had issued a directive to set a timeline for deciding on the disqualification of the MLAs. However, the Assembly Secretary challenged this decision before a division bench.

With the verdict pending, the defecting MLAs face significant uncertainty. Reports indicate that they are anxious about the outcome and whether it will

# Harish Rao Challenges Revanth Reddy to Debate



**TPN , Rajanna-Sircilla :** Former Minister and Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao on Tuesday challenged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to a debate on the various issues impacting Telangana over the past 11 months under Congress rule. Responding to Reddy’s assertion that the people of Telangana had lost nothing, Harish Rao invited the CM for a debate on topics such

as farmers’ challenges, public debt, healthcare, drinking water, irrigation, power supply, education, and law and order.

Speaking after visiting the Sri Rajarajeshwara Swamy temple in Vemulawada, Harish Rao emphasized that all sections of society had suffered under the Congress government. He argued that the state, which had once topped national charts in per capita income, power generation, and other key sectors during former CM K. Chandrashekhar Rao’s BRS administration, had lost its leading position.

Harish Rao criticized Revanth Reddy for failing to fulfill his promise of waiving crop loans by August, noting that many farmers’ loans remained unpaid. He highlighted the worsening conditions in state-run Gurukuls, where 36 student deaths had occurred, pointing to pro-

tests in Nagarkurnool as evidence of neglect.

He further accused the Congress government of neglecting initiatives like “Rythu Bandhu”, which supported farmers even during the COVID-19 pandemic, and failing to launch the promised “Rythu Bharosa” program. Weavers, who previously benefited from government contracts, faced renewed economic distress and suicides. Rao added that the unemployed, Dalits, shepherds, fishermen, government employees, and journalists had all lost essential support and rights, while law and order had deteriorated.

Harish Rao concluded by asserting that CM Revanth Reddy lacked the moral authority to criticize K. Chandrashekhar Rao, who had significantly advanced Telangana during his tenure.



## 20 Arrested in Collector Attack Case

**TPN , Vikarabad :** In connection with the recent attack on the Vikarabad District Collector, IG Satyanarayana has announced significant developments. The incident, which involved an assault with sticks and stones, is now believed to be part of a larger conspiracy.

According to IG Satyanarayana, the attack occurred when the Collector visited the village as part of ongoing land acquisition efforts. BRS leader Suresh, who is suspected of orchestrating the visit, remains at large. The police, determined to leave no stone unturned, have registered three non-bailable cases related to the incident and arrested 20 individuals so far. Investigations are underway, including a detailed analysis of Suresh’s call records.

Satyanarayana emphasized the commitment of the police department to hold all perpetrators accountable and warned of strict action against any provocative content shared on social media. Authorities are intensifying efforts to locate Suresh and expect to release further details soon. The IG stressed that no one involved will be spared and reiterated the department’s dedication to ensuring justice and maintaining law and order.

## Minister Rajanarsimha’s Directives to Drug Control Officers

**TPN , Telangana:** In a recent appearance at the Indian Express Adda program, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy made significant remarks about the political landscape, particularly targeting the BJP and its strategies. He highlighted the electoral success of the BJP, claiming their victory in 240 seats, while Congress surged from 40 to 100 seats. However, Reddy pointed out that the defeat wasn’t just a setback for the BJP, but for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who he claimed had “cheated the people of this country” over the past decade.

Revanth Reddy also suggested a shift in

**TPN , Hyderabad :** Minister Damodara Rajanarsimha held a key review meeting with officials from the Drug Control Authority (DCA) and TGMSIDC, emphasizing the urgent need for stricter measures against counterfeit and substandard medicine production and sales. He instructed officials to conduct extensive inspections of pharmaceutical industries, drug manufacturing units, medical stores, and pharmacies.

Rajanarsimha highlighted the necessity for additional drug inspectors in areas with high numbers of pharma establishments and called for more drug testing laborato-

ries to meet the growing number of medical shops. Currently, there are 71 drug inspectors, but DCA officials indicated the need for at least 150 more. The minister assured that he would discuss the matter with the Chief Minister to secure the necessary posts.

Reddy reaffirmed that Congress will continue its commitment to working for the welfare of the people, without losing sight of its core values.

He also stressed that efforts should be made to curb the sale of intoxicating drugs and urged DCA to support TGMSIDC in procuring quality medicines for government dispensaries. Rajanarsimha reiterated that providing high-quality medicine to patients in government hospitals is a top priority.

## Power Ministers’ Conference Held in New Delhi

**TPN , New Delhi :** A Conference of Power and Renewable Energy Ministers from various States and Union Territories took place under the chairmanship of Shri Manohar Lal, Cabinet Minister of Power, at the India International Convention and Expo Centre. Representing Telangana, Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Sri Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka attended the conference along with Principal Secretary for Energy, Sri Sandeep Kumar Sultania, IAS, and TGSPDCL Chairman & Managing Director, Sri Musharraf Faruqui, IAS.

The event provided an opportunity for Sri Vikramarka to meet with Shri Manohar Lal and discuss pressing issues and developments concerning Telangana’s power sector.







# Etala Rajender Slams Land Acquisition in Kodangal

**TPN ,Telangana :** MP from Delhi, Etala Rajender, strongly condemned the arrests of individuals in Lagicharla village and warned the Telangana government against filing illegal cases. Speaking out against the government's attempt to acquire land for a pharmaceutical project in Kodangal constituency, Rajender emphasized that the land should be acquired with the consent of the farmers, not through coercion. He criticized the government's actions, calling it an attempt to act as a "broker" between pharma companies and farmers, an approach he labeled unjust.

Rajender highlighted the strong opposition from local farmers who have been protesting the acquisition of their land for the pharma company. Despite these protests, including dharnas and boycotts of gram sabhas led by MP DK Aruna, the



government arranged a meeting for land acquisition, further fueling anger among the farmers.

The BJP leader also condemned the government's decision to block internet access and deploy heavy police presence in the area to control the protests. He warned the government that such actions would not go unnoticed and stated that the entire Telangana community would revolt if the cases against the farmers continued. He criticized Revanth Reddy for opposing similar land acquisitions in the past, accusing him of now attempting to grab the farmers' land for his own political gain.

Rajender called for the allocation of government land for the pharmaceutical project, urging the government not to take private lands from farmers. He pledged to support the people in their fight for justice and demanded that the government stop its unjust practices.

## Mallu Ravi Accuses BRS of Plotting Collector Attack in Kodangal



**TPN , Telangana :** Nagar Kurnool MP Mallu Ravi has accused BRS leaders of orchestrating an attack on the Vikarabad Collector under the guise of farmers protesting land acquisition in Kodangal. Ravi claimed that the attack was a deliberate conspiracy by BRS to disrupt the functioning of the people's government. He emphasized that the attack was pre-planned, with evidence showing that BRS leaders, particularly a former MLA, were involved in provoking the incident.

Ravi stated that the collector, who had gone to meet the villagers regarding land acquisition, was attacked after receiving continuous instructions from the defeated MLA. He stressed that the attack was not directed at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, but was an assault on the rule of law and democratic governance.

The MP further criticized the BRS for resorting to violence and provoking the public in an effort to destabilize the government. He contrasted this with Congress's history of non-violent opposition to KCR's failures, asserting that Congress has always fought for justice and change through peaceful means. Ravi warned that such provocative actions would not succeed in undermining the government's legitimacy.

## Minister Komati Reddy Questions KTR's Delhi Visit

**TPN , Telangana:** Telangana Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy has raised concerns over BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao's recent visit to Delhi. Speaking on the matter, Reddy questioned the purpose of KTR's trip, pointing out that India has thousands of MLAs, implying that KTR's visit was not particularly noteworthy. He referred to a recent incident involving the unauthorized conversion of rupees into pounds and the release of Arvind Kumar, which Reddy claimed was influenced by KTR's orders. The minister also mentioned that the Governor had written to the prosecution, with KTR's visit seemingly being a reaction to these developments. Reddy suggested that KTR's trip could be an attempt to divert attention from the ongoing case. The comments reflect rising political tensions surrounding KTR's actions and his visit to Delhi.



## MP DK Aruna Condemns Attack on Officials in Lagacharla

**TPN , Telangana:** Mahbubnagar MP DK Aruna has expressed her sorrow over the recent attack on officials, including the district collector, in Lagacharla village of Dudyala Mandal in Kodangal constituency. Speaking to the media, Aruna stated that the local farmers, who have been protesting against the establishment of a pharma company, were reportedly angered due to ongoing tensions. She mentioned that district police had discussed the incident with other officials to gather details.

While acknowledging the frustration of the locals, Aruna condemned the violence, emphasizing that attacking officials is unreasonable. She reminded that the elected representative for the constituency, CM Revanth Reddy, should seek to resolve issues through dialogue rather than resorting to such confrontational actions. The farmers of six surrounding villages have expressed strong opposition to the pharma project, and Aruna called for respecting their views and opening a platform for discussions to address their concerns peacefully.



## Satyavati Criticizes CM's Decision on Pharma Companies



**TPN , Telangana :** Former Minister and MLC Satyavati Rathore has strongly criticized the Telangana government's decision to set up pharmaceutical companies in green crop fields in Lagacharla village, Vikarabad, amidst growing protests from tribal farmers. Rathore demanded the withdrawal of the decision, calling it harmful to the livelihood of the farmers and detrimental to the environment.

Describing the incident where tribal farmers attacked officials as unfortunate, Rathore blamed the current administration for its anti-public policies. She accused the Chief Minister of incompetence, likening his rule to "a stone in the hands of a madman," due to the failure of governance and public service.

Rathore also recalled how former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) had previously procured land near Hyderabad for a pharma city, ensuring proper permits and ecological safeguards. She expressed frustration that the current government's actions were jeopardizing tribal livelihoods by taking land from green crop fields, which are vital for the tribals' sustenance. Rathore further criticized the administration for its lack of concern, alleging it had failed to address the grievances of the tribal people and the Delhi administration.

## Minister Ponnamp Comments on KTR's Arrest

**TPN , Telangana :** Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar has stated that the law will take its course regarding the potential arrest of KTR, dismissing any comparison to BJP's Bandisanjay. Prabhakar further pointed out the political alliances between BJP and BRS in Delhi, accusing them of engaging in "wrestling in the lanes" while neglecting key issues affecting farmers.



by cotton farmers. He called on the central government to ensure that cotton farmers receive support without any hindrances, urging both state and central authorities to collaborate to ease farmers' hardships.

The Minister also commented on the government's initiative to purchase 600 buses through women's associations and emphasized the state's efforts to foster women entrepreneurship. Prabhakar reiterated that farmers should not be ignored and expressed concern over the government's handling of agricultural procurement.

## Jagadish Reddy Criticizes Revanth Reddy's Leadership

**TPN , Telangana:** Former Minister Jagadish Reddy has sharply criticized Congress leader Revanth Reddy, accusing him of failing to show genuine commitment to the party. Reddy remarked that if Revanth Reddy's representative was attacked, it symbolized an attack on Revanth himself. He further stated that Congress workers have expressed their discontent, claiming that Revanth Reddy lacks loyalty to the party and is causing harm to genuine Congress supporters.

Reddy also criticized Revanth Reddy's frequent trips to Delhi, suggesting that the Congress leader had been "holding legs" of top political figures like Amit Shah and Rahul Gandhi to avoid legal consequences. He questioned Revanth's dedication

to the party, highlighting his alleged role in mishandling state matters, including the decline in crop prices and the distress faced by farmers. Jagadish Reddy accused certain ministers of corruption, claiming that they collected significant sums from brokers and millers, ultimately betraying the farmers.



# CPI Accuses BJP, BRS of Inciting Unrest to Target Revanth

**TPN , Telangana :** CPI leader Koonanneni Sambasiva Rao has accused BJP and BRS of conspiring to destabilize the Revanth Reddy government by manipulating the poor. Speaking at a media conference alongside senior CPI leader Narayana, Sambasiva Rao referred to two incidents that recently occurred in the Revanth Reddy constituency—one on October 25 and the second involving the attack on Vikarabad District Collector. He suggested that these incidents were part of a deliberate plan to create political unrest and target the Revanth Reddy government.

Sambasiva Rao claimed that the BJP and BRS were behind these attacks, aiming to create confusion and weaken the govern-



ment. He stressed that an investigation should be conducted to identify the masterminds of these incidents, while also pointing out that the farmers involved were only seeking justice for their land rights.

Narayana also condemned the attack on the collector, attributing it to farmers' fear of losing their land. He raised concerns about a potential political conspiracy behind the attacks on government officials and religious sites.

Narayana expressed support for the caste census, which aims to benefit the economically and politically backward sections. However, he questioned the inclusion of questions about assets, debts, and bank transactions in the census, which he believed could lead to unnecessary complications. He reiterated that CPI stands for the people, not for any particular political party.



# 16 Farmers Remanded for Alleged Attack on Vikarabad Collector



**TPN , Hyderabad:** Sixteen farmers were remanded by a local court on Tuesday, November 12, following their involvement in an alleged attack on Vikarabad District Collector Prateek Jain and other officials during a public hearing in Lagcherla village. The incident occurred amid protests over land acquisition

for a proposed pharma unit in the area. While authorities confirmed the attack, Collector Jain denied the allegations, stating that he was not assaulted. “Some mischief elements conspired and created trouble. I was not attacked or manhandled,” Jain told reporters after speaking with protesting farmers in Kondagal. The protest escalated during a Gram Sabha meeting for the Pharma City project, where villagers reportedly used sticks and stones to target officials. Officials, including Jain, additional collector Lingyanayak, sub-collector Umashankar Prasad, and KADA special officer Venkat Reddy, were targeted. While Jain and Lingyanayak escaped unharmed, Reddy sustained serious injuries. Deputy Superintendent of Police Srinivas was also injured while attempting to protect Reddy. Following the incident, 55 individuals were detained, and authorities imposed a temporary suspension of internet services in the area. The situation remains tense as the investigation continues.

## Onion Prices Skyrocket in Telangana, Causing Consumer Distress



**TPN , Hyderabad:** Onion prices have surged dramatically across Telangana, causing distress among consumers. In wholesale markets, the price of onions has risen to Rs 62-65 per kilogram, depending on quality, while retail prices have soared to Rs 70-80 per kilogram, significantly higher than just a few months ago.

Traders attribute the price hike to ex-

tensive crop damage caused by heavy rains in key onion-growing regions like Karnataka and Maharashtra. “An increase of Rs 2,000 per quintal has been observed. Due to a low supply, prices will likely remain around Rs 80 until the end of November,” said Sunil Kumar, a trader at the Osmangunj market. Onions typically arrive in Hyderabad from Nashik in Maharashtra, Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh, and various parts of Karnataka. The kharif crop in these regions was severely impacted by rainfall in September, leading to reduced supply. “We are receiving about 150 truckloads daily at the Malakpet market, compared to the usual 200,” an official explained. As prices continue to rise, buyers have reduced their purchases, and hotels have scaled back their onion orders, further driving down demand.

## Advocate Attacked by Unidentified Persons at IMAX Road

**TPN , Hyderabad:** A 48-year-old advocate, A Kalyan Vamshikeer, was attacked by two unidentified persons on Tuesday morning while he was on a walk at Khairatabad IMAX Road. The incident occurred around 5:30 am when Kalyan, a resident of Khairatabad, was walking with his pet dog near the KFC joint. Two men on a scooter approached him, began arguing, and one of the suspects attacked Kalyan with a knife, injuring his hand. The other assailant stole Kalyan’s mobile phone before fleeing the scene. Upon receiving the information, Khairatabad police arrived and rushed Kalyan to a private hospital, where he is receiving treatment. A case has been registered, and investigations are underway.

Kalyan, who represents the Bajrang Dal in several cases, has received support from the Advocates Bar Council, which condemned the attack and called for a fair investigation into the incident.

## Man Stabs Wife to Death and Sets Her Body Ablaze in Bandlaguda

**Hyderabad:** In a shocking incident, a man stabbed his wife to death and then set her body on fire at their house in Bandlaguda, near Chandrayangutta, on Monday night. The suspect, Fayaz Qureshi (25), later surrendered to the police. According to the police, Fayaz, along with his wife Qamar Begum (23) and their two children, Hadiunisa (5) and Junaid (3), lived in a house in Hashamabad, Bandlaguda. Authorities stated that ongoing marital issues led to frequent fights between the couple. On the night of the incident, the couple had another altercation during which Fayaz stabbed Qamar to death. He then went out, purchased fuel, doused her body with it, and set it ablaze in their bedroom.

Neighbors noticed the fire and alerted the police while attempting to extinguish the flames. Firefighters and police later found the body of the woman, with the children safely in another room.

The body was sent to Osmania General Hospital for post-mortem, and an investigation is ongoing.

## Telangana to Celebrate Praja Vijayotsavam from Nov 14

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Telangana will commemorate the first anniversary of its “People’s Government” with the launch of the Praja Vijayotsavam (People’s Governance Victory Festival) on November 14 in Hyderabad. The opening ceremony will coincide with Children’s Day and the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Chief Minister K. Revanth Reddy will inaugurate an Education Day event at LB Stadium, where approximately 14,000 school students are expected to participate, according to Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari. During the event, the Chief Minister will highlight key initiatives implemented over the past year to improve education in the state. Notable improvements include increased diet allowances, upgraded school infrastructure, home-based grading, and the provision of free electricity to govern-

ment schools. A preparatory meeting for the event was held at the Secretariat, led by Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari and attended by Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj and other officials. The celebrations will run from November 14 to December 9, with large-scale public events planned across Telangana. On the first day, the Chief Minister will engage with students from government and Gurukula schools.

The event will feature a student-led “Model Assembly,” a cultural program, an audio-visual presentation on education sector developments, and the release of a commemorative souvenir. Arrangements for weather protection, power supply, and cultural performances will ensure a smooth experience for attendees.



## RS Praveen Criticizes CM Revanth for Ignoring Public Issues



**TPN , Telangana:** BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar has strongly criticized Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his recent tours to Delhi, Kerala, and Maharashtra, urging him to focus on the state’s pressing public issues instead. On the social media platform X, Praveen Kumar expressed concern over the deteriorating situation in Revanth Reddy’s constituency, which he described as a “furnace.” He accused

the CM of incompetence, vindictiveness, and irresponsible decision-making, warning that the lives of government officers were at risk due to these actions. Praveen Kumar questioned the necessity of acquiring more land for the pharma project despite the previous BRS government already securing 19,000 acres, highlighting the growing unrest among farmers. He condemned the government for using officers as “human shields” in the controversial land acquisition process and criticized the CM for neglecting his duty to engage directly with the affected farmers.

He further expressed sympathy for the officials attacked during the Kodangal incident and slammed the Chief Minister for failing to address the concerns of poor farmers, calling the state’s situation under Congress rule “a fire pit” where issues remain unresolved.

## RTC Bus Driver Steals Gold Jewellery from Passengers

**TPN , Telangana:** In a shocking incident, an RTC bus driver was caught stealing gold jewellery from a passenger’s bag on a bus traveling from Warangal to Nizamabad. The theft occurred despite the Telangana government’s Mahalakshmi scheme, which offers free travel for women, promoting RTC bus travel as a safe option.

A fellow passenger recorded a video showing the driver taking gold ornaments from a woman’s bag while the bus was in transit. The incident has raised concerns among passengers, who are now calling for strict action against the driver.

This incident has been met with outrage, with many passengers expressing their disappointment that such a crime occurred under the government’s initiative to ensure safety. Passengers are urging RTC officials to investigate the matter thoroughly and take appropriate measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

## Hyderabad Police Refund Rs 2.91 Lakh to Victim of Cyber Fraud



**TPN , Hyderabad:** The Hyderabad police successfully facilitated the refund of Rs. 2.91 lakh to a man who fell victim to cyber fraud. The incident began when the victim received a phone call from someone posing as a representative of a private bank. The caller claimed to offer an increase in the victim’s credit card limit and requested details of the card. Following this, the fraudster sent an APK file via WhatsApp, which the victim unknowingly installed on his mobile phone. After installing the application, the victim discovered that Rs. 2.91 lakh had been debited from his account, despite not sharing his OTP. The victim immediately filed a complaint with the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP), which identified and removed the malicious malware from his phone.

The police traced the fraudulent transactions, which had been used to make purchases on an e-commerce platform. With the assistance of NCRP, notices were issued to the relevant parties, which led to the blocking of the fraudulent transactions. Subsequently, the full amount was refunded to the victim’s bank account.

## BRS Leaders Arrested While Heading to Lagachar to Meet Detainees

**TPN , Kodangal:** Several BRS leaders were arrested on their way to Lagachar on Tuesday. The leaders were en route to meet individuals in police custody following the recent Lagachar incident, where 52 people were detained by Parigi police. Among those arrested were Legislative Council leader Madhusudhanachari, RS Praveen Kumar, Karthik Reddy, and Metuku Anand, along with other party members. As the leaders reached near the Chan Gomula police station, they were stopped by the police and detained.

The BRS leaders had been demanding the immediate release of those in custody following the incident, but their efforts were interrupted when police took action to detain them. The arrests have sparked further tension and criticism of the handling of the situation.





## Harish Rao: Jagtial Padayatra is Just the Beginning

**TPN , Telangana :** Former Minister and Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao described the massive participation of farmers in the Jagtial Rythu Padayatra as just a “trailer” and warned that the “full movie” would soon unfold for the Congress government. The padayatra, led by BRS MLA K. Sanjay Kumar from Korutla to Jagtial, demanded the state government fulfill its promises to farmers.

Harish Rao reminded the public of the impact of the Jaitrayatra in Jagtial and urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to pay attention to the growing discontent among the people. He criticized Revanth Reddy for failing to fulfill key promises, including the waiver of crop loans and providing bonus payments to farmers. He accused the CM of prioritizing personal interests, sending money to Maharashtra instead of addressing the needs of farmers, who were still struggling with unpaid crop loans and insufficient support for their produce.



Rao pointed out that while the BRS government under K. Chandrashekar Rao had ensured better arrangements for farmers, the Congress government had failed to guarantee minimum support prices (MSP) for paddy. Farmers were being forced to sell their crops at prices lower than the MSP, causing significant distress.

The padayatra, which started with a blessing from Sanjay Kumar's parents, concluded with a large gathering in Jagtial. The rally was attended by several prominent leaders and farmers, demonstrating widespread support for the cause.

## Strong Measures to Protect SC & ST Rights in Khammam



**TPN , Khammam:** Telangana State Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission Chairman Bakki Venkataiah has ordered stringent measures to protect the rights of SC and ST communities. During a review meeting at the Collectorate, Venkataiah directed officials to resolve pending land issues and atrocity cases within a month. The meeting, attended by District

Collector Muzammil Khan and Police Commissioner Sunil Dutt, focused on the welfare schemes available to these communities, including residential hostels, loans under Dalit Bandhu, and pending revenue land cases.

Venkataiah also emphasized the importance of providing basic facilities at Angan-

wadi centers and directed steps to ensure that the 300 centers in rented buildings across Khammam district get their own facilities by March. He praised the innovative measures being implemented by the Collector, such as kitchen gardens, improvements in mid-day meals, and initiatives to enhance English proficiency in government schools.

The Chairman also urged the district to implement friendly policing, ensure prompt resolution of welfare scheme deficits, and organize civil rights awareness programs monthly. District Collector Khan reported the progress of various educational and welfare schemes, including the distribution of uniforms, textbooks, and the expansion of kitchen gardens in schools.

## State Whip Adi Srinivas Slams Former Minister Harish Rao



**TPN , Telangana:** State government whip Adi Srinivas launched a strong criticism against former minister Harish Rao following his visit to Vemulawada Rajanna. Srinivas accused Rao of having no right to speak on farmers' loan waivers, claiming that during his ten years in power, not a single ration card was issued. He also questioned Rao's remarks about the development of Rajanna Gudi, asserting that it was the current government that had sanctioned Rs. 50 crore for the temple's development.

Srinivas stated, “KCR became the Chief Minister only after Sonia Gandhi granted Telangana, and you got your positions. Our Chief Minister is rectifying your wrongdoings.” He also highlighted that his government had waived off debts, marking a historic achievement under Revanth Reddy's leadership. He further criticized Harish Rao for his past failure to address key issues, calling him a “scholar in the state for ten years” without real progress.

## New Bharosa Centers Opened in Mahabubnagar

**TPN , Telangana:** On November 12, the Telangana Police Women Safety Wing inaugurated new Bharosa centers in Mahabubnagar and Gadwal districts. The Mahabubnagar center is newly established, while the Gadwal center has moved into a newly constructed independent building.

Bharosa centers are designed to provide comprehensive support to survivors of sexual assault, including medical treatment, psychological counseling, legal aid, and rehabilitation services. Staffed with professionals such as counselors,

psychologists, legal officers, and medical personnel, these centers offer vital assistance to victims of rape and sexual abuse.

Since the initiative began in 2016 with a single center in Hyderabad, it has expanded to 27 locations across the state. In 2024, 14 new centers were added in districts such as Jagtial, Bhadradi Kothagudem, and Nirmal. The program has assisted 5,852 child victims under POCSO and 1,447 adult rape victims to date, with funding support from MEIL's CSR initiatives.



## Cotton Farmers Protest in Nalgonda Over Delayed Procurement

**TPN , Nalgonda:** Cotton farmers from Marriguda Mandal staged a protest on Tuesday evening near the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Cotton Mill in Yeragandlapalli, demanding that the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) purchase their produce without fixed targets. The farmers expressed frustration, stating that no procurement had taken place for the past three days, and they had been waiting at the CCI center without proper food or rest. They accused officials of previously rejecting their cotton due to high moisture content, only to now impose a daily purchase limit of 1,200 to 1,500 quintals. The farmers claimed that once the target

was reached, the gates were locked, preventing further procurement.

This restriction led to waiting charges for their vehicles and increased moisture content in their crops, risking significant financial losses. The protesters demanded that CCI officials procure their cotton without arbitrary rules. The protest, which blocked traffic for several hours, was eventually dispersed by police. Farmers have appealed for immediate intervention from the Collector to resolve the procurement issues and safeguard their livelihoods.

## Paddy Arrivals Surge in Private Mills Across Telangana



**TPN , Hyderabad:** Paddy arrivals have significantly surged in key paddy-growing districts like Nalgonda and Nizamabad. Farmers are bypassing the Civil Supplies Corporation's paddy purchase centers due to issues with moisture content and weighing, instead opting to sell directly to private rice mills, particularly parboiled mills. The parboiled mills have become more attractive to farmers due to their flexibility with moisture content and their immediate milling capabilities. Miryalaguda, now a hub for the milling industry, has over 418 mills, with a majority of the produce being supplied to states like Kerala. The mills in Miryalaguda are processing up to 3000 tractor loads of paddy daily, with that number expected to double as harvest operations in the Nagarjuna Sagar Project command area begin.

However, once paddy arrivals from the command districts increase, millers may tighten their purchasing norms, pushing farmers back to the purchase centers. Millers in Miryalaguda and Suryapet have already bought over two lakh tons of paddy, but issues such as manpower shortages and technical difficulties in mills have led to delays for some farmers. In Nizamabad, private traders are offering slightly higher prices than the MSP, helping to boost competition. Civil Supplies Commissioner D.S. Chouhan and local authorities are actively monitoring the situation.

## Students Protest Over Poor Quality at Telangana Government Hostel



**TPN , Telangana:** On November 12, students of the Backward Class (BC) welfare hostel in Nagarkurnool district staged a protest against the poor quality of food and lack of basic facilities. The protest took place in Veladanda mandal, where students blocked the main road and sat on the ground holding the food they were being served.

The students raised slogans highlighting various issues affecting the hostel. In response, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA T Harish Rao accused the Congress government of forcing students to protest for essential needs like quality food. Rao criticized Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for neglecting the conditions of state-run schools and hostels. “Despite being the education minister of Telangana, the chief minister fails to address the state of government educational institutions,” he stated.



# Why India Stands Firm Against Patent Evergreening in Pharmaceuticals

## How India's Patent Laws Are Shaping Access to Affordable Medicines

India's patent laws have come into focus once again as the Indian Patent Office prepares to hear objections raised by the Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust against US-based pharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences' patent claims on their HIV drug, lenacapavir. This move is part of India's ongoing struggle to curb "patent evergreening," a practice where companies extend the duration of their patents by making minor modifications to existing products, often with minimal or no therapeutic improvements.

### What is Patent Evergreening?

Patent evergreening is a strategy employed by pharmaceutical companies to extend their monopoly on a drug beyond the initial 20-year patent period. By making small modifications to the original product—such as a new dosage, a different formulation, or a minor change in the drug's delivery method—companies can apply for new patents. This enables them to maintain market exclusivity and charge high prices even after the original patent has expired, limiting access to affordable generic versions.

Countries like India, Brazil, Thailand, and South Africa have laws preventing evergreening practices, prioritizing public health over prolonged monopolies in the pharmaceutical industry. India's approach, shaped by the Patents (Amendment) Act 2005, focuses on balancing incentives for innovation while ensuring the accessibility of essential medications.

### Section 3(d) and Other Key Provisions of the Indian Patent Act

Section 3(d) of the Indian Patent Act plays a crucial role in preventing pat-



ent evergreening in India. It states that drugs cannot be patented if they result merely from discovering a new form of an already known substance, unless there is a significant enhancement in the efficacy of the new form. In other words, slight changes in a drug that do not substantially improve its effectiveness are not eligible for patent protection. Section 3(e) of the Act limits patenting combinations of known substances unless they demonstrate a synergistic effect, while Section 3(i) prevents patents on medical treatment methods.

### Important Legal Precedents

Two landmark cases highlight India's strict stance on patent evergreening:

Novartis AG v. Union of India (2013) and Roche v. Cipla (2012).

In Novartis AG v. Union of India (2013), the Swiss pharmaceutical giant Novartis sought to patent a new crystalline form of its anti-cancer drug, Gleevec (imatinib mesylate). Novartis argued that this crystalline form was more bioavailable, implying it had a higher efficacy. However, the Indian Supreme Court rejected the patent application, upholding the Indian Patent Office's decision. The court ruled that improved bioavailability did not amount to a substantial enhancement in efficacy as required by Section 3(d). This landmark ruling underscored India's commitment to preventing minor changes in drugs

from leading to extended patents, ensuring that life-saving medications remain accessible to the public at reasonable prices.

In Roche v. Cipla (2012), Swiss-based Roche attempted to block Indian generic manufacturer Cipla from producing a lower-cost version of its cancer drug, Tarceva (erlotinib hydrochloride). Roche alleged that Cipla's version infringed on its patent. However, Cipla argued that its generic drug used a different polymorphic form of the compound, distinguishing it from Roche's patented version. The Delhi High Court ruled in favor of Cipla, holding that Cipla's generic version did not infringe Roche's patent. The court emphasized that distinct polymorphs have unique properties, setting a precedent for distinguishing generic forms from patented drugs.

### A Continuing Battle: Johnson & Johnson's Bedaquiline Case

Last year, India's patent office rejected Johnson & Johnson's attempt to secure a secondary patent for its TB drug bedaquiline, widely used in treating drug-resistant tuberculosis. This decision was celebrated by health advocates, who argued that extending the patent would delay access to affordable generics, vital in fighting India's TB crisis. The case highlighted India's stance against secondary patents that offer little innovation beyond the original drug formulation.

### Current Developments: Gilead Sciences' Lenacapavir Patent Challenge

Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust, an advocacy group focused on affordable access to HIV treatment, has raised

objections to Gilead Sciences' patent application on lenacapavir, an HIV treatment drug. The trust argues that Gilead's claims represent another attempt at patent evergreening, a practice that could limit affordable access for patients in need. The Indian Patent Office's decision on this case could set yet another significant precedent, further reinforcing India's efforts to curb evergreening practices.

### The Need for Vigilant Scrutiny

While India's legal framework under the Patents Act of 1970 and subsequent amendments aims to curb patent evergreening, there are still challenges. Studies have shown that approximately 72% of pharmaceutical patents granted in India are minor or secondary, indicating that companies may still be finding ways to extend their monopolies without offering significant innovation. Experts argue that stronger scrutiny is needed, both from the patent office and public-interest groups, to prevent companies from misusing patents at the cost of public health.

India's patent law, especially Section 3(d), represents a bold approach in prioritizing public health over corporate monopolies in the pharmaceutical industry. By rejecting patent applications for minor modifications that do not improve drug efficacy, India has set an example for other developing nations in balancing innovation with accessibility. As cases like Novartis, Roche, Johnson & Johnson, and Gilead Sciences continue to unfold, India remains at the forefront of the global fight against patent evergreening, aiming to ensure that life-saving drugs remain accessible and affordable for all.

## Overcoming the Intermittency Challenge: Innovative Energy Storage Solutions for Solar Power



One of the most widely discussed energy storage solutions is the lithium-ion battery. These batteries have already revolutionized consumer electronics and electric vehicles, and they hold significant potential for large-scale energy storage. Their high energy density, fast charging times, and declining costs have made them a popular choice for grid-scale solar storage. However, they are not without limitations, including concerns over raw material availability, environmental impact, and the finite lifespan of batteries.

As the global community confronts the escalating climate crisis, the urgency to transition to renewable energy sources has never been greater. Among the most promising alternatives to fossil fuels is solar energy—abundant, clean, and increasingly cost-effective. However, solar power faces a significant challenge: intermittency. Unlike fossil fuels or nuclear energy, solar power generation is dependent on sunlight, which varies by time of day, season, and weather conditions. This makes it difficult to rely on solar energy as a consistent, round-the-clock power source.

To address this issue, the development of advanced energy storage technologies has become a focal point in the renewable energy sector. Energy storage systems enable the capture and storage of excess solar energy during peak sunlight hours, so it can be used when sunlight is unavailable—at night or on cloudy days. These innovations are critical in ensuring that solar power can meet the ever-growing demand for clean energy while reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

In response to these challenges, researchers and companies are exploring a range of alternative storage technologies. One promising innovation is **solid-state batteries**, which offer greater energy density, improved safety, and longer lifespans compared to traditional lithium-ion batteries. Another approach is **flow batteries**, which use liquid electrolytes to store energy, making them potentially more scalable and less prone to degradation over time.

In addition to battery-based systems, other storage methods include **pumped hydro storage**, which uses excess solar energy to pump water uphill to a reservoir, and **compressed air energy storage**, which stores energy by compressing air and releasing it to generate electricity when needed. **Thermal energy storage** is another intriguing option, where excess solar energy is converted into heat and stored in materials such as molten salt, then released to generate power when the sun is not shining.

## The Perils of Silence Bangladesh's Hindu Minority Under Siege

Since the ousting of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 5, 2024, Bangladesh's Hindu minority, which now comprises just 8% of the population, has found itself increasingly vulnerable to violence and persecution. The political vacuum left in the wake of Hasina's removal has allowed radical Islamist groups to grow in influence, while the interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, has failed to protect the minority community.

Hindus in Bangladesh have long faced systemic discrimination and violence, but recent events have escalated the situation to alarming levels. A significant demographic shift over the decades, driven in part by forced migrations, has left the Hindu community in a precarious position, particularly as Islamic fundamentalism rises in the country. The violent mobs targeting Hindus since August 5, 2024, have sparked widespread concern and international condemnation. However, the interim government has downplayed the scale of these attacks, even labeling reports of violence as "exaggerated."

Between August 4 and 20, more than 2,000 attacks against Hindus were reported across the country, many of which occurred in the context of political unrest. These attacks have been perceived as politically motivated rather than purely communal, with the interim government taking a dismissive stance. This narrative was reinforced by the government's reluctance to intervene or provide adequate security during major Hindu events, such as the Durga Puja celebrations in October. Instead of offering protection, the government advised Hindus to limit their celebrations during Islamic prayer times, while Islamist factions openly called for an end to Durga Puja festivities.

During the festival, 35 incidents of violence were recorded, including idol vandalism, bomb attacks on pandals, and disruptions during idol immersion. Hindus were also subjected to economic pressure, with over 49 teachers reportedly forced to resign due to their perceived association with the ousted Awami League.

## Can India Create an 'AI City'? A Vision for Safe Innovation in the Age of AI

As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to evolve at a rapid pace, the potential benefits and risks are becoming increasingly clear. Recently, while watching an animated film called *The Wild Robot*, my teenage daughter made an insightful analogy. The movie depicted a robot raised by wild animals, adapting to the jungle in a way that reminded her of *The Jungle Book*, except this time, instead of Mowgli, it was a robot. This got me thinking: AI, like that robot, is being "released into the wild" without sufficient understanding of how it will adapt or affect our world. We are in a gold rush of AI innovation, but without a safety net, it feels like we're careening toward a cliff.

AI, especially in its more dangerous forms like deepfakes, poses real threats to society. Just a few days ago, a group of educated individuals in Bengaluru fell victim to deepfake scams, tricked into investing their life savings in fraudulent schemes promoted by manipulated video clips of famous entrepreneurs. Such incidents highlight how AI's ability to clone voices and faces could further undermine trust in public figures, manipulate elections, and cause personal harm. As AI becomes more sophisticated, these risks will grow, with consequences for everything from education to governance. The deepfakes surrounding the US elections, for

instance, may have already influenced public opinion, and we might not fully understand the ramifications for years to come.

Currently, the world is taking two very different approaches to AI. The US has largely allowed AI to evolve without regulation, creating a kind of "Wild Wild West" where anything goes. Meanwhile, the EU has adopted a more cautious stance, attempting to regulate AI heavily but, as a result, stifling innovation. Neither approach is ideal. While India, as a rapidly developing nation, cannot afford to miss the AI revolution, it also cannot ignore the societal risks that come with it.



## “Most Unstable Vehicle”: PM Modi’s Jibe At Maha Vikas Aghadi In Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a sharp jibe at the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) during a poll rally in Solapur, accusing the alliance of being unstable and embroiled in internal conflict. He compared the MVA to a vehicle with no wheels or brakes, suggesting that its members were fighting among themselves for control, thereby hindering governance. Modi emphasized that Maharashtra needed a stable government, which only the BJP-led MahaYuti could provide.



“The vehicle the MVA is traveling in has neither wheels nor brakes. There’s a constant fight among them over who will drive it,” Modi said, adding that the MahaYuti coalition, on the other hand, would deliver long-term policies and stability to Maharashtra. He criticized the MVA for wasting time in internal power struggles and pointed out that the alliance had failed to provide coherent leadership.

The Prime Minister also attacked the Congress for its historical governance failures. He accused the Congress of leaving unresolved issues, particularly in areas such as irrigation and farmers’ welfare. “Congress ruled the country for decades but failed to solve the issues faced by the people, especially the farmers,” Modi said. In contrast, he claimed the BJP government had focused on solving these problems, citing improvements in Solapur’s water table due to their efforts.

Modi also turned his attention to Congress’s stance

on reservation, claiming that the party had long been against affirmative action policies. “Congress has always tried to undermine reservation for the poor and marginalized,” he stated, urging the people to remain united to thwart Congress’s alleged conspiracies.

Highlighting the achievements of the MahaYuti government, Modi spoke about the waiving of electricity bills for farmers and the increase in ethanol blending in petrol, which he said benefited farmers. He also emphasized the government’s focus on empowering women through schemes like the PM Awas Yojana and the Mudra Scheme.

Concluding his speech, Modi reiterated his message of unity and progress, asserting that Maharashtra’s development would lead to India’s overall progress. “Maharashtra’s development is India’s development,” he said, urging the people to vote for the BJP and MahaYuti for a prosperous future.

## “When His House Burned...”: Yogi Adityanath’s History Reminder To M Kharage

As the Maharashtra Assembly election campaign enters its final stretch, political tensions between Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge have reached a boiling point. The two leaders have engaged in a heated exchange of barbs, with Kharge accusing Adityanath of spreading communal hatred and Adityanath hitting back by accusing Kharge of appeasing minority vote banks.



At a rally in Amravati on Tuesday, Yogi Adityanath responded sharply to Kharge’s comments, which had been aimed at him during a recent speech. Kharge had criticized certain political leaders, including Adityanath, for using “sadhus” as a political cover. In his remarks, Kharge implied that some leaders, donning saffron robes and claiming to be spiritual figures, were using religion to further their political careers.

Adityanath, known for his staunch Hindutva ideology, did not hold back in his rebuttal. He targeted Kharge personally, referencing a childhood tragedy in which Kharge’s family members were killed in a fire set by an Islamic militia in the then Hyderabad state. Adityanath claimed that Kharge had buried the painful memory of this tragedy to avoid alienating Muslim voters, accusing him of prioritizing Congress’ vote bank over the memory of his family’s sacrifice.

“I am saying that for a yogi, the country comes first. But for you, appeasing the Congress is paramount,” Adityanath said, making a direct attack on Kharge’s political priorities.

This back-and-forth comes in the wake of Kharge’s criticism of Yogi Adityanath’s controversial election slogan “Batenge Toh Katenge” (“If we speak, we will be cut”). Kharge had described such political leaders as “living in the guise of sadhus” and urged them to either quit politics or dress in more neutral attire if they truly adhered to spiritual values.

As the election nears, these heated exchanges underscore the ongoing tensions between the two political camps, with each accusing the other of exploiting communal sentiments for political gain.

## Delhi HC Seeks ED Response on Kejriwal’s Plea Against Summons

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the Enforcement Directorate’s (ED) response to a plea filed by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, challenging the summons issued to him in connection with the money laundering investigation linked to the alleged excise policy scam. The court issued notice to the ED, asking for a response to Kejriwal’s petition, which contests the legal validity of the summons issued to him.



different officer.

Kejriwal has contested the September 17 ruling of a sessions court that had dismissed his plea against the summons issued by a magisterial court. The summons stem from complaints filed by the ED, accusing Kejriwal of avoiding

previous summonses related to the excise policy case. The Delhi CM had moved the sessions court after a magisterial court ordered him to appear before it, following the ED’s complaints about his repeated non-compliance with earlier summonses.

The ED’s counsel raised preliminary objections to the maintainability of Kejriwal’s petition, but the high court chose to proceed with issuing notice to the agency. The case pertains to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy, which is at the center of an ongoing investigation into alleged financial irregularities and money laundering.

## Odisha Chief Minister Warns Employees Against Influencing Transfers and Postings

The Odisha government has issued a stern warning to its employees, cautioning them against attempting to influence their transfers or postings. In a directive released on Monday, Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja reminded all secretaries and collectors that exerting any form of “extraneous influence” to affect such decisions would constitute a violation of the state’s conduct rules.



procedures and avoid any actions that could be seen as seeking personal advantage through external pressures.

“The attempt to influence postings or transfers through any form of pressure is a direct contravention of the state’s conduct rules,” Ahuja’s note stated. The move comes amid growing concerns about favoritism and manipulation within the state’s bureaucratic system. The government has emphasized that any employee found guilty of violating this rule would face strict disciplinary actions.

This warning is part of Odisha’s ongoing efforts to maintain transparency and integrity within its administrative processes. By issuing this directive, the state government aims to send a clear message that it is committed to upholding ethical standards and ensuring that transfers and postings are made based on merit and the needs of public service.

In recent years, the issue of political and unofficial influence in government postings has been a topic of discussion in several Indian states, with various administrations taking steps to curb such practices. The Odisha government’s action aligns with broader efforts across the country to create a more professional and accountable civil service.

## Will hang corrupt Jharkhand leaders upside down: Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched a scathing attack on the JMM-led coalition government in Jharkhand, accusing it of widespread corruption and involvement in illegal coal smuggling. Speaking at a BJP rally in Jharia, the heart of the coal belt, Shah vowed that the BJP would eradicate coal smuggling and crack down on corrupt leaders if voted into power.



Shah also criticized Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren for allegedly welcoming “infiltrators” into the state, a claim he tied to the loss of land and rights for local tribal communities. “Hemant babu welcomes infiltrators by rolling out the red carpet for them. We will identify and drive them out if the BJP is voted to power in Jharkhand,” Shah claimed. He alleged that these infiltrators were marrying tribal women and taking their land.

“Coal smuggling will be stopped in Jharkhand if the BJP comes to power... traders need not fear now,” Shah declared, reiterating the party’s commitment to addressing the issue. He further promised stringent action against corrupt officials, asserting that they would not be spared and even threatened that “corrupt leaders will be hanged upside down to straighten them.”

The Home Minister emphasized that the upcoming election would be a pivotal moment for the state, calling on voters to choose between a future of corruption and a prosperous one under Prime Minister Modi’s leadership. “Your one vote will decide Jharkhand’s destiny,” he said, adding that under BJP rule, women’s property registration would cost only one rupee.

## India Urges Reform of UN Security Council, Criticizes Stagnation Since 1965

India’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN), Parvathaneni Harish, called for urgent reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC) during a speech at the General Assembly on Monday. He expressed disappointment over the lack of meaningful progress on the issue, despite decades of discussion. Harish highlighted that the last expansion of the UNSC occurred in 1965, when only non-permanent seats were added, leaving the structure largely unchanged since then.



Addressing the Plenary Meeting in New York, Harish stated, “As we begin this year’s deliberations, the reform of the UNSC has once again been identified as a critical and immediate priority at the summit of the future discussions by our leaders. However, despite several decades of reiterating this sentiment, it is disheartening that there have been no results to show since 1965.”

He pointed to three main challenges preventing reform: the ineffective intergovernmental negotiation process, resistance from some countries advocating for consensus, and the lack of adequate representation for the Global South.

Harish emphasized that the current intergovernmental negotiations (IGN), which have been ongoing for 16 years, have failed to produce any substantial out-

comes. “The IGN remains largely confined to exchanging statements, with no negotiating text, timeline, or defined end goal,” he noted. He also criticized the insistence on consensus by a few countries, which has hindered progress, stating that the approach of agreeing on everything before even starting negotiations is a flawed one.

Furthermore, Harish, speaking from India’s position as a member of the Global South, underscored the importance of fair representation within the UNSC. He argued that without proper representation of the Global South, the legitimacy and effectiveness of the Council, and by extension, the United Nations, are compromised. He also pointed out that newer multilateral frameworks have demonstrated greater flexibility and adaptability, something the UN system must learn to emulate.





# Saudi Crown Prince Condemns Israel's Actions in Gaza as 'Genocide'

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has strongly condemned Israel's military actions in Gaza, calling them a "genocide" in one of the harshest public critiques of Israel by the Saudi leadership. Speaking at a summit of Muslim and Arab leaders, the Crown Prince condemned Israel's ongoing offensive in Gaza, as well as its strikes on Lebanon and Iran. He issued a stern warning to Israel, urging it not to escalate its attacks on Iranian territory.

The remarks came as tensions in the region continue to escalate, with the Crown Prince joining other leaders in calling for a complete Israeli withdrawal from both the West Bank and Gaza. The Saudi leader's comments are seen as part of a broader effort by the Kingdom to position itself as a champion of Palestinian rights and a critic of Israeli military actions.

Israel, for its part, has consistently denied the accusation of genocide, insisting that its military operations are targeted at Hamas, the Palestinian militant group. Despite Israel's denials, the Saudi Crown Prince's remarks at the summit marked an intensification of rhetoric from the Kingdom against Israeli operations.



At the summit, regional leaders also condemned Israel's attacks on UN staff and facilities in Gaza, highlighting the growing humanitarian crisis in the region. Israel's recent legislation banning the UN Palestinian Refugee Agency (UNRWA) from operating in Israeli-controlled territories, accusing the agency of ties to Hamas, was also sharply criticized.

This international backlash against Israel's actions is growing, with the US and the UK expressing concern over restric-

tions on humanitarian aid to Gaza. Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud, also condemned the global community's failure to end the conflict, pointing to the widespread starvation in Gaza as a result of Israel's blockade and military operations.

The condemnation of Israel's actions signals Saudi Arabia's increasing frustration with the situation in Gaza and highlights its growing influence in the Middle East as a vocal advocate for Palestinian rights.



## Trump Pushes for Recess Appointments to Speed Up Administration Formation

As the Republican Party prepares for a new administration under President-elect Donald Trump, the incoming president has made a bold demand to future Senate leadership: allow him to appoint key officials without the traditional Senate confirmation hearings. Trump's push centers on the use of "recess appointments," a mechanism that permits the president to make temporary appointments while the Senate is in recess, sidestepping the usual confirmation process.

This demand highlights Trump's desire to rapidly build his administration, minimizing potential delays from a divided Congress. By using recess appointments, Trump aims to streamline the process and swiftly fill key positions without waiting for the extended and often contentious Senate confirmation process. This could be particularly important as he looks to implement his agenda quickly in the early months of his presidency.

Trump's insistence on leveraging the recess appointment power underscores his influence over the Republican Party's Senate leadership, following his election victory. The ability to appoint without confirmation hearings would allow him to solidify his team in the face of potential opposition within the Senate, especially given the contentious and polarized political environment.

Recess appointments, while constitutional, have historically been a subject of controversy, with critics arguing that they undermine the Senate's role in providing checks and balances. However, Trump appears determined to avoid the gridlock that often characterizes Senate hearings, particularly as he moves forward with key legislative priorities and the formation of his administration.

## Mike Waltz Appointed National Security Adviser by President-Elect Donald Trump

In a significant appointment for U.S.-India relations, President-elect Donald Trump has named Congressman Mike Waltz as his National Security Adviser. Waltz, a retired Army colonel and co-chair of the India Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, will play a key role in shaping the incoming administration's foreign and national security policies.

Waltz, 50, is a Green Beret veteran who served in the U.S. Army's elite special forces. Since his election to Congress in 2019, Waltz has become known for his strong foreign policy stances, including criticism of President Joe Biden's handling of Afghanistan and his calls for stronger U.S. support for Ukraine. As a member of the House Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence Committees, Waltz has consistently advocated for a more assertive U.S. military presence, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, where he has raised concerns about the military's readiness for potential conflicts, especially with China.

While Trump's foreign policy has often been characterized by a more isolationist stance, Waltz has been a vocal proponent of NATO and has supported the Trump administration's push to get NATO allies to increase their defense spending. Unlike Trump, however, Waltz has not advocated for the U.S. to withdraw from the alliance. Waltz's strong ties to India, as co-chair of the India Caucus—the largest country-specific group in the U.S. Congress—are seen as a major asset as the U.S. looks to deepen its strategic partnership with India.



## Biden and Harris Honor Veterans on Veterans Day with Wreath Laying at Arlington

In their first public appearance following their electoral defeat, U.S. President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris marked Veterans Day by honoring the nation's military veterans. The pair laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, a gesture of respect and gratitude for the sacrifices made by U.S. service members.

The wreath-laying ceremony, a solemn tradition on Veterans Day, was attended by veterans, service members, and other dignitaries. After the wreaths were placed at the tomb, President Biden and Vice President Harris moved to the cemetery's memorial amphitheater, where Biden delivered a heartfelt speech, reflecting on the nation's indebtedness to its military veterans. This moment also marked Biden's final public address as the commander-in-chief of the U.S. military.

During his speech, Biden paid tribute to the courage and selflessness of America's military personnel, emphasizing the sacrifices made by soldiers throughout the nation's history. "Today, we honor the service and sacrifice of all those who wore the uniform of the United States of America," he said, underscoring the nation's commitment to supporting veterans and their families. The ceremony was a poignant reminder of the deep connection between the U.S. military and the broader American society, with Biden reiterating his administration's focus on improving the lives of veterans, particularly in areas like healthcare, education, and employment.

## Bangladesh Prosecutor Seeks Interpol Red Notice for Sheikh Hasina and Aides

Md Tajul Islam, the Chief Prosecutor of the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), has formally requested the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Md Moinul Islam, to initiate proceedings for issuing a red notice against the country's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her close associates. This move is part of an ongoing legal and political battle in Bangladesh, related to war crimes charges and the alleged involvement of Hasina's administration in crimes committed during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.

In his letter to the IGP, Prosecutor Tajul Islam has emphasized the need for international cooperation in bringing these individuals to justice. A red notice from Interpol would formally request the arrest of Sheikh Hasina and her associates in foreign countries, facilitating their extradition to Bangladesh to face trial for the alleged crimes.

The request for the red notice comes after a lengthy legal process surrounding the International Crimes Tribunal's investigation into the 1971 war. The tribunal has been tasked with prosecuting individuals accused of committing atrocities during the independence war, with a particular focus on those associated with the Pakistan-backed military and collaborators.

Sheikh Hasina, currently serving as Bangladesh's Prime Minister, has long been a controversial figure in the country's politics.



# Israel Opens New Humanitarian Aid Crossing into Gaza Ahead of US Deadline



Israel's army announced the opening of a new humanitarian aid crossing into Gaza on Tuesday, in a move aimed at addressing the worsening humanitarian crisis in the region. The new "Kissufim" crossing is part of Israel's efforts to increase the volume and routes of aid entering Gaza, with a focus on delivering critical supplies such as food, water, medical resources, and shelter equipment to the central and southern parts of the territory.

The opening of the crossing follows a joint statement by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and COGAT, the Israeli defense ministry agency overseeing civilian affairs in Pal-

estinian territories. The statement emphasized that the operation was conducted in compliance with international law, with coordination between the IDF, COGAT, and the defense ministry to ensure that aid reaches those in need.

This move comes on the eve of a US-imposed deadline, where Washington had warned Israel to improve the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin had earlier made it clear that Israel had until November 13 to address the situation or risk facing consequences, including a potential reduction in military

assistance from the United States, Israel's key ally.

The United States has been pressing Israel to enhance its humanitarian efforts while also calling for increased protection of Palestinian civilians amid the ongoing conflict with Hamas. Although President Joe Biden had repeatedly called on Israel to do more for Gaza, his administration had refrained from taking more drastic actions, such as cutting military aid. In contrast, President-elect Donald Trump has indicated a more lenient stance towards Israel, promising to provide Israel with more freedom to operate in the region.



# Market Volatility Continues: IT and Realty Sectors Show Marginal Gains

Domestic benchmark indices fell on Tuesday due to negative signals from international markets and weak investor sentiment. Trump's victory has led to changes in the global economy, a rise in the value of the dollar, a weakening of the rupee and the withdrawal of foreign institutional investors. With all the shares including the heavyweights falling, the index is taking time to recover. Sensex and Nifty took the last breath despite starting the morning with small gains. Momentum investors would do well to remain vigilant.



sales channels has also improved efficiency and customer reach.

**Fortis Healthcare** has experienced steady revenue growth due to increased patient footfall, the expansion of services, and improved hospital occupancy rates. The company has also focused on improving margins by optimizing costs. Healthcare is a resilient sector with strong growth potential, especially in emerging markets like India. Fortis is expanding through new specialty services and increasing its footprint in smaller towns, where healthcare demand is rising.



**Jubilant Food Works** has a strong financial track record, with consistent revenue growth and profitability. Jubilant has maintained market leadership in the QSR segment, helped by aggressive expansion and innovation in product offerings. The QSR sector in India is expected to grow significantly, driven by urbanization, increasing disposable income, and a shift toward convenience foods. Jubilant is investing in digital platforms and expanding into tier 2 and tier 3 cities, which could further boost growth.



**Adani Wilmar Ltd (AWL)** has shown strong revenue growth over recent years, driven by both volume increases and the addition of new product lines. The company's revenue in FY23 crossed ₹55,000 crores, reflecting a steady growth trajectory.



However, due to rising input costs, especially in commodities like edible oil, margins have seen pressure, which impacts overall profitability. While AWL has maintained solid top-line growth, its net profit margins have been under strain due to fluctuations in global prices for key raw materials like palm oil. The company has made efforts to offset some of these costs by diversifying its product mix and raising prices on select products.



**Ramco Cements** has demonstrated consistent growth in revenue, although profitability has been impacted by rising input costs, especially in energy and transportation. Despite inflationary pressures, the company has managed costs effectively, maintaining decent margins. Infrastructure growth in India, including government-backed housing and road projects, is likely to increase cement demand, favoring Ramco's growth. The company is also expanding its capacity, particularly in South India.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 79,496 in the previous session, opened at 79,644 today. It touched an intraday high of 79,820. It then fell gradually and touched an intraday low of 78,547. It eventually closed at 78,675, a loss of 820 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 24,225 and touched a high of 24,242 and a low of 23,839. The total fell by 257 points to close at 23,883. Bank Nifty fell by 718 points to settle at 51,157.

In Nifty50, 4 companies gained while 46 lost. Trent, Sun Pharma, HCL Tech, Infi were the top gainers. Britannia, BEL, NTPC, Asian Paints and HDFC Bank were the biggest losers. Today, IT and realty indices increased marginally. Bank, Auto, Finance, FMCG, Metal, PSU Bank, Private Bank and

Consumer Durables indices rose.

Nifty support is at 23900 and resistance is at 24100. Investors can buy shares of Lodha, Fortus, Ram Co Sem, Jubilant Food, AWL in short term.

On the NSE, 2864 stocks were traded and 674 rose. 2117 decreased. Shares of 64 companies hit 52-week highs. Shares of 61 companies hit 52-week lows. Bosch's Q2 net profit fell by 46.4% to Rs.536 crore from Rs.999 crore. The rupee ended flat at 84.39 against the dollar. Eveready Industries' net profit rose 16.5% to Rs 29.6 crore. Morgan Stanley maintains an Equal Weight rating for Asian Paints. Sricements has been given a hold rating by CLSA. Minda Corporation's profit has reached Rs.74 crores from Rs.59 crores. Samvardhan Motherson's net

profit is Rs.880 crores. Dilip Buildcon has bagged the order for the BSENL project. BASF's net profit fell 14% to Rs 128 crore. Net profit of Natco Pharma reached Rs.677 crore with a growth rate of 83%. Revenue jumped 33%.

**Macrotech Developers (Lodha)** has shown improvement in debt reduction, which has been a focus due to its previous high leverage. Revenue has been strong, driven by high sales in its residential segment, particularly in Mumbai and Pune. The Indian real estate sector is currently experiencing growth due to low-interest rates, urban migration, and increased demand for housing post-pandemic. Lodha's recent shift towards digital



## Oil drifts amid China stimulus concerns, oversupply worries

Oil prices remained relatively unchanged on Tuesday, with investors awaiting fresh guidance from OPEC's monthly report. A combination of investor disappointment over China's latest stimulus measures and ongoing concerns about oversupply in the market kept buying interest muted.



Brent crude futures edged up by 4 cents to \$71.87 per barrel by 0745 GMT, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures dipped by 1 cent to \$68.03 per barrel. Both contracts had dropped by more than 5% in the previous two trading sessions, reflecting the current uncertainty in the market.

The primary concerns are deflationary risks emerging from China, coupled with the lack of significant fiscal measures to stimulate demand. China's economy has shown signs of slowing, and its recent stimulus package—worth 10 trillion yuan (\$1.4 trillion)—has failed to inspire confidence in the market. While the package aims to ease local government financing strains, it has done little to directly address the weakening demand for oil, which has raised doubts about China's role in driving global economic growth.

Kelvin Wong, senior market analyst at OAN-

DA, noted that these issues were dampening market sentiment. "The lack of concrete fiscal stimulus measures in China, as well as the ongoing deflationary risks, are weighing on investors' outlook for the global oil market," Wong said.

On the supply side, there are growing concerns about U.S. shale oil production. The "Trump Trade" narrative is expected to shift focus toward the U.S. becoming a dominant supplier of shale gas, especially with North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum—a pro-oil drilling advocate—on the shortlist for Energy Secretary in a potential second Trump administration. This prospect adds to concerns that the U.S. will ramp up oil production, further contributing to oversupply in the global market.

## India's retail inflation hits 14-month high at 6.21% in October

India's retail inflation surged to 6.21% in October 2024, up from 5.49% in the previous month, primarily driven by rising food prices, according to official data released on Tuesday. This marked the highest inflation rate in 14 months, surpassing the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) upper tolerance limit of 6%. In comparison, the Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation stood at 4.87% in October 2023.



The significant increase in inflation was attributed to a sharp rise in food prices, which continues to put pressure on household budgets. While specific categories like vegetables, cereals, and pulses saw the most notable increases, experts are concerned that the persistently high inflation rate could further strain consumer spending and impact overall economic growth.

The surge in inflation comes at a time when the RBI has been closely monitoring price pressures, with expectations that it may take further action to curb inflationary trends. The central bank's target range for inflation is between 2% and 6%, with anything above the upper limit typically signaling potential intervention.

In another piece of data released on Tuesday, India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) showed

signs of recovery, expanding by 3% in September 2024. This was a marked improvement from the contraction of 0.1% seen in August 2024, suggesting that industrial activity is picking up. The growth in industrial production was driven by a rebound in manufacturing and mining sectors, providing a glimmer of optimism in an otherwise challenging economic landscape.

While the IIP figures provide some positive news, the rise in inflation could pose challenges for the government and the RBI as they work to balance economic growth with price stability. As inflation remains above target, further policy measures may be needed to prevent the cost of living from spiraling out of control in the coming months.

## Bank of Baroda Forecasts 6.9% GDP Growth for India in Q2 FY24

India's GDP growth is projected to rise to 6.9% in the second quarter (Q2) of 2024, up from 6.7% in Q1, driven by strong domestic demand and positive trends in high-frequency economic indicators, according to a recent report. The uptick in growth comes as the country experiences a revival in several sectors, fueled by the festive season, which started in September and extended into October.



The report noted significant improvements across multiple indicators, including a rise in air passenger traffic and a higher Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), both reflecting increased activity in the services sector. Additionally, the report highlighted improvements in toll collections, vehicle registrations, and non-oil, non-gold imports, all pointing to higher mobility and stronger consumer spending.

Government spending, both at the central and state levels, has also contributed to the econom-

ic acceleration, the report said. Key consumption metrics such as auto sales and digital payments have shown marked recovery, indicating a robust consumer environment. PMI data for both manufacturing and services have improved, suggesting balanced growth across major sectors.

Consumer confidence, as reflected in the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) report from September, remains steady, with rural demand seeing a notable boost. Sales of two-wheelers and tractors, in particular, have rebounded strongly, signaling healthier demand in rural areas.

Despite these positive developments, inflation remains a concern, with October's price data indicating persistent inflationary pressures. As a result, the RBI is expected to maintain its current interest rates in the December policy meeting, although analysts speculate that a rate cut may be considered by February 2025.

While credit growth has shown signs of slowing down, which could impact future economic momentum, the overall outlook remains positive. The combination of festive demand, improving consumer confidence, and strengthening rural and urban indicators positions India's economy for steady growth in the latter half of the year. India's official GDP data for Q2 2024 will be released by the Ministry of Statistics on November 29.



# Amazon developing smart glasses for drivers to shave seconds off deliveries

Amazon is working on developing smart eyeglasses designed to assist its delivery drivers in navigating complex delivery environments. The glasses aim to provide real-time, turn-by-turn navigation on a small embedded screen, guiding drivers not only along their routes but also at each stop, including directions within buildings. The goal is to streamline the final stretch of the delivery process, improving efficiency during the “last mile,” the most expensive and challenging part of the delivery journey.

According to sources familiar with the project, if successful, the smart glasses could help drivers save valuable time by offering directions around obstacles like gates or aggressive dogs, or even inside buildings, such as guiding them off elevators. This technology would also eliminate the need for drivers to use handheld GPS devices, allowing them to focus on delivering more packages in less time. By reducing delivery time, Amazon hopes to cut costs, particularly in the highly competitive e-commerce market where rival companies like Walmart are also stepping up their delivery capabilities.

Amazon has been working for years to build an in-house logistics network, including its own airlines, trucking fleet, and warehouses, with the goal of reducing dependency on



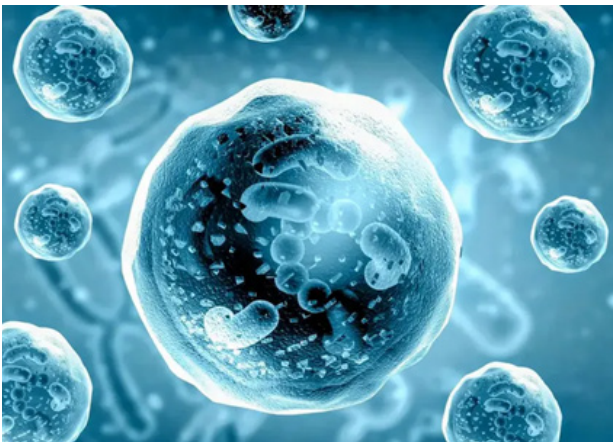
third-party couriers like UPS and FedEx. This strategy is part of Amazon’s broader effort to lower shipping costs and improve delivery speed. In the third quarter of 2024, Amazon’s shipping costs rose 8%, reaching \$23.5 billion, highlighting the growing importance of cost-saving innovations.

The smart eyeglasses, which are being developed under the internal code name \*Amelia\*, will likely build upon the technology used in Amazon’s Echo Frames, which feature voice commands and Alexa integration. These delivery glasses may also allow drivers to take photos of delivered packages for proof of delivery. However, the technology is still in development, with challenges around battery life, weight, and gathering accurate location data for each delivery route.

Despite the challenges, if the glasses are successful, they could revolutionize the efficiency of Amazon’s delivery fleet and further drive the company’s push for faster, more cost-effective deliveries.

# Memories Are Not Limited to Brain, New Study Claims

Scientists at New York University (NYU) have made groundbreaking discoveries suggesting that memory functions may not be exclusive to brain cells. Their research, published in \*Nature Communications\*, reveals that non-neural cells, specifically those in kidney and nerve tissue, can exhibit memory-like qualities traditionally associated with neurons. This finding could have profound implications for understanding memory processes and developing new treatments for memory-related conditions.



The study explored the ability of non-brain cells to “remember” chemical signal patterns, a function usually attributed to brain cells. To investigate this, the researchers recreated a laboratory version of the “massed-spaced effect,” a phenomenon seen in humans where memory retention improves with intervals between learning sessions. The team exposed kidney and nerve cells to chemical signals spaced at intervals, simulating the process of spaced learning. The results were remarkable: these non-brain cells showed signs of memory activation, including the turning on of a “memory gene,” a process that was previously believed to be exclusive to neurons.

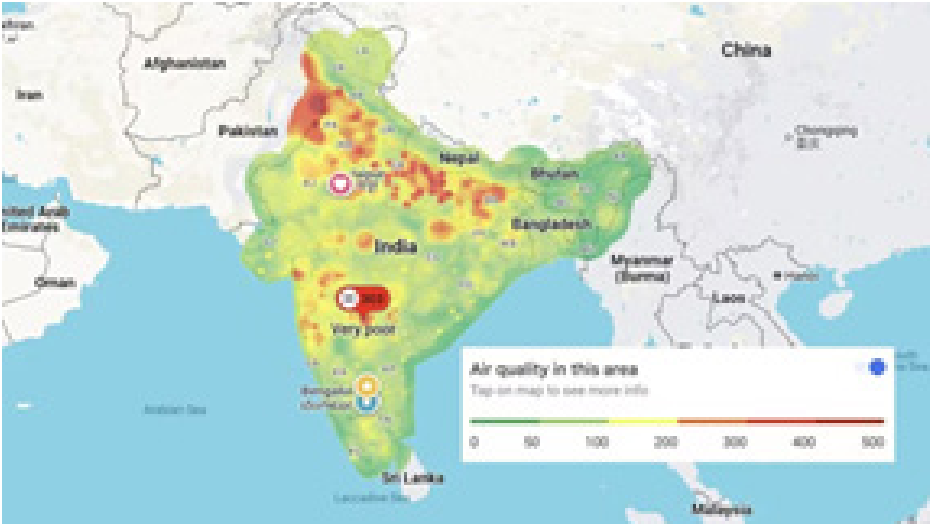
To track this gene activation, the researchers engineered the cells to produce a glowing protein whenever the memory gene was activated, providing a clear visual marker for memory processing. The results were striking:

the non-neural cells displayed a stronger and more prolonged gene response when exposed to the spaced intervals, suggesting that these cells had the ability to “remember” in a way that mimics the processes seen in neurons.

This discovery challenges long-held assumptions about the nature of memory and suggests that memory-like processes might occur outside the brain, in various other tissues of the body. These findings could open new avenues for understanding how memory works and lead to innovative approaches in treating conditions such as Alzheimer’s disease, memory loss, and other cognitive disorders, where memory formation and retention are disrupted. The study marks a significant step forward in the field of neuroscience, expanding the scope of memory beyond the brain itself.

# Google Maps Now Offers Real-Time AQI Monitoring in Over 100 Countries

Google has introduced a new feature in its Maps app that allows users to monitor the real-time Air Quality Index (AQI) of locations across India and beyond. With over 2 billion active users, Google Maps continues to enhance its functionality, and this latest update provides crucial environmental data to users, helping them stay informed about air quality wherever they are.



The new AQI feature, which is updated every hour, gives users a real-time snapshot of the air quality in any given location. This is especially valuable for people in areas with fluctuating air pollution levels, such as major cities or regions prone to smog or other environmental factors. The feature not only displays the AQI but also offers helpful tips based on the severity of air quality, advising users on how to protect their health in real-time.

This update is part of Google’s ongoing effort to provide more useful, localized information to its massive user base. Air quality data will be accessible to users in India, as well as in over 100 other countries, beginning this week. This feature can be accessed directly through the Google Maps app, making it easy for users to check AQI before heading to a new location, whether for work, travel, or

outdoor activities.

With the growing concern around air pollution and its health impacts, Google’s AQI feature offers a simple yet effective way for users to make informed decisions about their environment. The company has long been focused on integrating real-time, relevant information into its products, and this addition aligns with its broader goal of improving users’ quality of life through its technologies.

As more countries adopt the feature, Google Maps is poised to become a crucial tool for users to track and navigate air quality, particularly in urban areas where pollution levels can significantly affect public health.

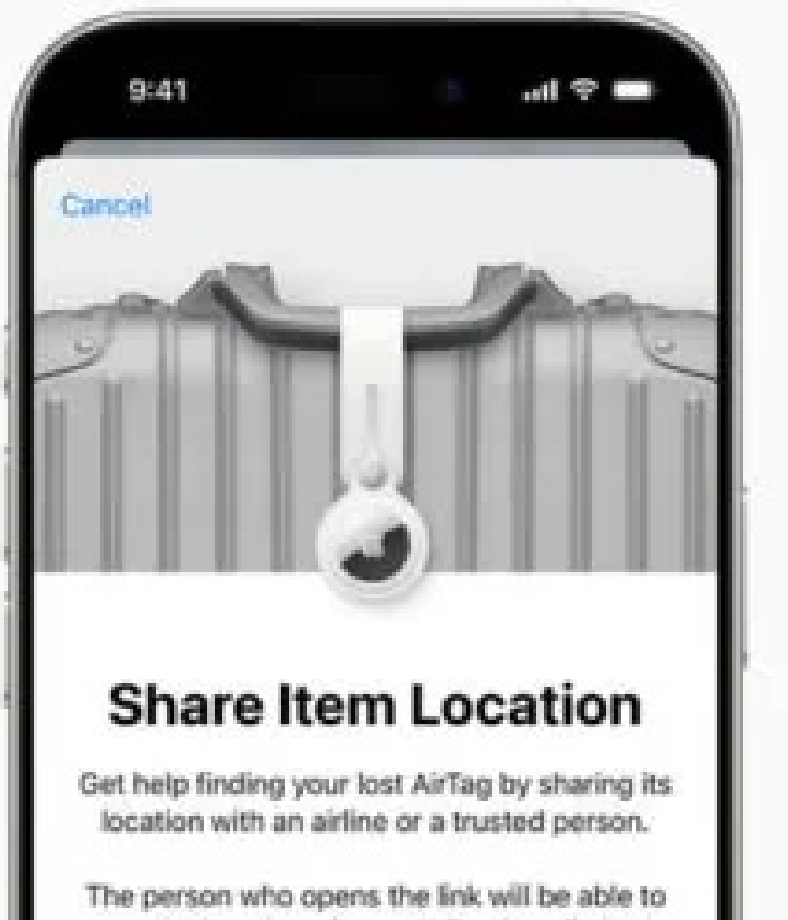
# Apple Announces Share Item Location Feature on iOS

Apple has confirmed the launch of a new feature in iOS 18.2 called \*Share Item Location\*, designed to help users track lost or misplaced items by sharing their location with third parties, including airlines. This feature, which first appeared in the iOS 18.2 Developer beta 2, is now available to users through the iOS 18.2 Public beta update and will be accessible to all users once the full public release of iOS 18.2 arrives.

The \*Share Item Location\* feature leverages Apple’s \*Find My\* network, which uses Bluetooth to locate lost items and provide an approximate location back to the owner. It works with Apple’s own AirTags as well as other compatible \*Find My\* accessories. Apple announced the feature through a newsroom post, highlighting its potential to aid in recovering misplaced devices quickly and efficiently.

To use this feature, users can mark an item as lost in the \*Find My\* app on their iPhone, iPad, or Mac, then generate a \*Share Item Location\* link. This link can be shared with anyone, including a trusted person or airline employee, to assist in locating the item. The recipient can access the location via a website with an interactive map, which can be viewed on any platform, not just Apple devices. The location will update automatically whenever new information is available, and the website will display a timestamp indicating the most recent update.

This feature is particularly useful for travelers, as it enables them to quickly share the location of lost items with airline staff or others who may assist



in retrieving them. It further enhances the utility of the \*Find My\* network, which has become an essential tool for Apple users in keeping track of their belongings.

With the release of iOS 18.2, Apple continues to build on its commitment to improving user experience and security, providing innovative solutions to everyday problems like lost items. The \*Share Item Location\* feature is expected to be a helpful addition for many users around the globe.

# Are Smartphones Accelerating the Aging Process?

Smartphones have become an inevitable part of our daily lives. With more than 4 billion people owning one, these devices have revolutionized communication, making it easier than ever to connect with others. However, while the benefits of smartphones are undeniable, our over-reliance on them may be taking a toll on our health in ways we don’t fully understand.

Numerous studies have highlighted the adverse effects of smartphone use, from their impact on brain function to their role in straining eyesight and affecting child development. But one of the most concerning issues that has emerged in recent years is the potential for smartphones to contribute to faster aging.

Musculoskeletal pain—such as back, neck, and shoulder discomfort—has long been associated with aging. However, a growing body of evidence suggests that prolonged smartphone use may be accelerating this process. The posture that many of us adopt when using smartphones—hunched over, neck tilted down, and shoulders rounded—puts a strain on our musculoskeletal system, leading to conditions like “tech neck” and other forms of chronic pain. Over time, this poor posture can lead to degenerative changes in the spine and joints, which are typically seen in older individuals, but are now affecting younger, tech-savvy generations.

The repetitive nature of texting, swiping, and scrolling also puts pressure on our hands and



wrists, contributing to conditions like carpal tunnel syndrome. Additionally, the blue light emitted by smartphone screens can interfere with sleep patterns, disrupting our circadian rhythm, which has long-term effects on physical and mental health.

While smartphones have undoubtedly improved our ability to stay connected, we must ask ourselves: at what cost? As we continue to rely on these devices, it’s crucial to take proactive steps to counteract their negative effects—whether it’s improving our posture, limiting screen time, or investing in ergonomic technology—to ensure we don’t inadvertently accelerate the aging process.



# Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden Suffer Straight-Set Defeat at ATP Finals



Ace Indian tennis player Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden began their ATP Finals campaign with a disappointing loss, falling in straight sets to Italian duo Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori. The match, held in Turin on Monday, ended with a 2-6, 3-6 defeat for Bopanna and Ebden in just 56 minutes.

Bopanna and Ebden, who had triumphed over Bolelli and Vavassori in the Australian Open final earlier this year, were unable to replicate that success in their group stage encounter. The fourth-seeded Italians came out strong, securing an early break in the second game of the first set. A double fault by the Indo-Australian pair in the eighth game handed Bolelli and Vavassori another break, further dampening their chances of a comeback.

The second set saw no let-up for Bopanna and Ebden, as their opponents continued to dominate. A crucial break in the fourth game of the second set allowed Bolelli and Vavassori to

extend their lead, and Bopanna and Ebden struggled to find any rhythm.

Bopanna, competing in his fourth ATP Finals, and Ebden had no answer to the Italian pair's superior play. The Indo-Australian team failed to earn a single break point throughout the match. Their serving was also problematic, winning only 58% of points on their first serve and 47% on their second. In contrast, the Italians were far more efficient, winning 89% of points on their first serve and 83% on their second.

The loss marked Bopanna and Ebden's third consecutive defeat to Bolelli and Vavassori this year. The duo currently sits fourth in the Bob Bryan Group. They will next face top seeds Marcelo Arevalo and Mate Pavic in their upcoming group match on Wednesday. Despite this setback, Bopanna and Ebden reached the semifinals in last year's ATP Finals, and will look to bounce back in their next match.

# Mohammed Shami Is Back: Set To Play For Bengal In Ranji Trophy

Indian pacer Mohammed Shami is poised to make his long-awaited comeback to competitive cricket, as he has been named in the Bengal squad for their upcoming Ranji Trophy 2024-25 match. The 34-year-old fast bowler, who last played a competitive match on November 19, 2023, will spearhead Bengal's fast bowling attack in their Elite Group C fixture against Madhya Pradesh.



Shami's return comes as part of Bengal's fifth group-stage match of the season, which is set to be played at Holkar Stadium in Indore starting on Wednesday, November 13. The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) made the official announcement on Tuesday, confirming that the veteran pacer will take the field for his state team after a break from domestic cricket.

Shami's inclusion in the Bengal squad is a significant boost for the team, especially given his experience at the international level. Having been a key member of India's bowling lineup in all formats, Shami brings invaluable experience to Bengal's fast bowling attack. His return is eagerly anticipated as Bengal aims to strengthen their position in the ongoing Ranji Trophy season.

Shami's absence from competitive cricket over the past year

has been due to a combination of factors, including his commitments with the Indian national team. With the upcoming match in Indore marking his return to domestic cricket, fans and experts alike are keen to see the pace spearhead back in action.

The match against Madhya Pradesh will also serve as an important test for Shami as he looks to regain full match fitness and form ahead of future international commitments. It will be interesting to see how he integrates into Bengal's setup and contributes to their performance in the remainder of the season.

Shami's return is a significant moment for both Bengal cricket and his personal career, and it is expected to make an impact as the team aims to secure important points in the ongoing Ranji Trophy campaign.

# Melie Kerr Named ICC Women's Player of the Month for October 2024

New Zealand all-rounder Melie Kerr has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for October 2024, following a series of standout performances that helped propel her team to victory. Kerr, who previously won the award in February 2022, was recognized for her exceptional contributions with both bat and ball, including a dominant showing at the T20 World Cup and a strong start to New Zealand's tour of India.

Kerr's October campaign reached its peak during the T20 World Cup, where she was named Player of the Match in the final after leading New Zealand to a World Cup title. Her all-round performance in the decider was pivotal, as she scored a crucial 43 runs and took three wickets, setting the tone for her team's victory. Over the course of the tournament, Kerr was named Player of the Tournament after finishing with a tournament-record 15 wickets. She also contributed with the bat, scoring 135 runs across six appearances.



Her stellar form continued on New Zealand's tour of India, where she played a

key role in the team's ODI series. In the only game she played, Kerr picked up a four-wicket haul and added an unbeaten 25 runs from 23 balls, further cementing her status as one of the most impactful all-rounders in women's cricket.

Overall, Kerr's October tally included 160 runs and 19 wickets from just seven matches, showcasing her versatility and consistency across formats. Reflecting on the award, Kerr expressed her gratitude, saying, "It's an honour to receive this award as there are so many world-class cricketers around the world who are also deserving of this." She also credited her success to her team, coaches, and family, acknowledging their support as essential to her achievements.

With her remarkable performances in both the T20 World Cup and against India, Melie Kerr has firmly established herself as one of the brightest stars in women's cricket.

# Women's Asian Champions Trophy: Deepika Brace Hands India 3-2 Win vs South Korea

India secured a hard-fought 3-2 victory over South Korea in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy on Tuesday, with Deepika scoring a decisive penalty stroke three minutes from the final hooter. The win marked India's second consecutive victory in the tournament, following their 4-0 triumph over Malaysia in the opening match on Monday.

The match began with a strong performance from India, who quickly took a 2-0 lead in the first half. Sangita Kumari opened the scoring in the 3rd minute with a fine reverse hit, set up by Neha Goyal and Navneet Kaur. Deepika doubled India's advantage in the 20th minute, scoring from close range after a brilliant pass from Beauty Dung Dung. Despite creating several more chances, India was unable to add to their tally, and the first half ended with India



firmly in control.

However, South Korea came out strong after the break, launching an effective counterattack. In the 34th minute, Yuri Lee pulled one back for Korea, scoring from a rebound after a penalty corner.

The Koreans, energized by the goal, continued to pressurize India, and in the 38th minute, Korea equalized through their captain, Eunbi Cheon, who converted a penalty stroke awarded after an Indian defender's foul in the circle.

With the match tied at 2-2, both teams pushed relentlessly for a winner. India created several penalty corner opportunities, but their execution remained lacking, with most efforts easily dealt with by the Korean defense. Finally, in the 57th minute, India was awarded a penalty stroke, and Deepika stepped up to convert calmly, securing the win for her team.

The victory sees India continue their strong start in the tournament, and they will face Thailand in their next match on Thursday.

# Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand Exit Kumamoto Masters in 1st Round

Indian badminton duo Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand were eliminated in the opening round of the Kumamoto Masters in Japan on Tuesday. The pair, ranked No. 20 in the world, suffered a straight-game defeat to the Chinese Taipei combination of Hsu Yin-Hui and Lin Yin-Hui. The Indian pair lost 16-21, 16-21 in just 36 minutes in their women's doubles Round of 32 match at the Super 500 tournament. This defeat marks the first time that the Taiwanese duo has beaten Jolly and Gopichand, although the Indian pair still leads the head-to-head record 2-1.

The loss to Yin-Hui and Yin-Hui comes as a setback for the Indian duo, who have shown promise in the past. Despite their defeat, they will be looking to regroup and come back stronger in future tournaments.

Meanwhile, two other prominent Indian shuttlers, PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen, will begin their campaigns at the Kumamoto Masters on Wednesday. Sindhu, a



two-time Olympic medallist and former world champion, is ranked 19th in the latest women's singles rankings. She has had a challenging year, with her most recent notable performance being a quar-

ter-final exit at the Denmark Open, where she lost to Indonesian Gregoria Mariska Tunjung after a solid second-round victory over China's Han Yue.

Sindhu, still searching for her first title on the BWF World Tour since winning the Singapore Open in July 2022, will look to bounce back and make a strong push for the Kumamoto Masters title.

On the men's side, Lakshya Sen, currently ranked No. 17 in the world, is India's sole entry in the men's singles event. After coming close to an Olympic medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics, Sen is focused on making an impact in the new Olympic cycle, though he has yet to win a match in the new season after competing in both the Arctic Open and the Denmark Open.

The Indian contingent hopes to regroup after the early exit of Jolly and Gopichand as they look to make their mark in the upcoming rounds of the tournament.





## Manchu Manoj's Power-Packed Look as Gajapathi in \*Bhairavam\*

The first look of Manchu Manoj as Gajapathi in the upcoming action drama \*Bhairavam\* is sending waves across social media and is already trending. Directed by Vijay Kanakamedala, the filmmaker behind the successful \*Ugram\*, \*Bhairavam\* promises an intense and high-octane cinematic experience, with a gripping storyline and unforgettable performances. Alongside Manchu Manoj, the film features Nara Rohith and Bellamkonda Srinivas in pivotal roles, making this an exciting ensemble cast to watch out for.

The latest buzz centers around Manchu Manoj's character, Gajapathi. The actor's massy and intense look has taken social media by storm. In one of the recently revealed first-look posters, Manoj is seen in a fierce avatar, with a dramatic visual of a car speeding through heavy rain. People with umbrellas are shown beside the vehicle, adding a sense of mystery and power to the character. This visual perfectly captures Gajapathi's stormy and forceful nature, further fueling anticipation for the movie.

The film is set against the backdrop of a thrilling, action-packed narrative, with a focus on intense character arcs. Nara Rohith's character, Rohit Varada, also plays a central role in the drama, while Bellamkonda Srinivas's first look, which was revealed earlier, has already gone viral, adding to the growing excitement.



The makers have promised that more updates, including major plot details and promotional material, will be released soon to keep fans on the edge of their seats.

\*Bhairavam\* is produced by KK Radhamohan under the banner of Sri Sathya Sai Arts, and the film's music will be composed by Sricharan. With such a powerful team behind the film, \*Bhairavam\* is set to be one of the most anticipated Telugu films of the year. Keep an eye out for more updates as the makers gear up for a grand release.

## Game Changer teaser to be attached to Matka

The countdown is on for the highly anticipated release of \*Matka\*, a gripping period crime drama starring Varun Tej and Meenakshi Chaudhary. Directed by Karuna Kumar, \*Matka\* is all set to hit theaters on November 14, 2024. The film promises a thrilling narrative set against a compelling historical backdrop, and with its talented lead cast, expectations are running high for this intense cinematic experience.

Adding to the excitement for \*Matka\* is an exclusive update for fans in the USA. The highly anticipated teaser of Ram Charan's \*Game Changer\*, directed by the legendary Shankar, will be included with the \*Matka\* prints, making its way to theaters alongside the film's release. This rare teaser debut is sure to create a buzz, as fans of both films eagerly await more details about the action-packed \*Game Changer\*, which is set to release on January 10, 2025.

The teaser of \*Game Changer\* has already raised the bar with its high-octane visuals and promises of a larger-than-life cinematic spectacle. Fans are already speculating about the film's plot and characters, and with the trailer expected to drop by the end of next month, the anticipation is at an all-time high. As one of the most awaited films of the coming year, \*Game Changer\* is generating massive excitement, especially with its star power—Ram Charan leading the way, supported by a grand vision from director Shankar.



For now, the focus is on \*Matka\*, with its compelling crime drama narrative set to captivate audiences. Fans can look forward to this gripping release next week, but the added teaser for \*Game Changer\* is sure to keep moviegoers on their toes, eagerly awaiting both films. Stay tuned for more updates as both \*Matka\* and \*Game Changer\* gear up to make major waves at the box office.

## Nithiin and Venky Kudumula's \*Robinhood\* Teaser Release Announced

Nithiin and director Venky Kudumula are reuniting for an exciting new project titled \*Robinhood\*, which is already generating buzz among fans. The film stars Nithiin in the titular role, with popular actress Sreeleela playing the female lead. \*Robinhood\* is shaping up to be a promising action-packed entertainer, and the makers have just unveiled the teaser release details, adding to the excitement.



The teaser for \*Robinhood\* is set to drop on November 14, 2024, at 4:05 PM, promising a first glimpse of the film's high-energy narrative. However, there's an intriguing development surrounding the film's release schedule. While the original release date of \*Robinhood\* was pegged for December 20, 2024, the teaser poster has conspicuously removed this date, leaving fans speculating about a potential shift in the film's release timeline. Official clarification on the new release date is expected soon, keeping the anticipation alive among the audience.

\*Robinhood\* is produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the prestigious Mythri Movie Makers banner, which has a history of delivering successful films. The movie also features an impressive supporting cast, including veteran actors Rajendra Prasad,

Vennela Kishore, and Brahmagi, among others, in key roles. With the combination of a strong cast and the direction of Venky Kudumula, known for his knack for delivering engaging narratives, expectations are high.

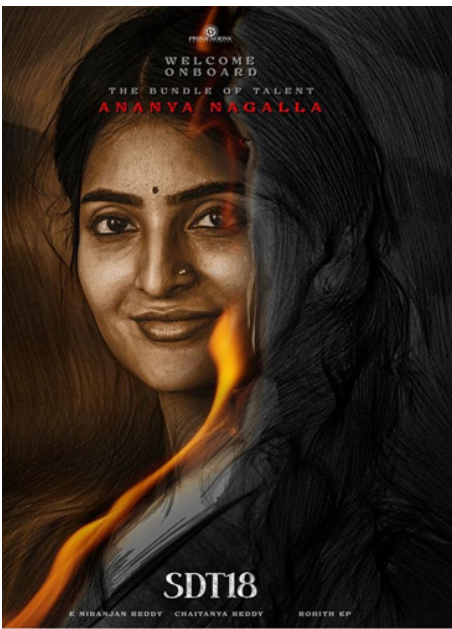
The music for \*Robinhood\* is being composed by GV Prakash Kumar, who has worked on several hit soundtracks in the past. His musical contributions are expected to elevate the film's storytelling, adding an extra layer of appeal for the audience.

As the teaser release date approaches, fans are eagerly awaiting their first look at \*Robinhood\* and hoping for clarity regarding its release. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting film.

## Ananya Nagalla Joins \*Saidurgatej\* in Periodical Action Drama, First Look Revealed

Primeshow Entertainment is all set to bring a gripping periodical action drama to the big screen, with Ananya Nagalla playing a pivotal role alongside lead actor Saidurgatej. Directed by Rohit KP, who is making his directorial debut, the film is shaping up to be a high-intensity action-packed story, with the backdrop of a powerful historical narrative.

Ananya Nagalla's first look from the film was unveiled earlier this week, and it has already generated significant buzz. Known for her strong performances in previous projects, Ananya's role in this action drama is crucial to the storyline. Her character adds depth and complexity to the narrative, which promises to keep the audience on the edge of their seats. The film's makers emphasized that while Saidurgatej's character is a departure from his usual roles, it will be a fresh and exciting portrayal that audiences have never seen before.



Produced by K. Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy, the film is being planned for a pan-India release, making it a highly anticipated project for audiences across the country. The film also stars a stellar ensemble cast, including Aishwarya Lakshmi, Jagapathi Babu, Srikanth, Saikumar, and others, all of whom will contribute significantly to the story's impact. The music for the film is being composed by B. Ajanish Loknath, known for his impressive soundtracks in the past, which is expected to elevate the film's dramatic tension and action sequences.

Director Rohit KP, who is helming this ambitious project, is bringing a fresh vision to the action genre. With the first look of Ananya Nagalla already making waves, expectations are high for the film's release. The makers are gearing up for a grand release and are confident that the film will captivate audiences with its compelling mix of action, drama, and period storytelling. Stay tuned for more updates as this exciting project takes shape.

## 'NBK109': Title Teaser to Release on November 15 Ahead of Sankranti Release

Nandamuri Balakrishna is gearing up for his next big-screen venture, an action-packed drama tentatively titled \*NBK109\*. Directed by Bobby, the film is scheduled for a grand release during the Sankranti festival, one of the most anticipated periods for movie releases in the Telugu film industry.

Fans of Balakrishna have been eagerly awaiting the title teaser of \*NBK109\*, which was initially expected to drop earlier. However, the release of the teaser was delayed due to pending CGI work. Now, the makers have officially announced that the title teaser will be unveiled on November 15, giving fans the first glimpse of what to expect from the highly anticipated project. Along with the teaser, the official release date of the film is also expected to be revealed, heightening the excitement among fans.

The pre-look poster of \*NBK109\* has already generated a lot of buzz, hinting

at Balakrishna's portrayal of a powerful and intense character. The actor is known for his dynamic screen presence, and fans are curious to see how director Bobby will present him in this high-octane action drama.

\*NBK109\* also features a stellar ensemble cast, including Bobby Deol, Pragya Jaiswal, Urvashi Rautela, and Chandini Chowdary, who will play pivotal roles alongside Balakrishna. The film is being produced by Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinema. Renowned music composer Thaman has been roped in to create the film's soundtrack, adding another layer of anticipation for the project.

As the release of \*NBK109\* draws closer, excitement continues to build, with fans eagerly awaiting a powerful combination of action, drama, and larger-than-life performances from Balakrishna and his co-stars.

