



POINT

Weather Forecast

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

We Will Complete Tribal University in Two Years

- Buchaiah Chowdhary and Bonda Uma question pending educational institutions under the Partition Act
- Minister Nara Lokesh provides detailed response
- Commitment to complete Central University by 2019 in designated location
- Previous government's delay due to political motives
- Lokesh indirectly criticizes Jagan's lack of decentralized development, highlighting a ₹500 crore palace project



TPN, Amaravati: Minister Nara Lokesh announced in the Assembly that the Tribal University would be completed within the next two years. He criticized the previous government for relocating the Tribal University with apparent political motives, delaying its progress for five years. Lokesh assured the Assembly that the Central Tribal University would be completed in two years at the

location designated in 2019.

In response to questions posed by legislators Buchaiah Chowdhary and Bonda Uma regarding pending educational institutions under the Partition Act, Lokesh outlined the achievements made between 2014 and 2019 under Chandrababu Naidu's administration. He emphasized that Naidu prioritized the decentral-

ization of development, with sector-focused development across joint districts. He cited examples, including the establishment of Kia Motors in Anantapur, electronics in Chittoor, wind turbine production in Nellore, renewable energy projects in Kurnool, and cell phone and aqua industries in East and West Godavari. Uttarandhra was promoted as a hub for IT, medical devices, and

pharma industries.

Lokesh highlighted the state's strategic distribution of educational institutions allocated under the Partition Act, which were set up across various regions. These include IIT Tirupati, IIM Visakhapatnam, NIT Tadepalligudem, IIIT Kurnool,

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What's Wrong with Cracking Down on SM Abusers?

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CAG Reveals Key Details on Previous Government's Financial Status in AP

Sharmila Has 1.7% Votes, No Need To Talk: YS Jagan



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has become known for his selective approach to addressing topics in the media, often presenting his views in a controlled manner without fielding additional questions. This approach was evident again today.

When an English journalist brought up Sharmila's recent call for Jagan to resign as an MLA if he had no intention of attending the assembly, Jagan's response was swift and dismissive.

"There's no need to discuss my sisters here. Her party (Congress) holds just a 1.7% vote share—that's all there is to it," Jagan remarked, using the low vote share to effectively downplay Sharmila's relevance.

In light of the ongoing legal disputes between Jagan and both Sharmila and their mother, Vijayamma, his dismissive stance was somewhat anticipated. However, today, Jagan took extra effort to minimize Sharmila's significance by reducing her position to the vote percentage of her party, rendering her almost irrelevant in his press statement.

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Minister Durgesh Delivers Fiery Response to YCP Leader Botsa

TPN, Amaravati: In a passionate and powerful address to the Legislative Council, State Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh took on YCP leader Botsa, making it clear that the coalition government is unwavering in its commitment to implementing the "Super Six" welfare schemes.

"The previous government reduced pensions to a paltry Rs. 2000 and took five years to raise it to Rs. 3000. In stark contrast, the coalition government increased that Rs. 3000 pension to Rs. 4000 within just 15 days of coming to power! That is the efficiency and dedication of this coalition," thundered Minister Durgesh. Delivering on promises, he elaborated, "We ensured that arrears for April, May, and June were settled at Rs. 3000 per month, followed by Rs. 7000 in July. And when it came to clearing farmers' dues, we paid the outstanding Rs. 1600 crore that the previous government left unattended."

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AP Government Announces Chief Whips and Whips in Assembly and Council

The Andhra Pradesh Government has appointed key legislative roles, filling Chief Whip and Whip positions in both the Assembly and the Legislative Council.

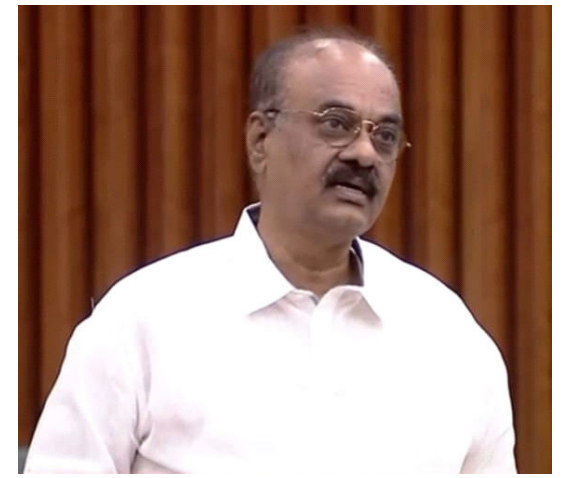
Chief Whips:
Assembly: GV Anjaneyulu
Council: Panchumurthy Anuradha

Assembly Whips (15 members):
1. Bonda Uma (TDP)
2. Kalava Srinivas (TDP)
3. Yarlagadda Venkatarao (TDP)
4. Adinarayana Reddy (BJP)
5. Bommidi Naikkar (Jana Sena)
6. Bendalam Ashok (TDP)
7. Reddappagari Madhavi (TDP)
8. Arava Sridhar (Jana Sena)
9. Tangirala Soumya (TDP)

10. Datla Subbaraju (TDP)
11. Divya Yanamala (TDP)
12. PGVR Naidu (TDP)
13. Toyaka Jagadeeswari (TDP)
14. Bolishetti Srinivas (Jana Sena)
15. VM Thomas (TDP)

Council Whips (3 members):
1. Vepada Chiranjeevi (TDP)
2. P. Hariprasad (Jana Sena)
3. Kancharla Srikanth (TDP)

Notably, three Jana Sena members have been appointed as Assembly Whips, and one BJP member received a position. In the Council, one Jana Sena member was appointed as a Whip. These appointments strengthen the representation of TDP, BJP, and Jana Sena across legislative operations in Andhra Pradesh.



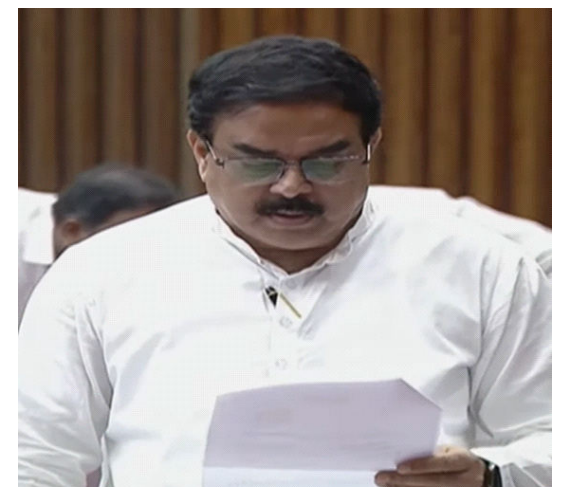
MLA Bolishetti Srinivas Urges Rs. 100 Crore for Red Canal Modernization

TPN, Amaravati: Tadepalligudem MLA and Government Whip Bolishetti Srinivas raised a pressing concern regarding the Red Canal in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, advocating for an allocation of Rs. 100 crore to strengthen embankments and modernize the canal.

During his address, Srinivas highlighted the challenges faced by farmers in Tadepalligudem, Tanuku, and Nidadavolu constituencies, where thousands of acres are affected by annual flooding from the Red Canal. This flooding has led to severe crop damage and financial strain on local farmers, who continue to suffer from recurrent losses.

Srinivas emphasized that modernization of the Red Canal has been a necessity since 2019, as the canal stretches approximately 185 kilometers, originating from Khammam district in Telangana and running through to Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh. The canal has become prone to overflowing, and without immediate infrastructure improvements, the issue will persist, he warned.

He called on the government to take decisive action to ensure a permanent solution to the flooding, which would protect the livelihoods of farmers in the region and mitigate the annual agricultural disruptions caused by the Red Canal's overflow.



Crackdown on Ration Mafia 1010 Cases Registered, 60,000 Metric Tons of Rice Seized

TPN, Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government has intensified its efforts against illegal smuggling of subsidized ration rice, with 1010 cases registered and over 60,000 metric tons of rice seized since the coalition government came to power. State Minister for Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs, Nadendla Manohar, addressed the Legislative Council on Wednesday, highlighting the government's commitment to eradicating the so-called "ration mafia" operating in the state.

Minister Manohar explained that, despite the central and state governments providing ration rice at subsidized rates to support poor families, some operators, including certain MDUs (Mandals Distribution Units), have been found illegally diverting PDS (Public Distribution System) rice for profit. He warned that arrests of those involved in these illegal activities are inevitable following thorough investigations. The minister added that criminal cases have already been filed against 13 rice mills in Kakinada, which have been implicated in smuggling activities.

To prevent further illegal exports, the government has established checkpoints across key areas, and port authorities have been instructed to permit rice exports only upon receipt of NOC (No Objection Certificates) from police, revenue, and civil supply officers, coordinated by the Joint Collector.

What's Wrong with Cracking Down on SM Abusers?

TPN, Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh High Court recently heard a PIL filed in opposition to the NDA government's arrest spree of social media abusers and hatemongers, a move that has sparked criticism from YSR Congress supporters. The case was brought to a hearing today.

The PIL, filed by former Information Commissioner Vijaya Babu, contends that the police are wrongfully filing cases against individuals for allegedly obscene posts on social media. The High Court, however, pushed back, questioning whether it would indeed be inappropriate for the police to take action against those who post offensive or obscene content. The bench noted that in the past, posts were made to disparage even judges, raising concerns about the extent of misuse. Notably, the court remarked that there is nothing wrong with taking strict action against those who excessively abuse or cross boundaries on social media. The judges highlighted that some users even target the judiciary and individual judges, which they emphasized is unacceptable and should be addressed.

The High Court clarified that it does not intend to prevent the police from addressing social media abuse broadly. However, it indicated that action should be pursued on an individual basis: victims of abuse should bring forward individual cases, rather than employing a PIL to halt police efforts on a broader scale.

CAG Reveals Key Details on Previous Government's Financial Status in AP

- In 2023, AP Reserve with RBI shows a deficit of Rs. 19 cr
- In 2024, the deficit increased to Rs. 33 cr
- Government debt in 2022-23 stood at Rs. 4,86,151 cr

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has disclosed important details regarding the financial status of the previous government in Andhra Pradesh. According to the CAG report, as of April 2023, the state's reserve account with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed a deficit of Rs. 19 crore, which further increased to Rs. 33 crore by March 2024.

The CAG clarified that there was no actual cash balance in the investment account at the end of the financial year. The government debt for 2022-23 was recorded at Rs. 4,86,151 crore, with public debt accounting for 34 percent of the state's gross product. The CAG report also indicated that in 2023-24, government guarantees amounting to Rs. 2,23,004 crore were issued, and Rs. 69,626 crore was transferred from the consolidated fund to the Public Deposit (PD) accounts.

Other points revealed by the CAG include:

- In 2023-24, 52 paise of each rupee came from tax collections.
- The previous government acquired loans amounting to 30 paise of each rupee.
- Additionally, 14 paise per rupee was earned from grants-in-aid, 3 paise from non-tax revenue, and 1 paise from loan recoveries.
- Of every rupee, 15 paise was spent on salaries, 13 paise on Direct Benefit Transfers (DBTs), and 12 paise on interest payments.

These findings provide insights into the financial management and fiscal policies of the previous government in Andhra Pradesh.

AP Group-2 Mains Exams Postponed

- Group-2 Mains was initially scheduled for January 5.
- Candidates requested more time to prepare for the exams.
- Several MLCs appealed to APPSC for a postponement.
- APPSC, considering all appeals, has rescheduled the Group-2 Mains exams to February 23.

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Group-2 Mains Exams in Andhra Pradesh have been postponed. Originally set for January 5, the APPSC (Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission) has now rescheduled the exams for February 23, 2024.

According to the standard procedure, there should be at least 90 days between the prelims and mains examination dates. However, this time, only 60 days were given, leaving many Group-2 candidates concerned about inadequate preparation time. Consequently, they approached APPSC Chairperson Anuradha, requesting a date change to allow for additional preparation time.

Additionally, Uttarandhra MLC Vepada Chiranjeevi Rao, on behalf of the Group-2 candidates, also met with the APPSC Chairperson, advocating for a 30-day extension. Several other MLCs and public representatives made similar appeals to APPSC.

We Will Complete Tribal University in Two Years

Continued from page 1

and the Central University in Anantapur. He remarked that true decentralization of development involves distributing resources and opportunities across the state, rather than concentrating wealth, indirectly criticizing Jagan's

proposed ₹500 crore palace project. Lokesh added that the state government, under Naidu's leadership, swiftly allocated land and continuously reviewed funds received from the central government, as well as the progress of these projects. IIT Tirupati was allocated 172 acres on April 16, 2016, IIM Visakhapatnam received

240 acres, Central University Anantapur was granted 491 acres, and 255 acres were allocated for other educational facilities. In line with the decentralization policy, Lokesh assured that the state would address any pending issues, including road, water, and infrastructure needs, for these institutions promptly.

Minister Durgesh...

Continued from page 1

Durgesh highlighted that in only four months, the coalition government has taken up initiatives the previous administration failed to act on for five years. "The Super Six is delivering on its promises one by one. We've already provided full fee reimbursements to students, issued monthly pensions to the elderly, widows, disabled, and chronically ill. For those bedridden with chronic illnesses, we are offering Rs. 15,000, compared to the previous government's Rs. 6000." he Minister also emphasized the launch of the Deepam-2 scheme, addressing the needs of various social groups. "From farmers and the unemployed to youth and women, we are ensuring justice and upliftment across all sections of society," he asserted. "Does the YCP have the audacity to criticize this coalition government, which is delivering such transformative changes in such a short time?" In a closing note, Durgesh, a seasoned member of the Legislative Council, confidently added, "I am well-versed in the rules and regulations of this esteemed House. This government holds a responsibility to all communities, and we will not falter in our commitment to bring justice and progress to every corner of our state."

RRR as Deputy Speaker of AP Assembly!

- CM Chandrababu Naidu finalizes RRR's name
- Raghurama's election expected to be a formality

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: TDP MLA Raghuramakrishna Raju has been confirmed as the Deputy Speaker of the AP Assembly. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu finalized Raju's name on Tuesday after considering several leaders and ultimately favoring Raghuramakrishna Raju (RRR).

The notification for the Deputy Speaker position will be issued on Wednesday and Thursday. If no other nominations are submitted, the alliance MLAs are expected to elect Raju as Deputy Speaker unanimously, making his election almost a formality.

Raghuramakrishna Raju recently won as an MLA from the West Godavari district in the latest elections. In the 2019 elections, he contested and won the Narasapuram Lok Sabha seat on behalf of the YSR Congress Party (YCP). However, Raju resigned from the YCP and joined TDP prior to the 2024 elections.

Revanth Reddy: Competing with Global Cities, Not Andhra

- Telangana CM aims to compete with New York and Seoul, not just neighboring states
- NO Fun in fighting with Indian cities like Bangalore, Mumbai, and Delhi

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, in a recent interview with The Indian Express, expressed his vision for Telangana and Hyderabad's development. He stated that his competition is not with neighboring states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, or Gujarat, but with prominent global cities such as New York and Seoul. "The world is now a small village, and Hyderabad should compete on the world stage, not just within India," he remarked, indicating his ambition for the city.



Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. He voiced concern over this imbalance, noting, "Funds should reflect contribution, not just population."

In his response to a question about "North-South" relations, Reddy challenged this phrasing, suggesting it reflects an inherent bias and proposed saying "South-North" as well. He emphasized that states like Telangana are integral to achieving a \$5 trillion economy, urging for more equitable treatment to support national growth.

Reflecting on investment strategies, Reddy mentioned that Telangana welcomes investments from entities like Adani, provided they contribute to the state's growth without diverting resources from other regions. "The difference between Congress and BJP," he said, "is that we don't believe in taking from others just to give to one person."

He also highlighted the importance of Telangana's role in the national economy, criticizing the allocation of funds that disadvantages states like Telangana. According to him, only 40 paise out of every rupee Telangana sends to the Centre returns to the state, while a disproportionate amount goes to states like

CBN Named Most Powerful Chief Minister by India Today

- Ranked ahead of Nitish Kumar, Yogi Adityanath, MK Stalin, and Mamata Banerjee
- Listed fifth among India's top ten most influential leaders, following PM Modi, Mohan Bhagwat, Amit Shah, and Rahul Gandhi

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In a recent article, national media outlet India Today ranked Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu as India's most powerful Chief Minister and placed him fifth among the top ten influential leaders in the country. Positioned just below top national figures—Prime Minister Narendra Modi, RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi—Chandrababu's influence is highlighted as central to current Indian politics.



Andhra Pradesh as a "Golden Andhra."

Among state leaders, India Today ranks Chandrababu above Chief Ministers Nitish Kumar (Bihar), Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh), MK Stalin (Tamil Nadu), and Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal), as well as Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav.

Describing Chandrababu's recent political resurgence, *India Today* likened his journey to a Hollywood thriller, noting his rebirth "like a phoenix" from a politically challenging period to reclaim power. His alliance with Jana Sena and BJP is credited with pulling the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) from decline to victory, earning him a central role in the NDA coalition.

The article further highlights Chandrababu's ambitions for Andhra Pradesh, particularly his Vision-2047 document, which aims to achieve a 15% growth rate and boost the state economy to \$2.4 trillion, with a per capita income target of \$43,000 by 2047. His long-standing goal of establishing Amaravati as the state's capital is also discussed, noting his plans to develop

In his political career, Chandrababu is recognized for fostering corporate partnerships, such as the establishment of the Indian School of Business (ISB) during his second term as Chief Minister of the united Andhra Pradesh. As the most senior CM in India, *India Today* describes him as a key player in the nation's governance, potentially influencing the direction of the NDA government at the center.

Inturi Ravikiran's Wife Sujana Meets Former CM Jagan

- Sujana accuses police of harassing her husband
- Claims nine cases have been filed in various locations
- Alleges Rajamahendravaram CI is mistreating her husband

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Sujana, the wife of YSRCP social media activist Inturi Ravikiran, who is currently in police custody, met with former CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy on Tuesday. Ravikiran had previously posted controversial content against opposition leaders on social media during the previous government's regime, leading to his recent legal troubles. Sujana visited Jagan at his office in Tadepalli, where she alleged that police are subjecting her husband to continuous harassment by moving him from station to station, supposedly under instructions from senior officials. She claimed that her husband is often taken without being informed of his destination.



nal. She expressed frustration that each time her husband secures bail in one case, the police immediately take him into custody in connection with another, without providing any clarity or information.

Sujana revealed that nine cases have been filed against her husband in locations such as Gudivada, Arandalpet, and Visakhapatnam. Speaking to the media after her meeting with Jagan, Sujana alleged that the CI of Prakashnagar in Rajamahendravaram has been mistreating Ravikiran, treating him as if he were a criminal.

Sujana said that Jagan provided them with words of encouragement and support, which gave her some relief amidst the situation. However, she voiced her concerns, stating that the police are not transparent about her husband's whereabouts or the nature of the cases for which he is being detained.

Ambati Rambabu's Tip-Off Leads to Arrest of Party's SM Activist

TPN, Guntur: In an unexpected turn of events, YCP leader Ambati Rambabu inadvertently facilitated the arrest of Rajasekhara Reddy, a social media activist for the YSR Congress Party, after openly challenging the police. Rajasekhara Reddy, a resident of Nakarikallu in Palnadu district, had posted inappropriate content about Home Minister Anita, prompting the police to initiate a case in Nuziveedu.



stemmed from Rambabu's dissatisfaction with Rajasekhara's stay at his residence, leading to the public "challenge" that ultimately facilitated the activist's arrest.

The authorities had been actively searching for Rajasekhara, visiting his residence in Nakarikallu with no success. On Tuesday, Ambati Rambabu, appearing before the media, boldly announced Rajasekhara's whereabouts and even encouraged the police to apprehend him if they could. The statement led the Nuziveedu police to act swiftly, arresting Rajasekhara, who was reportedly staying at Ambati's Guntur residence.

Notably, neither Ambati Rambabu nor his supporters attempted to intervene or obstruct the arrest, raising questions about the intent behind the public disclosure of Rajasekhara's location. Observers speculated that the incident may have

The episode comes as a twist amid the YSRCP's efforts to support its social media network, leaving many within the party's circles both surprised and speculating about the Rambabu's unconventional approach.

Ex-Minister Vidadala Rajani Accused of Illegal Detention in Guntur

TPN, Guntur: Former Andhra Pradesh Health Minister and YSRCP leader Vidadala Rajani faces serious allegations from Pili Koteswara Rao, the president of the Information Technology wing of the Telugu Desam Party (I-TDP) in Chilakaluripet. Koteswara Rao has filed an official complaint with Guntur Superintendent of Police, Kanchi Srinivasa Rao, accusing Rajani and a former Circle Inspector of Chilakaluripet Urban Police of harassment and illegal detention.



morphed images on social media, resulting in fabricated charges being filed against him. He alleges that he was unlawfully detained and subjected to mistreatment during his time in police custody. Koteswara Rao further asserts that he was victimized due to his association with the TDP.

The complaint has prompted calls for an official investigation, and Koteswara Rao has requested the SP to take prompt action against Rajani and others involved in the alleged misconduct. This case is now drawing attention as the TDP and YSRCP continue to be at odds politically within the state.

According to the complaint, Koteswara Rao claims that he was falsely accused of posting

Key Leader Clears Air on Leaving YCP

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSR Congress Party (YCP) swept the 2019 elections with a massive majority, earning praises from party leaders who declared Jagan as an exceptional leader. However, following YCP's defeat in the 2024 elections, many of these leaders have changed their tune, attributing the loss to Jagan. As a result, numerous senior leaders are now leaving the party, including some who were previously strong supporters of Jagan.



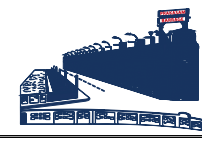
MLC Pandila Ravindra Babu was rumored to be considering an exit from YCP. However, Ravindra Babu has strongly refuted these claims, dismissing them as baseless rumors. He urged the public and YCP supporters not to believe such false news, affirming, "My journey is with Jagan."

Prominent leaders like Kilaru Roshaiha, Maddali Giri, Sidda Raghavrao, former minister Alla Nani, Balineni Srinivasa Reddy, and Samineni Udayabhanu have recently announced their resignations from YCP. Additionally, three MLCs and three Rajya Sabha members, including close allies of Jagan, have also departed. Among them are leaders who were known to have a close rapport with Jagan, such as Alla Nani and Balineni, both of whom previously held ministerial posts under his leadership.

Speaking on the matter, Ravindra Babu praised Jagan's efforts, stating that under Jagan's leadership, Andhra Pradesh witnessed unprecedented development, particularly in empowering Dalits and treating all castes equally. Ravindra Babu made it clear that he has no plans to leave the party, highlighting his commitment to its values.

In the latest development, Rajya Sabha members like Beda Mastar Rao, Mopidevi Venkata Ramana, and R Krishnaiah have resigned from both the party and their posts. Additionally,

Previously a member of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Ravindra Babu served as the Amalapuram MP in 2014. He later joined YCP before the 2019 elections, despite not receiving a ticket, and worked diligently for the success of YCP candidates. In recognition of his loyalty, Jagan appointed him as an MLC. After YCP's defeat in the recent elections, rumors surfaced about Ravindra Babu's alleged defection, but he has now clarified that he remains committed to the party.



Public Representatives Meet CM on Appointment of Chief Whips in Assembly and Council



TPN, Vijayawada: On the occasion of the recent appointments of Chief Whips for the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, public representatives met with Chief Minister Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu to extend their gratitude.

Among those present was Government Whip and Nandigama Constituency MLA, Mrs. Tangirala Soumya, who warmly presented a bouquet

to CM Chandrababu Naidu. She expressed her appreciation to the Chief Minister for entrusting her with the significant role of Whip in the Assembly.

In her remarks, MLA Tangirala Soumya thanked the Chief Minister for his confidence and the opportunity to serve in this capacity, promising to fulfill her responsibilities with dedication and commitment to the people and the party.

Launch of "Jeevan Pramaan" Digital Life Certificate Campaign for Pensioners

TPN, Vijayawada: In a step toward simplifying pension management for retired government employees, the Government of India has launched the "Jeevan Pramaan" Digital Life Certificate service, now accessible through face authentication technology. The South Central Railway (SCR) has kicked off the Digital Life Certificate Promotional Campaign 3.0, which runs from 1st November to 30th November across the SCR zone.



Today, at the State Bank of India (SBI) Railway Station Branch, Shri Narendra A. Patil, Divisional Railway Manager, Vijayawada Division, unveiled posters detailing the new service, alongside ADRM Infrastructure Shri P.E. Edwin, ADRM Operations Shri Srinivasa Rao Konda, and other branch officers.

This initiative promotes digital solutions to streamline services and enhance accessibility for pensioners. Jeevan Pramaan, a biometric-enabled service, allows pensioners to submit life certificates online, eliminating the need to visit pension offices in person. This digital approach aims to ease the process for pensioners, ensuring timely pension disbursement without the need for physical travel.

During the event, Shri Narendra A. Patil highlighted the campaign's role in making public services more user-friendly and transparent, particularly for senior citizens. He emphasized the benefits of face-authenticated Digital Life Certificates, urging pensioners to utilize this tool to validate their eligibility with ease. Mr. Patil encouraged the Personnel Department to guide pensioners on utilizing this service and suggested running an awareness campaign to inform them about the process.

The campaign launch saw active participation from bank officials, railway staff, and local pensioners. The SBI branch staff conducted live demonstrations, guiding attendees on generating and submitting Digital Life Certificates via mobile devices, offering an accessible and convenient option for pension validation.

United Efforts Needed for a Drug-Free Society, Says MLA Sujana Chaudhary

TPN, Vijayawada: Vijayawada West MLA Yalamanchili Satyanarayana (Sujana Chaudhary) emphasized the importance of collective efforts to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse among students and the public. Speaking at the 38th anniversary celebrations of MJ Naidu Super Specialty Hospital, Sujana Chaudhary stressed the need for society to unite against the drug menace.

The event, held at Jyoti Convention Center in Benz Circle, Vijayawada, featured an awareness program highlighting the adverse effects of drug use. Chaudhary, along with Kaikaluru MLA Kamineni Srinivas, served as chief guests and inaugurated the event with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony.

In his address, Chaudhary expressed concern about youth falling prey to drugs and alcohol, wasting their potential and energy. He criticized the previous YCP government, claiming it allowed drug networks to flourish, thus jeopardizing the future of young people. Chaudhary commended current Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for his firm stance on drug trafficking and ganja distribution, aimed at creating a drug-free society.

Kaikaluru MLA Kamineni Srinivas also highlighted the importance of awareness programs like this one, emphasizing the role of civil society in combating drug abuse. He voiced concerns about the rising trend of drug use among

youth and called for urgent action to educate students on the harmful effects of drug addiction.

The event was attended by MJ Naidu Super Specialty Hospital Chairman Dr. MJ Naidu, Managing Director Madhavi, Dr. Vamsi, Psychiatrist Dr. Radhika Reddy, Siddhartha Women's College Director Vijayalakshmi, Corporator Devineni Aparna, and students from various colleges, all coming together to support the message of a drug-free society.



'Blade Batch' Attack on RTC Controller

TPN, Vijayawada: In a shocking incident, an RTC (Road Transport Corporation) controller was attacked by a group known as the "blade batch" at Vijayawada's Pandit Nehru Bus Station. The controller, identified as Koppula Gandhi, was on night duty when he was targeted by the assailants. Gandhi sustained injuries during the attack.

Upon receiving information about the incident, local police swiftly responded and apprehended the suspects as they attempted to flee the scene. The "blade batch" is notorious for such incidents, raising concerns over the safety of staff and passengers at one of Vijayawada's busiest transport hubs.

This incident underscores ongoing security challenges at Pandit Nehru Bus

Stand. Authorities have previously faced similar issues with unauthorized occupants and attacks on RTC staff. In a separate incident earlier this year, a group of individuals attacked RTC personnel and security staff during a drive to remove unauthorized persons from the premises, leading to injuries and subsequent arrests.

With safety concerns growing, RTC employees and passengers alike are urging for enhanced security measures to protect those at the station, particularly during night shifts. The authorities are expected to review security protocols and possibly implement additional measures to ensure the well-being of employees and commuters at Pandit Nehru Bus Stand.

Inspections Conducted at Gudur, Nellore, and Kavali Railway Stations by Vijayawada Division Officials

TPN, Vijayawada: In an initiative to elevate passenger experience and ensure top-notch facilities, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (Sr. DCM) Shri Vavilapalli Rambabu of the Vijayawada Division, alongside a team from the Commercial Department, carried out comprehensive inspections at Gudur, Nellore, and Kavali Railway Stations on November 13, 2024.

The inspection tour began at Gudur Station, where Shri V. Rambabu assessed platform cleanliness, restroom upkeep, waiting hall conditions, and essential passenger amenities, including lighting, signage, and water supply. Food stalls were thoroughly inspected for quality, quantity, and expiration dates on food items. In addition, ongoing redevelopment efforts under the Amrit Bharat Station initiative were reviewed, and feedback from passengers, staff, and vendors was gathered to identify areas for improvement.

The inspection continued at Nellore and Kavali Railway Stations, with a focus on passenger amenities, booking and parcel office operations, and traffic facilities. Shri V. Rambabu emphasized



the importance of seamless ticketing, enquiry services, and help desks, urging the staff to work towards exceptional service and complete customer satisfaction.



This inspection drive aligns with the Vijayawada Division's commitment to raising the standard of services and facilities for passengers throughout the South Central Railway network. Section Inspectors and staff from various departments actively participated in the day's inspections.

BR Naidu's Vision as New TTD Chairman

Ensuring Better Darshan Experience for Devotees

- BR Naidu recently appointed as TTD Chairman
- Expresses gratitude to Chandrababu Naidu, Nara Lokesh, and Pawan Kalyan
- Aims to improve darshan experience at Tirumala Temple



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: BR Naidu, the head of TV5, recently took charge as the Chairman of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). Expressing his gratitude, he thanked Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Nara Lokesh, Pawan Kalyan, and NDA leaders for entrusting him with this significant role. In a recent interview, he described his deep sense of devotion for Srivenkateswara Swamy and shared his long-held desire to serve as TTD Chairman.

In his new role, BR Naidu shared his concerns regarding the current darshan arrangements, particularly during peak hours, when devotees may have to wait for extended hours, only to receive a brief darshan. Naidu expressed his goal to ensure that devotees get to experience darshan for at least 20 seconds, helping them feel more fulfilled in their pilgrimage to Tirumala.

Naidu revealed that he had expressed his aspiration to Chandrababu Naidu a year and a half ago, requesting the chance to serve TTD in his lifetime. "I reminded him of the promise, and he honored it," Naidu shared.

Naidu also mentioned that VIP darshan timings would be kept to about an hour to an hour and a half, leaving the majority of the time for general devotees. This approach, he believes, will enhance the darshan experience for the thousands who visit Tirumala, fulfilling the spiritual purpose of their journey.

Enhancing Devotee Experience at Tirumala

Pantham Sandeep and Former MLA Pilli Anantalakshmi Satyanarayana Couple Grace Lord Venkateswara Mahotsav

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In a heartwarming display of community spirit, Pantham Sandeep, son of Pantham Nanaji, and former MLA Pilli Anantalakshmi Satyanarayana, were distinguished guests at the week-long celebration of Lord Venkateswara Swami Mahotsav. Their presence and engagement with the locals added prestige to the event, which saw a significant turnout of devotees and cultural enthusiasts.



Pantham Sandeep's Role and Warm Reception

With Pantham Nanaji occupied with assembly duties, Pantham Sandeep represented his father, bringing charm and energy to the ceremony. Sandeep's enthusiasm for the arts was evident as he actively interacted with attendees, acknowledging the dedication of each performer on stage and commending their talents. Locals expressed appreciation for his genuine interest in cultural activities, a trait they noted he has nurtured since his youth. Activists and community members welcomed Sandeep warmly, his humility and approachable nature further endearing him to the people of Penuguduru.



formers with certificates, mementos, and respectful salutes. Their involvement brought added reverence to the Mahotsav, underscoring their bond with the community.

The success of the event was attributed to the efforts of Tummalapalli Venkataratnam Charitable Trust and General Secretary Tummalapalli Macha Rao, who, along with village elders and activists, extended heartfelt gratitude to all participants and attendees. This Mahotsav not only

celebrated devotion but also marked a milestone of support and respect for Pantham Sandeep and the Pilli Anantalakshmi Satyanarayana couple.

Former MLA Pilli Anantalakshmi Satyanarayana and her spouse attended the event as special guests, adding to its significance. They presided over a felicitation ceremony, honoring the per-

The week-long celebration has left a lasting impression on the community, immortalizing the dedication of its key guests in the hearts of the people.

YS Jagan: Chandrababu is ignoring the "Super Six" promises

- Jagan criticized the AP budget, calling it a "drama" hiding delays for fraud.
- He stated debt rose 15% under his rule, compared to 19% under Chandrababu.
- Claims that Reliance and Adani projects came during his term.
- When asked about Sharmila's comments on his absence, Jagan replied, "Not now."



they falsely claimed that AP was more indebted than Sri Lanka, spreading this narrative in conversations with Chandrababu's close associates. "Before the election, they said the state's debt was Rs. 14 lakh crore, and when Chandrababu came to power, he repeated the same lies to the Governor."

"When we came to power in 2019, the state debt was Rs. 3.13 lakh crore. By the time we stepped down in 2024, the debt was Rs. 6.46 lakh crore. If the debt grew by 19 percent during Chandrababu's previous tenure, it increased by only 15 percent under ours. So tell me, who deserves the title of 'Appu Ratna' (Master of Debt)? Who truly practiced financial discipline?" Jagan asked.

Jagan continued, suggesting that Chandrababu is ignoring the "Super Six" promises he made. "He pledged to lower electricity charges if he came to power, but now, in just six months, he has burdened the state with Rs. 17,000 crore in electricity bills."

In response to the coalition's claims about attracting major projects, Jagan pointed out that Reliance, Ambani, and Adani were drawn to Andhra Pradesh during his government's term. "Yet, the alliance leaders are trying to take credit for all these projects," he remarked, dismissing their claims.

But, When questioned about his sister Sharmila's comments on his absence from the assembly, YS Jagan brushed it off, telling the journalist, "Not now."

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh Assembly sessions commenced on the 11th of this month, with the coalition government presenting the state budget on the same day. State Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav introduced a budget totaling Rs. 2.94 lakh crore, with capital expenditure of Rs. 32,712 crore and a fiscal deficit of Rs. 68,743 crore. Recently, YCP leader Jagan Mohan Reddy voiced strong criticism regarding this budget.

Jagan remarked, "If you examine these budget documents, you'll understand that Chandrababu is nothing more than a drama artist. It has been months since he came to power, and now that the budget has been introduced, it shows how the delays were merely a cover-up for fraud."

Reflecting on past events, Jagan said that during the previous government's tenure,

Cases On Sri Reddy: To Be Arrested Soon?

TPN, Anakapalli: During the last YCP government in Andhra Pradesh, action was taken by the current alliance government regarding social media posts targeting opposition leaders like Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan Kalyan, and Vangalapudi Anita. Many YCP social media workers have already been arrested and remanded, with police seeking to take additional suspects into custody. In light of this, YCP leader Sri Reddy, who had previously spoken out against alliance leaders, released an apology video.



In the video, Sri Reddy expressed her apologies to Nara Lokesh, Pawan Kalyan, Vangalapudi Anita, and their family members, stating that she wished to avoid causing further distress to them and assured she would not approach them again. However, it appears that the government may still pursue action against her, as with other YCP activists, despite her previous apologies.

As part of this, Telugu women leaders filed a complaint at the Anakapalli town police station, urging action against Sri Reddy for her derogatory remarks about CM Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Ministers Lokesh, and Anita on social media. State Telugu Women's Vice Presidents Konatala Ratnakumari, Chenna Satyavathy, Yarramshetty Ishwari, and K. Vasantha lodged the complaint, demanding strict action against Sri Reddy. The complaint has sparked discussion about whether the government will indeed proceed with action based on this filing.

Prakasham Police In Hyd For RGV

TPN, Hyderabad: A team of Ongole police, led by SI Sivaramaiah, traveled to Hyderabad on Tuesday night to personally serve notices to director Ram Gopal Varma (RGV). Ongole Rural CI N. Srikanth confirmed that the police aim to notify RGV of his required presence for questioning in connection with recent social media activity.



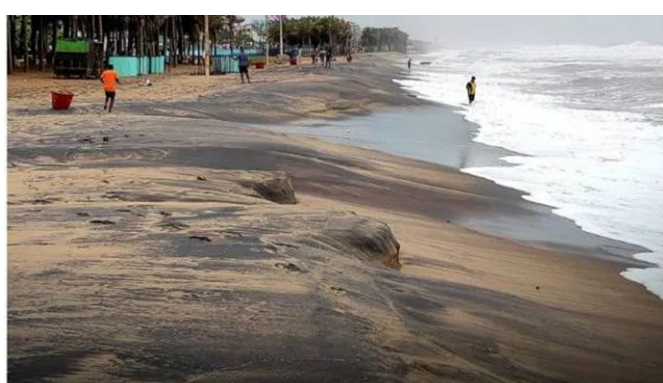
platform X (formerly Twitter) targeted TDP leader Chandrababu Naidu, his family, and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan. Following the complaint, a case was filed at Maddipadu Police Station in Prakasam district.

The notices are part of ongoing investigations, requiring RGV's attendance. This move underscores the seriousness of the case as the Ongole police head to Hyderabad to personally hand over the notices to the director.

The complaint, lodged during promotions for RGV's film 'Vyuham' ahead of the AP Assembly elections, alleges that posts shared on the social media

You Will Soon Have to Pay a Fee to Visit Beaches in AP

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In Andhra Pradesh, with nearly a thousand kilometers of coastline, both locals and tourists from other states and countries have enjoyed free access to beaches until now. However, this may soon change, as the government is preparing to introduce entry charges for beach access. Consequently, those wishing to visit the beaches might need to budget for these new fees.



Da District, and Rushikonda Beach in Vizag. Tourists who have enjoyed free access to these beaches for years will now need to pay a user fee to enter.

In its plan to develop and enhance the state's beaches, the government will initiate beautification efforts in a phased manner. These five beaches will be prioritized, with improvement works including beautification and facility upgrades expected to be completed by December 31. The entry fee will be introduced starting January 1. Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh recently stated that the fees collected will be reinvested into the respective beach. The charges are expected to range between Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per visitor.

The government has decided to collect user charges from visitors at five selected beaches in AP starting from January 1. These include Suryalanka Beach in Bapatla, Ramayapatnam Beach in Prakasam District, Maipadu Beach in Nellore District, Kakinada Beach in Kakina-



The Parallels Between Ancient Rome and Modern America: Decline of Empire?



The recent election of Donald Trump as President of the United States sparked a flurry of international congratulations, underscoring the still-dominant role of America in global affairs. Even as America's influence appears to be in gradual decline, it remains the preeminent superpower, echoing the imperial stature once held by ancient Rome.

The parallels between Washington DC and ancient Rome are striking. Much like the grandeur of Rome, Washington has become a symbol of authority and power, drawing world leaders to pay homage and secure favor. In ancient Rome, emissaries traveled from far-flung corners of the empire—Britannia, Egypt, and beyond—to bask in the emperor's glory. Today, diplomats and heads of state converge in Washington, seeking to align themselves with America's power.

The city's architecture further amplifies this imperial imagery. Several federal buildings in DC, including the US Capitol and the Supreme Court, were designed with heavy influences from Roman architecture. This was no accident. Thomas Jefferson, inspired by the ideals of the Roman Republic, deliberately infused DC's design with neoclassical elements to represent democracy, liberty, and grandeur—principles that formed the foundation of the United States. These buildings not only reflect the aesthetic legacy of Rome but also the republican ideals of civic virtue, law, and justice.

Roman emperors were known for their ability

to wield power across vast territories, and their influence is mirrored in the presidencies of the United States. For instance, Augustus, Rome's first emperor, who established order and stability across the empire, has a counterpart in George Washington, whose leadership helped solidify the United States' foundation as a powerful and stable nation. Similarly, emperors like Trajan, who expanded Rome's territory and initiated monumental infrastructure projects, have echoes in American leaders like Theodore Roosevelt, who oversaw the expansion of American influence and initiated major national reforms. Perhaps the most striking comparison is between Constantine the Great and Abraham Lincoln, both of whom unified their deeply divided realms, transforming their nations' moral and cultural landscapes.

Donald Trump, the 45th President, shares intriguing similarities with two notorious Roman emperors: Nero and Caligula. Like Nero, Trump's reign was marked by controversies, self-promotion, and a fiercely loyal base. Nero's scandals and flamboyant style bear a resemblance to Trump's own approach to leadership, characterized by constant media attention and polarizing rhetoric. On the other hand, Trump shares some traits with the lesser-known Caligula, whose audacious decisions and disregard for Roman traditions were similarly disruptive. Both Trump and Caligula defied conventions, challenging the established political elite and often bypassing traditional norms for a more personal and controversial form of leadership.

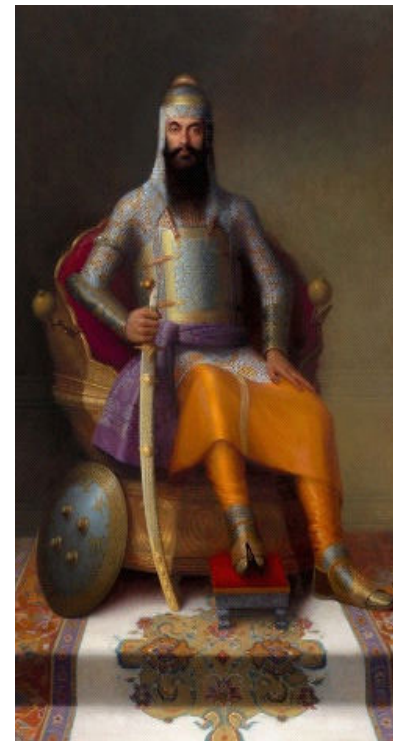
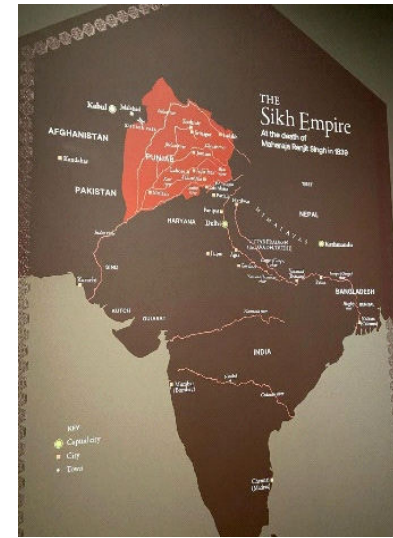
Maharaja Ranjit Singh: The Lion of Punjab Who United the Sikh Empire

In 1799, Maharaja Ranjit Singh achieved a remarkable feat, unifying the scattered territories of Punjab to form a powerful Sikh empire with Lahore as its capital. Known as the "Lion of Punjab" (Sher-e-Punjab), Ranjit Singh emerged as a strong ruler who transformed the political landscape of North India, thwarting Afghan invasions and bringing stability to a region previously divided into autonomous territories, or Misls.

Under Ranjit Singh's leadership, the Sikh Empire spread over vast regions, incorporating former Mughal provinces such as Lahore and Multan, parts of Kabul, and even the entire Peshawar region. The empire's borders extended to Ladakh in the northeast, the Khyber Pass in the northwest, and Panjnad in the south, where Punjab's five rivers converge into the Indus. During his reign, Punjab became a land not just of five, but six rivers, with the Indus now flowing through his territory.

One of Ranjit Singh's most accomplished generals, Zorawar Singh from Jammu, played a crucial role in expanding the empire's borders by conquering Ladakh in Ranjit Singh's name. This conquest highlighted the strategic foresight and ambition of the maharaja, who sought not only to consolidate but also to extend his rule.

Ranjit Singh ruled as a faithful Sikh, yet his approach to governance was highly inclusive. He was deeply respectful of the Hindu and Muslim communities within his empire, going to great lengths to protect their rights and religious practices. He actively restored and supported Sikh, Hindu, and Muslim places of worship. Most notably, he undertook the grand reconstruction of the Harmandir Sahib, also known as the



Golden Temple, at Amritsar. In 1809, he ordered its marble reconstruction and later, in 1830, donated gold to gild the structure, giving it the iconic look it retains to this day.

His generosity extended beyond Sikhism. Ranjit Singh also donated a tonne of gold to the Hindu Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi, an act that demonstrated his respect for Hinduism. Additionally, he supported Muslim mosques and Sufi shrines across his territories. Out of respect for Hindu sensibilities, he even banned cow slaughter, a significant decree given Punjab's diverse population. His administration was known for reli-

gious tolerance, with forced conversions being virtually unknown and his Hindu and Muslim wives practicing their faiths freely.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh was not only a unifying force but a progressive one. Observing the rising power of the British East India Company, he recognized the need for a well-trained, modernized army to safeguard his empire's sovereignty. In a pioneering move, he hired European military experts, specifically French and Italian officers who had served under Napoleon Bonaparte. Among these were Generals Jean-Baptiste Ventura and Jean-Francois Allard, each earning a significant annual salary of around Rs. 30,000. They were later joined by other European officers, including Auguste Court and Paolo Avitabile, forming a specialized brigade known as the Fauj-i-Khas, or "special army."

These foreign officers adapted to life in India, taking Indian wives and immersing themselves in local customs and culture. They even employed Indian artists, becoming prominent figures in Lahore's court and symbolizing a rare fusion of Eastern and Western military and cultural practices.

The legacy of Maharaja Ranjit Singh endures not only in India but also in the West. In 2016, the French town of St. Tropez honored him by unveiling a bronze statue of the maharaja. The statue stands as a tribute to his unique rule, marked by strategic prowess, respect for cultural diversity, and an innovative approach to military modernization. Ranjit Singh's impact on Punjab and the larger Indian subcontinent remains celebrated, embodying a harmonious blend of power, tolerance, and vision that continues to inspire admiration worldwide.

India's Strategic Interests in West Asia

Balancing Energy, Security, and Diplomacy

India's strategic interests in West Asia are a complex balancing act shaped by the region's energy resources, geopolitical tensions, and the presence of approximately 9 million Indians. As escalating conflicts and changing alliances unfold, India finds itself deeply engaged, balancing relationships with various nations while safeguarding its diaspora and economic interests.

West Asia as an "Extended Neighborhood"

India has long considered West Asia as its "extended neighborhood," crucial for economic and security interests. India's relationship with the region has traditionally centered around energy imports, trade, and the welfare of Indian workers. Recently, this interaction has expanded to include military, security, renewable energy, and food security cooperation, reflecting India's need to engage with West Asia in areas beyond the traditional spheres.

One of India's primary concerns in West Asia is energy security. The region accounts for 80% of India's oil imports, with nations like the UAE and Saudi Arabia emerging as India's top suppliers and strategic allies. A disruption in this energy supply, due to conflict, could destabilize India's economy, as rising en-



ergy costs have the potential to impact inflation and growth. India's need to ensure stable oil prices and secure supply chains is critical, especially amid the risk of conflict spreading.

Additionally, West Asia is now India's top trade partner, with a bilateral trade volume exceeding \$150 billion. Major trade partners, including the UAE and Saudi Arabia, have also invested in India's infrastructure and industry. India's recent push for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC) further underscores the region's significance as a trade route, offering both strategic and commercial benefits.

Balancing Ties Between Israel and Iran

India's role in West Asia also involves balancing its relationships with Israel and Iran, two rival powers. With Israel, India shares common security concerns, particularly over terrorism. Israel has emerged as one of India's key defense partners, and India recalls Israel's support during the 1999 Kargil War, which deepened their strategic relationship. Today, Israel remains a significant supplier of defense technology, particularly in counter-terrorism and intelligence-sharing.

Conversely, Iran is a vital energy partner, and the two nations also share

concerns about terrorism from Pakistan and Afghanistan. Iran's Chabahar port, developed in partnership with India, provides New Delhi with direct access to Afghanistan and Central Asia, bypassing Pakistan—a crucial strategic advantage. Despite U.S. sanctions on Iran, India has continued to engage with Tehran, recognizing Iran's importance for regional connectivity and security.

The Israel-Palestine Conflict and Regional Peace

India's approach to the Israel-Palestine conflict is rooted in a commitment to peace and stability in West Asia. Unlike many West Asian countries, which have differing stances on groups like Hamas and Hezbollah, India supports a two-state solution. This vision aligns with that of the United States and European nations, aiming for a peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine. As violence flares, India remains diplomatic, promoting peace without alienating any side.

Security Threats and the Need for Stability

The security landscape of West Asia directly impacts India's strategic interests. The recent rise of militant activities, including drone strikes and missile at-

tacks between Israel and Iran, threatens India's investments in the region and the safety of its diaspora. The presence of extremist groups and regional rivalries further complicate India's engagement with West Asia, demanding a cautious approach to avoid entanglement in conflicts while securing its interests.

West Asia's volatility poses a significant challenge for India's diplomacy. Escalating conflicts could jeopardize Indian investments, endanger the large Indian diaspora, and disrupt energy supplies. India's nuanced approach—engaging with Israel, Iran, and major Arab nations while remaining neutral—aims to preserve goodwill across the board. This strategy allows India to adapt to the region's shifting dynamics, supporting stability and growth at home.

India's relationship with West Asia demonstrates its ambition to be a stabilizing force in a region vital for its economy and security. As it balances its ties with various nations, India's strategic diplomacy aims to maintain stability, protect its energy supply, and safeguard the welfare of millions of Indians. West Asia will remain a complex yet essential frontier for India, requiring deft handling to secure its position as a regional leader and economic powerhouse.

BJP won't allow anyone to play with your 'Maati, Roti, Beti': PM Modi in Jharkhand

Sarath: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday accused the ruling JMM-Congress-RJD government in Jharkhand of enabling illegal Bangladeshi infiltration, claiming a conspiracy was underway to alter the state's demographic makeup and dilute its tribal identity. Addressing rallies in Sarath and Godda ahead of the second phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections, Modi warned that the tribal population, especially in the Santhal Parganas region, was being reduced due to "infiltrators" being given legitimacy.



Modi stressed the importance of preserving the tribal identity of Jharkhand, saying, "You love your identity as a Jharkhandi, but what will happen if that identity is lost? The statistics show that the tribal population in Santhal Parganas has halved. Your 'Jal, Jungle, Jameen' (water, forest, land) is being taken away. We need to save both the tribals and Jharkhand itself."

The Prime Minister further claimed that the state government was involved in "wrong decisions" that were allowing infiltrators to settle in Jharkhand, saying that documents

were being fabricated overnight to facilitate this. He alleged that tribal girls were being exploited under the guise of marriage, and that the government was allowing outsiders to take over land and livelihood. "I assure you, the BJP-NDA government will not allow anyone to play with your Maati (land), Roti (livelihood), and Beti (daughter)," Modi asserted.

This statement aligns with the BJP's ongoing campaign, which has made the issue of Bangladeshi infiltration and its impact on the tribal community a central focus in the elections. The party has accused the ruling government of neglecting the concerns of the local population while facilitating demographic changes.



Vote to protect rights, strengthen Constitution: Rahul to Jharkhand voters

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Wednesday appealed to the voters of Jharkhand to cast their ballots in favor of the I.N.D.I.A. bloc, emphasizing that their vote would not only strengthen the Constitution and democracy but also bring prosperity through a series of guarantees aimed at improving the lives of the people.

Addressing a public gathering in Ranchi, Gandhi called for a united effort to protect the values enshrined in India's Constitution, saying, "Every vote for the I.N.D.I.A. alliance will help in the protection of democracy, ensuring a government that works for the people and upholds the rule of law." He added that a vote for the opposition coalition would usher in a new era of prosperity for the people of Jharkhand and India as a whole.

Gandhi highlighted the seven key guarantees that the I.N.D.I.A. bloc promises to deliver, which include securing jobs for the youth, better healthcare for all, affordable education, protection for farmers, strengthening social welfare

schemes, providing financial support to small businesses, and ensuring women's safety and empowerment.

He also criticized the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for what he termed as a "divisive agenda" that has only served to undermine the country's democratic institutions. "The BJP has been using power to divide the people of India, but the I.N.D.I.A. alliance believes in unity and working together for the welfare of all," Gandhi remarked.

In his speech, Gandhi reaffirmed the I.N.D.I.A. bloc's commitment to fight for the rights of marginalized communities, including tribals, Dalits, and the backward classes, and promised that Jharkhand's natural resources would be used for the benefit of the people, not for corporate interests.

The I.N.D.I.A. alliance, comprising several opposition parties, is seeking to form an alternative to the BJP-led government at the national level, and is looking to make inroads in Jharkhand ahead of the upcoming state elections.



BJP, RSS had no role in freedom movement: Mallikarjun Kharge

Latur: Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, during his election campaign in Latur on Wednesday, sharply criticized the BJP-led Mahayuti (grand alliance), calling it a "government of thieves" and urged voters to defeat the alliance in the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections on November 20.

Kharge's fiery remarks came as he addressed a rally, accusing the BJP and its ideological allies of misgovernance and corruption. He claimed that the BJP's leadership has failed the people of Maharashtra, and the current government is only focused on benefiting the "rich and powerful" at the cost of ordinary citizens.

"The BJP-led Mahayuti is a government of thieves. They have looted the state's resources and turned a blind eye to the struggles of the common people," Kharge charged. He further alleged that the alliance's leaders were only interested in retaining power and wealth, rather than addressing the real issues faced by Maharashtra's farmers, workers, and youth.

Kharge's attack was aimed not only at the BJP but also at its allies in the state, including the Shiv Sena faction led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Rahul aircraft' will crash again In Maharashtra Assembly Elections: Amit Shah



Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during a public meeting in Parbhani, Maharashtra, on Wednesday, took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, referring to a plane named 'Rahul Baba', which he claimed had "already crashed." Shah's comments were aimed at mocking Gandhi's political trajectory, especially in light of the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections.

Without directly naming Gandhi, Shah alluded to the Congress leader's political struggles, suggesting that his leadership and influence were dwindling, much like a plane that has already crashed. The comment was part of Shah's broader criticism of the Congress and the opposition parties in Maharashtra, whom he accused of failing to address the state's issues effectively.

Shah's remarks are seen as part of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s aggressive campaigning strategy as they gear up for the elections. The BJP is attempting to strengthen its position in Maharashtra, a state that has seen significant political shifts in recent years, including the collapse of the Shiv Se-

na-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in 2022.

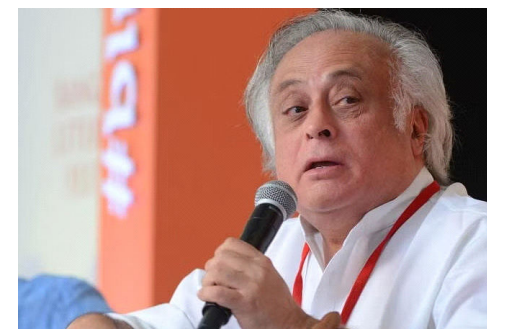
Addressing the crowd, Shah also highlighted the various welfare schemes and development projects initiated by the BJP-led government at the center, emphasizing the party's commitment to the growth and security of Maharashtra. He urged the people of Maharashtra to continue supporting the BJP, stressing the importance of strong leadership in times of national and regional challenges.

The comments were met with applause from the gathered supporters, as Shah sought to galvanize the party's base in the run-up to the crucial elections. The Maharashtra Assembly elections are expected to be a significant test for the BJP as they battle both the Congress and regional parties for political dominance in the state.

Shah's jibe at Rahul Gandhi is just one example of the increasingly combative rhetoric that is characterizing the election campaigns as political leaders from various parties seek to gain an upper hand ahead of the voting.

Does PM think caste census is divisive: Congress leader Jairam Ramesh

The Congress party on Wednesday launched a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, raising a series of questions regarding his stance on the caste census in Bihar and the 50 per cent cap on reservations. The opposition party's questions come amid growing demands for a caste-based census and a reassessment of the reservation limit in the country, particularly in Bihar where the issue has gained significant political traction.



Addressing a press conference, Congress spokesperson said that Prime Minister Modi needs to clarify whether he believes that conducting a caste census is a "divisive" move, as has been claimed by some sections of his government. The caste census has been a hot topic in Bihar, with the state government already undertaking the process to collect data on the caste composition of its population. The Congress argued that a caste-based count is essential for ensuring equitable representation and targeted welfare measures for underprivileged communities.

The Congress also questioned Modi on his position regarding the 50 per cent cap on reservations for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST),

and Other Backward Classes (OBCs), which has been in place for decades. The party asked whether the Prime Minister would take decisive action to remove this "arbitrary" ceiling, which they claim limits the opportunities for deserving communities. The ceiling has been a point of contention, with critics arguing that it prevents marginalized groups from accessing the benefits they are entitled to, especially as India's population continues to grow.

Congress leaders emphasized that while the ruling BJP has repeatedly promised to address the concerns of backward communities, it has failed to take concrete steps. They urged the Prime Minister to respond to these pressing issues, especially in light of the upcoming elections in Bihar, where caste and reservation policies remain key political issues.

Will PM Modi quit if proven wrong: CM Siddaramaiah on excise funds allegations

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday posed a direct challenge to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, questioning if he would resign from his position if the allegations of a Rs 700 crore corruption scandal in the state's excise department were proven false.

In a bold statement, Siddaramaiah, while addressing the media, said, "If the allegations are not proven true, I will retire from politics. But what about you, Prime Minister Modi? Will you resign if these corruption claims in the excise department turn out to be false?"

The Chief Minister's remarks come in response to

accusations of corruption linked to the state's excise department during the tenure of the previous BJP government in Karnataka. Siddaramaiah, who is currently leading the Congress party in the state, dismissed the allegations as baseless and politically motivated, aimed at tarnishing the Congress-led government's image.

Siddaramaiah further alleged that the BJP and its allies were trying to deflect attention from their own misdeeds by making false claims about corruption in the Congress government. He emphasized that no solid evidence had been presented to back the allegations, and called on the BJP to refrain from spreading "false narratives" for political gain.

The controversy stems from a report claiming that Rs 700 crore had been embezzled by officials in the excise department. The BJP, which is in the opposition, has seized on the allegations, accusing the state government of corruption and calling for an inquiry into the matter.

Siddaramaiah also stated that his government was committed to transparency and accountability, promising to cooperate with any investigations into the matter. However, he stressed that the accusations were part of a broader political strategy by the BJP to malign the state government ahead of upcoming elections.





US-India Ties Are 'Most Important' of the 21st Century, Says Congressman Mike Waltz

Congressman Mike Waltz, recently named National Security Adviser by President-elect Donald Trump, has underscored the critical importance of US-India relations, calling them the "most important" of the 21st century. As co-chair of the Congressional India Caucus, Waltz emphasized that the future of global democracy and security hinges on the growing partnership between the two nations.



In a video message to the INDUSUSX Summit at Stanford University in September, Waltz highlighted the pivotal role US-India ties will play in shaping the course of this century. "This relationship will determine whether this is a century of light or a century of darkness," he said, stressing that the collaboration between the oldest and the largest democracies in the world holds far-reaching significance.

Waltz also expressed his strong support for continued cooperation between the US and India,

particularly in maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific region. He noted the importance of protecting Indian sovereignty, especially along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir. He assured the audience that his office and team would remain open to fostering stronger bilateral relations. "Let's keep the momentum going," he urged, citing areas of growing cooperation such as defense production, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence.

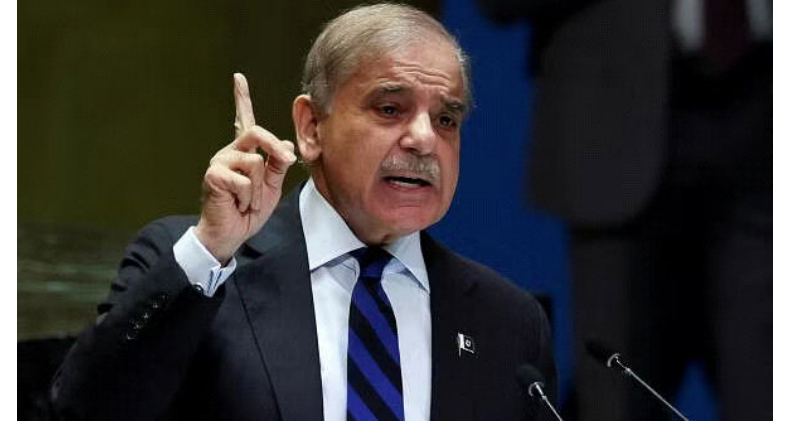
Among the key initiatives mentioned by Waltz were the joint production of Apache helicopter fuselages by Boeing and Tata, advancements in ship repair, and collaborative efforts in data management. These areas of partnership, he noted, are vital for both countries as they navigate the challenges of the 21st century.

Waltz's remarks were a reaffirmation of the significant strides the US and India have made in

strengthening their relationship, with key projects and initiatives like iCET and INDUS-X providing a solid foundation for further growth.

In August, Waltz visited India with fellow Congressman Ro Khanna, where they participated in Independence Day celebrations. He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address at the Red Fort, calling it "incredible," and described the celebration as "an amazing event."

Pakistan PM calls for \$6.8 trillion in climate funding for developing nations



Pakistan's Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, made a strong appeal for climate funding during a climate finance roundtable hosted by Pakistan at the 29th UN Climate Change Conference. Speaking on Tuesday, Sharif called for a substantial \$6.8 trillion in climate funding to support developing nations by 2030, emphasizing the urgent need for financial assistance to help vulnerable countries combat the impacts of climate change.

Sharif highlighted the disproportionate impact that climate change has on developing nations, which, despite contributing the least to global emissions, face the brunt of the consequences, including extreme weather events, flooding, and droughts. He called for urgent action to address the growing financial gap in climate adaptation and mitigation, urging wealthier nations to fulfill their promises made in previous climate agreements.

The \$6.8 trillion funding goal is seen as a crucial step in helping developing countries implement the necessary infrastructure and policies to cope with the escalating climate crisis. The funds would be used to support initiatives in renewable energy, disaster resilience, and climate adaptation, as well as to help countries transition towards more sustainable development pathways.

Sharif also noted that Pakistan, like many other developing nations, is already grappling with the severe consequences of climate change, including devastating floods that have displaced millions of people. He emphasized that the international community must recognize the urgent need for financial resources to help countries like Pakistan address climate change and protect their populations from further harm.

In addition to funding, Sharif stressed the importance of technical support, knowledge sharing, and capacity building to ensure that developing nations are equipped to address the climate crisis effectively. He called for stronger cooperation between developed and developing countries to ensure that climate goals are met and the impacts of climate change are mitigated.



North Korean soldiers joining Russia in combat, says US State Department

Washington: The U.S. State Department raised alarms on Tuesday after reports indicated that North Korean troops have started participating in combat operations alongside Russian forces in Ukraine. This development marks a significant escalation in military cooperation between Russia and North Korea, prompting concerns over the growing ties between the two countries amid the ongoing war in Ukraine.

According to U.S. officials, North Korean soldiers are now engaged in combat roles, adding another layer to the complex geopolitical dynamics of the war. The U.S. expressed particular concern over Russia turning to North Korea for military support, especially as the war in Ukraine enters its second year with no signs of a resolution.

The revelation underscores Russia's increasing reliance on countries like North Korea and Iran to bolster its forces in Ukraine, as Western sanctions and international isolation continue to weaken Russia's military capabilities. This development is seen as part of Moscow's broader strategy to secure manpower and military supplies to maintain its aggressive stance in Ukraine.

The U.S. State Department condemned the collaboration, calling it a violation of international sanctions and a troubling sign of deepening military ties between Russia and North Korea. The U.S. has long accused North Korea of illicit arms trading and supporting Russian military operations, and this new partnership is likely to exacerbate tensions between the U.S. and both Moscow and Pyongyang.



Trump Sets 'Existential' Battle Against China With Cabinet Picks

Donald Trump is preparing for a more confrontational approach toward China with the appointment of two hawkish Florida politicians—Senator Marco Rubio and Congressman Mike Waltz—who are expected to play key roles in his administration's foreign policy. As Trump positions himself for a potential existential battle against China, his appointments signal a shift away from the more diplomatic tone of the Biden administration.

Rubio, rumored to be tapped as secretary of state, and Waltz, who could be appointed national security advisor, are staunch advocates for a more aggressive US stance on China. Rubio, in particular, has repeatedly warned that the United States is already in a "broad global conflict" with China, which, he claims, seeks not only to become the world's most powerful nation but also to "reorient the world." His views contrast sharply with President Joe Biden's more dialogue-focused approach, which has emphasized cooperation with China on issues like climate change while ramping up competition in areas like trade.

Biden's administration has acknowledged China as the US's top long-term adversary and imposed sanctions on Beijing, but tensions have cooled recently, with Secretary of State Antony Blinken prioritizing diplomatic engagement to avoid accidental conflict. By contrast, Rubio and Waltz view China's rise as an existential threat to the US, aligning with a more hawkish faction within the Republican Party that sees China's ambitions as a direct challenge to American global leadership.

Iran's government fears its people more than Israel: Netanyahu

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sent a direct message to the people of Iran on Tuesday, accusing the regime of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei of fearing its own citizens more than Israel. Netanyahu's comments were made amid rising tensions between the two nations, as Iran faces both internal unrest and external pressure over its nuclear program and regional influence.

In his message, Netanyahu emphasized the Iranian government's perceived insecurity, claiming that it spends significant time and resources on suppressing its people rather than addressing external threats, including Israel. "That's why they spend so much time and money," Netanyahu said, referring to the regime's efforts to control domestic dissent, including the use of violent crackdowns on protests and opposition movements.



The message came in the wake of a series of protests across Iran, sparked by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in September 2022 while in police custody, which led to widespread demands for greater political freedoms and women's rights. The regime's harsh response to these protests, including mass arrests and violence, has drawn international condemnation.

Netanyahu, who has been a vocal critic of Iran's nuclear ambitions, reiterated Israel's stance on Iran's nuclear program, which Israel believes is a threat to its existence. He also warned the Iranian leadership that their focus on internal repression could ultimately undermine the regime's hold on power, as the Iranian people continued to demand greater freedoms and reforms.

Germany to Hold Early Elections After Coalition Collapse

Germany will hold early elections on February 23 following the breakdown of the coalition government led by Chancellor Olaf Scholz. The decision was confirmed after an agreement between Scholz's Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the opposition Christian Democratic Union (CDU/CSU), according to DW Politics.



The crisis began last week when Scholz dismissed Finance Minister Christian Lindner, the leader of the pro-business Free Democratic Party (FDP). This dramatic move led to the FDP's immediate exit from the coalition, leaving Scholz's SPD and

the Greens without a majority in the Bundestag. The departure of the FDP left a power vacuum that ultimately led to the collapse of the governing alliance.

The collapse of the coalition sets the stage for a high-stakes election, with both the SPD and CDU/CSU gearing up for a major

political battle. Scholz, who has been in office since 2021, now faces the challenge of securing a new mandate or stepping aside in favor of a new government.

The breakdown of the government is expected to have significant implications for Germany's political landscape, with the CDU/CSU, traditionally a strong conservative force, seeking to capitalize on the division within the current ruling coalition. The FDP's exit also opens the door for potential shifts in Germany's economic and social policies, depending on the outcome of the elections.



Market Rout Continues: Indices Plunge as Investor Confidence Wanes

Domestic stock markets are falling. Experiencing a huge fall in a row. Benchmark indices crashed on Wednesday too. The reasons for this are the departure of foreign institutional investors, strengthening of the dollar, rising inflation and disappointing results of companies. Investors are not making purchases due to lack of confidence. Nifty is down 10% from lifetime high. Touched 200 sma. BSE Sensex has lost 6000 points within 2 months.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 78,675 in the previous session, opened at 78,495 today. It touched an intraday high of 79,690. It then fell gradually and touched an intraday low of 77,533. It eventually closed at 77,690, a loss of 984 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 23,822 and touched a high of 23,873 and a low of 23,509. The total fell by 324 points to close at 23,822. Bank Nifty fell by 1069 points to settle at 50,088.

In Nifty50, 6 companies gained while 44 lost. Britannia, Grasim, Tata Motors, Asian Paints, NTPC were the top gainers. Heromoto, M&M, Hindalco, Tata Steel, Eicher Motors were the biggest losers. All the sectoral indices turned red. Bank, Auto, Media, Metal, PSU Bank, Private Bank, Realty lost more than 2%.

In NSE today, 2,394 stocks lost 2,861 stocks. 419 gained. 16 stocks hit 52-week highs. 168 shares touched a 52-week low.

The rupee settled at 84.38 against the dollar. NBCC's Q2 net profit rose 52.8% to Rs 125 crore. Shares of Patel Engineering jumped 6%. Oil marketing companies' profitability is likely to increase as crude oil prices fall. 2.64 million shares changed hands in ITC. Samvarthan Motherson has been rated Overweight by Morgan Stanley. 1.35 million shares of Trent exchanged



MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM
Stock Market Analyst
+91 988 555 9709

hands. Century Plyboard's net profit fell by 17%. Nomura has given Hyundai Motors a Buy rating with a target price of Rs.2472. Alchem Q2 net profit rose 11% to Rs 689 crore. Swiggy shares at 8% premium to Rs. Listed on NSE at 420. Although it lost initially, it recovered by 15%.

SELECTING SECTORS WITH LONG - TERM RESILIENCE AND GROWTH

1. Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals

Aging populations and increasing healthcare demands drive growth. Companies in pharmaceuticals, biotech, and healthcare services are particularly promising

2. Information Technology (IT) and Software Services

Tech companies with diversified portfolios and those enabling digital transformation (cloud, AI, and data analytics) are likely to see sustained growth. Despite short-term volatility, many tech stocks have resilient business models.

3. Consumer Staples and FMCG (Fast-Moving Consumer Goods)

These companies typically have strong cash flows, established brands, and defensive characteristics. Look for stocks with consistent dividends and a strong domestic market presence.

4. Renewable Energy and Utilities

With a global shift towards cleaner energy sources, renewable energy companies in wind, solar, and green hydrogen are positioned for growth.

5. Financial Services (Selective)

Life insurance and asset management companies, particularly those with a focus on financial planning and investments, tend to perform well as economies recover

6. Infrastructure and Capital Goods

With ongoing urbanization, infrastructure investments (transport, housing, energy, and industrials) continue to offer growth.

7. Agriculture and Agri-Tech

With a growing population and an increasing emphasis on food security and sustainable agriculture, agribusiness, agri-tech, and farm equipment are poised for growth.

Indian stock market opens in red amid consolidation phase



The Indian stock market opened in the negative on Wednesday, with broad-based selling witnessed across most sectors, except for private banks, in early trade. The benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty, saw substantial losses, reflecting the bearish sentiment in the market.

At 9:30 AM, the BSE Sensex was trading at 78,260, down by 414 points, while the NSE Nifty stood at 23,706, having dropped 167 points. The market trend remained firmly negative with significant declines across various indices. On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), only 335 stocks were in the green, while a massive 1,948 stocks were in the red.

The Nifty Bank index, however, was a rare outperformer, trading at 51,194.40, up by 36.60 points or 0.07%. Meanwhile, the Nifty Mid-cap 100 index was down by 1.60%, trading at 54,375.30, and the Nifty Smallcap 100 index saw a steep fall of 2.07%, hovering at 17,618.75.

Among the top losers in the Sensex pack were major stocks such as Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M), Tata Steel, Maruti Suzuki, Sun Pharma, Reliance Industries, Nes-

tle India, JSW Steel, and Power Grid. On the other hand, the top gainers included NTPC, Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Axis Bank, and HDFC.

Market experts noted that there has been a notable disparity in market performance globally this year. The US market, led by the S&P 500, has posted a strong year-to-date (YTD) return of 26.17%, while India's Nifty has underperformed with just 9.85% YTD returns. The Euro Zone has seen modest returns with the Stoxx 50 index delivering only 5.14% YTD growth.

In the broader Asian markets, most indices were trading in the red, except for Jakarta and Bangkok. US stock markets had also closed lower on the previous trading day. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued to sell equities, offloading Rs 3,024 crore on November 12, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) bought equities worth Rs 1,854 crore.

Akshay Chinchalkar, Head of Research at Axis Securities, indicated that Nifty's immediate focus now lies on the critical support zone between 23,700 to 23,779.

Industrial production rises by 3.1% in September

India's industrial production showed a robust growth of 3.1% in September, marking a positive trend driven largely by the manufacturing sector and the production of capital goods. This growth figure, reported by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, highlights a recovery in the country's industrial activity despite global economic challenges.



The manufacturing sector, which plays a crucial role in the country's industrial output, expanded by 3.2% in September. Key contributors to this growth included the production of capital goods, which grew by 9.3%, and consumer durables, which saw a notable increase of 5.6%. These segments are critical for long-term economic growth, as capital goods production indicates a healthy investment climate and consumer durables growth reflects rising demand.

Additionally, the mining sector registered a 2.2% growth, aided by a recovery in coal and mineral extraction. Electricity generation also performed well, growing by 0.9% in September, despite the challenges posed by the ongoing energy crisis in some parts of the world.

However, the consumer non-durable goods segment witnessed a decline of 0.7%, indi-

cating a slowdown in demand for everyday products. The overall industrial output for the month of September was bolstered by the revival in key sectors, suggesting that the Indian economy is maintaining its growth momentum, despite the global uncertainties brought on by factors like inflation and geopolitical tensions.

Experts suggest that the strong growth in industrial production may support the broader economic recovery and give a boost to the government's efforts to revive investment and consumption. Analysts also remain optimistic that the manufacturing sector's performance will continue to drive India's economic growth in the coming months.

With a steady recovery in industrial production, India is on track to achieve its economic targets for the year, though challenges in certain sectors could still pose risks to sustained growth.

Sebi proposes accountability for AI use by market infra institutions

Regulator Sebi on Wednesday proposed holding market infrastructure institutions and intermediaries accountable for any consequences arising from their use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in operations or client services.

This includes ensuring data privacy, security, and integrity, particularly when handling sensitive investor information.

Additionally, the entity should also be accountable for any actions taken based on AI outputs, Sebi said in its consultation paper.

AI is being increasingly used in investor services and compliance operations. The usage is enabling stakeholders in making informed decisions and thus playing increasingly significant role in market analysis, stock selection, investment strategies and in building a portfolio in their invested securities.

However, while recognising the need for intermediaries to embrace such latest techniques and AI tools, it is equally important to ensure the protection of investors with the usage of such tool, Sebi said.

Recognising both the advantages of AI — like enhanced efficiency, accuracy, and risk management — and the need for investor protection, Sebi has earlier mandated reporting on AI usage



for entities like stock brokers, depositories, and mutual funds.

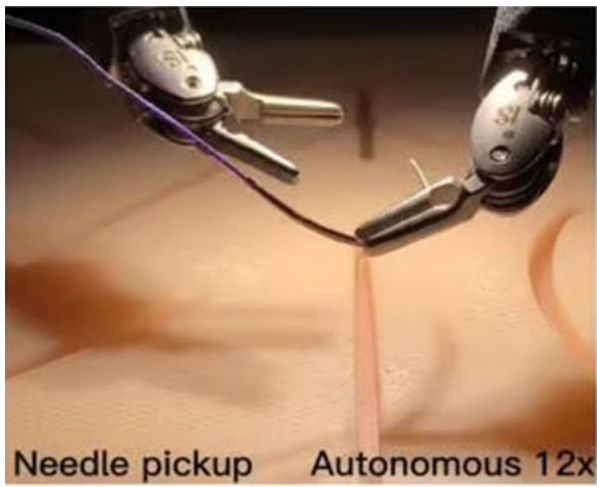
Now, the regulator, in its consultation paper, has proposed that all Sebi regulated entities that use AI in any capacity must be fully responsible for all outcomes of its AI use, regardless of the extent of their AI usage.

"Every person regulated by Sebi that uses such artificial intelligence tools and techniques while conducting its activities in the securities markets and for servicing its clients, regardless of the scope and size of adoption of such tools, shall apart from complying with all applicable laws in force be solely responsible for all the consequences of such use including ensuring the privacy, security and integrity of the investors' and stakeholders' data especially the data maintained by it in a fiduciary capacity, throughout the processes involved.

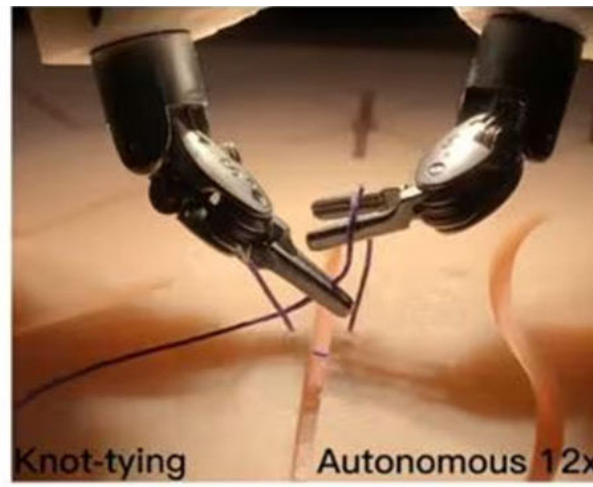
"...and shall be responsible if the output arising from the usage of such tools and techniques is relied upon or dealt with," Sebi said.



Robot performs surgery with the skill of a human doctor



Needle pickup Autonomous 12x



Knot-tying Autonomous 12x

In a groundbreaking development for the future of robot-assisted surgery, researchers at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) have successfully trained a robot to perform complex medical procedures by simply watching videos of human doctors in action. This innovative approach, called “imitation learning,” marks a significant step toward achieving true autonomy in robotic surgery.

Traditionally, programming a robot for surgical tasks has required meticulous, step-by-step instructions, with each movement of the procedure pre-programmed by human engineers. However, the JHU team has bypassed this requirement by allowing the robot to learn by observing how experienced surgeons perform tasks, essentially mimicking their actions. This method has allowed the robot to perform surgeries with precision comparable to that of human doctors, offering a glimpse into the future of surgical automation.

Imitation learning, as explained by the researchers, involves training a machine to replicate observed behavior. In this case, the robot learned how to execute intricate surgical maneuvers

simply by analyzing video footage of real-life surgeries. The process eliminates the need for detailed programming of every action, making it a more efficient and scalable approach to robotic surgery.

The breakthrough could pave the way for robots to perform complex medical procedures with minimal human oversight, opening up possibilities for fully autonomous surgeries. While the robot’s ability to carry out such tasks with a high degree of accuracy is a significant achievement, researchers acknowledge that further advancements are necessary before such systems can be trusted for use in real-world surgeries.

The JHU researchers presented their findings at the prestigious Conference on Robot Learning in Munich, Germany, where experts in robotics and machine learning gathered to discuss the latest advancements in the field. This research is expected to accelerate the development of robotic surgery systems that can reduce the need for human intervention, enhance precision, and potentially make surgeries safer and more accessible in the future.

Artinoise Launches Zefiro: Turn Your Smartphone into a Musical Instrument

An innovative new device from the Italian startup Artinoise is set to revolutionize how we interact with music on the go. Called *Zefiro*, this compact and portable gadget plugs into the USB-C port of your smartphone, transforming it into a musical instrument—specifically, a flute.



The *Zefiro* device is designed to provide a unique, interactive musical experience. Once connected to your phone, it turns the smartphone into a digital instrument, allowing users to play tunes with the same ease as a traditional wind instrument, like a flute. This innovation is perfect for music lovers, musicians, and anyone interested in experimenting with new ways to create sound, without needing a full-sized instrument.

Compatible with Android, iOS, and Windows devices, *Zefiro* expands the possibilities for mobile music creation, making it accessible to users across multiple platforms. The device takes advantage of the smartphone’s processing power to create realistic sound effects, allowing for a truly immersive experience. Whether you’re a beginner or an experienced musician, *Zefiro* promises to offer an intuitive way to create music anywhere and anytime.

Artinoise, the company behind *Zefiro*, is no

stranger to innovative musical products. The same team that developed *Zefiro* previously reimaged the classic plastic recorder into a futuristic version known as the *re.corder*, bringing a modern twist to the traditional instrument played by children in schools.

With *Zefiro*, Artinoise is once again pushing the boundaries of music technology. The device promises to provide users with a portable, versatile way to engage with music, making it a perfect tool for musicians on the go or anyone looking to explore their musical creativity.

Whether you’re using it for casual play or incorporating it into professional music production, *Zefiro* is set to make waves in the world of mobile music innovation.

LG’s new stretchable screen tech expands 6 inches in an instant

Although LG exited the smartphone market in 2021, the tech giant is still making waves in the world of electronics with groundbreaking innovations. At the LG Science Park in South Korea, the company recently showcased a working prototype of its latest stretchable screen technology, pushing the boundaries of display flexibility.



This new display, called the *Free-Form Display*, is a significant leap forward from the prototype LG revealed in 2022. The updated technology is capable of stretching up to 50% of its original size, a major improvement over its predecessor. Moreover, it can withstand up to 10,000 stretches without experiencing any degradation, making it not only more durable but also more versatile.

The *Free-Form Display* offers more than just stretchability; it can be manipulated in various ways, including folding and twisting, opening up exciting new possibilities for device design. LG envisions applications for this stretchable technology across a wide range of industries, from wearable devices to flexible electronics, where traditional rigid screens may not be

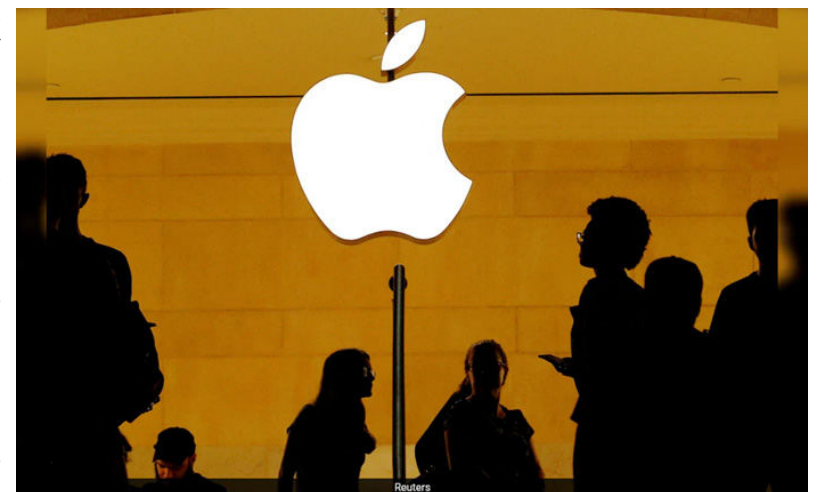
suitable.

The ability to transform a display into different shapes could pave the way for next-generation gadgets that are lighter, more portable, and capable of adapting to the user’s needs. With its combination of stretch, fold, and twist capabilities, LG’s new display could play a pivotal role in the future of consumer electronics, particularly in areas like healthcare, fashion, and entertainment.

As LG continues to push the limits of display technology, the *Free-Form Display* represents just one of the many innovations the company is working on. While LG no longer produces smartphones, its commitment to advancing electronics components signals that the company remains a significant player in the global tech landscape, ready to lead the way in flexible and stretchable screen technology.

Apple’s AI-Powered Wall-Mounted Display Set for Launch in 2024

Apple is preparing to unveil a new wall-mounted display that combines smart home control, video conferencing, and artificial intelligence in a single device. According to a Bloomberg report, the product, code-named *J490*, could be announced as early as March 2024, with a key focus on Apple’s new AI platform, *Apple Intelligence*.



The device is expected to serve as a versatile smart display, capable of managing home appliances, facilitating video calls, and using AI to navigate apps and provide personalized suggestions. In terms of design, it will resemble a square iPad—about the size of two iPhones placed side by side—featuring a 6-inch screen and available in both silver and black finishes.

While Apple has not officially confirmed details, the report suggests that the device will be priced around \$1,000 for the higher-end version, with a more affordable, display-only model expected to be sold for a lower price. The device will be a standalone unit but will still require an iPhone for certain functionalities, signaling its integration with Apple’s broader ecosystem.

This move comes as Apple seeks to compete

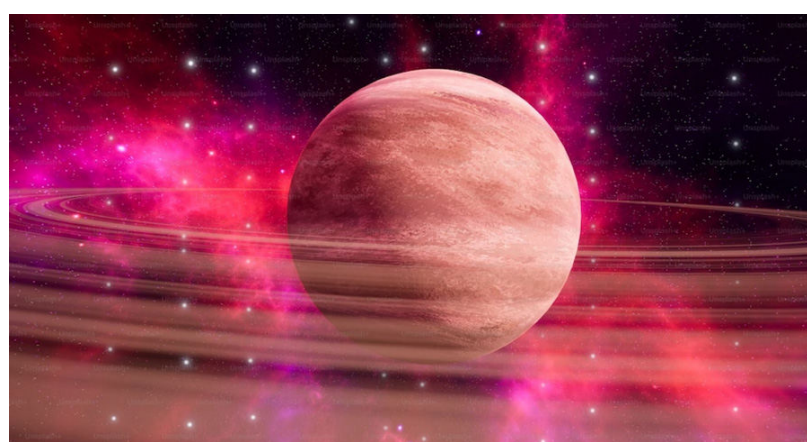
with established players in the smart home market, including Google’s Nest Hub and Amazon’s Echo Show and Echo Hub smart displays. Apple’s new offering is expected to further expand its reach in the home automation and AI space, capitalizing on the growing trend of connected home devices.

The *J490* device will mark Apple’s entry into the smart display category, providing a sleek and functional way to control smart home features, attend video conferences, and leverage AI technology. As Apple continues to push the boundaries of consumer electronics, the new product could play a key role in its efforts to stay ahead in the competitive smart home market.

SpaceX Plans To Develop ‘Marlink’ Network To Provide Internet On Mars

SpaceX has unveiled an ambitious proposal to establish a satellite network around Mars, aimed at enhancing communication for future missions to the Red Planet. The concept, known as “Marlink,” was recently presented at a NASA-led meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group. SpaceX’s proposal envisions a network of satellites orbiting Mars to create a relay system that would enable seamless data exchange between Mars surface missions and Earth.

Marlink would be built on the foundation of SpaceX’s existing Starlink satellite network, which currently provides global internet coverage from Earth’s orbit. With thousands of Starlink satellites in place and active in over 102 countries, SpaceX aims to replicate this model for Mars, ensuring constant connectivity for surface operations on the planet. The proposed Marlink system would facilitate communication between spacecraft, landers, rovers, and future human habitats on Mars, helping NASA meet its goal of developing a sustainable infrastructure for long-term



exploration.

The Marlink network could become a critical tool for interplanetary communication, offering reliable data transfer capabilities

for everything from scientific research to everyday mission coordination. By leveraging its proven satellite technology, SpaceX hopes to provide the backbone for Mars missions, aligning with the company’s broader vision of supporting human exploration and potential habitation on the Red Planet.

In addition to SpaceX’s proposal, NASA is also considering alternative plans from other aerospace companies, including Blue Origin and Lockheed Martin. Blue Origin introduced its *Blue Ring* orbital tug concept, which aims to deliver data relay services and support in-space cloud computing. This project is expected to undergo initial testing as part of the Pentagon’s DarkSky-1 mission, though an official launch date has not yet been set.

As the race to Mars intensifies, SpaceX’s Marlink network could play a pivotal role in enabling continuous, high-speed communication, ensuring that missions to the Red Planet are equipped with the technological infrastructure necessary for success.



ACT Women's Hockey: India Look To Work On Finer Points Against Thailand

Buoyed by two consecutive wins, host nation India is eager to work on the finer points of their game as they prepare to face Thailand in their next match at the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in Rajgir on Thursday. After back-to-back victories, India will look to build on their momentum and secure a commanding win over the 29th-ranked Thailand team to improve their chances of advancing to the semifinals.

India and reigning Olympic silver medalist China are both unbeaten, having won their opening two matches. However, China leads the points table with a superior goal difference of 20, while India has a goal difference of 5. A convincing victory over Thailand is crucial for India as it would not only boost their goal difference but also give them a stronger position heading into their final two round-robin fixtures against China and Japan.

Currently, Japan sits in third place, ahead of Korea, with the top four teams from the round-robin stage progressing to the semifinals in the six-team competition.

Despite their victories, India has been somewhat wasteful in converting scoring opportunities. In their 4-0 win against Malaysia, and a narrow 3-2 victory over South Korea, India created numerous chances but failed to score as many goals as they would have liked. After Tuesday's win over South Korea, head coach Harendra Singh admitted that his team had been guilty of rushing their plays and not always making the right decisions inside the opposition's circle.

"We could have scored more goals. We rushed our choices and didn't always look for the right options," said Harendra, adding that the team would analyze match footage and work on improving their decision-making in the final third.

Another area of concern for the team has been their penalty corner conversion rate. India earned 11 penalty corners against Malaysia but converted only three, all through indirect attempts. Against South Korea, India was awarded eight penalty corners but failed to capitalize on any of them. Improving their set-piece efficiency will be a priority for the team moving forward.

Despite these areas for improvement, India has seen strong performances from forwards Sangita Kumari and Deepika, both of whom have scored three goals each. Sangita, in particular, has been a standout player with her excellent stick work and lively attacking play. However, players like Sharmila Devi, Preeti Dubey, and Beauty Dung Dung will need to take on more responsibility in the attacking third.

India's captain, Salima Tete, and vice-captain Navneet Kaur will also need to improve their midfield play to ensure better ball distribution and support for the forwards.

Virat Kohli Joins Training Session as India Preps for Test Series Against Australia

Indian cricket star Virat Kohli is already in full preparation mode for the upcoming Test series against Australia, with the former captain spotted at a training session on Wednesday. The Indian team, which is gearing up for the highly anticipated series, has set up camp in Perth, where the first Test match will take place. Players are currently honing their skills at the iconic WACA Ground, one of Australia's most renowned cricket venues.

As per reports, Rishabh Pant and Yashasvi Jaiswal were among the players who participated in an optional training session on Tuesday. Both focused on batting practice, continuing their preparations ahead of the series. However, notable players such as Kohli and fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah were not seen at the session, as they likely



took the day off from on-field activities.

Kohli's presence at the training ground on Wednesday highlights his commitment to getting into peak form before the

first Test. The seasoned batter, known for his consistent performances across all formats, will be a crucial player for India in this upcoming series. With Australia being a formidable opponent, Kohli's experience

and leadership—despite stepping down from captaincy—will be invaluable in guiding India through what promises to be a challenging Test series.

The Indian squad's focus is on fine-tuning their game, both with bat and ball, as they prepare for the high-pressure encounter against Australia. With players like Pant, Jaiswal, and Kohli continuing to refine their skills, the team is eager to hit the ground running in the first Test at the WACA Ground, scheduled to begin in the coming days.

As the series draws near, fans are excited to see how India fares against Australia, and whether the team's preparation under the guidance of their experienced players will lead to success on foreign soil.



Shaheen Afridi Reclaims No. 1 Spot in ICC ODI Bowler Rankings

Pakistan's pace spearhead Shaheen Afridi has reclaimed the No. 1 ranking in the ICC Men's ODI Bowler Rankings, just months before the 2023 ICC Champions Trophy. Afridi's rise to the top follows a stellar performance during Pakistan's historic series win over Australia, where he took eight wickets in three ODIs, averaging an impressive 12.62. His strong showing helped Pakistan secure the series, with Afridi finishing as the second-highest wicket-taker.

The left-arm pacer moved up three places to dethrone South Africa's Keshav Maharaj, who had previously held the top spot. Afghanistan's Rashid Khan remained in second place. Shaheen had briefly held the No. 1 ranking during last year's ICC Men's ODI World Cup, but his return to the summit solidifies his status as one of the best in the 50-over format.

Alongside Afridi, Pakistan's Haris Rauf also made significant strides, climbing 14 places to a career-high 13th position after taking 10 wickets in the series against Australia. His performances earned him Player of the Series honors. Meanwhile, Naseem Shah, another key bowler for Pakistan, moved up 14 places to share the 55th spot, setting a new career-best ranking.

Shaheen's resurgence ensures that Pakistan now boasts the top-ranked player in both batting and bowling in ODIs. Former captain Babar Azam extended his lead as the top-ranked ODI batter, following his solid 80-run performance against Australia. Mohammad Rizwan, Pakistan's newly appointed skipper, climbed two places to share 23rd position in the ODI batting rankings.

France, Italy, and Portugal Lead Nations League Race as England Faces Setbacks

As the UEFA Nations League group stage nears its conclusion, France, Italy, and Portugal are on the brink of securing places in the quarter-finals, with crucial matches ahead. Spain and Germany have already confirmed their spots, leaving six places still to be decided in the final two rounds of group matches.

Italy and Portugal are in strong positions, needing just one point to advance, while France is also poised for progression with a home match against Israel on Thursday. However, tensions surrounding the match are heightened by security concerns due to recent violent clashes and a rising climate of anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim rhetoric. The game in Paris is expected to be surrounded by a heavy police presence after disturbances occurred during a match between Maccabi Tel Aviv and Ajax in Amsterdam.

Despite these off-field issues, France will focus on their performance, with coach Didier Deschamps emphasizing that the absence of Kylian Mbappé from the squad is unrelated to off-field controversies. Mbappé missed the previous fixtures to recover from a minor injury and has since been the subject of an investigation in Sweden, which he has vehemently denied. Deschamps confirmed that the star player's absence was purely for recovery purposes.



India Women to Host West Indies and Ireland for White-Ball Series

The Indian Women's cricket team will host West Indies and Ireland for a series of limited-overs matches, starting December 15, 2024, the BCCI announced on Wednesday. The series will feature both One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and T20 Internationals, as part of the ICC Women's Championship, a qualification pathway for the 2026 ODI World Cup in India.

India will kick off the series with a three-match T20I series against the West Indies, to be played at Navi Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium. The T20Is will take place on December 15, 17, and 19, providing an exciting opening to the series. After the T20 series, the two teams will compete in three ODIs at the Moti Bagh Stadium in Vadodra, scheduled for December 22, 24, and 27.

Following their series against the West Indies,

India will face Ireland in three ODIs at Rajkot's Niranjan Shah Stadium in early 2025. The matches against Ireland will be held on January 10, 12, and 15, completing the white-ball series.

The matches against the West Indies and Ireland will be crucial for India as they are part of the ICC Women's Championship, which serves as a qualification platform for the 2026 Women's ODI World Cup. India, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, will aim to build momentum and strengthen their position in the championship standings ahead of future tournaments.

This series will also give India valuable match practice ahead of major international events, allowing them to fine-tune their squad in various formats.



Vicky Kaushal's *Mahavatar* First Look Revealed, Releases Christmas 2026

Vicky Kaushal continues to dominate the Hindi film industry, with another major project in the works. On Wednesday, the actor revealed the first look of his upcoming film *Mahavatar*, a grand-scale epic produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films. The movie is set to hit cinemas on Christmas 2026, and its teaser poster has already sparked significant buzz among fans and industry insiders alike.

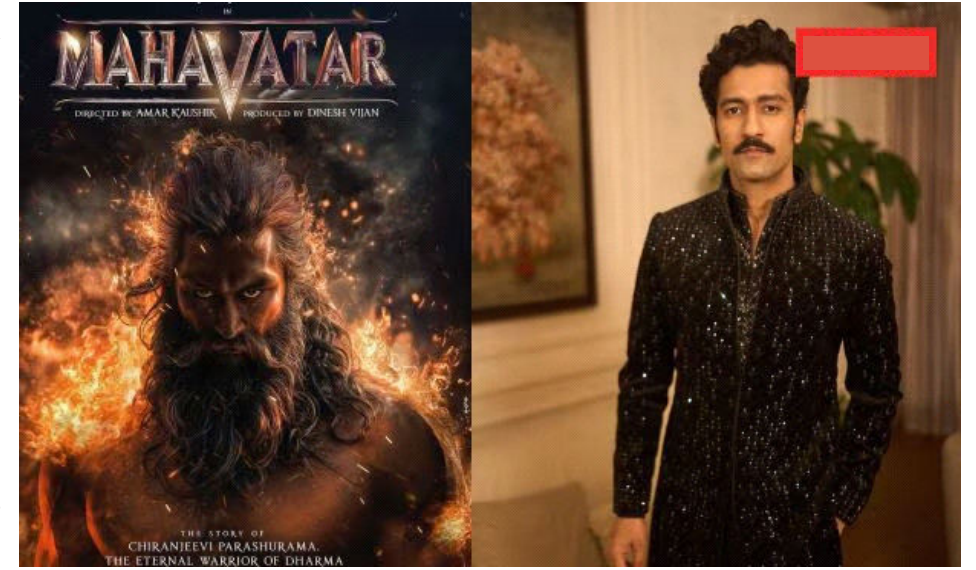
Mahavatar will see Vicky Kaushal in a never-before-seen avatar, portraying Chiranjeevi Parashurama, the legendary "eternal warrior of dharma." Known for his intense performances, Kaushal's portrayal of Parashurama,

a pivotal figure in Hindu mythology, promises to be a game-changer for the actor and the industry. Directed by the acclaimed Amar Kaushik, the film will bring to life the epic tale of this revered warrior, who is said to have existed across multiple lifetimes, fighting for righteousness.

Sharing the first look on his Instagram, Vicky Kaushal expressed his excitement about the project, saying, "Dinesh Vijan brings to life the story of the eternal warrior of dharma! Vicky Kaushal stars as Chiranjeevi Parashurama in *Mahavatar*, directed by Amar Kaushik. Coming to cinemas - Christmas 2026!" This collaboration with Dinesh Vijan,

known for producing blockbuster films, further establishes Kaushal as one of the most sought-after stars in Bollywood. *Mahavatar* is expected to be an ambitious project, blending mythology, action, and drama, and will likely be a visual spectacle for audiences. With Kaushal at the helm, the film is poised to capture the imagination of moviegoers, especially those fascinated by Indian mythology and epic storytelling.

As the countdown begins for its 2026 release, *Mahavatar* is sure to be one of the most eagerly awaited films in the coming years, promising a thrilling cinematic experience.



Zebra Trailer: Action, Intrigue And Twists

The highly anticipated crime thriller *Zebra*, directed by Eashvar Karthic, is all set to hit the cinemas on November 22nd, and the recently released theatrical trailer has already got fans buzzing with excitement. The film stars Satya Dev and Daali Dhananjaya in contrasting roles, promising an intense and gripping cinematic experience.

Satya Dev takes on the role of a cunning bank employee, who, along with his love interest Priya Bhavani Shankar and best friend Satya, is caught up in a web of small-scale frauds. But things take a dark turn when Satya becomes the target of a ruthless villain played by Daali Dhananjaya, a character who places the highest value on respect. What ensues is a high-stakes, life-or-death struggle where Satya and his friends must outsmart their adversaries to escape the perilous situation.

In the trailer, Satya Dev impresses with his portrayal of a shrewd, quick-witted protagonist, navigating through a series of intense challenges. Priya Bhavani Shankar, portraying his love interest, brings a sense of innocence and vulnerability to her role, balancing Satya's scheming character. Meanwhile, Daali Dhananjaya shines as the formidable antagonist, showcasing a performance filled with menace and depth.

The trailer also highlights the remarkable work of cinematographer Satya Ponmar, whose visuals are nothing short of spectacular, capturing the essence of the story's high-octane action and tense atmosphere. The action sequences are meticulously crafted, keeping viewers on the edge of their seats. Adding to the film's thrilling vibe is the gripping background score by Ravi Basrur, which amplifies the suspense and drama.

With its compelling storyline, stellar performances, and top-notch technical execution, *Zebra* promises to be an adrenaline-pumping thriller, packed with unexpected twists and turns that will keep audiences hooked from start to finish.



First Look of Nagarjuna in 'Kubera' Revealed

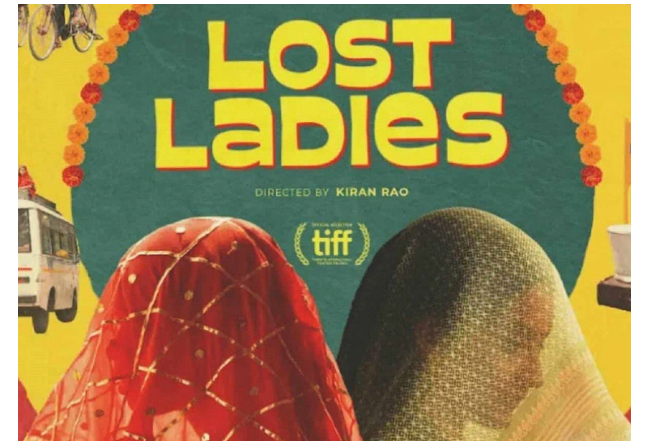
The first look of Nagarjuna in the highly anticipated action thriller *Kubera* has been unveiled, sparking significant excitement among fans. Directed by Sekhar Kammula, *Kubera* promises to be a gripping cinematic experience, featuring a stellar cast with Nagarjuna, Rashmika Mandanna, and Dhanush in pivotal roles. The film is set for release on November 15, 2024, and is expected to captivate audiences with its intense storyline and powerful performances.

In the first poster, Nagarjuna is seen in a sophisticated yet troubled light. He is pictured sitting on a plush sofa in a high-rise apartment, with a somber expression that suggests a complex emotional journey. The backdrop of city lights adds a dramatic touch, symbolizing a world of wealth, luxury, and isolation. His polished attire contrasts with the depth of sorrow in his gaze, offering a glimpse into the character's internal struggles despite his outward success. This intriguing

visual hints at the emotional layers that will unfold as the narrative progresses.

Joining Nagarjuna are Rashmika Mandanna and Dhanush, both of whom are known for their versatile acting and dynamic screen presence. Rashmika plays a character from a different background, and Dhanush portrays a contrasting persona, adding layers of complexity to the story. The film's promotional materials suggest that the characters represent distinctly different worlds, whose paths will eventually converge, further enriching the film's narrative.

Kubera is shaping up to be a unique blend of action, drama, and psychological depth, with the three lead characters driving the story forward. As the release date approaches, expectations continue to rise, with fans eager to see how the powerful trio of Nagarjuna, Rashmika Mandanna, and Dhanush bring their characters to life on screen.



Aamir Khan's *Laapata Ladies* Rebranded as *Lost Ladies* for Oscar Campaign

One of the most critically acclaimed films of the year, *Laapata Ladies*, which was recently selected as India's official entry to the 2025 Oscars, has undergone a significant change ahead of its international campaign. Directed by Kiran Rao and produced by her ex-husband Aamir Khan, the film will now be known as *Lost Ladies*, a decision made to enhance the film's appeal and recognition on a global stage.

Aamir Khan and the film's team announced the title change with a fresh poster on social media, offering a first look at the rebranded project. The official account shared, "Presenting the official poster for *Lost Ladies*—a glimpse into the wild, heartfelt journey of Phool and Jaya!" This shift in title is part of an effort to ensure the film has better recall value among international audiences, particularly as it prepares for the Oscar race.

The title change also marks a strategic move to align the film more closely with international sensibilities, as the original title *Laapata Ladies* might not resonate as strongly with non-Indian viewers. With *Lost Ladies*, the film's core themes of personal exploration, independence, and self-discovery are captured in a way that promises to connect with a broader audience.

Lost Ladies stars Nitanshi Goel, Pratibha Ranta, and Sparsh Srivastava in lead roles, delivering performances that have already earned praise for their depth and emotional nuance. The film's music, composed by Ram Sampath, adds a hauntingly beautiful dimension to the storytelling, further elevating the film's emotional impact. With the Oscars 2025 ceremony slated for March 3, the team behind *Lost Ladies* is gearing up for an aggressive promotional push, aiming to make a lasting impression at one of the world's most prestigious film awards. As the campaign heats up, anticipation for this powerful drama continues to grow.

Karthi's New Film 'Vaa Vaathiyaar' Teaser Released

Tamil actor Karthi, known for his versatility, is set to captivate audiences once again with his upcoming film *Vaa Vaathiyaar*. Although Karthi is not as widely recognized in Telugu cinema as his older brother Surya, he has carved a niche for himself in Tamil cinema with a string of hits. His recent success with the film *Satyam Sundaram* has generated a lot of anticipation for his new project, which promises to be an exciting addition to his filmography.

Directed by Nalan Kumaraswamy, *Vaa Vaathiyaar* features Karthi in a gripping new role. The film also stars Keerthy Shetty as the female lead, with veteran actors Sathyaraj, Rajkiran, and GM Sundar playing pivotal roles. Produced by KE Gnanavel Raja under the Studio Green banner, the film is already generating buzz, especially after the release of its first-look poster.

Recently, the film's team dropped the teaser,

giving fans a glimpse of what to expect. From the teaser, it is evident that Karthi is once again stepping into the shoes of a police officer, a role that he has previously explored in films like *Siruttai*, *Khaki*, and *Sardhar*. This recurring theme of Karthi playing a cop adds a layer of intrigue, and the teaser hints at a fresh concept with a gripping narrative.

In the teaser, Karthi's intense persona as a law enforcer stands out, and the audience can look forward to his powerful screen presence. With the stellar cast and Karthi's proven track record in action-packed roles, *Vaa Vaathiyaar* is shaping up to be a must-watch film.

Fans of Karthi and Tamil cinema in general are excited for the film's release, and *Vaa Vaathiyaar* looks set to add another hit to Karthi's impressive career. Stay tuned for more updates as the film prepares to hit theaters soon.

