

Published from : Hyderabad - Vijayawada

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2024 | 12 Pages

Sand selling at

(10 tonnes)

are delivering

sand

Actual

is Rs.3500

extra money is

**Rs.5000** 

Crore

MLA setup an

unbreakable

network for sand

# YCP Govt Did Nothing

HYDERABAD

CM announced a High Court

- hubs, and industrial parks.
- Chandrababu said Previous government ignored Rayalaseema's needs.

TPN, Amaravati: Chief Minister Chandrababu announced in the Assembly that, as promised by the alliance before the elections, a High Court bench will be established in Kurnool. He stated that the Cabinet has already approved the proposal, and the resolution passed in the Assembly will be sent to the High Court and the Central Government for further action.

Speaking after the resolution was their completion," Chandrababu said. passed, Chandrababu criticized the previous government, claiming they did nothing substantial for Rayalaseema. He reaffirmed that the promises made under the "Mission Rayalaseema" initiative, as outlined in Yuvagalam, would be fulfilled.

"Comprehensive development of the state is possible only with the TDP. We have done it in the past, and we will do it again. NTR envisioned saving Rayalaseema from turning into a desert and diverted Krishna waters to Seema. As part of this vision, NTR initiated the Telugu Ganga, Handri-Neeva, and Nagari-Galeru projects. It is the NDA that will ensure

# for Rayalaseema: CM Chandrababu

Weather

VIJAYAWADA

<u>н 35°с</u> г **26**°с

Forecast

TIRUPATHI

u<sup>H</sup> <u>H 36° с</u> , 26° с

bench for Kurnool, fulfilling a pre-election promise.

- TDP boosted Rayalaseema with irrigation projects, education

He further highlighted plans to link rivers, complete the Polavaram project, and take Godavari water to Basakachers, describing these as game-changers for the region. Chandrababu cited the Gollapally reservoir project, completed within a year, as crucial for bringing the Kia industry to Anantapur, which he said has transformed the district.

Chandrababu emphasized the TDP's contributions to Rayalaseema, including good roads, the development of horticulture, and a focus on education. "Tirupati has been developed as an education hub with

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#### page

# **SAND MAFIA UNDER MLA RULING IN RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM**

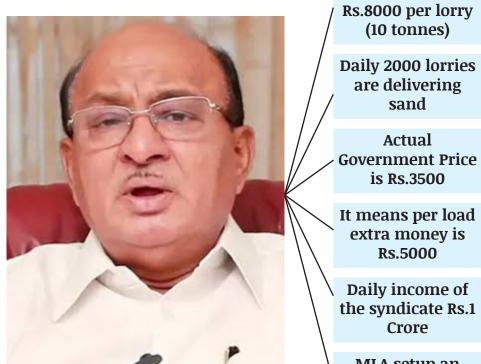
TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Despite the warnings of the

Chief Minister N. CHANDRABA-BU NAIDU and the efforts of officials like the District Collector, the local MLA, Mr. BUTCHAIAH CHOWDARY, has allegedly set up a system for selling sand at his own price. The cost of one load of sand (10 tonnes) is now Rs. 8000, whereas the price should be Rs. 3500 as per government orders. Residents of Rajamahendravaram are forced to buy sand at a minimum of Rs. 8000, allegedly generating Rs. 5000 per lorry for the syndicate reportedly run by the MLA. With nearly 2000 loads being transported daily, the syndicate's alleged income is ONE CRORE per day.

Earlier, the MLA and his associates abolished the boatmen societies and created their own societies at a single registrar's office within a week. After this

plan was exposed and denied by the Collector, they devised a new strategy. The current system mandates that boatmen societies must supply sand to lorry drivers, and people must purchase sand directly from the lorry drivers, leaving no opportunity to complain or expose the mafia network.

AMBATI SRINU and others, allegedly associates of MLA GORANTLA, are managing these societies. They operate only two or three points, creating an artificial scarcity of sand. This forces people to buy sand at the inflated syndicate price. Complaints have been made to the Collector, who tried to address



the issue but was unsuccessful due to the tightly controlled system.

Under the previous YCP Government, the entire contract for sand transport was given to JP VENTURES, which subcontracted the work. In Rajamahendravaram, MR. RAMA KRISHNA REDDY, also known as RK, handled sand transport on behalf of JP VENTURES. Now, the TDP MLA has allegedly partnered with the same RK to run the sand sales, indicating that political differences are set aside when it comes to obtaining illegal income from sand.

### **Targeting 5 Lakh IT Jobs: Minister Lokesh**



TPN, Amaravati: Minister Nara Lokesh stated that their goal is to create 5 lakh IT jobs in Andhra Pradesh within five years. He highlighted that during the TDP government's tenure between 2014 and 2019, 150 companies generated employment for 50,000 people. He mentioned that numerous meetings were organized, with a focus on Visakhapatnam. Lands were allocated, and foundation stones were laid for industries. With foresight, the TDP government introduced the data center policy and signed agreements with companies like Adani. However, Lokesh alleged that after the YCP government came to power in 2019, progress came to a halt.

Lokesh criticized the YCP government, stating that no conclaves were held between 2019 and 2024, and no new industries were established in the state. Recalling a past incident, he mentioned that during page

### **Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan Demands Report on Missing BMWs**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Two luxury BMW cars, previously seized by Andhra Pradesh Forest Department officials from red sanders smugglers, have mysteriously disappeared, prompting Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan to demand a detailed report from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF).

The vehicles in question

were confiscated during anti-smuggling operations. One of them was reportedly assigned to the Forest Department's Chief Secretary in 2017, when Anant Ram held the post. He retained the car until June 2019. Subsequently, the vehicle was transferred to Neerab Kumar Prasad, who served as Chief Secretary from June 2019 to October 2020 and again between February 2022 and June 2024. The position has now been reassumed by Anant Ram. In the interim, Adityanath Das and GS-



RKR Vijayakumar also held the role. Despite these allocations, the current location of this BMW remains a mystery. Rumors within the department suggest the car is being used in Hyderabad, possibly by the spouse of an IAS officer, though no confirmation exists.

Another BMW, seized in 2015 and later assigned to the Additional Secretary

of the then Forest Minister, is similarly unaccounted for. Additionally, an Innova seized in July 2023—allocated at the time to Neerab Kumar—has also vanished.

Pawan Kalyan has expressed concern over these irregularities and directed the PCCF to submit a comprehensive report on all the missing vehicles, ensuring accountability in the matter.

Andhra Pradesh Co-Operative Oil Seeds Grower's Federation Limited 800 BOG 601 8 ెంటర్తి నియోజికరర్గ యుర్ ని యకులు <mark>మా ప్రియతేమే నాయకులు</mark> AP ಱឈម៍ ఫ਼ិడ్ ភ្ជីប្ម័ភ៏ ៣ <mark>ඩ්ක්ෂ හි්පැරිට ස්</mark>කියේ <mark>န္မ ဂ်ဝဇီ ಬಾಜ್ಜ် ಗಾಲ</mark>್ಕಿ **శ్రీ గ్<b>ర**్ బాజ్జ్ గారు <sub>Ex. MLA</sub> ಮಾ ವ್ಯೂದಿಯವೊದ್ದಿ 5 ಕೋಗಾವಂಕ್ಷೆಲು చైర్త్రైస్ పపీ రాష్ట్ర కోపరేటివ్ ఆయిల్ సీడ్స్ గ్రోవెర్స్ ఫెడరేషన్ లిమిటెడ్ 

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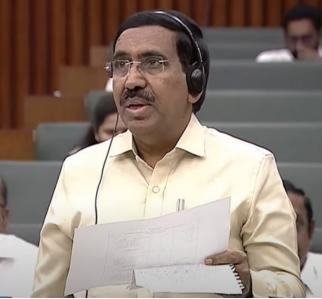




# **AP Assembly Abolishes Garbage Tax**

Promises Investigation into Irregularities – Minister Narayana

Andhra TPN, Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly has approved the Garbage Tax Abolition Bill, repealing contentious provisions introduced by the previous YSRCP government. Minister Narayana, addressing in the House, highlighted widespread irregularities in garbage tax collection and vowed to investigate the issue thoroughly.



the previous administration for failing to implement waste-to-energy plants in eight districts, which resulted in 85 lakh tonnes of garbage accumulation. While two plants in Visakhapatnam and Guntur functioned, plans for other districts were abandoned.

Election Promise Minister Fulfilled: empha-Narayana sized that the ruling coalition had prom-

Key **Developments:** 

Burden on Citizens: The YSRCP government amended municipal laws in 2020, enabling garbage tax collection in 40 municipalities. Residential households were charged ₹30 to ₹120 monthly, while commercial complexes faced taxes ranging from ₹100 to ₹10,000. These measures burdened citizens, with some paying more in garbage tax than property tax.

Financial Overview: Between November 2021 and July 2024, garbage collection contracts cost ₹325 crore, but only ₹249 crore was paid to contractors. Monthly payments ranged from ₹51,641 to ₹62,964 per vehicle for garbage collection, leading to allegations of financial irregularities.

Past Failures: Minister Narayana criticized

ised to abolish the garbage tax during its election campaign. By repealing Section 491-A of the Municipal Corporations Act (1955) and Section 170-B of the AP Municipalities Act (1965), the Assembly has now fulfilled this promise.

The minister also accused the previous government of benefiting contractors at the expense of public funds, citing instances where garbage was allegedly dumped into mining silos by contractors. He assured that all debts incurred and irregularities in the garbage tax system would be investigated.

This legislative move is expected to alleviate financial pressures on citizens while addressing long-standing grievances about waste management inefficiencies.

# **AP Assembly Approves GST Reduction on Natural Gas to 5%**

TPN, Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav introduced the GST Amendment Bill in the Assembly, successfully reducing the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on natural gas consumption in the state from 24% to 5%. The move aims to alleviate financial stress on industries and households while addressing revenue concerns for the state.

Minister Payyavula highlighted that the steep 24% GST, imposed during the previous YSRCP government, led to significant revenue losses for Andhra Pradesh. Industries opted to source natural gas from neighboring states, where they paid only 2% GST, further eroding the state's income. This shift negatively impacted the state's industrial competitiveness and overall revenue generation.

By lowering the GST to 5%, the government aims to reverse these trends. The new rate is expected to encourage industries to procure natural gas locally, boosting state revenue and reducing the financial burden on consumers. Minister Payyavula emphasized that this adjustment strikes a balance between economic

relief and revenue generation for the state.

The minister explained, "The previous administration's decision to increase the GST disrupted revenue flow and burdened our citizens. This concerns.



amendment restores fair taxation and benefits both the public and industries, strengthening our economy."

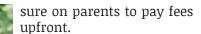
The decision has been widely appreciated as a progressive step toward fostering industrial growth and ensuring economic stability in Andhra Pradesh. It reflects the government's commitment to creating a conducive environment for businesses while addressing public

# **AP Govt Issues New Fee Reimbursement Policy**

**Payments Linked to Student Attendance** 

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh government has announced a significant change in its fee reimbursement policy for students, clarifying that payments will now be made based on student attendance. This decision, part of the government's ongoing commitment to improve the education system, has

been introduced with immediate effect for the were reimbursed to parents and students, led to academic year 2024-25. The new system will in- disputes between colleges and families. College academic year onward.



Addressing Previous Issues:

Alliance leaders have lauded the government's decision, stating that it addresses the difficulties faced by parents due to the previous system. The old method, where fees

volve directly depositing the fees paid under the managements often pressured parents to pay fee reimbursement scheme into the accounts fees in advance, creating financial strain. With of the colleges, excluding SC students, from this the new system, these pressures are expected to ease as payments will be directly made to the colleges.

# **AP Land Encroachment Prohibition Bill 2024 Introduced**

**MLA Raises Concerns of Property Seizures** 

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly saw the introduction of the AP Land Encroachment Prohibition Bill 2024 by Revenue Minister Angaani Satya Prasad, aimed at curbing illegal land encroachments across the state. However, the bill sparked a heated discussion when MLA Gorantla Butchaiah Chaudhary raised alarming concerns regarding widespread property seizures and land mutations during the past five years.



In his address, MLA Butchaiah Chaudhary claimed that large-scale land seizures worth lakhs of crores had occurred in several districts, including Visakhapatnam and Chittoor. He specifically mentioned that property worth ₹550 crore had been seized in his constituency. The MLA accused officials of misusing their power by converting collectorates into "retail stores" for five years, where collectors and joint collectors allegedly carried out land mutations arbitrarily.

Chaudhary further alleged that even after officials left their positions, forged documents were created in the name of Mandal Revenue Officers (MROs), enabling unauthorized mutations. He also claimed that land belonging to individuals abroad had been seized through this corrupt practice. The MLA expressed concern about the lack of accountability for these actions and questioned the government's approach to deal-

ing with land encroachments, citing cases from Madanapalle and Vijayawada as examples of these unlawful activities.

In his closing remarks, MLA Chaudhary stressed the need for stronger deterrents to prevent such land encroachments, asserting that those involved should face consequences to restore trust in the land administration system.

#### Key Highlights of the New System:

Attendance-Based Reimbursement: The government has clarified that fee reimbursements will be processed based on the students' attendance. This means that colleges will receive the fees directly, ensuring that the reimbursement is linked to the student's commitment to attend classes regularly.

Restoring the Previous System: The government has also decided to revert to the old system where fees were directly deposited to the colleges, a practice that was in place before 2019. Under the previous YCP administration, the policy changed, and fees were reimbursed to the parents' accounts, causing difficulties for students and their families. The new system aims to eliminate these challenges, preventing pres-

#### **Attendance and Future Guidelines:**

The government has emphasized that attendance will play a crucial role in the new system, and students with low attendance may not qualify for fee reimbursement. Officials also mentioned that, while three quarters of the 2023-24 academic year have already passed, guidelines for the full implementation of the fee reimbursement scheme will be announced soon. This move is expected to bring transparency and ease the burden on families, in line with the promises made during the election campaign.

The decision to restore the old system and address issues around fee payment is seen as a step toward improving the educational experience for students in Andhra Pradesh.

# **Targeting 5 Lakh IT Jobs: Minister Lokesh**

about when a similar event would be held in ernment's Inaction Andhra Pradesh. The response from the then minister, comparing it to a hen that had not laid an egg, insulted the state, Lokesh said.

He further claimed that after the formation of a coalition government, he met with several companies, and they revealed that the previous government had asked for shares in IT companies. Lokesh criticized this behavior, questioning how industries could be expected to invest under such circumstances. He emphasized that TDP representatives have met with IT companies to understand their challenges.

Lokesh also highlighted the global recognition of Telugu talent in the IT sector, crediting Chandrababu Naidu's vision. "Wherever we go in the world, 20% of the workforce in the IT sector comprises Telugu people. This is a matter of great pride for us," he said. ### Targeting

a race event in Hyderabad, a question arose 5 Lakh IT Jobs: Nara Lokesh Criticizes YCP Gov-

Minister Nara Lokesh stated that their goal is to create 5 lakh IT jobs in Andhra Pradesh within five years. He highlighted that during the TDP government's tenure between 2014 and 2019, 150 companies generated employment for 50,000 people. He mentioned that numerous meetings were organized, with a focus on Visakhapatnam. Lands were allocated, and foundation stones were laid for industries. With foresight, the TDP government introduced the data center policy and signed agreements with companies like Adani. However, Lokesh alleged that after the YCP government came to power in 2019, progress came to a halt.

Lokesh criticized the YCP government, stating that no conclaves were held between 2019 and 2024, and no new industries were established in the state. Recalling a past incident, he mentioned that during a race event in Hyderabad,

a question arose about when a similar event would be held in Andhra Pradesh. The response from the then minister, comparing it to a hen that had not laid an egg, insulted the state, Lokesh said.

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### **YCP Govt Did Nothing** for Rayalaseema: **CM** Chandrababu

institutions like IIT Tirupati, IISER, IIIT in Kurnool, Urdu University, and Central University in Anantapur. During our regime, we also provided a 90% subsidy on drip irrigation to promote horticulture, but the previous government canceled it. We will reintroduce this benefit for farmers," he assured.

The TDP leader also mentioned that Tirupati became a hardware hub during his tenure. Industrial parks were set up in

Orvakal (Kurnool district) and Kopparthi (Kadapa district) with ₹5,000 crore sanctioned for their development. He revealed that 300 acres have been allocated to convert Orvakal into a drone hub and said steps are being taken to make Kurnool a model city.

Chandrababu reiterated his commitment to fulfilling the promises made to Rayalaseema and delivering comprehensive development for the region.





# **YCP Parliamentary Party Meeting Chaired by YS Jagan**



**TPN, Tadepalli:** A parliamentary party meeting of the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YCP) was held under the leadership of party chief and former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy at the YCP office in Tadepalli. The meeting saw the participation of all available YCP MPs from both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

As the winter session of Parliament approaches, Jagan provided strategic directions to the MPs on key issues to be addressed during the upcoming sessions. Among the primary topics of discussion were the contentious Polavaram project and the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

Rajya Sabha MP Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose briefed the media, stating that Jagan emphasized the need to oppose the reduction of the Polavaram dam's height in Parliament. He also urged the MPs to strongly protest against the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, reaffirming the party's commitment to protecting public sector industries.

The meeting highlighted the party's focus on raising critical issues affecting Andhra Pradesh and its determination to represent the state's interests in the national legislature effectively.

# Telangana High Court Adjourns **Petition Against Vijayasai Reddy**

**TPN, Hyderabad:** The Telangana High Court has postponed the hearing on a petition filed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) against YCP Rajya Sabha MP Vijayasai Reddy, who is the A2 accused in Andhra Pradesh Former Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy's illegal assets case.

The ICAI had earlier issued notices to Vijayasai Reddy, alleging professional misconduct and seeking to investigate the matter. Vijayasai challenged these notices in the Telangana High Court, leading to a single

bench quashing the ICAI's notices. In response, the ICAI filed an appeal before a division



bench, contesting the cancellation of the notices. The ICAI argued that the single bench order disregarded the precedents of the case and that the investigation into violations of professional conduct should proceed. During hearing on thursday, the division bench considered ICAI's plea but decided to adjourn the case to next week for further arguments.

The petition has drawn attention due to Vijayasai Reddy's prominent role in Andhra Pradesh politics and his alleged involvement in the high-profile illegal assets

case linked to Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy.

# **Control Your Words** Mr. Jagan Reddy - ABV

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Retired IPS officer AB Venkateswara Rao (ABV) has expressed strong anger against former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy, issuing a stern warning over his recent remarks. Responding to Jagan's allegations during a press meet on Wednesday, ABV firmly stated, "Mr. Jagan Reddy... keep your mouth under control... correct your speech and language. Once people's trust is lost and words slip, it is impossible to regain them."

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), ABV labeled Jagan's statements as "blatant lies" and warned, "You have seen what I am in the last five years. Be careful." He emphasized that he does not operate behind the scenes or engage in deceptive actions.

Jagan's comments during the press meet alleged that three retired IPS officers, including ABV, RP Thakur, and Yoganand, were orchestrating the arrests of YSR Congress Party (YCP) social media activists. He accused them of using intelligence inputs to create lists of YCP leaders for targeted action, claiming this was done under Chandrababu Naidu's guidance. Jagan criticized Naidu's alleged use of the police department for political purposes, describing it as an act of cowardice.



ABV countered these claims, reiterating his integrity and transparency in public service. This exchange highlights the strained relationship between ABV and Jagan, which dates back to ABV's tenure under the YCP government. The retired officer had faced significant challenges, including legal battles for his reinstatement, accusing the government of bias against him. Notably, ABV resumed his duties on the day of his court victory, only to retire the same evening, an incident that had captured public attention.

This clash underscores the deepening divide and tensions between the former IPS officer and the former Chief Minister.

### Janasena MLA Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu Likely to **Become AP PAC Chairman?**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The election for Andhra Pradesh's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Chairman has taken an interesting turn, with Janasena MLA Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu (Anjibabu) emerging as the frontrunner. While multiple candidates have filed nominations, it appears that Ramanjaneyulu's election is

a formality, owing to the alliance's sures his likely victory. strength in the Assembly.



the fray. Despite his nomination, Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy acknowledged the YSRCP's lack of sufficient numbers to claim the position. As the PAC chairmanship traditionally goes to a member of the opposition, the alliance's backing of Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu en-

dra Reddy also entered

The PAC chairmanship, a role car-The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) fielded rying cabinet rank, has been a fo-

### Posani Krishna Murali **Announced Exit** from Politics



TPN, Hyderabad: Film actor Posani Krishna Murali has made a sensational announcement, declaring his permanent exit from politics. In an emotional statement, Posani revealed that he will no longer speak about politics or associate with any political party for the rest of his life.

"I have decided to dedicate the rest of my life to my family. I will not praise or criticize any political party anymore. From now on, I have no connection with politics," Posani stated.

He clarified that his involvement in politics was never meant to insult or target any party, and his decision marks a personal resolution to stay away from political discourse entirely.

Posani's decision comes as a surprise to many, given his vocal stance on various political issues in the past. With this announcement, he has drawn a clear line, choosing to focus solely on his personal life moving forward.

### **Kurasala Kannababu Criticizes Govt Over Policies and False** Allegations TPN,

Andhra

Pradesh: Former Minister Kurasala Kannababu launched a blistering attack on the coalition **mala** government, particularly targeting Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of exploiting public resources and misleading the people with false narratives. Kannababu highlighted alleged irregularities in sand

supply during the coalition's ings as blatant lies. "Chandrabarule. "During our government, six and a half units of sand cost ₹16,000. Under Chandrababu's so-called 'free sand' policy, the cost has skyrocketed to ₹28,000. Even TDP's own newspapers are exposing the sand and liquor exploitation under his regime," he said.

He criticized the coalition government's claims of success in the Assembly, pointing out a 70% increase in prices. "All these so-called victories belong to Nara Chandrababu Naidu's government, which burdens people with relentless price hikes," he added.

Further, Kannababu dismissed statements made by coalition leaders regarding state debts, women trafficking, Rushikonda developments, and the color schemes of government build-

bu is a master at portraying falsehoods as truths. He manipulates narratives to suit his agenda," Kannababu charged. On taxation, he accused Naidu of burdening the public. "Chandrababu's idea of wealth creation is indiscriminate tax hikes. He even advocates for toll taxes on state roads, claiming potholes cannot be fixed otherwise," he said, emphasizing that the public has understood that heavy taxation (Badudu) is inevitable under Chandrababu's leadership.

Kannababu's remarks underline the growing dissatisfaction among opposition leaders with the coalition government's policies, accusing it of exploiting resources and misleading the public while failing to address core issues.

several candidates for the position, including Sriram Rajagopal (Jaggaiyapet), BV Jayanageswara Reddy (Emmiganur), Arimilli Radhakrishna (Tanuku), Ashok Reddy (Giddalur), Burla Ramanjaneyulu (Pattipadu), Nakka Anand Babu (Vemuru), and Kolla Lalithakumari (S. Kota). and YSRCP's Peddireddy Ramachan- Pradesh politics.

cal point of interest in the Assembly, with various parties vying for the influential position. The official announcement will be made by the Speaker of the Assembly.

Ramanjanevulu's impending election is seen as a significant milestone for Janasena, reinforcing Meanwhile, BJP's Vishnukumar Raju its growing influence in Andhra

# **YSRCP MLA Peddireddy Files Nomination for PAC Chairman Post**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Despite not holding opposition status in the Legislative Assembly, YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy filed his nomination for the post of Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Chairman on Thursday. He was accompanied by several party MLAs who expressed their support for his candidature.

Elections for the PAC, Estimates Committee, and Undertaking Committee are scheduled to take place today. Traditionally, the PAC chairman position is assigned to a member of the opposition. However, with the YSRCP lacking the formal status of an opposition party and holding only 11 seats, this election has drawn significant attention.

Former Minister and Punganur MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy filed his nomination at the office of the Assembly Secretary General. Supporting his bid were Tambalapally MLA Peddireddy Thalakanath Reddy, Darshi MLA Buchepalli Sivaprasada Reddy, Erragondapalem MLA Tathipatri Chandrasekhar, and others. The nomination process comes after Minister Payyavula Keshav announced the election schedule for rounding the results.



the PAC, Estimates, and Undertaking Committees during Wednesday's Assembly session.

Adding to the intrigue, 11 YSRCP MLAS, who had earlier boycotted Assembly meetings after taking their oaths, appeared at the Assembly premises today to press for their demand for the PAC chairmanship.

The election for the PAC chairmanship, a position equivalent to cabinet rank, has garnered widespread interest due to its political significance. While the opposition requires a minimum of 18 votes to secure PAC membership, it holds only 11 seats, leaving uncertainty over its influence in the election. The YSRCP's active participation in the process has intensified the anticipation sur-







### Wage Rate Increased for Civil **Supplies Porters, Benefiting** 5,791 Workers



**TPN, Amaravati:** In a significant move, the wage rate for civil supplies porters has been increased from ₹25 to ₹28, benefiting 5,791 gang workers employed across 252 MLS points in Andhra Pradesh. The decision was announced by Minister for Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs, Nadendla Manohar, following discussions with JAC (Joint Action Committee) leaders at the Velagapudi Secretariat.

During the meeting, held in the second block of the Secretariat, JAC leaders raised several issues concerning the welfare of civil supplies workers. Minister Nadendla Manohar agreed to the wage hike after careful consideration, addressing the workers' long-pending demand. While the leaders expressed their satisfaction with the decision, they also brought up additional concerns, which the minister assured would be reviewed and resolved in subsequent meetings.

#### **Minister's Assurance**

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Na-

dendla Manohar reaffirmed the alliance government's commitment to supporting civil supplies porters. "Despite the financial challenges, the government has prioritized the welfare of workers by increasing their wages. Further steps will be taken to improve their livelihoods," he stated.

#### **Participation and** Acknowledgment

The meeting witnessed the participation of key officials, including Civil Supplies Commissioner Veerapandian IAS and MD Mann Veer Jilani IAS. Union leaders such as CITUC Honorary President Uma Maheshwar Rao, AITUC State President Chinna Anjaneyu, and General Secretary Uday Bhaskar Rao also participated, expressing gratitude for the government's proactive measures.

This decision marks a positive step toward addressing the concerns of the civil supplies workforce and demonstrates the alliance government's dedication to workers' welfare.

# **World Fisheries Day Celebrations Held in Vijayawada**

Minister Achennaidu Reaffirms Commitment to Fishermen



TPN, Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh marked World Fisheries Day 2024 with a grand program at Tummalapalli Kala Kshetra, where Fisheries Minister K. Achennaidu reiterated the government's commitment to the welfare of fishermen and the development of the fisheries sector. Highlighting key initiatives and achievements, the minister assured comprehensive support to fishermen across the state.

#### Key Announcements by **Minister Achennaidu:**

- The government has released previous arrears of ₹3.5 crores and a diesel subsidy of ₹34 crores.
- G.O. 217, which caused hardships to fishermen, was abolished as promised.
- Plans are underway to set up fish landing centers every 30 kilometers along the coast, similar to Kerala's model.
- Transponders have been installed in 4,500 fishing boats to ensure fishermen's safety and enhance catch efficiency, with plans to expand this to 30,000 boats statewide.
- The government has pledged an electricity subsidy for all fishermen, irrespective of their zones.

Minister Achennaidu emphasized that Andhra

Pradesh, with a 1,020 km coastline and vast aquaculture resources, contributes to over 75% of India's cultured shrimp production, solidifying its status as the country's aqua hub. He praised the vision of late Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao and current Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for their unwavering support for fishermen.

Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra spoke about the historical significance of World Fisheries Day, celebrated in India since 1997, and stressed the need to pass on this tradition to future generations. He highlighted the allocation of ₹750 crores in the state budget for fishermen's welfare and the reintroduction of the stipend during fishing bans.

Kakinada MLA Vanamadi Venkateswara Rao (Kondababu) recalled the struggles faced by fishermen during the previous regime and thanked Chief Minister Naidu for abolishing G.O. 217, as promised. The event began with a ceremonial lighting of the lamp and featured an exhibition showcasing aqua products. Outstanding contributors to the fisheries sector, including officials and association representatives, were felicitated for their services.

Prominent attendees included legislators Bonda Umamaheswara Rao, AP Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Chairman Mantena Ramaraju, and Fisheries Commissioner T. Dola Shankar.

### Veeranki Venkata **Gurumurthy Met Devineni Uma for Courtesy Call**

da: Telugu Desam Party (TDP) State Federation BC **General Secretary** Veeranki Venkata Gurumurthy, who was recently appointed as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh



### **NTR Dist Police Launches Drone Operation Training** for Women Constables and Secretariat Police

NTR District, Andhra Pradesh: For the first time in the state, the NTR District Police have introduced the initiative of having one woman constable at every police station. As part of this, a special training program on drone operations was launched today to empower women in law enforcement and enhance their skills. The training, aimed at providing essential skills to women constables and secretariat police, began under the leadership of City Police Commissioner Shri S.V. Raja Shekhara Babu, IPS, at the Command Control.

A total of 76 women officers, including 38 women constables and 38 women secretariat police personnel, will undergo the training. The program aims to equip them with advanced technological skills to operate drones, a crucial tool for modern policing. The event was graced by several key officials, including East Zone DCP Shri Gautami Shali, IPS, and Crime DCP Dr. II Tirumaleshwara Reddy, IPS. Both officers participated in the program, underscoring the importance of women's role in the advancement of law enforcement and technology in the state. This initiative marks a significant step toward fostering gender



Gowda Welfare and Development Corporation, paid a courtesy call

to TDP leader and former lighted the significance of minister Devineni Uma. The meeting took place on Thursday at the Gollapudi office, where Gurumurthy was accompanied by Director Sonthi Sivaram Prasad.

During the meeting, Gurumurthy and Sivaram Prasad were warmly received and honored with a traditional Dussalua ceremony. Devineni Uma extended his congratulations to Gurumurthy for his new appointment, recognizing his dedication and hard work within the party. He praised Gurumurthy's unwavering commitment, which has been evident since the inception of TDP, particularly in his service from the grassroots level.



the new role held by Gurumurthy, emphasizing that under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, the Andhra Pradesh Gowda Welfare and Development Corporation has the potential to bring development and welfare schemes directly to the people. He expressed hope that Gurumurthy would take full advantage of his position to further the corporation's goals and reach more beneficiaries.

The courtesy call underscored the strong bond within the party and the shared vision of improving the welfare of communities in Andhra Pradesh.



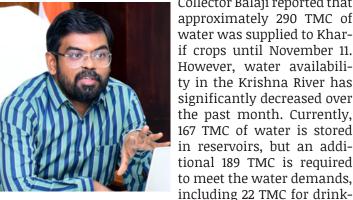
inclusivity within the police force, enhancing the capabilities of women officers, and utilizing technology to improve policing efficiency in Andhra Pradesh.

### No Irrigation for Rabi Crops in Krishna Delta - Collector DK Balaji

TPN, Krishna District: 🛽 Farmers in the Krishna Delta will not receive irrigation for Rabi crops this season and should focus on cultivating only six wet crops, clarified Krishna District Collector DK Balaji. This decision follows the unprecedented floods in the Krishna River earlier this year, which allowed abundant irrigation for Kharif crops across the Srisailam, Nagarjuna Sagar, and

Prakasam barrage command areas.

Water Usage and Current Scenario



if crops until November 11. However, water availability in the Krishna River has significantly decreased over the past month. Currently, 167 TMC of water is stored in reservoirs, but an additional 189 TMC is required to meet the water demands, including 22 TMC for drink-

ing purposes, until June 2025.

Out of the 114 TMC of water allocated from the Srisailam and Nagarjuna Sagar reservoirs, only 39 TMC remains in the Pulichin-

Collector Balaji reported that tha reservoir, reserved for drinking water approximately 290 TMC of and the upcoming Kharif season in June.

#### Focus on Efficient Water Management

The Collector emphasized the need for efficient water management to address the current deficit and ensure sustainable usage. "We are relying on future river flows to bridge the gap of 114 TMC to meet the total demand of 189 TMC," he stated. Farmers are being advised to adjust their cultivation plans to align with the avail-

able resources. The directive to focus on six specific wet crops aims to optimize water usage while ensuring agricultural sustainability in the Krishna Delta region.

Devineni Uma also high-

### **Case Filed Against Followers of Jogi Ramesh for Fraudulent JNNURM Housing Scheme**

TPN, Vijayawada: A case has been registered against five individuals accused of defrauding people under the guise of providing JNNURM houses using fake emails and WhatsApp chats in the names of senior IAS officers and government officials. The accused allegedly collected crores of rupees from victims while falsely claiming connections with officials like Chief Secretary Neelima Rani and NTR District Collector CC Shiva Shankar.

The FIR (No. 535/24) has been filed under Section 318(4) against the accused: Kollatti Tirumala Rao (A1), Prattipati Chandu (A2), Prattipati Kalyani (A3), Kollatti Hari Babu (A4), and Kollatti



Nagaraju (A5).

The police investigation revealed that the accused used fake documents and communication impersonating senior officials to lure victims with promises

of allotting JNNURM houses in Vambe Colony, Kabela. Victims were charged ₹5 lakh for ground-floor houses and ₹4 lakh each for first and second-floor units. They were convinced using forged WhatsApp chats purportedly



#### **Point Impact**

from senior officials, including fabricated messages from Chief Secretary Neelima Rani and District Collector Delhi Rao.

Shockingly, one victim succumbed to a heart attack, and another attempted suicide due to the financial and emotional distress caused by the scam.

Victims have lodged complaints across multiple police stations, Bhavanipuram, including Satyanarayanapuram, and Mangalagiri. The case, initially handled by law enforcement, has now been transferred to the crime branch for further investigation.

Victims expressed dissatisfaction with the delayed action, as the FIR was registered 13 days after the initial complaint. They plan to escalate the matter by approaching Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and Home Minister Nara Lokesh for intervention.



# REGIONAL

# **AP State Under-13 Chess Championship Winners Announced**



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh State Under-13 Open and Girls Chess Competition concluded successfully under the auspices of Master Chess Academy, with the winners being awarded at a grand ceremony. The event, held at 3:30 PM, was graced by esteemed dignitaries including Andhra Chess Association Chairman KV Sharma, State Secretary K. Jagdish, Vice Chairman Ch. RK Verma, competition sponsor Singam Subbarao, Datla Jagannath Raju, Chief Arbiter Phani Kumar, Rama Subbareddy, K. Dhanalakshmi, and Tournament Director SS Chandrasekhar. The dignitaries presented prizes to the winners and encouraged them to aim higher in their chess journeys.

The winners of this prestigious tournament will represent Andhra Pradesh in the National Chess Championship to be held in January, marking a significant step in their chess careers.

#### **Results: Under-13 Open Category**

First Place: Kolla Bhavan from NTR District Second Place: Hemal Varshan from Nellore District

Results: Under-13 Girls Category

First Place: Gorlinaina from Visakhapatnam District

Second Place: Amrita Guntaka from Prakasam District

**Results:** Under-7 Category

First Place (Boys): A. Shashank and P. Jogen der

First Place (Girls): G. Samita, Komal Nikhil and Jayashree

The tournament showcased exceptional talent from young chess players across the state, and their achievements promise a bright future for Andhra Pradesh in the national chess arena. Organizers and dignitaries applauded the efforts of all participants and emphasized the importance of nurturing young talent in competitive chess.

# Sathya Sai Baba's 99th Birthday Celebrations **Marked by Devotion and Community Service**

TPN, Puttaparthi: With the di- Nagabhushanam and Mrs. Pushvine blessings of Bhagavan Sathya Sai Baba, the 99th birthday celebrations of Swami were observed with devotion and grandeur at the Sathya Sai Seva Samiti Mandir, DS Cheruvu. The fourth day of the celebrations witnessed a series of spiritual and community events that brought together devotees and residents of the surrounding areas.

The day began with the auspicious Mahanyasa Ekadasa Rudrabhishekam, led by Convener MNSK Janardhana Rao, invoking the divine energy and blessings of Lord Shiva. As a ges- The grand Annadana program, ture of service and compassion, a mass Seemanthalu program was month, will be attended by local organized for 15 pregnant women legislators and government whip by the benevolent couple Kottu Bolishetti nivas, alongside a large

pavalli. This sacred ritual aimed to ensure the well-being of both mothers and their unborn children. In keeping with the tradition of monthly service activities, 21 Amrita Kalasalas were distributed to those in need, furthering the spirit of selfless service that Swami envisioned.

The evening was illuminated with cultural programs performed by the talented students of Sathya Sai Vidyalaya, adding a touch of vibrancy and joy to the celebrations.

scheduled for the 23rd of this



gathering of devotees from the town and nearby villages. The organizers have invited everyone to participate in the program and receive the blessings of Swami.

Prominent individuals including The celebrations continue to in-Baba Prava nivas, Vishnumur- spire and unite people, reinforc-

Dr. Durgadas, and many others contributed to the success of the event. Their dedication reflects the collective commitment to upholding Swami's ideals of love and service.



#### **TTD Aims to Transform** Tirumala into a Planned Model Town - EO Shyamala Rao

TPN, Tirupati: The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) Executive Officer (EO), J. Shyamala Rao, announced ambitious plans to develop Tirumala into a well-planned model town. Speaking at a press meet held at the TTD administration building in Tirupati on Thursday evening, the EO emphasized that robust infrastructure development and long-term urban planning are at the forefront of their agenda.

A special vision document is being prepared to address the infrastructure needs of Tirumala for the next 25 years. To achieve this, an Urban Development and Town Planning Department will be established, and a retired town planning expert has been appointed as an advisor to guide the planning process.

The EO detailed several modernization initiatives, including the renovation of old cottages and the Balaji RTC bus stand, making pedestrian-friendly footpaths, and introducing smart parking facilities to ease traffic congestion. These efforts aim to improve convenience for pilgrims while maintaining the spiritual essence of the region.

Waste management is another priority, with plans to completely clear accumulated waste within the next two to three months. This initiative aligns with TTD's broader goal of preserving Tirumala's spiritual and environmental sanctity.

In a move to enhance the spiritual atmosphere, 150 cottages have been assigned unique names, with donors contributing to these cottages given the opportunity to choose their preferred names. This step is part of TTD's efforts to blend tradition with modern development.

EO Shyamala Rao reiterated TTD's commitment to transforming Tirumala into a model religious town that balances spiritual beauty with urban excellence. "Our main task is to develop Tirumala in a planned manner and make it a model town," he concluded, underlining the organization's dedication to sustainable growth and improved facilities for devotees.

### TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu Met **Telangana CM Revanth Reddy**

TPN, Hyderabad: Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD)



Sobhanadri Rao, Akula Ramu, message of harmony, selfless-Rudra Sai, Sangeeta Vijayasai, ness, and devotion.

thy, Gade ramchandra Murthy, ing Bhagavan Sathya Sai Baba's

# **Bhogapuram Airport to be Named** After Alluri Sitaramaraju



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly has passed a resolution to name the Bhogapuram International Airport after the legendary freedom fighter Alluri Sitaramaraju. The proposal was introduced by Minister for Investment and Infrastructure B.C. Janardhan Reddy and received unanimous approval in the Assembly.

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, speaking on the resolution, highlighted the immense contributions of Alluri Sitaramaraju to India's freedom struggle. Recalling Alluri's revolutionary acts, including attacks on British police stations in Chintapalli, Krishnadevipeta, and Rajavommangi, the CM stated that Alluri's efforts ignited the spirit of resistance among tribals against colonial oppression.

The CM also pointed out that a bronze statue of Alluri Sitaramaraju was unveiled to mark his 125th birth anniversary, recognizing his legacy as the "Manyam Veerudu" (Hero of the Forest). The Assembly further resolved to

honor his memory by establishing a memorial museum and advocating for a statue of the revolutionary hero in the Indian Parliament. Chandrababu Naidu criticized the previous government for delaying the Bhogapuram airport project over the last five years and reaffirmed his commitment to expediting its completion. "Naming the airport after Alluri Sitaramaraju is a tribute to his sacrifice and an inspiration for future generations," the CM added.

The Legislature's decision marks a significant step in commemorating the legacy of one of India's greatest freedom fighters while advancing the development of vital infrastructure in the state.

Chairman B.R. Naidu called on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in Hyderabad on Thursday.

In a gesture of respect and tradition, B.R. Naidu presented a Pattu Vastram (sacred silk cloth) to the Chief Minister, symbolizing the spiritual connection of the Tirumala temple with devotees across the region. Ac-

knowledging the gesture, CM Revanth Reddy felicitated B.R. Naidu with a shawl and a memento, extending his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes on Naidu's appointment as the TTD Chairman.

The meeting underscored the cultural and spiritual bond between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Both leaders emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting shared traditions while strengthening cooperation for the benefit of devotees and the larger community. The courtesy call highlighted the mutual respect and goodwill between the two states, reaffirming the commitment to upholding the legacy of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam as a beacon of devotion and service.

### BJP Yamini Sharma Warns: "We Will Recover Money Stolen by Jagan"

Yamini Sharma launched a scathing attack on YSRCP leader and former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy, accusing him of corruption and misgovernance during his tenure. Speaking at a media conference held at the BJP office in Vijayawada on Thursday, Yamini Sharma alleged that Jagan's rule over the past five years was synonymous with corruption, authoritarianism, and factionalism.

Yamini Sharma criticized Jagan for diverting funds meant for the poor, including allocations for housing schemes. She accused him of using central government schemes for self-promotion by placing his name

TPN, Vijayawada: BJP Spokesperson and stickers on initiatives funded by the Centre, including land title pattas and welfare projects. Sharma revealed that the Centre had withheld ₹4,000 crores after discovering irregularities in these schemes.

> Highlighting the alleged exploitation of resources, Sharma said thousands of crores were misappropriated through illegal activities involving sand and liquor. She accused Jagan's administration of ruining the lives of the poor and imposing unbearable burdens on women through the sale of adulterated liquor.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts in empowering women, youth, and farmers. She highlighted the achievements of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, which has enabled the construction of 4 crore houses across the country, benefiting SCs, STs, and the differently abled. She pointed out that the Centre had allocated ₹32,000 crores for housing in Andhra Pradesh, with ₹23,800 crores already disbursed for completed projects.

Sharma accused Jagan of

The BJP spokesperson praised neglecting human values and alleged that his administration ranked poorly in law and order, women's safety, and issues related to drugs and alcohol abuse. She assured that the coalition government would complete one lakh houses in two months and focus on equitable development across all communities.

Concluding her address, Yamini Sharma said, "The people of Andhra Pradesh have decided to keep Jagan away from power. The coalition government will bring transformative development in the state over the next five years, showcasing a new era of governance focused on welfare and progress."

# **OPINION**



# The Rise of AI: Why Intel Missed the Bus and Nvidia Took the Lead

As the artificial intelligence (AI) revolution reshapes industries worldwide, it serves as a stark reminder of how rapidly technology can disrupt established giants. The rise of Nvidia, overtaking Intel in the AI space, illustrates how some companies can pivot successfully, while others are left behind. This story is a modern-day parallel to the rise and fall of brands like Remington and Olivetti, once synonymous with typewriters but wiped out by the advent of personal computers (PCs).

Intel, once the undisputed leader in microchip manufacturing, is now struggling to keep pace with Nvidia. The company that pioneered the personal computing era, helping fuel the rise of the 'Wintel' partnership with Microsoft, has found itself steamrolled by the AI surge. While Intel's recent revenue growth has been modest, Nvidia's has surged by an astounding 126% year-on-



year. This dramatic contrast in performance is mirrored in their market capitalizations: Nvidia's worth stands at \$3.61 trillion, nearly 35 times that of Intel's \$104.4 billion.

The primary reason behind this shift is AI's transforma-

tive power, which is reshaping the technology ecosystem. Nvidia, originally known for its graphics processing units (GPUs) used in gaming, has become a leader in the AI field by powering next-generation data centers and cloud computing infrastructure. Intel, on the other hand, has failed to adapt

its chip-making technology to the new demands of AI, finding itself trailing in an industry it once dominated.

To understand how this shift happened, one must look at how technological revolutions often create entirely new categories of products, rather than merely improving existing ones. The personal computer (PC) revolution in the 1980s, enabled by Intel's microchips and Microsoft's operating system, replaced typewriters and sparked a new era. Similarly, the rise of AI is not simply an upgrade to existing technologies but a completely new paradigm that demands different infrastructure and capabilities—ones that Nvidia has quickly capitalized on.

IBM provides a useful lesson in reinvention. Despite its dominance in mainframe computing, IBM adapted to the changing market by focusing on personal computers, creating "IBM compatible" systems, and later embracing Microsoft's Windows operating system. It successfully transformed itself into a hybrid cloud and AI solutions provider. Intel, however, has struggled to reinvent itself in the face of AI's rise.

Brands like Apple, IBM, and Microsoft have excelled by recognizing paradigm shifts early and evolving with them. Apple, for example, transitioned from PCs to mobile devices, from iPods to iPhones, continuously creating new product categories. Intel, on the other hand, has faltered by failing to spot the looming AI threat, allowing Nvidia to emerge as the dominant force in AI chips.

The lesson from Intel's decline and Nvidia's rise is clear: in the face of monumental technological change, companies must be agile and willing to disrupt their own businesses before others do. AI is not a passing trend; it is a fundamental shift that requires new technologies, partnerships, and ways of thinking. As Nvidia takes the lead in this new ecosystem, Intel's failure to adapt serves as a cautionary tale for the tech industry.

# **Modi's Caribbean Outreach:** Strengthening Ties with **Guyana and the Wider Region**

ana marks the final stop of his three-nation tour, which included Nigeria and Brazil. The visit highlights India's increasing engagement with the countries of the Global South, with particular focus on Guyana due to its growing oil reserves and sizable Indian-origin diaspora. This trip is especially notable as it marks the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Guyana in over 56 years.

Guyana's significance in India's foreign policy is rooted in both its natural resources and its cultural ties. With nearly 40% of its population of Indian descent, including President Mohamed Irfaan Ali, Guyana shares deep histor- The strategic importance of Guyana is also ical and cultural links with India, stemming from the 19th-century migration of indentured laborers. India's strategic interests in the region have intensified due to Guyana's rising role as a major oil producer, with experts forecasting it will be among the world's top oil producers by the end of the decade.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Guy- For India, securing energy resources is a key objective. Guyana's vast oil reserves present an opportunity for India to diversify its energy supply chain. Companies like the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) are already exploring opportunities in Guyana's oil fields. Beyond energy, India sees potential in contributing to Guyana's growing infrastructure needs, offering expertise in technology, renewable energy, and defense. In fact, India has already strengthened defense ties, with India delivering two Dornier-228 aircraft to Guyana and enhancing cooperation with the Guyana Defence Force.

# **Rising Anti-Immigrant Sentiment: A Confrontation** in Waterloo Highlights **Growing Tensions**



The agenda for Modi's visit includes discussions on energy, trade, and regional security, as both nations look to deepen bilateral ties. The visit has been marked by a warm reception, with the Guyanese government awarding Modi its highest civilian honor and welcoming him with a guard of honor. Additionally, Modi will co-chair the upcoming Caricom-India Summit with Grenada's Prime Minister, Dickon Mitchell, where leaders from 15 Caribbean nations will discuss cooperation on energy, infrastructure, agriculture, food security, health, and technology.

heightened by China's increasing presence in the region, a growing concern for India. Chinese companies have been involved in significant infrastructure projects in Guyana, such as the expansion of the Cheddi Jagan International Airport and the construction of the Arthur Chung Conference Centre. As Guyana's economy grows, both China and India are competing for influence in the Caribbean, a region traditionally dominated by Western powers.

PM Modi's visit underscores India's commitment to strengthening its ties with the Caribbean, not only through its historical connections but also through modern collaborations in energy, defense, and technology. This trip is a significant step toward cementing India's presence in the region and positioning Guyana as a key player in India's broader geopolitical strategy.



In the peaceful streets of Waterloo, Ontario, a South Asian man found himself the target of a verbal assault by a stranger who accused him of "taking over" Canada. Although this incident might appear to be an isolated event, it serves as a disturbing reflection of broader, escalating anti-immigrant sentiments that are beginning to seep into daily interactions across various societies. This confrontation is emblematic of a deeper issue: the normalization of anti-immigrant rhetoric in political discourse, which is increasingly influencing how individuals treat one another in everyday life.

While this particular encounter might seem like a moment of personal hostility, it speaks volumes about how hostile attitudes toward immigrants can manifest in the public sphere. Immigrants have long been vital contributors to Canada, a country that prides itself on diversity and inclusion. However, the rapid rise in global migration — driven by factors such as conflict, economic instability, and climate change — has created new challenges for both migrants and the societies they join. The question of whether immigrants can assimilate, and if they should, is now a central point of debate in many countries grappling with these shifting demographics.

In recent years, there has been a noticeable shift in political and social narratives, with populist movements amplifying fears of cultural dilution and job competition. These sentiments have been further entrenched by rhetoric that frames immigration as a threat rather than a positive contribution to national growth and development. As these views gain traction, individuals in everyday

life, who may not have previously expressed such sentiments, may feel emboldened to voice prejudices or act in ways that would have previously been socially unacceptable.

The case in Waterloo, while unsettling, is not unique. Similar incidents have been reported across various countries where anti-immigrant rhetoric has taken hold. The sense of alienation that immigrants often feel can be compounded by such encounters, which reinforce a sense of otherness. For those who have come to Canada seeking refuge or a better life, moments like this can serve as a stark reminder that assimilation is not simply about adjusting to new surroundings but also about navigating the social challenges that come with prejudice and exclusion.

As the global pressures driving migration continue to increase, the question of how host societies will accommodate and integrate newcomers remains a critical issue. Immigrants bring with them skills, ideas, and cultures that enrich their new homes, but they also face the daunting task of overcoming negative perceptions and biases. It is essential for societies to not only embrace immigrants on a policy level but also foster an environment where inclusivity and mutual respect are the norm.

The recent incident in Waterloo is a reminder that the fight against discrimination is not just about political policies but also about changing hearts and minds. Only through meaningful engagement and education can societies begin to address the roots of anti-immigrant sentiment and move toward a more harmonious future.





# **PM Modi Conferred Guyana's Highest Civilian Honour, 'The Order of Excellence'**

 $\mathbf{P}_{ ext{dra Modi was awarded}}^{ ext{rime Minister Naren-}}$ Guyana's highest civilian honour, \*The Order of Excellence\*, by President Mohamed Irfaan Ali during a ceremony at the State House in Georgetown. The recognition was given in appreciation of Modi's visionary leadership, advocacy for developing nations on the global stage, and his dedication to strengthening bilateral ties between India and Guyana.

While accepting the award, Prime Minister Modi expressed his gratitude and dedicated the honour to

the people of India, emphasizing the deep-rooted historical relationship between the two nations. He remarked that his state visit to Guyana underscores India's continued commitment to deepening the friendship between the two countries.

PM Modi becomes the fourth foreign leader to receive Guyana's highest award, joining a distinguished group of individuals who have made significant contributions to global development and diplomacy. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal highlighted the significance of the award, noting that it recognizes Modi's exceptional statesmanship and his efforts to strengthen India-Guyana relations.

In his address, Guyana's President Irfaan Ali highlighted the importance of technology, innovation, and digitization in bridging gaps be-



tween nations, rather than exacerbating them. He praised India's leadership in promoting technological advancements for global development, emphasizing that both nations share common values as democracies working together to support the Global South.

Prime Minister Modi acknowledged President Ali's role in elevating India-Guyana ties and reaffirmed India's readiness to collaborate with Guyana in various sectors. He also drew parallels between the rivers of both nations, pointing out that, much like Guyana's iconic rivers, India's rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra have been central to the country's cultural identity for millennia.

The award ceremony underscores the growing relationship between India and Guyana, with both nations committed to enhancing their partnership across various fields.

### Mamata Banerjee Orders Crackdown on Corruption in Bengal Police

West Bengal Chief Minis-ter Mamata Banerjee on Thursday issued a stern warning to the state's top police officials, demanding immediate action against corruption within the ranks of the police force. In a meeting with senior law enforcement personnel, Baneriee directed the state's Director General of Police (DGP), Rajeev Kumar, to ensure that no official or political leader, involved in corruption, escapes legal action.



The Chief Minister further directed the DGP to take strict measures against any central paramilitary personnel, such as those from the CISF, caught in corruption or involved in coal pilfering. "If CISF personnel are found taking money, they will be arrested. I won't tolerate it," Banerjee asserted. She also warned that no politician, regardless of their affiliation, should be spared from legal consequences if found guilty of

# **AAP Targets Congress, Names Defectors in Bid for 2025 Delhi Elections**

A head of the 2025 Delhi Assembly elections, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is reportedly seeking to weaken Congress by recruiting strong candidates from its ranks, sources told NDTV on Thursday. The move highlights the growing tensions between the two parties, despite their cooperation within the broader INDIA alliance at the national level. The AAP's strategy seems aimed at stifling Congress' revival in the capital, particularly in light of the party's poor performance in state elections such as Haryana.

AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, who recently resumed his political duties after securing bail in the alleged liquor policy scam, is set to personally oversee the party's campaign for a third consecutive Delhi election victory. Sources say he will "micro-manage" the election bid, focusing on the performance of each MLA and reviewing constituencies across the city. The party has already released its first list of 11 candidates, including new recruits from Congress and BJP. This indicates that the AAP is actively seeking fresh faces and defectors to bolster its prospects in key areas.

In an effort to counter anti-incumbency, AAP has dropped three sitting MLAs—Gulab Singh (Matiala), Ritu Raj Jha (Kirari), and Abdul Rehman (Seelampur)—in favor of new candidates, including defectors from Congress and BJP. This decision underscores the party's intention to distance itself from any negative perceptions tied to its existing lawmakers.



ering feedback from local surveys to identify potential candidates for each of Delhi's 70 Assembly constituencies. Despite the challenges, including criticism from both Congress and BJP over issues like air quality and urban infrastructure, Kejriwal remains confident about his party's chances.

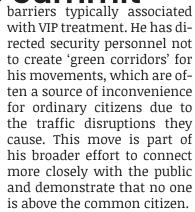
In a recent speech, Kejriwal described the upcoming election as a "dharamyudh" (battle for justice), likening it to the Mahabharata's struggle between the Pandavas and Kauravas. As the campaign gains momentum, AAP's prospects remain uncertain, with the BJP holding strong attacks against the party, particularly regarding the alleged liquor policy scam and its handling of the capital's pollution issues.

The AAP's electoral strategy also includes gath-

### **Omar Abdullah Refuses Special Seat** at National Agriculture Summit

J Minister Omar Abdullah 鱗 made a simple but powerful gesture on Wednesday, refusing to sit in a chair that was specially arranged for him at the 'National Agriculture Summit and Kisan Mela' at the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) in Chatha. Upon noticing that the chair set aside for him was notably larger than the others on

the dais, Abdullah politely requested that it be part of a four-day agricultural summit, Mr. Abreplaced with a seat of the same size as those for the other attendees. His request was met with applause from the audience, underscoring his commitment to humility and equality.



During the event, which was

corruption.

Banerjee expressed concern over the widespread In response to growing concerns about securibribery taking place in the lower ranks of the police, particularly in cases involving illegal activities such as coal and cement smuggling. She also questioned the lack of action by the land department, citing the presence of illegal mining activities. "Local police are not helping. Everyone blames politicians, but some lower-level officers, including police, are involved in taking bribes," she said, emphasizing the need for prompt action.

ty, Banerjee also instructed the police to remain vigilant against smuggling activities, particularly the movement of fake currency and arms through both national and international borders. She called for enhanced border surveillance and regular checks, including active monitoring by the Railway Protection Force (RPF). "I am telling the police to be alert. Fake currency is coming through the international borders, and we need to ensure active naka checking," she added.

## India, Australia Sign Deal For Air-To-Air **Refuelling Of Military Aircraft**

∧ ustralia and India have Aformalized a key defense arrangement that will enable the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and the Indian Armed Forces to conduct air-to-air refuelling operations. This agreement marks a significant step in strengthening the military ties between the two nations, enhancing their ability to collaborate in defense

operations across the Indo-Pacific region.

Air-to-air refuelling is a crucial capability for modern air forces, as it extends the operational range of fighter jets and other aircraft, allowing them to carry out missions far from their home bases. Under the new arrangement, Australia's KC-30A multi-role tanker transport aircraft will be able to refuel Indian military aircraft, including fighter jets and surveillance planes, improving operational flexibility and range.

The agreement was announced during bilateral talks between Australian Minister for Defence Industry and Capability Delivery, Pat Conroy MP,



and Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The formal signing took place on November 19 at the Australia-India Air Staff Talks, where Australia's Deputy Chief of Air Force, Air Vice-Marshal Harvey Reynolds, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership.

"India is a top-tier security partner for Australia," Air

Vice-Marshal Reynolds said in a statement. "This arrangement not only strengthens our defense relationship but also enhances our interoperability, allowing us to cooperate more effectively in various military scenarios."

The deal also paves the way for increased collaboration between the Australian and Indian air forces, with shared training and operational activities. One notable example is the ongoing training between the RAAF and the Indian Navy's P-8I Neptune surveillance aircraft. The refuelling arrangement will soon enable Australia's KC-30A to refuel the P-8I, boosting India's operational capabilities in the region.

The Chief Minister's actions were in line with his leadership style since assuming office on October 16. Abdullah has been emphasizing public accessibility and the need to break down the

dullah engaged directly with the farmers present, touring various stalls set up across the expansive venue. His focus remained on understanding the challenges faced by the farming community and discussing solutions to improve their livelihoods. The Kisan Mela provided a platform for farmers to interact with experts and officials, gaining insight into the latest agricultural practices and technologies.

# Atishi Launches Delhi Solar **Portal for 'Prosumers'**

 $D^{\text{elhi} \ \text{Chief} \ \text{Minister} \ \text{Atissue}}_{\text{shi} \ \text{launched} \ \text{the 'Delhi}}$ Solar Portal' on Wednesday, providing residents with a streamlined, single-window solution for installing rooftop solar panels. The initiative aims to empower Delhiites to become 'prosumers'—individuals who not only consume power but also generate surplus electricity through solar panels on their rooftops.

Atishi, speaking at the launch event at the Delhi Secretariat, emphasized that the portal would help the city meet its ambitious goal of generating 750 MW of rooftop solar power, as outlined in the AAP year. The portal simplifies the process by providing all the necessary information for installation, including a solar calculator to estimate power generation capacity, potential savings, and a list of accredited vendors and rates for solar panels.

In addition to providing detailed guidance on installation, the portal also allows users to apply for net metering and subsidies online, eliminating the need to visit government offices. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal highlighted the convenience of the portal, saying it would enable residents to install rooftop solar panels from the comfort of their homes.

The rooftop solar initiative promises several benefits for Delhi residents. Those with high power consumption (over 400 units per month) will be eligible for subsidies. Consumers who generate more solar power than they consume will receive a generation-based incentive, earning ₹3 per unit for solar plants up to 3 kW, and ₹2 per unit for plants up to 10 kW. Group housing societies and

resident welfare associations will also be eligible for incentives, while commercial and industrial users will receive ₹1 per unit.

government's solar policy launched earlier this The government is offering significant subsidies to encourage adoption of solar power, including a national-level subsidy of ₹78,000 for the installation of a 3 kW solar plant, along with an additional ₹2,000 per kW for plants up to 5 kW. The cost of installation ranges between ₹40,000 and ₹60,000 per kW, with a 1 kW plant generating approximately 100 units of electricity.

> Through this initiative, Delhi aims to reduce its reliance on conventional power sources, promote clean energy, and provide economic benefits to residents while contributing to the city's sustainability goals.





# C-A-R-I-C-O-M Spells Out 7 Key Pillars Of India-Caribbean Cooperation: PM Modi

During the India-CARICOM summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi outlined a seven-pillar programme aimed at fostering deeper cooperation between India and the Caribbean nations. This initiative builds on progress made since the first summit five years ago and focuses on transferring resources and expertise from India to the Caribbean region. The seven pillars, encapsulated in the acronym C-A-R-I-C-O-M, cover diverse sectors such as technology, agriculture, climate change, and healthcare.

The first pillar, \*\*Capacity Building\*\*, includes initiatives such as 1,000 IT scholarships and the expansion of the technology center in Belize to include all CARICOM nations. Modi also proposed establishing a forensic center



and offering online training for civil servants.

\*\*Agriculture and Food Security\*\* is the second pillar. Modi highlighted

India's expertise in agricultural technology and proposed assistance in deploying drones for farming and promoting millets to improve nutrition across the Caribbean. The third pillar, \*\*Renewable Energy and Climate Change\*\*, invites CAR-ICOM countries to join India's global initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, aimed at promoting sustainable energy and addressing climate challenges.

\*\*Innovation and Technology\*\* comes next. India's achievements in digital infrastructure, including the Universal Payment Interface and the eMarketplace for small and medium enterprises, were offered as solutions to enhance innovation in CARICOM countries.

The fifth pillar, \*\*Cricket and Culture\*\*, emphasized using cricket as a tool for women's empowerment, with India offering scholarships for coaching women in the sport. Modi also proposed cultural exchanges and film festivals to promote India's cultural footprint in the region.

\*\*Ocean Economy and Maritime Security\*\* is the sixth pillar. Modi emphasized the Caribbean's potential as large ocean nations, with India offering support in maritime security, connectivity, and resource development.

Finally, \*\*Medicines and Healthcare\*\* focuses on India's affordable healthcare solutions. Modi proposed replicating India's Janaushadi scheme to provide affordable medicines and telehealth services, as well as promoting Indian cancer treatment technologies across the CARICOM region.

# Xi Jinping Calls For Peace In Ukraine, Ceasefire In Gaza During Brazil Visit

Chinese President Xi Jinping called for "more voices" advocating for peace to resolve the Ukraine conflict and a ceasefire in Gaza during his state visit to Brazil's capital, Brasília, where he met Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Their discussions emphasized a joint roadmap for peace in Ukraine and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, echoing earlier calls from the recent G20 summit in Rio.

Xi's plea for a political solution to the Ukraine crisis and a ceasefire in Gaza mirrored sentiments expressed during the G20 meeting, where world leaders, including China, called for comprehensive ceasefires in both regions. While Russia, an ally of China, has endorsed the China-Brazil peace proposal for Ukraine, it has been rejected by Ukraine and its Western supporters. The UN Security Council's recent vote on a ceasefire in Gaza was vetoed by the United relationship. States, Israel's close ally.



ing the strengthening of bilateral relations between China and Brazil, which is now China's largest trading partner in Latin America. Xi declared that China-Brazil relations are at their historical peak, and Lula expressed hope that their growing ties would surpass expectations and lead to new phases in their gest that Xi is positioning China as a leader in multilateral diplomacy, which contrasts with Trump's more isolationist stance.

Both countries are exploring synergies between China's Belt and Road Initiative and Brazil's infrastructure development goals, though no formal agree-

### US Justifies Landmine Supply to Ukraine Amid Shifting Battlefield Tactics

The United States has provided Ukraine with anti-personnel landmines, a significant policy shift, as part of its military aid package aimed at countering Russian battlefield tactics. US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin explained that Russia's military has adapted by leading with infantry forces rather than mechanized units, necessitating new weapons for Ukraine to slow down Russian advancements.

Austin, speaking during a visit to Laos, emphasized that Ukraine's need for "non-persistent" landmines, which can self-destruct or become inert after losing power, was driven by these new Russian tactics. These landmines, according to US officials, pose a lesser risk to civilians because they are designed to deactivate within two weeks if they remain undetonated.

This decision follows other recent US policy reversals, including allowing Ukraine to use longrange missiles on Russian territory. The Biden administration aims to bolster Ukraine's position on the battlefield before President-elect Donald Trump takes office, amid fears that Trump's stance against US aid could weaken Ukraine's defenses. Trump has previously suggested that he could secure a ceasefire quickly, though details remain unclear.



cision, with Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International arguing that even non-persistent mines still pose a significant threat to civilians, particularly after conflicts. Mary Wareham of Human Rights Watch raised concerns about the safety of the aging US landmine stocks and the risks for de-miners, noting that any unexploded ordnance could detonate unexpectedly.

The landmine supply is part of a \$275 million aid package that includes HIMARS rocket ammunition, TOW missiles, and small arms. This increased military support from the US comes as both Russia and Ukraine attempt to gain a strategic advantage before the new US administration begins.

During his visit, Xi and Lula signed 35 cooperation agreements in areas like agriculture, trade, technology, and environmental protection, underscorXi's visit also reflects China's efforts to fill the diplomatic space left by the United States, especially with the looming potential return of Donald Trump to the White House. Experts sugment was made during Xi's visit. One notable agreement was to allow Chinese satellite company SpaceSail to enter Brazil's market, competing with Elon Musk's Starlink.

Rights groups have criticized the landmine de-

The situation underscores the growing urgency to manage the escalation of the conflict, with Russia also lowering its nuclear weapons threshold and Ukraine utilizing new US-supplied missile systems.

### Netanyahu Denounces ICC Arrest Warrants, Calls Them "Anti-Semitic



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has strongly criticized the International Criminal Court (ICC) after it issued arrest warrants for him and his former defense minister, Yoav Gallant, over allegations of war crimes. In a statement released on Thursday, Netanyahu's office called the ruling "anti-Semitic" and rejected the charges as "absurd and false."

The Hague-based court stated that there were reasonable grounds to believe Netanyahu and Gallant were criminally responsible for causing starvation in Gaza and persecuting Palestinians. This followed Israel's military operations in the Gaza Strip in response to attacks from Hamas. The ICC's decision has intensified the ongoing debate surrounding Israel's actions during the conflict.

In a rare display of unity, Netanyahu's political adversaries joined with government allies to condemn the ICC's move. They accused the international body of targeting Israel while deflecting blame for the war's devastating consequences, particularly in Gaza, where thousands of lives have been lost. Netanyahu's office reiterated that the prime minister would not yield to international pressure, emphasizing Israel's right to defend its citizens.

This development comes amid an ongoing and highly contentious war, with widespread international condemnation of the violence in Gaza. The situation remains volatile, with humanitarian concerns growing as both sides continue their military operations. The ICC's decision adds to the complex web of legal, political, and diplomatic challenges facing Israel and its leadership as the conflict rages on.

The international community continues to debate accountability for actions taken during the war, with both Israel and Hamas facing scrutiny over alleged violations of international law.

# India Dismisses Canadian Report on Nijjar Murder Plot as "Smear Campaign

India has vehemently rejected a Canadian media report alleging that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was aware of a plot to kill Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. The report, published in \*The Globe and Mail\*, claimed that India's National Security Advisor and External Affairs Minister were also aware of the alleged conspiracy.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal dismissed the claims as "ludicrous" and labeled the report a "smear campaign" designed to further harm already strained India-Canada relations. In his statement, Jaiswal said that while India typically refrains from commenting on media reports, this particular one—based on unnamed Canadian government sources—should be "dismissed with the contempt they deserve."

The report, citing an unnamed senior na-

tional security official, suggested that Indian officials were complicit in the plot to assassinate Nijjar, who was gunned down in Canada last year. This claim has added fuel to the diplomatic tensions between India and Canada, which have been deteriorating since Canada linked Indian diplomats to the murder in September. In response, India recalled its high commissioner to Canada, and Canada expelled several Indian diplomats.

Jaiswal emphasized that such "smear campaigns" were counterproductive and only served to escalate the ongo-



ing tensions between the two countries. India has consistently rejected Canada's allegations regarding Nijjar's murder, which has become a point of contention in bilateral relations. The case has triggered significant diplomatic fallout, with both nations taking actions against each other's diplomats. India has also accused Canada of harboring Sikh separatists, a charge that Canada has denied. The deteriorating ties between the two countries are now being exacerbated by these allegations, making it unclear when relations might improve.





# **Markets Plunge: Adani Controversy and Global Headwinds** Weigh on Sentiment

 $D_{\rm markets}^{\rm omestic}$ stock have again been once shaken. They ended with huge losses on Thursday. The charges filed against MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM Adani in the US court, negative signals from global mar-

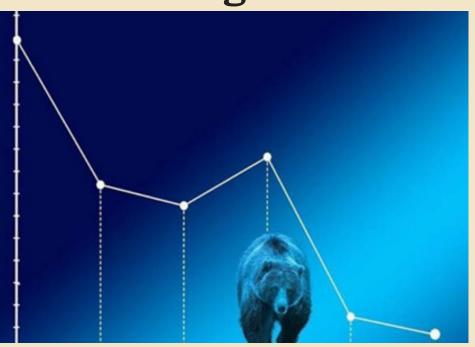


kets, increasing dollar aggression, and crude oil prices are the reasons for this. Early Morning Bad news on Adani led to a loss of 600 points and Nifty of 200 points. The losses were reduced after some recovery.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,578 in the previous session, started at 77,711 today. It reached an intraday high of 77,711. It touched an intraday low of 76,802. It finally closed at 77,155 with a loss of 422 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,488, reached a low of 23,263 and a high of 23,507. It closed down 168 points in total at 23,349. The Bank Nifty fell 253 points rating to Varun Beverages with a tarto settle at 50,372.

In Nifty50, 13 companies gained TVS Motors launches iQube variwhile 37 lost. Power Grid, Ultratech Sem, Hindalco, Apollo Hospitals, Grasim were the top gainers. Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports, SBI Life, SBI, NTPC were the biggest losers. Today, all sectoral indices, except IT, realty, and private bank indices, turned red. Oil and gas, PSU bank, metal, media, FMCG, auto, and bank lost heavily.

Of the 2888 stocks traded on NSE, 827 gained. 1991 lost. 160 stocks touched has denied all these baseless allega-52-week lows. Only 37 hit 52-week highs. NTPC Green IPO was sub-



tors' quota on the second day. There

was not much demand for the rest.

KR Choksi Research has given a buy

get price of Rs 770. HDFC Mutual Fund

increased its stake in TCI Express.

ant in Nepal. RITES signs MoU with

NISE. Vedanta has stopped its bond

sale plan in the wake of the Adani

case. Charges have been filed in the

New York District Court that Gautam

Adani paid bribes to some Indian of-

ficials. Due to this, the shares of the

group companies hit the lower cir-

cuit. Wealth of Rs 2 lakh crore evapo-

rated. Also, his net worth shrank by \$

10 billion. However, the Adani Group

#### Stocks scribed 2.24 times the retail inves-**Recommendation's:**

**CRISIL** Limited

CRISIL is a lead- CRISIL ing credit rating agency in In- An S&P Global Company dia, offering re-

search, risk, and analytics solutions to corporates, financial institutions, and governments. Strong and consistent growth, driven by demand for credit rating services and financial research. Increasing focus on analytics and advisory services boosts diversification.Rising demand for credit ratings due to increased borrowings by corporates and government entities.Expansion into data analytics and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) ratings.A recovers. However, it remains senstable, dividend-paying stock with sitive to macroeconomic and induslong-term growth potential due to its leadership in credit ratings and analytics. It's suitable for conservative, risk-averse investors.

#### **Fortis Healthcare**

Fortis operates a chain of hospitals providing

healthcare services in India and abroad, with specialties including cardiac care, oncology, and critical care. Solid revenue growth, driven by rising demand for quality healthcare services and expansion into smaller cities. Post-pandemic, hospital admissions and elective procedures are on the rise. Fortis is well-positioned to benefit from the healthcare sector's structural growth. Long-term investors seeking exposure to healthcare can consider it.

#### **TajGVK Hotels & Resorts**

TajGVK oper-TAJGVK ates luxury hotels and resorts TAJGVK Hotels & Resorts Limited under the Taj brand, focusing

on business and leisure travelers. Improved operating margins due to cost rationalization and rising occupancy rates. Premium room rates also contribute to profitability. Growth in domestic tourism and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) tourism. TajGVK offers good growth potential for long-term investors as the hospitality industry try-specific risks.

National Aluminium Company (NALCO)

NALCO is a government-owned company engaged in bauxite mining, alumina refin-



ing, and aluminium smelting. It is one of India's largest aluminium producers.Cyclical, heavily influenced by global aluminium prices. Recent years have seen robust growth due to higher demand and pricing. Strong margins in a favorable commodity cycle. Cost advantages due to captive bauxite mines. NALCO is a solid play on the cyclical metals sector with long-term potential driven by rising aluminium demand. It's suited for investors with a high-risk tolerance and a medium-term horizon.

#### **Power Grid Corporation of India**

Power Grid is India's largest electric power transmission company, operating a nationwide network and ensuring पावरग्रिड reliable energy distri-



bution. Stable and predictable, supported by regulated tariffs and longterm transmission agreements. High EBITDA margins due to a regulated return on equity (ROE) model and operational efficiency. Power Grid is a stable, dividend-paying stock with low risk and steady growth. It is ideal for conservative, long-term investors looking for a safe utility play.

### **Oil Prices Jump Amid Ukraine-Russia** Tensions and U.S. Crude Build

O<sup>il prices surged</sup> more than 2% on Thursday, driven by escalating tensions between Russia and Ukraine, which overshad-



tions.

# **A Pre-Planned Attack? U.S. Allegations Against Adani Spark Controversy in India**

G. Avinash Prudhvi: In a dramatic turn of events, the U.S. government has accused the Adani Group of bribing state governments in India with \$250 million during 2021-22. The charges, detailed in a court indictment, allege that the payments were made to secure power purchase agreements (PPAs) for a renewable energy project involving Adani Green Energy and Azure Power, a U.S.-based renewable energy company.



owed the impact of larger-than-exа pected increase in U.S. crude invento-

ries. Brent crude futures rose sile at Ukraine, marking the barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude jumped \$1.53, or 2.23%, to \$70.28.

The spike in oil prices came ly sensitive to potential disafter Ukraine fired British cruise missiles into Russia, marking the latest use of Western-supplied weapons supply. "The risk for oil lies in the ongoing conflict. This in Ukraine targeting Russian followed a similar strike using U.S.-made missiles. In retaliation, Russia launched an Russia will respond to these intercontinental ballistic mis-

by \$1.48, or 2.03%, to \$74.29 per first use of such a long-range weapon in the war, escalating tensions further.

> Analysts from ING noted that the oil market is particularruptions in Russian energy infrastructure, which could significantly affect global oil energy infrastructure, along with uncertainty over how attacks," the analysts stated.

### **SEBI Removes NOC Requirement** for Security Deposit Release

The Securities Exchange of India Board (SEBI) has issued a new circular on November 21,

Objection Certificate (NOC) for process was completed. Howevthe release of security deposits made by companies during their listing process. This move follows an amendment to the SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018 (ICDR Regulations), which had been made on May 17, 2024, to remove the deposit requirement.

Previously, companies intending to list on stock exchanges were required to deposit one percent of the issue size meant for public subscription as a

security deposit. Additionally, they had to submit an NOC issued by SEBI to the stock ex-

changes to release eliminating the need for a No this deposit once the listing er, with the latest circular, SEBI has done away with this requirement, simplifying the process for companies seeking to release their security deposits.

> The updated guidelines, as per the amendment to the ICDR Regulations, reflect SEBI's ongoing efforts to streamline listing procedures and reduce regulatory burdens on companies. The Master Circular issued on November 7, 2022, regarding the issuance of NOCs has also been officially withdrawn.

#### The Allegations and Political Context

The indictment claims that Adani and Azure Power collaborated to supply 12 GW of renewable energy to the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). Adani was allocated 8 GW and Azure 4 GW. However, the project required SECI to secure PPAs with state electricity distribution companies (SDCs), which were reportedly hesitant due to high power costs.

To resolve this, Adani and Azure allegedly paid \$265 million in bribes to SDCs in states governed by opposition parties at the time: Chhattisgarh (Congress), Odisha (BJD), Tamil Nadu (DMK), and Andhra Pradesh (YSRCP). Andhra Pradesh is reported to have received the largest share of the alleged payments.

The indictment has sparked a political firestorm in India. While opposition parties have seized on the allegations to criticize the ruling BJP, they have found themselves on the defensive as the implicated states were under their governance during the alleged bribery period.

#### A Pre-Planned Attack?

The timing and nature of the allegations have raised eyebrows across India. Critics allege a coordinated effort to tarnish the Adani Group's reputation and destabilize the country's financial markets. The controversy broke shortly after the conclusion of key state elections, ensuring it dominated headlines for days.

Observers have noted signs of a preplanned campaign against Adani. Toolkits allegedly circulated in advance appear to have guided online outrage, with social media posts surfacing as early as 4 a.m. to amplify the allegations. The coordinated narrative has fueled speculation that

the attack was orchestrated to harm both ic Party, described as a "scorched earth Adani and India's global standing in re- campaign" aimed at disrupting Adani's acnewable energy.

Adani recently announced a \$10 billion investment in the U.S. renewable energy sector. This has led some to question whether the allegations are an attempt to curb This raises questions about reciprocity. India's expanding influence in the global clean energy market.

#### **Opposition Parties in the Hot Seat**

While opposition leaders have used the allegations to attack the central government, the charges implicate states under their governance, creating a political dilemma. The BJP has pounced on this opportunity, demanding accountability from the Congress, DMK, BJD, and YSRCP for the alleged corruption in their states during the period in question.

The BJP has also pointed out that the indictment itself states, "The charges in the indictment are allegations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty." This has added fuel to the ongoing political debate about the fairness and motives behind the allegations.

#### **Geopolitical Double Standards**

The allegations against Adani Group have could reciprocate by investigating corrupsparked discussions about geopolitical dynamics and selective targeting in global business practices. Critics see this as part of a broader strategy by the U.S. Democrat-

cess to American financing. The involvement of a Biden-appointed attorney has The timing is especially noteworthy as fueled speculation that the allegations are timed to weaken India's renewable energy sector and counter its growing influence.

> Observers argue that Indian courts could similarly investigate American firms accused of bribing U.S. government officials, potentially restricting their access to Indian markets. Such moves could mirror the tactics allegedly being used against Indian companies in foreign jurisdictions.

> The controversy also exposes glaring double standards. Chinese firms, despite their opaque ties to the Communist Party, raise capital in U.S. markets with minimal scrutiny. Meanwhile, American tech, pharma, and banking giants—riddled with corruption allegations and massive fines-operate freely in countries like India. These penalties neither deter misconduct nor hold government officials accountable, highlighting inconsistencies in enforcement.

> The controversy also underscores the need for India to strengthen its own legal and technological safeguards. Some commentators have suggested that Indian courts tion allegations involving American companies, potentially denying them access to Indian markets.





### **ChatGPT's New Live Video Feature Discovered in Latest Beta Release**

hatGPT may soon gain the ability to interact with users through real-time video, thanks to a newly discovered feature in the latest Android beta app. As per reports, evidence of the "Live Video" capability was found during an APK teardown of the ChatGPT for Android beta version 1.2024.317. This new feature is a part of

OpenAI's Advanced Voice Mode, which was initially introduced during the AI company's Spring Updates event in May. Although the emotive voice functionality was launched a few months ago, the Live Video feature has yet to be officially released, and its launch date remains unclear.

The Live Video feature allows ChatGPT to utilize a smartphone's camera, enabling the AI chatbot to process visual data in real time. This development is a significant step toward making ChatGPT more interactive and responsive. With this feature, users can ask the chatbot about their surroundings, and it will provide answers based on the visual input. For example, ChatGPT could scan the contents of a user's fridge and suggest recipe ideas based on the available ingredients. Additionally, the AI can observe the user's facial expressions and attempt to interpret their emotional state, making interac-



tions more personalized and engaging.

This new capability complements the recently introduced emotive voice feature, which allows ChatGPT to communicate in a more natural and expressive manner. Combined, these features aim to make the AI more intuitive and responsive, creating a more lifelike interaction experience for users.

While the live video feature has been detected in the beta version of the app, OpenAI has yet to officially announce a release date. Nevertheless, the discovery has generated significant excitement among users who are eager to explore this new level of interactivity and functionality within ChatGPT. As development continues, this feature could represent a major leap forward in AI-powered communication.

# **K-Dramas: The Unexpected Mental Health Boost**

 $\mathbf{I}_{ ext{yourself}}^{ ext{f}}$  you've ever found yourself glued to a K-drama like \*Squid Game\* or \*Crash Landing On You\*, you're not alone—many viewers are discovering the emotional and psychological benefits of these shows. Therapist Jeanie Chang, a Korean-American expert, explains that K-dramas offer more than just high production values and star power. They tap into universal emotions and struggles, helping viewers reconnect with their feelings and process difficult experiences.

Chang, who was born in Seoul but raised in the U.S., believes that the emotional depth of K-dramas helps people navigate real-life challenges. With storylines covering everything from grief and trauma to the joy of new love, the shows resonate with a wide range of viewers. She explains that watching characters deal with difficult emotions on screen can encourage audiences to confront their own issues in a healthier way.

One of the reasons K-dramas are so impactful is their ability to explore mental health in an accessible way. "Mental health is how you're feeling, how you relate to others, psychologically," says Chang. "We see that in a Korean drama." For many, the themes in these shows transcend cultural boundaries and offer valuable lessons about handling personal struggles.

cially during the pandemic. According to Netflix, the viewership of Korean content increased six-fold between 2019 and 2022, making it the most-watched non-English content on the platform. For American schoolteacher Jeanie Barry, K-dramas provided much-needed emotional support during a difficult time. After watching \*It's Okay to Not Be Okay<sup>\*</sup>, she was able to process her grief and experience emotions she had previously suppressed. She now watches K-dramas exclusively, having seen 114 shows since discovering the genre.

Psychiatrist Im Su-geun adds that K-dramas align with the principles of art therapy, which has been used for decades to help individuals with anxiety and depression. Visual media like these dramas can offer new perspectives, promote healthy values, and help viewers gain insights into their own emotions, making them a surprisingly effective tool for mental health.

The popularity of K-dramas has surged globally, espe-

# iPhone 17 Air: New Design, Features, and Pricing Ahead of Launch

Apple is expected to unveil its much-antic-ipated iPhone 17 series in September 2024, and rumors about the new iPhone 17 Air model have been circulating for some time. The iPhone 17 Air is rumored to replace the current iPhone Plus variant in the lineup, offering an upgraded design and new features. Recently, leaked renders and speculations have revealed exciting details about the device's build, display, camera, and potential pricing.

According to a YouTube video by AppleTrack, the iPhone 17 Air will feature a sleek, ultra-thin build, with a 6.6-inch OLED display supporting built using a combination of titanium and alua 120Hz ProMotion refresh rate. The display is minum, giving it a premium feel. Additionally, expected to offer improved scratch resistance the iPhone 17 Air is likely to sport a 24-megapixel and include the Dynamic Island feature, which front camera, an upgrade from the 12-megapixdebuted in earlier models. The device will be el sensor on the iPhone 16 Plus.



mored to include 2x telephoto functions, similar to the current iPhone 16 model. Apple is also expected to incorporate its first 5G and Wi-Fi chips in this model, along with the new A19 chip and Apple Intelligence features for enhanced performance and efficiency.

As for pricing, the iPhone 17 Air is rumored to be positioned as a premium model, with an expected price range between \$1,299 and \$1,500 (roughly Rs. 1,09,000 to Rs. 1,26,000). This would be a significant increase compared to the iPhone 16 Plus, which is priced at \$899 (around Rs. 75,500) for the base 128GB storage version.

The rear of the iPhone 17 Air is expected to feaof the back panel. The rear camera is also ru- out model in Apple's 2024 lineup.

ture a 48-megapixel single camera, with a de- With these new features and the anticipated sign shift from the left corner to the midline price tag, the iPhone 17 Air is set to be a stand-

### Meta Enhances Messenger with New AI **Features for Calls and Communication**

Meta Platforms has introduced a range of new features to improve the Messenger app, aiming to enhance the experience of audio and video calls. Powered by artificial intelligence (AI), these updates bring a host of new capabilities, including custom backgrounds, HD video calls, and advanced voice and noise features, making it easier for users to communicate more expressively and clearly.

In a recent blog post, Meta outlined the exciting updates coming to Messenger. One of the standout features is HD video calls, which will provide higher-quality visuals during video chats. This feature will be enabled by default for Wi-Fi calls but can also be toggled on when using cellular data. Additionally, the update includes voice isolation and background noise suppression, designed to enhance voice clarity and minimize unwanted environmental sounds. These features can be easily activated in the call settings on Messenger.

Another highlight is the introduction of AI-powered backgrounds. Leveraging Meta's AI assistant, users can now create custom video call backgrounds based on text descriptions. The new backgrounds are accessible through the "Effects" icon during video calls by tapping the "Backgrounds" option. This provides users with greater expressivity, allowing for a more



personalized and creative calling experience.

Meta is also bringing voicemail-like functionality to Messenger. Users will be able to leave audio or video messages when the call recipient doesn't answer. This feature is activated via the "Record message" option that appears once a call goes unanswered, allowing for a more seamless communication experience even when the other party is unavailable.

For iPhone users, Meta is rolling out handsfree calling features. By using Siri, Apple's voice assistant, iPhone users will be able to make calls and dictate messages hands-free, streamlining the messaging process and improving overall usability.

These new features continue to build on recent updates, such as the AI-generated themes introduced in September, making Messenger a more dynamic and user-friendly platform for communication.

# **Australia Launches 'Landmark' Bill to Ban Social Media for Children Under 16**

Australia's centre-left gov-ernment has introduced a bold new bill aimed at protecting children from the potential harms of social media. The proposed legislation seeks to ban children under the age of 16 from using platforms like Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), and Snapchat. In addition to the age restriction, the bill proposes fines of up to A\$49.5 million (roughly \$32 million or Rs. 270 crore) for social media companies found guilty of systemic breaches.

The government plans to trial a strict age-verification system to enforce the social media age limit. This could include biometric data or government-issued IDs as methods to verify the age of users. If passed, this would be one of the toughest regulations on social media usage worldwide, with no exemptions for parental consent or existing accounts.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese called the proposal a "landmark reform," emphasizing that while some children may try to bypass the rules, the legislation is sending a clear message to social media companies to address concerns around child safety. The bill has garnered support from the opposition Liberal party, though members of the Green party and independent lawmakers have called for more details on the specifics of the law.



Under the new proposals, children will still have access to essential online services such as messaging apps, online gaming, and educational platforms like Google Classroom and YouTube. The Albanese government also pointed to youth mental health resources like the Headspace platform as vital services that would remain accessible to children.

The move comes as part of a wider concern by the government over the negative impacts of excessive social media use on the physical and mental health of young people. The legislation targets the dangers posed by harmful body image content and misogynistic material, particularly affecting girls and boys. If approved, Australia's new law would set a global precedent for regulating children's access to social media.



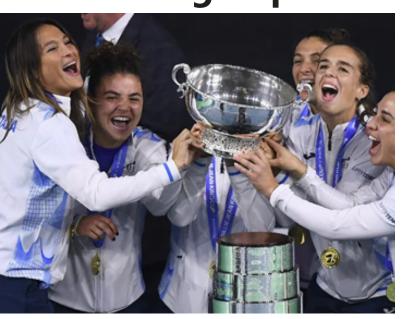


### **Jasmine Paolini Leads Italy to** Fifth Billie Jean King Cup Title

Ttaly clinched their fifth Billie Jean King Cup title on Wednesday, with world number four Jasmine Paolini delivering a dominant 6-2, 6-1 victory over Slovakia's Rebecca Sramkova to seal a 2-0 win for the team. This triumph marked a remarkable comeback for Italy, who were runners-up to Canada in the previous year's final. The victory in Malaga was their first BJK Cup win since 2013.

Paolini's performance capped a sensational year for the 28-year-old, who also finished as the runner-up at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon earlier this season. Reflecting on her achievements, Paolini expressed her disbelief at the remarkable year she had experienced. "Unbelievable year, unbelievable... it's amazing. I don't have words to describe it," she said, adding that she felt "lucky" to be part of the victorious Italian team.

The tie started with Lucia Bronzetti's convincing 6-2, 6-4 win over Viktoria Hruncakova, putting Italy in the lead. Paolini then extended their advantage in the second singles match, breaking Sramkova's resistance with a composed display. The Slovakian, ranked 43rd, fought valiantly but was unable to halt Paolini's charge, as the Italian wrapped up the match in just one hour and five minutes.



Slovakia had made a stunning run to the final, defeating powerhouses like the USA, Australia, and Great Britain, and they showed resilience despite the defeat. Sramkova, who had defeated Danielle Collins and others in the tournament, fought hard but ultimately could not overcome Paolini's brilliance.

In the first singles match, Bronzetti neutralized Hruncakova's powerful game with solid baseline play, securing the first set with ease and managing to regain control in the second after Hruncakova briefly fought back.

Italy's triumph was a testament to the team's cohesion and determination, with captain Tathiana Garbin praising the players for their focus and perseverance throughout the tournament.

Germany Clinches Semi-**Final Spot with 2-0 Victory Over** Canada

ermany advanced to the **U**semi-finals of the Davis Cup with a 2-0 victory over Canada on Wednesday, marking a successful revenge for their 2022 quarter-final loss to the Canadians. Jan-Lennard Struff defeated Denis Shapovalov 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/5), while Daniel Altmaier gave Germany the lead with a 7-6(7/5), 6-4 win over Gabriel Diallo in the opening singles rubber.

Struff's win was a hard-fought battle. The Canadian, known for his powerful serve, took the first set with a forehand winner and looked poised to extend his advantage. However, Struff, ranked 43rd in the world, managed to

break back in the second set and level the match. The third set was a tense affair, with Shapovalov committing multiple double faults, including one crucial mistake in the tie-break that allowed Struff to seal the victory.

"It was a very good, tough game," Struff said after the match. "Shapovalov was firing his serves in, changing directions, and it was tough to read. I managed to stay calm and stay in the game."

Altmaier, ranked 88th, set the tone early in his match, taking a commanding 5-0 lead in the first-set tie-break against Diallo. Despite some nervous moments,

Altmaier held his composure, surviving two break points in the second set before breaking Diallo in the 10th game to win the match.

"I was really nervous coming up to the match," admitted Altmaier. "But talking openly about my nerves helped me a lot."

Germany will now face the Netherlands in the semi-finals after the Dutch team triumphed over Spain, marking the end of Rafael Nadal's illustrious 23-year career. With the win, Germany is one step closer to securing their first Davis Cup title since 1993.

Real Madrid, Lyon, **Chelsea Reach Women's Champions League Quarters** 



# Satwiksairaj, Chirag Shetty, and Lakshya **Sen Reach China Masters Quarters**

Tndia's top badminton duo, Satwik-Lsairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, have advanced to the quarterfinals of the China Masters tournament after securing a commanding 21-19, 21-15 victory over Denmark's Rasmus Kjaer and Frederik Sogaard. This win marks the pair's successful return to international competition after the Paris Olympics. Despite a slow start in the first game, where they trailed 5-2, the Indian duo displayed remarkable resilience and skill to take a narrow 11-9 lead at the break. They kept up the pressure and clinched the first game 21-19.



In men's singles, Lakshya Sen also progressed to the quarterfinals after defeating Denmark's Rasmus Gemke 21-16, 21-18. The 23-year-old shuttler dominated the match from the start, taking a commanding 21-16 win in the first game. Despite Gemke's efforts in the second game, Sen remained in control and sealed the win with a 21-18 finish. This victory extends Sen's head-to-head record

**R**eal Madrid, Lyon, and the game." places in the Women's Champions League quarter-finals hard-fought 3-2 victory over after impressive victories on Twente saw them secure sec-Wednesday. Chelsea extended their perfect record with a Twente's Jaimy Ravensber-3-0 win over Celtic at Stamford Bridge, while Real Madrid triumphed 3-2 against FC Twente, and Lyon overcame Roma 4-1 to maintain their flawless run in Group A.

Chelsea's victory came with one back late through Sophie an early breakthrough from Te Brake, but it was too little, Lucy Bronze, who volleyed in the opener just two minutes into the match. Wieke "I can see Real Madrid go-Kaptein doubled the lead with ing really far in this Woma header midway through the first half, and Eve Perisset sealed the win with a third goal from the penalty spot in second-half stoppage time. This victory marked Chelsea's fourth straight win in Group In Group A, Lyon bounced back B, ensuring their place in the from a shock goal by Roma's knockout stages.

"A great result," said Chelsea manager Sonia Bompastor. "Really happy with the win, the three points, and we are top of the table. It was really ing victory for the eight-time important to score the first European champions. goal, especially really early in

Meanwhile, Real Madrid's ond place in Group A. After gen opened the scoring, Linda Caicedo equalized for Madrid just before halftime. Madrid then took control with goals from Signe Bruun and substitute Alba Redondo, who netted in added time. Twente pulled too late for the Dutch side.

en's Champions League campaign," said Bruun. "It's always been my dream to win trophies, and this one might be the biggest."

Giulia Dragoni to win 4-1. Kadidiatou Diani scored twice in quick succession, followed by further goals from Eugenie Le Sommer and Wendie Renard, securing another commandIn the second game, Rankireddy and Shetty adjusted their strategy, starting strong with three consecutive points to build a 6-3 lead. Although the

closing out the match 21-15. The World No. 9-ranked pair won the match in 44

Danish pair attempted to fight back, the minutes and will face Denmark's Kim nated in their respective second-round Indians maintained control, eventually Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen in the quarterfinals on Friday.

to 4-1 against Gemke. With this win, Sen is the only Indian player remaining in the singles category at the tournament.

Unfortunately, other Indian players, including P.V. Sindhu, Anupama Upadhyaya, Malvika Bansod, and the women's doubles pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, were elimi-

matches in this BWF World Tour Super 750 event.

# Kokkinakis Edges Shelton in Thrilling Tie-**Break to Give Australia Davis Cup Lead**

Thanasi Kokkinakis gave Australia a 1-0 lead over the Unit-ed States in their Davis Cup quarterfinal on Thursday, edging Ben Shelton 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (16/14) in a dramatic tie-break. The match, which saw Kokkinakis save four match points and miss six of his own, ended when Shelton hit a shot long, allowing the Australian to claim victory after a nerve-wracking 30-point tie-break.

Australia, with 28 Davis Cup titles, is second only to the United States, who have won 32 times. Despite not winning the tournament since 2003, Australia has finished as runners-up in the last two editions. Kokkinakis' win was a crucial moment for his team, and he expressed his joy after the match, saying, "I don't know if I've been that pumped up in my life, I wanted that one bad, I wanted to help my team." The Australian also acknowledged the trust shown in him by captain Lleyton Hewitt, adding, "Lleyton showed faith in me... I just wanted to give it my all."

Shelton, making his Davis Cup debut, started the match nervously, allowing Kokkinakis to win six straight games after Shelton held serve in the first game. Kokkinakis capitalized on the American's early jitters to take the first set quickly. However, Shelton responded in the second set, playing with more confidence, breaking Kokkinakis early, and holding off four break points before sealing the set 6-4 with an ace.

The third set was a tense affair, with neither player able to break serve, leading to a thrilling tie-break. Kokkinakis kept his cool



under pressure, ultimately winning 16-14 to secure the match.

In the second rubber, Australia's Alex de Minaur will face world No. 4 Taylor Fritz, who was the runner-up at the ATP Finals last week. Later, defending champions Italy will take on Argentina in the last quarterfinal of the day. The winner of that match will face either Australia or the United States in the semifinals.





# Allu Arjun and Sreeleela Set to Dazzle in \*Pushpa 2\*'s Dance Number "Kissik"

The iconic song \*Oo Antaava Maawa\* from \*Pushpa: The Rise\*, featuring Allu Arjun and Samantha, became a massive sensation in 2021, contributing significantly to the film's success, especially in the Hindi market. Now, as excitement builds for \*Pushpa 2\*, the makers are all set to repeat the magic with an ultra-massive dance number, \*Kissik\*, featuring the latest sensation, Sreeleela, alongside Icon Star Allu Arjun.

The song \*Kissik\* has generated tremendous anticipation among fans, and the makers have confirmed that it will be unveiled on November 24 at 07:02 PM. The announcement came with a striking poster showcasing Allu Arjun and Sreeleela, both known for their impeccable dance moves, teasing an electrifying performance. Fans are eagerly awaiting this high-energy track, which is expected to set the stage on fire with its choreography and music.

In a move to heighten the excitement, the makers are planning a special event in Chennai for the grand launch of \*Kissik\*. The movie is currently in its final stages of production, with editing work ongoing to ensure a polished final product. The action-packed mass drama, directed by Sukumar, is gearing up for a grand release on December 5, 2024.

Rashmika Mandanna returns as the female lead in this sequel, continuing her role as Srivalli. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, \*Pushpa 2\* promises to be a larger-than-life cinematic experience, packed with intense action, powerful performances, and unforgettable music. With the combined star power of Allu Arjun, Sreeleela, and Rashmika Mandanna, and a highly anticipated soundtrack, \*Pushpa 2\* is all set to dominate the box office and further cement its place in the hearts of fans.



# Sarangapani Jathakam teaser promises a fun-filled ride

🗖 omedi an-turned-hero Priyadarshi has teamed up director with Mohanakrishna Indraganti for a fresh and exciting comedy drama titled \*Sarangapani Jathakam\*. The film, which features Roopa Koduvayur as the female lead, promises to be a delightful journey full of humor and unexpected twists.



The teaser of the film was digitally launched by none other than Vijay Deverakonda, building excitement for the upcoming release. \*Sarangapani Jathakam\* introduces Priyadarshi in a new light, portraying a character who places absolute faith in his horoscope. At first, his life appears to follow a smooth and predictable path, with everything aligning perfectly according to the stars. However, as he becomes increasingly obsessive about strictly adhering to his horoscope's predictions, his life begins to spiral out of control. His personal and professional worlds collide in chaotic and humorous



porting cast. Vennela Kishore and Srinivas Avasarala, known for their stellar comedic performances, add an extra layer of humor to the film, ensuring that audiences will be in for a fun-filled experience. Their presence in the film promises to elevate the overall comic effect, making it a treat for fans of comedy.

Produced by Sridevi Movies, \*Sarangapani Jathakam\* is set to hit the screens on December 20, 2024. The film also features a captivating musical score composed by Vivek Sagar, further enhancing its appeal. With a mix of comedy, drama, and an intriguing storyline, this film is shaping up to be a must-watch this edy-drama films can look forward to a laughter-filled experience that explores the amusing consequences of believing too much in the stars.

# **RAPO 22 launched with a** pooja ceremony

Ustaad Ram Pothineni has embarked on an exciting new project with the young and talented director Mahesh Babu. This collaboration is expected to bring a refreshing and emotional narrative, marking a significant shift in Ram's filmography. The film's pooja ceremony, which took place today in Hyderabad, kicked off the much-anticipated venture with great fanfare.

The event was attended by a host of notable personalities from the film industry, including Ram

Pothineni, actress Bhagyashree Borse, and producers Ravi Shankar and Naveen Yerneni. Director Mahesh Babu was also present, alongside acclaimed filmmakers Hanu Raghavapudi and Gopichand Malineni. The pooja ceremony was a joyful occasion, with Hanu Raghavapudi performing the first clap for the lead pair and Gopichand Malineni switching on the camera to mark the official beginning of the project. The celebration highlighted the excitement and expectations surrounding the film, which is currently being referred to by its working title. RAPO 22.



Mythri Movie Makers, the film is expected to have a substantial budget, ensuring high production values and grand visuals. As of now, there has been little disclosed about the key cast and technical crew, but fans and industry insiders are eagerly awaiting more updates.

This film is expected to be a departure from Ram Pothineni's previous works, as it promises to explore more emotional and nuanced themes, providing a fresh experience for his fans. With Mahesh Babu at the helm, known for his exceptional storytelling skills, \*RAPO 22\* has already generated a lot of curiosity and anticipation. Stay tuned for more details as the project progresses and more information about the cast and crew is unveiled in the coming weeks.

ways, creating a roller-coaster ride of comedic holiday season. Fans of Priyadarshi and comsituations.

One of the most appealing aspects of the teaser is the impeccable comic timing of the supWhile specific details about the film's title and release date are yet to be revealed, the buzz surrounding the project is palpable. Produced by

# First Single from \*Tandel\* Set to Be a Chartbuster

excitement The **L** among fans and general audithe ence surrounding the much-awaited movie \*Tandel\* is palpable. Starring Akkineni Naga Chaitanya in the lead role and featuring the beautiful Sai Pallavi as the heroine, the film has already created a huge buzz. Directed by Chandu Mondeti, this film is poised to captivate audiences with its engaging storyline, impressive performances, and breathtaking visuals.

One of the most talked-about aspects of \*Tandel\* has been the release of its latest song, "Buzzi Talli." Composed by the sensational Rockstar Devisree Prasad, the song has generated immense curiosity among

fans. Known for his remarkable ability to create see how the film unfolds on the big screen. memorable tunes, Prasad's melody in "Buzzi Talli" is already being hailed as a musical masterpiece. The soothing, soulful music promises to strike a chord with listeners, and early reactions indicate that it could become an instant chartbuster.

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What makes the song even more special is the

soulful rendition by renowned playback singer Javed Ali. His voice adds depth and emotion to the composition, taking the melody to a whole new level. Fans are already praising the track for its simplicity and emotional depth, and it's clear that "Buzzi Talli" will be a standout number in the film's soundtrack.

Produced by Bunny Vas, \*Tandel\* boasts a grand scale and has been made with a substantial budget, ensuring that every aspect of the film is topnotch. With the song already generating such a positive response, expectations are sky-high for the movie's release. The makers are gearing up for a worldwide release on February 7, and fans can hardly wait to

As the date draws nearer, the buzz surrounding \*Tandel\* is only growing, and with the magic of Devisree Prasad's music and Javed Ali's mesmerizing vocals, \*Tandel\* is set to be one of the most anticipated films of the year.

### **Bhairavam<sup>\*</sup>** Generates Buzz with **Intense Updates and Star Cast**

Tollywood is abuzz with excitement as the much-awaited multi-starrer \*Bhairavam\* brings together three popular heroes— Bellamkonda Srinivas, Nara Rohit, and Manchu Manoj—in a high-octane action-packed film. The movie has been generating significant interest among the audience, thanks to a series of engaging updates, posters, and glimpses of the film's progress shared regularly on social media. With its growing buzz, \*Bhairavam\* is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated releases in Tollywood.

Directed by Vijay Kanakamedala, \*Bhairavam\* promises to be an intense action entertainer, featuring a gripping storyline and powerful performances from its lead cast. The film's makers have already introduced the main characters, but the latest update has raised expectations even further. Starting tomorrow, the film unit will unveil crucial "forgotten" intense characters that will play a significant role in driving the plot forward. This revelation is expected to add more layers to the story, keeping fans intrigued as the narrative unfolds.

The cast of \*Bhairavam\* is vast and impressive, with each character bringing their own unique energy to the screen. Aditi Shankar and Anandi have been confirmed as the heroines, and their presence adds a romantic element to the otherwise intense and action-driven storyline. The music for the film, composed by Sricharan, is set to blend classical melodies with the pulse of action, enhancing the film's dramatic appeal.



Produced by KK Radhamohan with a substantial budget, \*Bhairavam\* is being crafted on a grand scale, ensuring that the audience experiences a visually stunning cinematic journey. The film's action sequences, character depth, and strong performances are already creating waves of excitement among fans.

As the countdown begins for the film's release, \*Bhairavam\* is quickly becoming one of the most talked-about projects in Tollywood, and audiences are eager to see how the intense and powerful characters come to life on screen.