

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

H 33° C

L 25° C

VIJAYAWADA

H 35° C

L 26° C

TIRUPATHI

H 36° C

L 26° C

NRI HOSPITAL@LINGAMANENI

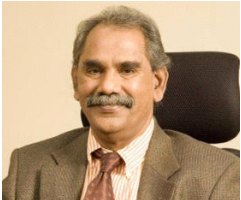
TPN, Amaravati: NRI Hospital was famous for medical services earlier, but now it is known for financial disputes. These disputes involve political leaders and a power broker. The hospital was established by 32 doctors from the Guntur and Krishna districts. All these doctors had settled in the USA but, driven by their love for their native place, wanted to serve the people here. For this, they left their lucrative income abroad and returned to India. In its initial days, it was the only large hospital in the Vijayawada-Guntur region. Over time, it gained a good reputation and later obtained permission to establish a medical college as well. However, as the hospital began generating significant wealth, differences started to arise among the directors. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these differences escalated due to the large influx of money at the time. Earlier, Mr. Alapati Rajendra Prasad, a former minister, used to mediate to resolve their disputes. Later, Mr. Lingamane-ni Ramesh, a well-known and influ-ential power broker, became involved. It is widely known that he is close to Mr. N. Chandrababu Naidu and Mr. Pawan Kalyan. During the pandemic, some directors reportedly collected large sums of money from patients, exploiting their desperation. Many hospitals were ac-cused of similar practices. However, as all the directors belong to a com-munity perceived as an adversary by the then Chief Minister, Mr. YS Jagan-mohan Reddy, the hospital became a target for police intervention, which



allegedly sought to widen the rift among the directors. Mr. Lingamaneni Ramesh reported-ly interfered in the disputes and, al-legedly, sought to benefit himself. He proposed selling shares and excess land of the hospital to resolve the dis-putes and settle the amounts owed to some directors. Desperate directors accepted the proposal.

Mr. BS Rao, the founder chairman of Chaitanya Institutions, ap-

proached Mr. Lingamaneni for the procurement of land. Mr. Lingama-neni identified 33 acres of vacant land belonging to NRI Hospital and took an ad-vance payment from Mr. BS Rao, promising to close the deal. However, the deal did not go through as Mr. Lin-gamaneni allegedly did not transfer



the payment to NRI Hospital. This led to some directors rejecting the deal, causing trouble for Mr. BS Rao.

In a press meet, Mr. BS Rao ac-cused Mr. Lin-gamaneni of cheating him and taking more than Rs. 300 crores. FIRs were filed against Mr. Lingamaneni. Within a few days, Mr. BS Rao passed away. Mr. Lingamaneni denied the allega-tions, claiming he had taken only Rs. 110 crores.



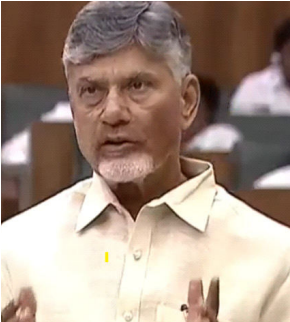
Meanwhile, Mr. Lingamaneni report-edly managed the groups of directors cleverly, promising them a resolution and funds, but he did not disclose the money received from Mr. BS Rao. With his connections to influential figures, Mr. Lingamaneni approached Megha Krishna Reddy, a contractor known for handling major projects for both state governments, irrespective of the ruling parties.

Mr. Lingamaneni allegedly sold the shares of NRI Hospital to Megha Krishna Reddy. However, there is no clarity on the actual payment received by Mr. Krishna Reddy and what was distributed to the direc-tors. Some directors, suspecting fraud, opposed the sale of shares, further escalating the dispute.

Rumors suggest that Mr. Lingama-

neni does not want a resolution but instead prefers to keep the issue alive to extract more money. Earlier, he achieved success in real estate and later expanded his business into air-lines with the support of the ruling party. The change in government ad-versely impacted his real estate and other business ventures. Since then, he has been seeking opportunities like the NRI Hospital dispute.

Now, he must settle the issue with the directors and pay the required amounts by securing more money from Megha Krishna Reddy. With the recent change in govern-ment, where the TDP-JSP-BJP coalition is now in power, this situation may work to Mr. Lingamaneni's advantage. Reportedly, he has de-vised a new and potentially danger-ous plan, which could have signif-icant implications for the current ruling parties and their leaders.



The shocking facts will be revealed in part 2, which will be published tomorrow.

99th Birthday

BHAGAWAN

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA

LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

HELP EVER HURT NEVER

99

years of

SRI SATHYA SAI

MURTHY NAIDU

PADAM

Managing Director

True Point Communications



“Govt Will Not Spare Wrongdoers”

TPN, Amaravati: Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized the government's commitment to hold accountable those who have done wrong, stating that no one will be spared for illegal actions. Speaking to the media in the Assembly lobby on Friday, Lokesh praised the courage of TDP workers, contrasting it with what he described as the cowardice of YSRCP leaders. Despite facing harassment through illegal cases over the past five years, TDP workers had remained resilient, he said.

Lokesh accused YSRCP leaders of using political asceticism as an excuse, particularly after the police issued notices regarding obscene posts on social media. He asserted that TDP workers had not committed any wrongdoing but had bravely fought against unjust actions. The Minister also reaffirmed the government's firm stance on addressing inappropriate social media content, underscoring that it would take necessary action against anyone involved.

He also raised questions regarding YSRCP's participation in the legislative process, querying why their leaders were not actively engaging in committee votes, if they lacked the strength to do so. Lokesh further discussed the work being done to address the MLAs' petitions. He provided a status



report on petitions received, explaining the reasons behind any unresolved matters, and highlighted that a new system of petition responses was being implemented, similar to the approach used with Central Ministers.

Regarding school timings, Lokesh acknowledged concerns raised by some MLAs. He clarified that the increased timings were being tested as a pilot project, with the government open to making adjustments based on feedback. The Minister also announced plans to expand sports activities in schools, aiming to enhance both the physical and

I Will Be the Chief Minister for the Fifth Time



- Chandrababu's Speech on Vision Document-2047
- Reveals That If We Do Good Deeds, People Will Make Us Win
- Confident That He Will Become an MLA for the Tenth Time
- PowerPoint Presentation on Vision Document-2047 in the AP Assembly

TPN, Amaravati: During the presentation, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu made interesting comments. He expressed confidence that he will become the Chief Minister for the fifth time. He stated that if good deeds are done, people will reward them by ensuring victory. He emphasized the need for everyone to work together to win again and bring Vision 5.0 to fruition.

Chandrababu pointed out that Gujarat has had the same party in power for the last 30 years, with the BJP consistently winning. He also noted that the BJP had won for the third time in Haryana as well. Chandrababu explained that by making people aware through behavior and actions, they will always support the leadership. He expressed confidence in becoming an MLA for the tenth time, after already serving as an MLA for the ninth time.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu spoke during the discussion on Vision Document-2047 in the AP Assembly. He said that he had previously introduced Vision-2020 and is now unveiling Swarnandhra Vision-2047. He revealed that the slogan for this Vision-2047 is "WHH." Chandrababu explained that WHH stands for Wealth, Health, and Happiness. He stated that efforts are being made to ensure that Vision-2047 remains intact and is not compromised in the future. He explained that wealth creation in society has been

made possible using the P3 formula, while poverty eradication can be achieved through P4. Chandrababu emphasized the need to break away from routine practices and move forward with innovative approaches. He noted that India is on track to become the third-largest economy and will achieve the status of a developed country by 2047.

On this occasion, CM Chandrababu Naidu announced 10 principles for Swarna Andhra:

- Poverty-Free Society
- Jobs
- Skill and Human Resource Development
- Conservation of Water Resources
- Farmers and Agri-Tech
- Global, Best Logistics
- Price Control in Power and Energy Sectors
- Product Perfection
- Clean Andhra Pradesh
- Deep Tech

Jagan Destroyed AP's Brand Image

It is known that cases have been registered against eight people, including Adani, in a US court. The fact that former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's name is also mentioned in this case is causing a stir. The news that the former head of the government received Rs. 1,750 crore in bribes is shaking Andhra Pradesh politics. Several members of the AP Legislative Assembly have raised this issue, and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has also spoken on the matter.

Chandrababu criticized Jagan for destroying Andhra Pradesh's brand image. He said that the situation has become so dire that it is difficult even to mention the corruption committed by Jagan. He claimed to have the charge sheet filed in the US court and stated that he would study it further to gather more information and respond appropriately.

He assured that his government is carefully monitoring the issue. He expressed anger over the mistakes Jagan made as Chief Minister, stating that no leader in history has made such errors. He further criticized the previous YSRCP government for its mistakes, accusing it of portraying those errors as truth.

Janasena MLA Secures Key Position as AP PAC Chairman

TPN, Amaravati: The selection process for the Andhra Pradesh Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Chairman has concluded, with the Jana Sena Party clinching the coveted post. Bhimavaram MLA Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu, also known as Anjibabu, has been elected as the PAC Chairman, marking a significant development for the party. Alongside him, eight others have been nominated as committee members.



Traditionally, the position of PAC Chairman alternates between the ruling party and the opposition. In 2019, during the YSR Congress Party's (YSRCP) tenure in power, this position was allocated to the opposition Telugu Desam Party (TDP). Notably, the current Finance Minister, Payyavula Keshav, served as the PAC Chairman during that period.

However, this tradition has now ended. The YSRCP was unable to secure the post this time, largely due to its lack of official opposition status and inadequate numerical strength in the Assembly. In contrast, Jana Sena, a key partner in the ruling coalition with 21 legislators, secured the post.

To qualify for the position of PAC Chairman, a party requires a minimum of 18 members in the Assembly. Despite not meeting this requirement, the YSRCP initially fielded senior leader and former minister Peddireddy

Ramachandra Reddy as its candidate. However, amid evolving political dynamics and an inevitable contest, the YSRCP withdrew from the race and boycotted the elections.

The newly elected PAC members include:

- Sriram Rajagopal (TDP - Jaggayyapet)
- B.V. Jaya Nageshwar Reddy (TDP - Emmiganur)
- Arimilli Radhakrishna (TDP - Tanuku)
- Muthumulla Ashok Reddy (TDP - Giddalur)
- Burla Anjaneyulu (TDP - Prathipadu)
- Nakka Anand Babu (TDP - Vemuru)
- Kolla Lalithakumari (TDP - Sringavarapu Kota)
- Vishnu Kumar Raju (BJP - Visakhapatnam North)

This development underscores Jana Sena's growing influence in Andhra Pradesh politics while signaling a significant shift in the state's legislative dynamics.

Deepam-2 Scheme Reaches 50 Lakh Beneficiaries in Just Three Weeks – Minister Nadendla

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In Andhra Pradesh Deepam-2 scheme, which provides three free cooking gas cylinders annually to eligible families, has reached a significant milestone with 50 lakh beneficiaries within just three weeks of its launch.

The state's Minister for Civil Supplies, Food, and Consumer Affairs, Nadendla Manohar, expressed pride in the scheme's success during a special program at Krishna Lanka, Vijayawada, on Friday. He highlighted that the initiative, which aims to improve the living standards of families by ensuring cleaner cooking methods, has already made a notable impact.

The program, which was first introduced by Nara Chandrababu Naidu in 1999, continues to prioritize the health and safety of women, addressing the health risks caused by traditional cooking methods. Minister Manohar clarified that the state has 55 lakh cooking gas connections and confirmed that the Deepam-2 scheme is being implemented successfully with minimal complaints. He also addressed misinformation about the scheme's scope, stating that only 1.55 crore gas connections are available in the state, contrary to claims of 1.85 crore.

Minister Kandula Durgesh Unveils New Policy to Boost Tourism Sector In AP

TPN, Amaravati: In a significant move aimed at transforming Andhra Pradesh into a global tourist destination, Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh introduced the state's new tourism policy in the AP Legislative Assembly on Friday. Durgesh highlighted the positive impact of the industry status granted to the tourism sector by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, stating that this decision has provided a major boost to the industry. The new policy, which focuses on economic development, employment generation, and cultural exchange, envisions making Andhra Pradesh a leader in the country's tourism sector by 2029. Durgesh explained that the coalition government's goal is to promote responsible tourism and sustainable development. The policy aims to increase the Gross Value Added (GVA) from 4.6% to 28% and raise tourism-related employment from 12% to 15%. The minister detailed ambitious plans for the state's tourism infrastructure, including the creation of tourism circuits to encourage extended stays. The state aims to increase the number of hotel rooms from the current 3,500 to 10,000, and expects an investment of Rs. 25,000 crores in the sector under the PPP method.

Govt Increases Reservation in Sports Quota - Minister Ram Prasad Reddy

TPN, Amaravati: In a move that has brought joy to athletes across Andhra Pradesh, State Sports Minister M. Ram Prasad Reddy announced on Friday that the reservation in the sports quota for athletes will be increased from 2 percent to 3 percent. This decision is expected to provide greater opportunities for athletes in securing government jobs and further boosting sports culture in the state. Speaking in the AP Legislative Assembly, Minister Reddy shared the vision for the future of sports in Andhra Pradesh, under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. He revealed that the state's sports policy is being designed with a 2047 vision to transform Andhra Pradesh into a global sports hub. Reddy highlighted that the state is making significant strides in promoting sports and physical activities for all, including para sports, as well as sports for the deaf and blind. He also emphasized that digital certificates will be issued to participants through an app to streamline the recognition process.

SIT Launches Investigation into Adulterated Ghee Case in Tirumala

TPN, Tirumala: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) has begun a full-scale investigation into the adulterated ghee case in Tirumala, a matter that has raised significant concerns regarding the integrity of the sacred food offerings. The SIT team, which will visit both Tirupati and Tirumala, has set up a temporary office at the Bhudevi Complex in Tirupati for efficient coordination.

The investigation will be carried out by four specialized teams formed under the SIT, which will examine the role of AR Dairy Foods, the supplier of the ghee. Investigators will also inspect the laddu potu, sales centers, and raw materials used in the preparation of the famous Tirumala laddus. Additionally, it is expected that Sri Vaishnavas, who are involved in the laddu preparation process, may be questioned as part of the investigation.

The SIT's findings will be compiled into a report, which will be submitted to the CBI Director for further review.

AP Legislative Council Approves 8 Key Bills, Adjourns Indefinitely

TPN, Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council recently approved eight important bills that had already been passed in the Legislative Assembly. Among the bills approved were significant amendments and repeals aimed at streamlining governance and reducing burdens on the public. Key measures included the approval of the Lokayukta Amendment Bill 2024, and the GST Amendment Bill, which seeks to reduce taxes on natural gas consumption. The Goods and Services Amendment Bill 2024 and the AP Land Grabbing Act 2024 Repeal Bill were also passed, with the latter aiming to address concerns about land ownership and its protection.

CAG Report on CFMS Reveals Significant Financial Concerns in AP

TPN, Amaravati: For the first time, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) presented a report on the Comprehensive Financial Management System (CFMS) in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, shedding light on the state's financial health. The report, which covers the period from 2018 onward, reveals some concerning trends regarding the state's revenue and expenditure.

According to the CAG, financial transactions have been managed through CFMS since its implementation. However, the report highlights a sharp decline in revenue collection for the state in the financial year 2022-23, with a significant drop in comparison to previous years. Expenditure has risen sharply by 26.45%, and the revenue deficit has ballooned by a staggering 405% from the previous year, reaching Rs. 8,611 crore. The total revenue deficit for 2022-23 stands at Rs. 43,487 crore, further exacerbating the state's financial challenges.

Pawan Kalyan and Botsa Satyanarayana Share a Warm Moment in Assembly Premises

TPN, Amaravati: An unexpected and cordial moment unfolded in the Andhra Pradesh assembly premises on Friday as Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and YCP MLC Botsa Satyanarayana greeted each other warmly. The encounter occurred as Pawan was heading to his car outside the assembly. Noticing Pawan, YCP MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy and other legislators stepped aside. At that moment, Botsa Satyanarayana greeted Pawan with a smile. In response, Pawan approached Botsa, and the two exchanged a hug, shook hands, and parted ways amicably. The interaction, though brief, has drawn significant attention in political circles, highlighting the occasional moments of civility amidst heated debates in the assembly.



Everyone Knows Who is Spreading False Propaganda Against Sharmila – MLA Balakrishna



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: TDP MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna responded to recent allegations made by AP PCC President YS Sharmila during a media interaction at Gannavaram airport. Addressing the claims that false propaganda against Sharmila originated from his household, Balakrishna dismissed the allegations, stating: "Everyone knows who is spreading false propaganda against Sharmila. Why should I care about this when they themselves seem unconcerned about it?" His remarks come after Sharmila reiterated her denial of any relationship with actor Prabhas, even taking an oath on her children to emphasize her stance. She had accused YSRCP Chief Jagan Mohan Reddy of orchestrating the rumors and claimed they were spread from Balakrishna's house. Balakrishna's comments have drawn attention due to the timing, as Sharmila's statements accusing Jagan of spreading malicious rumors have already sparked political ripples. In addition, Balakrishna criticized the YSRCP for its lack of participation in assembly proceedings. He alleged that the party preferred hiring individuals for propaganda over constructive participation in governance. "It would be better if the YSRCP didn't attend the assembly on Friday either. They have no intention of contributing meaningfully," Balakrishna remarked. His statements have further intensified the ongoing political war of words, with both sides trading accusations as the assembly sessions unfold.

Kakani Govardhan Files Complaint Against Inappropriate Social Media Posts on Jagan



TPN, Nellore: YCP Nellore district president and former minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy lodged a complaint with Vedayapalem police, alleging that inappropriate posts targeting YCP chief and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy are being circulated on social media. Kakani demanded strict action against those responsible for these posts. Addressing the media after filing the complaint, Kakani accused TDP activists of orchestrating a smear campaign against Jagan. He remarked: "Some TDP activists are posting outrageous and inappropriate content about Jagan on social media. Despite repeated complaints, the police have not taken sufficient action." Kakani revealed that detailed evidence of these posts was collected and submitted to the authorities. He also pointed out that such posts have continued unabated, even during Jagan's tenure as Chief Minister. The former minister criticized the alleged role of TDP National General Secretary Nara Lokesh, accusing him of leading a campaign of agitation through TDP social media activists. Kakani demanded parity in legal actions, stating: "Just as cases are being filed against YCP activists, the same must be done against TDP activists. The Constitution applies equally to everyone." He also expressed frustration over a case being filed against him for sharing the grievances of a Dalit individual allegedly harassed by Somi Reddy on WhatsApp. Kakani accused TDP leaders of creating fake IDs in the names of YCP activists to post defamatory content. The complaint has escalated tensions between the YCP and TDP, further fueling the ongoing political rivalry in the state. Police have assured that an investigation into the allegations is underway.

Varla Ramaiah Launches Scathing Attack on Jagan

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: TDP Polit Bureau member Varla Ramaiah lashed out at former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of orchestrating the arrest of TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu as part of a factional agenda. Speaking to the media, Ramaiah alleged that Chandrababu's arrest in the skill development case was based on fabricated evidence and false testimonies provided by corrupt officials. "The arrest of Chandrababu, who has done no wrong, is illegal and driven by political vendetta. A1 Jagan, A2 Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy, and A3 Kolli Raghurami Reddy, who played active roles in this conspiracy, should be arrested immediately," Ramaiah demanded. Ramaiah criticized the differential treatment in jails, claiming that Chandrababu was denied basic facilities like hot water while corrupt individuals like Ganula Venkata Reddy, accused of a ₹2,000 crore scam, were being given luxurious accommodations in jail. "Seeing Chandrababu lying on a cement table in Rajahmundry jail breaks our hearts. This government has made a mockery of justice while pampering real criminals," he said. The TDP leader also took a dig at Ja-



gan's personal relationships, accusing him of hypocrisy. "Jagan, who is estranged from his own mother and sister, criticizes Chandrababu, a leader who has always prioritized integrity and family values," Ramaiah remarked. He further alleged that Jagan's political motives were evident even during YS Rajasekhara Reddy's tenure. "It is true that Jagan's mother, Vijayamma, once pleaded with former CM Rosaiah to prevent her son from entering Andhra Pradesh. And yet, Jagan remains silent on the murder of his own uncle, Baba Vivekananda Reddy, and the injustice faced by Dalits like Dr. Sudhakar," he said. Ramaiah concluded with a demand for an impartial investigation and justice for Chandrababu Naidu, while criticizing Jagan's governance as divisive and vindictive.

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Vegulla Jogeswara Rao Appointed as Chairman of Estimates Committee with Cabinet Rank

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Ambedkar Konaseema district's Mandapet MLA Vegulla Jogeswara Rao has been appointed as the Chairman of the State Estimates Committee, a position that carries cabinet rank. The government confirmed his appointment, marking a significant milestone in his political career. Jogeswara Rao, a four-time MLA, entered politics through the TDP and began his journey as a Municipal Chairman. In the 2004 elections, he contested unsuccessfully from the Alamuru constituency. However, after the creation of the Mandapet constituency in 2009 during delimitation, he consistently secured victories in the MLA elections of 2009, 2014, 2019, and 2024. Despite his repeated electoral success, Rao did not secure a ministerial position in Chandrababu Naidu's cabinet due to social and political equations. His supporters and residents of the Mandapet constituency had long anticipated his inclusion in the cabinet. Chandrababu Naidu, recognizing Rao's dedication and experience, decided to bestow him with a cabinet-rank post by appointing him as the Chairman of the Estimates Committee. The official announcement



of the committee, which includes Rao and eight other members, will be made in the assembly on Friday. Jogeswara Rao brings extensive experience to this role, having served as a member of multiple committees since 2009. His new position is expected to enhance his influence and contributions to the development of the Mandapet constituency and the state. This appointment highlights the TDP's acknowledgment of loyal leaders who have consistently delivered for their constituencies, further solidifying Rao's position as a key political figure in the region.

You Can't Escape From Cases Mr. Jagan Reddy – MLA Butchaiah Chowdary

- **Jagan looted over ₹60K crore and has been successfully delaying cases for 12 years**
- **After becoming Chief Minister, Jagan's corruption has peaked**
- **He has tarnished Andhra Pradesh's reputation with his unethical practices**



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: TDP MLA Gorantla Butchaiah Chowdary launched a scathing attack on YSRCP chief and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of globalizing his corruption. Speaking to the media, Butchaiah alleged that Jagan, who faces ED and CBI investigations, has looted over ₹60,000 crore and has been successfully delaying cases for 12 years. "Jagan knows how to prolong cases and avoid jail. Is taking a bribe of ₹1,750 crore even an issue for someone like him? While cases can be postponed in India, they cannot be delayed in America. Jagan will undoubtedly be booked in the Adani bribery case," Butchaiah asserted. He further accused Jagan of striking multiple corrupt deals with Adani, including the alleged illegal transfer of Gangavaram Port to Adani's control, which was previously managed by a Telugu entrepreneur. "After becoming Chief Minister, Ja-

gan's corruption has peaked. He has tarnished Andhra Pradesh's reputation with his unethical practices," Butchaiah remarked. Butchaiah also criticized the extravagant security measures around Jagan's residence in Tadepalli, calling the installation of iron barricades at government expense excessive. He questioned Jagan's governing style, stating: "Wherever Jagan travels as CM, trees are cut, shops are closed, and curtains are drawn. How can such a coward become a Chief Minister?" The TDP leader's remarks come amidst rising tensions between the TDP and YSRCP, with allegations of corruption and political vendetta dominating the discourse.

Jagan Propagated Baseless Rumors About my Relationship With Prabhas – YS Sharmila

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Congress President YS Sharmila made explosive allegations against former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy during her address at Lotus Pond on Friday. She firmly denied rumors about her alleged relationship with actor Prabhas, attributing the malicious claims to Jagan's political tactics. Sharmila accused Jagan and his team of spreading falsehoods to malign her reputation and shift public focus. She stated "Jagan propagat-



ed baseless rumors about my relationship with Prabhas. I have never met him, nor do I know him. This was a calculated attempt by Jagan to gain sympathy through fabricated stories. Jagan wouldn't hesitate to file a case against his mother or include my father's name in a CBI charge sheet to further his selfish agenda." Her remarks have sparked significant attention in political and social circles, with many anticipating strong rebuttals from the YSRCP camp.

Andhra Pradesh Woman Crafting an Eco-Friendly Legacy

Meda Rajani from Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, has emerged as a beacon of eco-friendly art, celebrated for her ability to transform everyday materials into extraordinary creations. Known for her expertise in paper quilling and other crafts, Rajani's journey from a small-town artist to a nationally recognized figure has garnered admiration from officials, artists, and art enthusiasts alike.

Growing up in Gilakaladindi village near Machilipatnam, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, as the youngest of six siblings, Rajani developed a passion for art at an early age. After completing her education up to Class 10, she married Meda Satish, whose unwavering support enabled her to pursue her creative ambitions. While balancing her roles as a homemaker and mother of two children, Rajani devoted herself to art, seeing it as "a way to bring life to what others see as waste."



Mrs. Meda Rajani
Paper Quilling Artist



Her formal journey into art began with training at the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) through the Pattabhi Institute in Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Inspired by nature, she specialized in paper quilling and crafted eco-friendly items like paper bags, flower vases, and wax candles, providing employment opportunities for local women. "The art of paper crafting, which I learned through play as a child, has become a way for me to turn my dreams into reality," she shares, emphasizing the importance of "good quality, patience, and creativity" in this craft.



Rajani has earned the title of Vijayawada's 'Queen of Crafts' for her skills and dedication to empowering others through art. Her teaching career began at Spoorthi Creative Art School in Vijayawada, where she taught paper quilling to thousands of students. She has trained students in various educational organizations and, for the past four years, has been working with "As-tragen," a multimedia publisher, as a supportive executive designing art and craft lessons for students from nursery to Class 10 nationwide.

Rajani's achievements have received widespread recognition. At the Salam India Art Event organized by Spoorthi Creative Art School, her team performance earned praise from government officials and art enthusiasts. In 2022, she was honored with the national 'Mahanandi Award' in Creative Crafts by Telugu Velugu Sahithi Vedika, and in March 2024, she was recognized by Rotary Club International, Inner Wheel Club of Mid Town, and the Forum for Artists on International Women's Day.

Beyond her creative talents, Rajani actively promotes environmental awareness. She led a conference on paper quilling at an exhibition organized by the Forum for Artists Women Wing, where her work was enthusiastically praised. As a working committee member of the Forum for Artists, she manages promotional activities for Spoorthi's "Save Sparrow" national-level art competition and frequently serves as a judge for contests across the state.

Her expertise spans a wide range of crafts, including costume jewelry, jute bag making, fabric painting, clay molding, glass painting, embroidery, origami, ribbon work, bottle art, canvas painting, and currency craft. She has exhibited her work in cities such as Machilipatnam, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Chennai,

nai, and Madurai. In 2021, her paper quilling art earned her the prestigious 'Golden Brush Award' at a national-level competition organized by Creative Hearts Art and Craft Academy.



Rajani is also deeply committed to charity and education. She has conducted numerous workshops, including the 'Save Sparrow' event through Spoorthi Creative Art School, teaching students in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to use art as a medium for environmental advocacy. Her efforts have raised funds and promoted conservation awareness, supported by Creative Art School, media, and charitable organizations.

Rajani's art has attracted event organizers in Vijayawada, who commission her to create paper-crafted photo frames and mementoes for special occasions. Through her initiatives, Creations and Sindhu Designs, she conducts online and offline craft classes, enabling women to achieve financial independence by selling eco-friendly products.

Reflecting on her journey, Rajani says, "The secret of my success is believing that hard work yields the best rewards." With numerous awards and accomplishments to her name, she continues to inspire young artists in Vijayawada and beyond. As she sets her sights on new goals, Rajani's commitment to unique art forms and empowering others shines as brightly as her creations.

Currently, Rajani leads the Spoorthi Creative Team as Team Head, guiding nearly 50 young artists to showcase their talent through creative art events such as competitions, exhibitions, workshops, and seminars. Her contributions were recently recognized with her inclusion in the Art of Andhra Pradesh book, published by 64kalalu.com.

Constable's Suicide Sparks Outrage in Guntur

TPN, Guntur: A tragic incident involving the suicide of AR Constable Vamsi Srinivas has caused a stir in Guntur district. The constable, stationed in the escort of Sringeri Peethadhipathi, reportedly took his life using his service weapon while inside the escort vehicle on Friday afternoon. The shocking event unfolded

when no one else was present in the vehicle. Hearing the gunshot, fellow officers rushed to the scene but found Vamsi Srinivas already deceased. His body was immediately transported to the Guntur Government Hospital. Authorities have registered a case and initiated an investigation to determine the reasons

behind the incident. Various angles, including personal and professional issues such as family disputes, financial difficulties, workplace stress, or possible harassment by superiors, are being examined. This heartbreaking incident has sent shockwaves across the state, highlighting the immense pressure faced by personnel in law enforcement roles. Further details are awaited as the investigation progresses.

Minister Manohar Distributes CM Relief Fund Cheques to Victims

TPN, Amaravati: Food and Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar on Friday handed over CM Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques totaling ₹13,40,418 to seven victims from the Tenali constituency. The event took place at his chamber in the Velagapudi Secretariat in Amaravati.



Despite the financial difficulties faced by the government, Manohar expressed appreciation for the relief efforts initiated by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan. "Even in these challenging times, the coalition government has released this assistance with the heart to help the poor and provide support to the victims," he remarked.

The relief fund, aimed at alleviating the hardships of the victims, is expected to significantly aid in their recovery. Manohar emphasized that the support provided by the government will help save the lives of those affected. The gesture reflects the government's commitment to its goal of ensuring "Health for All" under the coalition administration.

Central Minister Pemmasani Chandrasekhar Inspects Ayushman Bharat Health Center in Guntur

TPN, Guntur: Central Minister of State Pemmasani Chandrasekhar visited the Urban Primary Health Center, Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Center in Brindavan Gardens, Guntur, to assess its operations and address ongoing issues.



During his inspection, Pemmasani interacted with doctors and staff to understand their challenges. The medical team highlighted security concerns, reporting incidents of individuals under the influence of marijuana entering the center at night. The Central Minister promptly directed police officials to ensure such activities are curbed. He also addressed delays in constructing the hospital's boundary wall, contacting the contractor responsible and urging immediate completion of the work. Speaking to the media, Pemmasani emphasized reducing the burden on Guntur General Hospital by encouraging greater use of urban

primary health centers. He highlighted the availability of essential facilities and vaccines at these centers and proposed weekly visits by specialist doctors in pediatrics, general medicine, and other fields to better serve patients. The minister also visited the nearby farmers' market, interacting with vendors to understand their issues and ensuring local concerns are addressed effectively.

9th World Telugu Literature Conference Begins in Doha

TPN, Doha: The 9th World Telugu Literature Conference began on Friday in Doha, bringing together Telugu language lovers, literary scholars, poets, writers, and celebrities from across the globe. The event marks an important occasion for celebrating Telugu language and literature internationally.



The conference was inaugurated by Former Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu, who commended the Vanguri Foundation for organizing the event, highlighting their love for the Telugu language despite being far from Telugu-speaking areas. Naidu emphasized the significance of preserving and promoting Telugu literature on the global stage. Padma Bhushan Acharya Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad, a respected figure in Telugu literature, attended as a special guest. He praised the organizers for hosting the conference in Doha, noting its importance in showcasing Telugu literature worldwide. Lakshmi Prasad also presented a collection of Hindi and Telugu books to Vipul, the Indian Ambassador to

Qatar, as part of cultural exchange efforts. Due to illness, Wanguri Chitten Raju, President of the Vanguri Foundation, could not attend the event but shared a video message to express his support. Director and producer YVS Chowdary, along with Jonnavithula Ramalingeswara Rao and Andhra Kala Veda President Bhagavathula Venkappa, also participated in the opening ceremony. The two-day conference will feature a range of prominent speakers and discussions focusing on the growth and preservation of Telugu literature. It serves as a valuable platform for cultural exchange and literary dialogue among Telugu communities worldwide.

Janasena Party Holds Janavani Program in Mangalagiri

TPN, Mangalagiri: The Jana Sena Party organized a Janavani program at its central office in Mangalagiri on Friday, where people from various districts gathered to voice their concerns and issues. The event provided an opportunity for the public to interact directly with party leaders and raise their grievances. State secretaries of the party, Vadranam Markandeya Babu and Betapudi Vijaya Shekhar, along with Rajahmundry city president Y. nivas, attended the program. Representatives from the party's legal cell, Narasimha Rao and Vijayakumari, also participated, further extending the reach of the party's leadership to address public concerns.



During the session, attendees raised various issues affecting their localities, seeking attention and solutions. The party leaders assured that they would take the concerns seriously and work towards finding resolutions. The Janavani program is part of the party's ongoing efforts to maintain a direct connection with the people and to understand their needs and grievances. This initiative is aimed at fostering transparency, communication, and accountability between the Jana Sena Party and the citizens, ensuring that their voices are heard and acted upon.

Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan Discusses Key Panchayati Raj and Forest Department Issues



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan held a series of meetings at his camp office to address crucial issues related to the Panchayati Raj and Forest departments. He met individually with 20 Principles Implementation Committee Chairman Sri Lanka Dinakar, Kovur MLA and TTD Board Member Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy, and Jammalamadugu MLA C. Adinarayana Reddy. During the discussions, the representatives highlighted various concerns and challenges affecting the two departments. The Deputy CM paid close attention to the issues raised and emphasized

the need for efficient governance and timely solutions.

Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy, in her capacity as an MLA and TTD Board Member, brought forward concerns related to rural development and temple-related forest conservation matters. Similarly, Sri Lanka Dinakar provided insights on the effective implementation of the 20 principles framework, aimed at improving governance standards in local bodies.

Jammalamadugu MLA C. Adinarayana Reddy focused on challenges faced by his constituency,

particularly regarding forest land management and Panchayati Raj coordination.

Pawan Kalyan reassured all stakeholders of the government's commitment to addressing these issues promptly. He stressed the importance of collaborative efforts between departments and local representatives to achieve sustainable development and ensure effective public service delivery.

The series of meetings reflects the Deputy CM's proactive approach to resolving governance challenges and strengthening state administration.

Gandi Babji A Resilient Leader and Pillar of TDP in Visakhapatnam



TPN, Vizag: Sri Gandhi Babji, a seasoned political leader and the current President of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in Visakhapatnam, has exemplified resilience and dedication throughout his political career. From representing the Congress Party as an MLA between 2004 and 2009 to emerging as a key leader in the Telugu Desam Party, his journey reflects his commitment to serving the people of Visakhapatnam district.

Gandi Babji began his political career with the Congress Party, successfully winning the 2004 Assembly elections from Pendurthi. However, his fortunes changed in 2009 when he contested again on a Congress ticket and lost. In 2014, he sought a mandate from Pendurthi as a candidate of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) but faced another defeat. Despite setbacks, his determination remained unshaken. In 2016, Gandi Babji joined the Telugu Desam Party, further strengthening the party's cadre in Visakhapatnam. Although he aspired to contest from the Pendurthi constituency in the 2019 elections, the opportunity did not materialize. The party leadership assured him of an alternative, possibly an MLC nomination. Later, when Visakha South MLA Vasupalli Ganesh Kumar joined the YSRCP, the TDP appointed Gandi Babji as the in-charge of the Visakha South constituency. However, the ticket was eventually allotted to the Jana

Sena Party as part of an alliance, requiring sacrifices from leaders like Gandi Babji.

Recognizing his organizational capabilities and unwavering loyalty, TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and party General Secretary Nara Lokesh entrusted Gandi Babji with dual responsibilities: Visakhapatnam TDP President and Pendurthi in-charge. Under his leadership, the TDP achieved significant victories in the district, including a strong showing in Pendurthi during the elections.

Following the party's successful governance in Andhra Pradesh, Gandi Babji was appointed Chairman of the AP Oil Federation, acknowledging his contributions to the party and the district. His leadership has been instrumental in rallying party workers and upholding TDP's presence during challenging times. Known for his deep connection with grassroots workers, he continues to be a vital force in Visakhapatnam's political landscape.

Gandi Babji's political journey underscores his resilience, adaptability, and dedication to the party and the people of Visakhapatnam. As TDP gears up for future challenges, his leadership and experience will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in shaping the party's fortunes in the region.

Minister Durgesh Extended Heartfelt Congratulations on Behalf of AP 9th World Telugu Literature Conference Commences in Doha

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: State Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh extended heartfelt congratulations on behalf of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan to all Telugu people participating in the 9th World Telugu Literature Conference. The event, held in Doha, Qatar, on November 22 and 23, has been jointly organized by the Vanguri Foundation of America and Andhra Kala Vedika, Doha and Qatar.



is a matter of pride to see this program being organized for the ninth time," he said.

Minister Durgesh praised the initiative, highlighting its role in preserving the Telugu language and upholding the cultural heritage of the Telugu community living abroad. "These conferences serve as a beacon for safeguarding the Telugu language and promoting its rich cultural glory. It

The Minister commended the commitment displayed by attendees who pledged to protect the Telugu language and maintain the vibrancy of Telugu culture. He expressed confidence that such initiatives would inspire future generations. Special congratulations were extended to the conference presidents Vangu-

ri Chitten Raju and Bhagavata Venkatappa, along with conveners Mangipudi Radhika and Vikram Sukhvasi, and all organizing members for their efforts in bringing the global Telugu community together.

Minister Durgesh also emphasized that these cultural initiatives reflect the enduring strength of Telugu heritage and its ability to unite people from across the world. He conveyed best wishes for the event's success, applauding the commitment of the participants and organizers to Telugu culture.

The 9th World Telugu Literature Conference stands as a testimony to the vibrant cultural identity of Telugu-speaking people worldwide, reinforcing their collective commitment to preserving and promoting their linguistic and cultural roots.

Karampudi to Host State-Level Kho Kho Competitions



TPN, Karampudi: The Brahmanaidu Zilla Parishad High School is gearing up to host the state-level Kho Kho competitions. This prestigious event is expected to bring together talented players from across the state to showcase their skills.

The alliance leaders, along with the Physical Education Teacher (PET) and management of Brahmanaidu Zilla Parishad High School, are working diligently to ensure all necessary facilities are in place for the players. They are leaving no stone unturned to make the event a grand success.

Efforts are being made to provide a well-equipped venue, seamless organization, and a comfortable environment for participants. The dedication of the organizing team reflects their commitment to promoting sports and fostering a spirit of healthy competition among students. The state-level competition marks a significant opportunity for young athletes in the region to gain recognition and demonstrate their talent on a larger platform.

Central Minister Pemmasani Reviews CCI Operations to Aid Cotton Farmers



Guntur: Central Minister Pemmasani Chandrasekhar emphasized the commitment of the central and state governments to supporting cotton farmers by ensuring the purchase of every acre of cotton through Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) centers.

A review meeting was conducted in Guntur with CCI officials and District Collector Nagalakshmi to address management issues observed at the centers over the past week. The discussions focused on rectifying errors and improving operational efficiency.

Key instructions were issued to streamline processes, including the smooth procurement of goods from Monday to Saturday, efficient functioning of the district's 61 CCI centers, accurate fingerprinting of farmers, and maintaining proper documentation.

Minister Chandrasekhar reiterated the government's dedication to ensuring fair and timely support for farmers, fostering confidence in the procurement system and securing a seamless experience for cotton growers in the region.

Tollywood Producer SKN Criticizes Posani's Decision to Quit Politics

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Film actor and YSRCP leader Posani Krishna Murali recently announced his decision to step away from politics, citing his inability to dedicate sufficient time to his family. Posani stated that he would no longer engage in political discourse, either praising or criticizing any party.

This decision follows a controversial period in which Posani faced backlash for his comments against leaders Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan Kalyan, and their family members. His remarks had led to police cases being filed against him in various locations, with speculations of potential legal action.

Reacting to Posani's announcement, Tollywood producer SKN made sharp remarks, questioning the sincerity of his decision. SKN criticized Posani for not apologizing for the "rude and vulgar words" he had directed at political figures and their families. He argued that Posani's comments were not isolated incidents but repeated instances that deeply hurt the sentiments of fans and the public.

SKN highlighted the importance of respecting families and children, noting that personal attacks have no place in politics. "Criticism is natural in politics," SKN said, "but those who stoop to personal attacks and target families cannot be forgiven." He also expressed that Posani's actions had forced many to "close their ears" to avoid hearing the offensive remarks.

The comments by SKN have sparked discussions on the ethics of political discourse and the impact of personal attacks on public figures and their families. Posani's decision to step away from politics may mark an end to his controversial involvement, but the sentiments surrounding his actions linger among fans and critics alike.



MLA GV Anjaneyulu Slams YSRCP Leadership Over Assembly Absence

TPN, Vinukonda: MLA and Chief Whip GV Anjaneyulu criticized YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, along with his party MLAs, for their absenteeism in the Assembly. Speaking in Guntur on Friday, Anjaneyulu demanded the resignation of YSRCP members who are holding positions despite failing to fulfill their legislative responsibilities. "Why should positions be given to those who don't attend the Assembly?" Anjaneyulu questioned, calling out the YSRCP for their lack of participation. He remarked that YS Jagan's decision to abstain from the Assembly unless granted the status of Leader of the Opposition demonstrates disrespect for legislative procedures. The Chief Whip pointed out the iron-



ny of YSRCP leaders filing nominations for positions while boycotting Assembly proceedings. He asked YS Jagan and his party to explain their stance to the people and accused them of avoiding accountability. Recalling the past, Anjaneyulu noted

that even during challenging times, 23 TDP MLAs responsibly attended Assembly sessions to fulfill their duties. He described Jagan's conduct as a "Taliban-like" governance style during his tenure as Chief Minister, highlighting what he deemed poor

governance and an authoritarian approach.

Anjaneyulu also criticized YSRCP's repeated demands for opposition status, which the Speaker denied due to the party's insufficient numbers in the Assembly, with only 11 seats won in the elections. "The Speaker cannot grant opposition status without meeting the required MLA count," he stated.

In response to the denial, YS Jagan and his MLAs chose to abstain from the Assembly and approached the court seeking intervention. Anjaneyulu warned that YSRCP's actions are alienating voters, predicting that the public will decisively reject the party in the future.

The remarks have intensified political debates in Andhra Pradesh, bringing YSRCP's strategy under scrutiny.

Delhi's Struggle with Pollution and the Paralysis of Acceptance



Delhi is caught in an unhealthy, suffocating relationship—one that has long outlived its usefulness but persists because neither side is willing to end it. The city and its residents are trapped in a cycle of mutual dependence, with both parties unwilling to face the truth: they've made mistakes and the damage is irreversible. Yet, they continue, holding onto a toxic reality, too fearful of confronting the inevitable.

Take today, for example: Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) stands at 407, which, on a "good" day, is seen as a small victory. We breathe in the slightly clearer air and celebrate the faint sunlight that manages to break through the smog. It's an improvement—at least it's not the soul-crushing 1600 AQI. But this air, laced with toxins, is still a reminder of the deep dysfunction within the city and its relationship with its residents. We are so used to the toxicity, both literal and metaphorical, that we cannot imagine a reality beyond it. Even when we are exposed to the possibility of clean, fresh air, our instinct is to resist

it, just as we cling to a marriage that no longer serves us but feels too familiar to walk away from.

This stifling, destructive comfort is killing us—quietly, persistently. The air we breathe and the relationships we maintain both have the same outcome: they are slowly choking us, and yet we keep going. We justify our survival as "resilience" and call it stability.

The divide between rich and poor in this situation is stark. The wealthy, insulated by air purifiers and luxurious get-aways, can afford to live in denial, pretending that the pollution is a temporary nuisance. Meanwhile, the poor endure the same suffocation, but without the luxury of escaping it. They light fires for warmth and live in a constant state of fatalism, convinced that there's no point in complaining because everything is already broken.

A report has claimed that there isn't a single household in Delhi without at least one person suffering from pollution-related health issues. The situation mir-

rors the state of relationships in the city—there's no shortage of marriage counselors or divorce lawyers, yet the city trudges on. Everyone looks to someone else to fix things—be it the government or a higher power—yet neither is truly invested in the change that's needed.

We go through the motions, celebrating when AQI drops to "reasonable" levels of 450, as if we can accept the unacceptable. We shift the goalposts, convincing ourselves that things aren't as bad as they could be. The truth, however, is that we've been living out our collective mistakes, perpetuating a system that harms everyone, while we continue to maintain the status quo for the sake of convenience and comfort. We are all complicit.

We are too numb to demand change until it becomes unbearable. We refuse to upset the apple cart because it's easier to keep taking it one day at a time, despite the growing destruction. Ultimately, we all live in the toxic cloud of our own making. And as we continue to breathe it in, we all slowly suffocate.



Addressing Manipur's Crisis: Beyond Security Measures

The ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur has now persisted for over a year and a half, claiming over 250 lives and displacing more than 60,000 people. This crisis, primarily between the Meitei community in the valley and the Kuki-Zo people in the hills, has seen escalating violence, with security forces struggling to restore peace.

On November 18, following a high-level security meeting, the Union Home Ministry decided to send an additional 50 companies of paramilitary forces to the state. This move comes after an increase in violence, particularly in areas bordering the valley and hills, where ethnic militants from both communities have clashed. Despite the presence of security forces, the situation remains volatile, especially in districts like Jiribam, where the violence has reignited in 2024 after a period of relative calm.

While troop deployments are essential to maintain order, the situation demands more than just security reinforcements. The ongoing ethnic conflict is fueled not only by militant activity but also by a deep mistrust between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities. Both groups view the state and central security forces with suspicion, exacerbating tensions. The Meiteis are distrustful of the central forces, particularly the Assam Rifles, while the Kuki-Zo community feels threatened by the Meitei-dominated state police. Allegations of biased actions by security forces

es have only worsened the situation.

To address this, the Centre must prioritize dialogue. Security measures alone will not resolve the crisis if they are not accompanied by sincere efforts to mediate between the communities. Initiating talks with civil society representatives from both the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities is critical. These communities must be encouraged to abandon violence and come to the table for meaningful negotiations. Involving Naga community leaders, who are not directly involved in the current conflict, could also help mediate the discussions.

Additionally, the government must reassess its security policies. The decision to reintroduce the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in certain areas is a positive step, but the broader security framework must be reviewed. The growing power of ethnic militants in the region, armed with sophisticated weaponry, poses a significant threat to both local stability and national security.

Ultimately, the Centre's response should combine both firm action against militants and a strong push for dialogue. Union Home Minister Amit Shah's involvement in facilitating talks will be crucial. Manipur's crisis can only be resolved through a holistic approach that goes beyond military measures and embraces long-term peace-building initiatives.

Sri Lanka: Reboot under new regime

Sri Lanka's recent parliamentary elections saw a historic victory for the National People's Power (NPP) coalition, which secured 159 out of the 225 seats in the legislature. This marks the first time since the introduction of the proportional representation electoral system in 1978 that a single party has achieved a two-thirds majority in the Sri Lankan Parliament.

Under the country's electoral system, 196 of the 225 parliamentarians are directly elected from 22 multi-member electoral districts, while the remaining 29 seats are allocated based on the overall voting percentage received by political parties. The NPP's overwhelming success comes as a major shift, as it gained a majority in nearly every electoral district, with the exception of Batticaloa, and decisively defeated the traditional political parties that have dominated Sri Lankan politics for decades.

The NPP's win is largely driven by public dissatisfaction with the long-standing governance of the major political parties. Voters, especially those struggling with the economic crisis, wanted a change in leadership that would address their pressing concerns. The party's platform, which called for a fresh approach to governance and a comprehensive review of the nation's economic problems, resonated with the electorate.

Anura Kumara Disanayake, the leader of the NPP, called for the parliamentary elections shortly after assuming the presidency, arguing that a parliament that was out of touch with the people's wishes could not continue. He had only three seats in the previous parliament, but his call for change was met with overwhelming support, underscoring the demand for a break from the status quo.



The election results also indicate that the NPP's success transcended ethnic divides. While Sri Lanka has a complex ethnic landscape, particularly with the Tamil and Muslim minorities, the NPP focused on issues that affected all communities, such as unemployment, rising household debt, inflation, and shortages of essential goods. This broader, inclusive approach gained the trust of voters across the country, including in areas like Jaffna, Vanni, and Ampara, where the NPP's message of clean politics and accountability particularly resonated.

Additionally, the NPP's strong presence during the Aragalaya protests, which called for political reforms and an end to corruption, contributed to its widespread appeal. The party's promises of liberal welfare programs and a government that prioritizes the needs of ordinary citizens were key factors in their unexpected wins across diverse constituencies.

Global Scrutiny Grows Over Adani Projects Amid Controversies

The controversy surrounding the Adani Group's international ventures continues to intensify, with governments in Sri Lanka, Kenya, and Bangladesh reassessing their involvement in Adani-led projects. This scrutiny comes in the wake of a growing number of allegations and legal challenges that are prompting officials worldwide to reconsider their ties with the conglomerate.

The alarm was first raised in 2022 when a Sri Lankan official claimed that India had pressured Colombo to award a renewable energy project to an Adani firm. While these allegations were initially denied, the matter resurfaced as the Sri Lankan government shifted towards a more India-friendly administration. By late 2023, the situation seemed to have settled when the United States partnered with the Adani Group to offer a significant financing package for a port project in Sri Lanka, citing geopolitical concerns, particularly the desire to limit China's influence in the region.

However, the recent indictment of Adani Group executives by a US grand jury has rekindled concerns about the group's operations. This development has led Sri Lanka to reconsider the Adani power project it had initially backed. The geopolitical rationale that justified these deals, such as countering China's growing presence in South Asia, may no longer be enough to overshadow the mounting questions surrounding the group's business practices.

In Kenya, the government has moved to cancel a contract awarded to the Adani Group



for the expansion of Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. This decision came after increasing doubts about the transparency and integrity of the deal, reflecting broader concerns over the group's international business dealings. Similarly, in Bangladesh, the High Court has ordered an investigation into the power purchase agreement signed with Adani Power, underscoring growing unease about the company's operations abroad.

These developments signal that governments around the world are becoming more cautious about engaging with the Adani Group, particularly in light of ongoing legal scrutiny and allegations of corruption. As the situation evolves, it remains to be seen whether other countries will follow suit and reassess their dealings with one of India's most powerful conglomerates. The outcome of these investigations could have far-reaching implications for Adani's international expansion and its future projects.

PM Modi in Guyana: "You Can Take an Indian Out of India, But Can't Take India Out of an Indian"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Indian diaspora in Guyana on Friday, sharing his deep appreciation for the enduring connection between India and its people abroad. He remarked, "You can take an Indian out of India, but you cannot take India out of an Indian," reflecting on the strong cultural and emotional bonds that link the Indian community worldwide.

Recalling his visit to Guyana two decades ago as a "curious traveler," PM Modi expressed joy in returning as India's Prime Minister. He spoke fondly of the love and affection he continues to receive from the Guyanese people, which remains as warm as ever.

The Prime Minister was honored to receive Guyana's highest civilian award, the Order of Excellence. In his speech, he dedicated the award to 1.4 billion Indians and the 300,000-strong Indo-Guyanese community, ac-



knowledging their significant contributions to the development of Guyana. PM Modi also thanked the people of Guyana for their kindness and hospitality, highlighting the growing partnership between the two

nations. Guyanese President Mohamed Irfaan Ali, who warmly referred to PM Modi as a "dear friend and brother," also celebrated the strengthening of India-Guyana relations. Ali praised the collab-

orative efforts in the sectors of Economy, Education, and Energy, echoing Modi's vision of advancing bilateral ties.

During his address to the Indian community, PM Modi shared an emotional moment, recalling his participation in the 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam' initiative by planting a tree with the President and his grandmother. The gesture was a symbolic mark of the enduring friendship between India and Guyana.

PM Modi also celebrated the spirit of the Indo-Guyanese community, emphasizing their role in Guyana's rise as one of the fastest-growing economies. He described them as "Rashtra-doots" or Ambassadors of Indian culture, underscoring the important role they can play in further strengthening the bond between their motherland, India, and their adopted homeland, Guyana.

'Congress Allowed Illegal Migration Of Foreign Militants': JP Nadda On Manipur



BJP president JP Nadda on Friday strongly rebuked the Congress for pushing a "false and politically motivated" narrative regarding the ongoing unrest in Manipur. His remarks came in response to Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge's call for President Droupadi Murmu's intervention and his allegations of the Centre's failure to address the crisis.

Nadda accused Kharge of misleading the public, claiming that Congress's failure to address local issues during its tenure was still impacting the situation in Manipur. "What is shocking is how the Congress party is trying to sensationalize the situation in Manipur," Nadda said. He asserted that the BJP-led government had been working diligently to restore peace and stability in the state since the violence erupted.

Nadda further criticized Kharge for seemingly forgetting the role of the previous Congress government in legitimizing the illegal migration of foreign militants into India. He pointed out that the then Home Minister, P Chidambaram, had signed treaties with these militants, effectively endorsing and encouraging their destabilizing activities.

He argued that the Congress government's failure to implement effective security and administrative measures was a major factor contributing to the ongoing turmoil. "This complete failure under your government is one of the key reasons why militant groups and violent organizations continue to challenge the peace in Manipur," Nadda added.

"Congress Will Win, Exit Poll Predictions Will Be Reversed": DK Shivakumar

Karnataka Congress President and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar expressed confidence in his party's success in the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections and Karnataka bypolls, stating that the exit poll predictions would be proven wrong. Speaking to the media in Murudeshwara, Uttara Kannada on Friday, Shivakumar assured, "We will win for sure. The exit poll predictions will be reversed. The media should report this."

Shivakumar, who has been actively involved in campaigning in Maharashtra, reiterated the Congress's strong position there. He added that AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge had also expressed confidence in the party forming the government in Maharashtra, even if by a slim margin. Despite exit poll predictions suggesting otherwise, Shivakumar emphasized that the true outcome would be revealed once votes are counted, stating, "No one



knows what is inside the voting box."

When questioned about the predictions of a Congress defeat in the high-profile Channarayana Assembly segment in Karnataka, he remained optimistic. "We have done our duty and I am fully confident of victory," he said. Shivakumar pointed out that Congress had previously won seats in Kanakapura, Magadi, and Ramanagara, and believed that this time the party would also secure the Channa-

patna seat, which they lost in the last election.

Regarding the controversy over Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan's racist comment about Kumaraswamy, Shivakumar clarified that he had spoken to Khan, advising him that the remarks were inappropriate. Khan had since apologized, and Shivakumar downplayed the issue, asserting that the matter did not need further emphasis.

On the topic of cabinet expansion, Shivakumar deferred to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, stating that it was the CM's responsibility. He also touched upon his trip to coastal Karnataka, emphasizing the region's potential for tourism and economic development. Shivakumar revealed that a new tourism policy for the coastal area is being prepared to boost its economy and create job opportunities, underscoring the region's potential to rival famous beaches like those in Goa.

CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Unveils New Developments at Assam Legislative Assembly

On Thursday, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated several newly developed facilities within the state Legislative Assembly complex. These include a command and control centre, a cafeteria, a digital corridor, smart poles, and a sandstone monolith pillar that reflects the rich historical heritage of Assam.

During the ceremony, CM Sarma lauded the efforts of Assam Legislative Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary, Deputy Speaker Dr. Numal Momin, and the Assembly's officials and staff for their role in modernizing the Assembly. This transformation, driven by IT-enabled initiatives, also features a sandstone pillar inspired by the ancient Kachari Kingdom, which holds great cultural significance for the state.

The CM emphasized that the modernization efforts, while embracing digital advancements, are rooted in preserv-



ing Assam's cultural heritage. He highlighted the importance of Assam's tribal communities and their vibrant art, cultural practices, and traditions, which are key to the state's identity. The newly unveiled monolithic pillar symbolizes a lasting commitment to preserving and promoting tribal culture and heritage.

Sarma also acknowledged the contributions of various tribal freedom fighters from Northeast India, including Dimas leader Sambhudhan Phonglo

and Rani Gaidinliu of Nagaland, who have been honored with statues at the Amrit Udyan in Hengrabari, Guwahati. Furthermore, he noted the establishment of the Department of Indigenous and Tribal Faith and Culture to safeguard the traditions and beliefs of indigenous communities.

The Chief Minister expressed his confidence that these initiatives will enhance public appreciation for Assam's ancient history and cultural legacy. He reiterated the state government's commitment to making Assam a cultural and heritage hub, highlighting the recent recognition of Assamese as a classical language and the global recognition of the Bihu dance.

The event was attended by several prominent figures, including Speaker Biswajit Daimary, ministers, and senior officials from the Assam Legislative Assembly.

President Murmu Calls for "Nation First" to Drive India's Development



President Droupadi Murmu on Friday underscored the significance of instilling the principle of "Nation First" in citizens to propel India towards becoming a developed nation. She was addressing a gathering at the inauguration of LokManthan-2024, a colloquium of "nationalist thinkers" in Hyderabad. In her speech, the President highlighted the lasting impact of colonial rule, which she said not only exploited India economically but also sought to dismantle its social fabric.

Murmu reflected on how the colonial rulers created a sense of cultural inferiority among citizens by disregarding India's rich intellectual traditions. This, she noted, contributed to undermining the country's unity, leaving citizens with a mentality of subjugation that still lingers today. To overcome this, she emphasized the need to instill a deep sense of patriotism and national pride, asserting that "Nation First" is a crucial mindset to achieve India's development.

The President cited various reforms as part of the nation's efforts to shed colonial vestiges, including the replacement of outdated criminal laws, the renaming of Rajpath in Delhi to Kartavyapath, and the renaming of Durbar Hall in Rashtrapati Bhavan to 'Ganatantra Mandap'. These actions, she explained, are in line with India's ancient democratic traditions. She also lauded the installation of the new "Lady Justice" statue at the Supreme Court, calling it a symbolic step in eradicating colonial mentalities.

Murmu further spoke on the divisive tactics employed by colonial rulers to weaken India's unity. Despite these attempts, she noted that the spirit of Bharatiyata (Indianness) has kept the nation united through countless challenges. She emphasized that whether one is from a forest community, a village, or a city, all Indians are united by their national identity.

The President also highlighted India's ancient global influence, referencing the country's contributions in religion, art, literature, and medicine. She remarked that Indian philosophical systems were the first to offer ideal life values to the global community, and strengthening this proud heritage is the collective responsibility of the nation.

Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav Praises Israel for Technological Excellence

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav lauded Israel for its remarkable technological advancements and its ability to overcome challenges despite its small population. Speaking at the sixth convocation of the Symbiosis University of Applied Sciences in Indore, Yadav emphasized that Israel, with a population of under 10 million, has consistently demonstrated technical efficiency in various sectors, particularly in defense and agriculture.

Yadav highlighted Israel's innovative military strategies, citing the "pager attack" on Hezbollah in September 2023, where thousands of handheld pagers containing explosives were detonated, resulting in numerous casualties. "Hezbollah people can tell how damaging even a pager can be. Can there be a bigger example of technical excellence than this?" Yadav remarked, referring to the significant impact of Israel's technological prowess in warfare.

The Chief Minister also compared Israel's agricultural efficiency with Madhya Pradesh's soybean production, noting that despite Israel's limited rainfall, its productivity per "bigha" (0.27 acres) surpasses that of Madhya Pradesh, India's largest producer of soybeans. This, he attributed to Israel's advanced agricultural technologies and technical expertise.

In addition to praising Israel, Yadav also acknowledged India's achievements under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, particularly in the areas of COVID-19 vaccination and digital payments, positioning India as a global example of progress.

Drawing on the wisdom of ancient Hindu epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata, Yadav reaffirmed India's commitment to moral values and emphasized the nation's abundant talent and potential. He concluded by asserting that India has always been a land of capable and talented individuals, and its future is shaped by these qualities.



'World Must Respond': Ukraine's Zelenskyy Calls Russian Strike 'Clear Escalation'

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Friday condemned Russia's use of a new type of ballistic missile to attack a Ukrainian military facility in Dnipro, calling it a "clear and severe escalation" in the ongoing war. The missile strike, which took place on Thursday, was reportedly in retaliation for the US and UK's decision to allow Ukraine to use advanced Western weapons to strike Russian territory.

Zelenskyy emphasized the brutality of the attack, writing on X (formerly Twitter) that the missile strike exemplifies Russia's continued disregard for peace. "This is a clear and severe escalation in the scale and brutality of this war," Zelenskyy said. He added that the use of a ballistic missile against Ukraine is further proof that Russia remains uninterested



in resolving the conflict through peaceful means.

The Ukrainian president also drew attention to what he viewed as a two-step escalation by Russia. He pointed to the ballistic

missile attack as the second step, with the first step being Russia's involvement of North Korea in the war by deploying a contingent of at least 11,000 soldiers. This collaboration, Zelenskyy noted, marks a significant shift

in the war's dynamics and poses a growing threat to Ukraine.

The missile attack on Dnipro comes as tensions between Russia and the West have reached new heights, with each side accusing the other of escalating the conflict. While Russia has retaliated with missile strikes, Ukraine's allies, particularly the US and the UK, have ramped up military support for Kyiv, including advanced weaponry.

As the war enters its third year, the escalation continues to bring further devastation to Ukraine, with mounting casualties and widespread destruction. Zelenskyy urged the international community to condemn Russia's actions and take a stronger stance against the aggressor.

Trudeau to Lift Sales Tax and Send Relief Checks to Canadians Ahead of Election



Amid rising living costs and mounting discontent, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government announced new measures on Thursday to support citizens, as a federal election draws closer. The plan includes temporarily lifting the federal sales tax on several essential items and sending checks to millions of Canadians.

In a press conference held in Toronto, Trudeau explained that while the government cannot control the prices at the checkout, it can help put more money in people's pockets. "Our government can't set prices at the checkout, but we can put more money in people's pockets," he stated.

Under the new plan, Canadians who earned up to 150,000 Canadian dollars in 2023 will receive a one-time check of 250 Canadian dollars (approximately USD 107,440). This measure is expected to benefit around 18.7 million Canadians. The goal is to help alleviate financial strain, especially for those at the higher end of the income spectrum, who have also been struggling with increasing costs.

In addition, the federal goods and services tax (GST) break will apply to various items such as children's clothing, shoes, toys, diapers, and restaurant meals. It will also cover beer, wine, Christmas trees, snack foods, beverages, and video game consoles. The tax break will take effect on December 14 and will last until February 15, 2025.

The announcement comes as Trudeau prepares to lead his Liberal Party into the next election. With the government lacking an outright majority in Parliament, the Liberals will need the support of at least one major party to secure a victory. Despite his earlier success in 2015, when he reasserted Canada's liberal identity, Trudeau faces significant challenges as the country grapples with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. A recent poll indicates that the Liberals trail the opposition Conservatives by 13 percentage points.

As the election looms, these measures are an attempt to address voter dissatisfaction and ease the financial pressure felt by many Canadians.



Netanyahu Rejects ICC Arrest Warrant, Vows to Continue Defending Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu firmly rejected an arrest warrant issued against him by the International Criminal Court (ICC) over his handling of the Gaza war, vowing it would not deter him from defending Israel. In a video statement released Thursday, Netanyahu stated, "No outrageous anti-Israel decision will prevent us – and it will not prevent me – from continuing to defend our country in every way," adding, "We will not yield to pressure."

Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant face accusations of war crimes and crimes against humanity for their roles in Israel's military actions in Gaza. The ICC claims there are "reasonable grounds" to believe both men bear criminal responsibility for using starvation as a method of warfare and committing other crimes such as murder, persecution, and inhumane acts.

Reacting to the warrant, Netanyahu called it a "dark day in the history of nations," accusing the ICC of turning into "the enemy of humanity" rather than serving its intended purpose to protect human rights. He labeled the charges against him as "utterly baseless" and criticized the court for disregarding what he called "real war crimes" committed against Israel and others globally.

The conflict between Israel and Hamas has escalated since October 2023 when Hamas militants launched a cross-border attack, resulting in the deaths of 1,206 Israelis, primarily civilians. Israel's subsequent military actions have led to the deaths of 44,056 people in Gaza, with most of the casualties also civilians, according to figures from Gaza's health ministry.

Sweden Rejects Putin's Threats, Vows Continued Support for Ukraine

Sweden has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Ukraine, despite recent threats from Russian President Vladimir Putin. Defense Minister Pal Jonson declared that Sweden would not be intimidated by Russia's provocations, which followed Putin's warning of potential strikes on Western nations supplying weapons to Ukraine.



Speaking at a joint press conference in Stockholm with Ukrainian Defense Minister Rustem Umerov, Jonson emphasized that Sweden's support for Ukraine was both a moral and strategic decision. He stated, "Supporting Ukraine is both the right thing to do and it's a smart thing to do, and it's an investment into our own security, because Ukraine's security is also our security."

Jonson also expressed Sweden's continued support for Ukraine's defense capabilities, including funding for long-range missiles and drones. "Ukraine has the full right, in accordance with international law, to defend itself inside and outside of its territory," he added. Putin had escalated tensions by warning that Russia

could use its weapons against countries that allow Ukraine to strike Russian military targets with Western-supplied weapons. Recently, Ukraine launched missiles from the US and UK to target Russian territory, marking a significant increase in hostilities. Putin warned that such actions could lead to military responses against the countries involved in providing support to Ukraine.

Despite these threats, Sweden's stance remains firm. Jonson stressed that Russia's attempts to intimidate Sweden and its allies would not succeed. The Swedish government has pledged ongoing support for Ukraine, ensuring that Sweden remains a key ally in Ukraine's fight for sovereignty and security.

North Korea Likely Violating UN Sanctions with Oil Shipments from Russia

North Korea has reportedly received over 1 million barrels of oil from Russia in breach of UN sanctions, according to an analysis by the UK-based Open Source Centre and BBC. The analysis, based on satellite imagery, highlights that North Korean oil tankers have made more than 40 trips to Russia's Far Eastern port of Vostochny since March, suggesting ongoing illicit trade in refined petroleum products.



The research group's report, published on Friday, revealed dozens of high-resolution satellite images, Automatic Identification System (AIS) data, and maritime patrol imagery, all showing North Korean vessels loading oil at Russian ports. These shipments appear to be part of a broader pattern of North Korea violating UN Security Council sanctions aimed at restricting its access to oil and other refined products.

The shipments, which are believed to have occurred over an eight-month period this year,

further demonstrate the ongoing defiance by North Korea against international efforts to curb its access to resources that fuel its military programs. Despite UN Security Council resolutions that prohibit such trade, the recent satellite data reveals that North Korean tankers continue to engage in this unlawful activity, fueling concerns over the effectiveness of sanctions enforcement. This breach of sanctions by both Russia and North Korea has raised alarms about the willingness of both countries to comply with international regulations. The illicit trade of oil and petroleum products has long been a point of tension in the region, with the international community closely monitoring the situation.

Joe Biden Slams ICC's Arrest Warrant for Israeli Leaders as "Outrageous"

US President Joe Biden condemned the International Criminal Court's (ICC) arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former defense minister Yoav Gallant, calling them "outrageous" on Thursday. The ICC issued the warrants on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity related to the ongoing conflict in Gaza, following Israel's military actions since October 2023.

Biden strongly rejected the notion of any equivalence between Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian militant group, highlighting that the United States will continue to stand by Israel in the face of security threats. The White House also issued a statement expressing its fundamental opposition to the ICC's decision, stating that the United States remains "deeply concerned" by the prosecutor's rush to issue arrest warrants, as well as the procedural errors that led to this outcome.

Additionally, the White House reiterated its position that the ICC does not have jurisdiction over this matter, as neither the US nor Israel are members of the court. The ICC has issued arrest warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant for crimes allegedly committed between October 2023 and May 2024. The court also issued a warrant for Mohammed Deif,



the military chief of Hamas, although Israel has claimed Deif was killed in an airstrike in Gaza in July, a death Hamas has not confirmed.

Biden's remarks were echoed by some Republican leaders, who criticized the ICC's actions as politically biased. Mike Waltz, who will serve as the national security advisor under President-elect Donald Trump, vowed a

"strong response" to what he called the ICC's "antisemitic bias." Many Republicans have called for sanctions against the ICC, highlighting the court's perceived lack of credibility, given the US government's rejection of its authority. As tensions rise, this development underscores the deepening rift between the US, Israel, and the ICC over jurisdiction and accountability in the Gaza conflict.

Markets Rebound Sharply

Robust Global Signals and Broad-Based Gains Lift Sentiment

Domestic stock markets rose on Friday. They rebounded to an unprecedented level. They ended with huge gains. The US job data was better, positive signals from global markets, the value of Adani companies' assets was good, analyses that profitability would not return, and the wealth of IT shares led to the indices soaring like rockets. With this, the Sensex rose by 1900 points and the Nifty by 500 points. Investors gained Rs. 10 lakh crore. Adani Group stocks also rose by 6%. It is noteworthy that the sentiment continues like this, the indices can rise further.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,155 in the previous session, started today in gains at 77,349. It touched an intraday low at 77,226. It then rebounded strongly and reached an intraday high of 79,218. It finally closed at 79,117 with a gain of 1961 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,411, reached a low of 23,359 and a high of 23,956. It rose by a total of 557 points and closed at 23,907. The Nifty Bank settled at 51,135 with a gain of 762 points.

49 companies gained and 1 lost in the Nifty. SBI, Bajaj Finance, Titan, ITC and TCS were the top gainers. Bajaj Auto lost slightly. All sectoral in-



dices rose today except media. IT, realty 3%, PSU bank, FMCG, oil and gas 2%, bank, auto, metal, pharma, private bank, healthcare, consumer durables indices gained more than 1.5 percent.

Of the 2868 stocks traded on NSE, 1917 gained. 877 fell. Shares of 59 companies touched 52-week highs while 97 stocks hit 52-week lows. NTPC Green Energy IPO was subscribed 2.38 times by the end of the markets. Enviro Infra Engineers IPO saw a demand of 1.74 times on the first day. The rupee strengthened by 5 paise against the dollar and settled at 84.45. Adani Group stocks recovered from Thursday's losses. They rose almost 6%. BSE and NSE impose Rs 5,42,800 fine on MOIL. National Fertilizers to produce high-tech nano urea at Nangal plant. 11 lakh shares changed hands in Power Grid. JSW Energy receives warning letter from SEBI. Shares rise 5% after Bank of America gives buy rating to Godrej Properties. Jefferies gives buy rating to SBI with Rs 1030 target price. NLC India gets third commercial coal mine. GQG Partners launches share buyback after cases filed against Adani Group in US.

India's Business Activity Grows in November, Led by Services Sector

Business activity in India gained momentum in November, fueled by a strong performance in the services sector, even as manufacturing growth slowed slightly, according to the HSBC Flash India PMI survey released on Friday.

The survey, which included responses from 400 manufacturers and an equal number of service providers, revealed that new business and export sales helped boost output growth in India's private sector. However, the survey also highlighted intensifying cost pressures, with the steepest increase in selling prices recorded since February 2013.

The HSBC Flash India Services PMI Business Activity Index rose to 59.2 in November, up from 58.5 in October, signaling robust growth in the services sector. Meanwhile, the HSBC Flash India Manufacturing PMI Output Index fell slightly to 60.2 from 60.4 in the previous month, indicating a slower pace of expansion in the manufacturing sector.

The combined HSBC Flash India Composite PMI Output Index, which aggregates both manufacturing and services, increased to 59.5 from 59.1 in October, reflecting overall positive business conditions across both sectors. The final figures for November will be released in December.

Despite the marginal slowdown in manu-



facturing, the survey showed that new orders continued to increase, driven by strong demand. The manufacturing sector still demonstrated significant improvement, with the rate of expansion in the sector marking its fastest pace since August.

Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, noted that services saw a pick-up in growth, while manufacturing exceeded expectations despite a slight dip from October's figures. The survey also highlighted that employment in the services sector reached its highest level since December 2005.

However, the survey warned that price pressures are rising, particularly for raw materials in manufacturing and wages in the services sector, as cost concerns continue to weigh on businesses.

Overall, India's economy showed strong growth in November, underpinned by the resilience of the services sector, despite challenges in the manufacturing landscape.

RBI Instructs Banks to Cut Long Positions on Dollar-Rupee Amid Record Low

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) took an unusual step on Friday, directing several banks to reduce their long positions on the dollar-rupee pair to curb speculative activity, as the rupee plunged to a record low. According to four bankers familiar with the situation, the RBI's financial market regulations department conveyed these instructions informally.

The move came as the Indian rupee weakened to an unprecedented 84.5075 per US dollar, driven by ongoing portfolio outflows and a stronger US dollar. While the RBI has previously instructed banks to halt the accumulation of long positions on the dollar-rupee, this was the first time it explicitly asked them to trim existing positions.

The rupee's continued decline has been a concern for the RBI, which has been actively intervening in the foreign exchange market to stabilize the currency. The central bank typically works behind the scenes to prevent excessive volatility in the rupee by selling dollars when necessary. The rupee's weakness is attributed to a combination of global factors, including the strength of the US dollar, ris-

ing global oil prices, and persistent foreign portfolio outflows.

Analysts suggest that the RBI's intervention is aimed at preventing excessive speculation in the currency market, which could lead to further depreciation. The central bank is also keen on controlling inflationary pressures caused by a weaker rupee, as it raises the cost of imports.

While the RBI did not officially respond to requests for comment, the move reflects the growing concern over the rupee's performance in the global market. The central bank's actions underscore its commitment to ensuring orderly market conditions, while simultaneously safeguarding India's economic stability amid global uncertainties.

This action adds to the ongoing efforts by the RBI to manage India's currency situation in a challenging global economic environment.



Indian stock market opens in green, Sensex surges 459 pts

The Indian stock market opened on a positive note on Friday, with gains seen in sectors like PSU banks and realty, despite fresh tensions between Russia and Ukraine. As of 9:41 am, the Sensex was up by 459.71 points, or 0.60%, trading at 77,615.50, while the Nifty gained 139.85 points, or 0.60%, to reach 23,489.75.

Market observers noted that, despite the ongoing escalation of the Russia-Ukraine war, including Russia's recent use of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, the Indian market has remained resilient. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued their selling streak, marking a record 37 consecutive days of outflows, yet the market has only corrected by about 11% from its September peak. Experts believe this reflects a market correction rather than a full-blown crash, with the overall market sentiment still positive.

"The mother market, the US, remains bullish with a 25.43% return year-to-date,



indicating that the global undertone is still optimistic," market analysts said.

On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), the overall trend remained positive, with 1,713 stocks advancing and 492 stocks declining. The Nifty Bank index surged by 1.03%, gaining 517.25 points to reach 50,890.15, while the Nifty Midcap 100 index rose by 0.73%, and the Nifty Small Cap 100 index increased by 0.69%.

In the Sensex pack, notable gainers included SBI, ICICI Bank, Tata Motors, Power Grid, IndusInd Bank, UltraTech Cement, NTPC, Bajaj Finserv, Tech Mahindra, and Bajaj Finance. Meanwhile, Axis Bank was among the top losers.

Asian markets, including Jakarta, Bangkok, Seoul, and Tokyo, were trading in the green, with only Hong Kong and Shanghai markets showing a decline. US stock markets also closed on a positive note in the previous session.

FIIs sold equities worth Rs 5,320 crore on November 21, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) bought equities worth Rs 4,200 crore.

Akshay Chinchalkar, Head of Research at Axis Securities, noted that with Nifty nearing a key support level around 23,200, the market could see a reversal, especially with oversold conditions in daily and weekly momentum. However, the outlook remains bearish unless the market shows signs of bullish behavior.

Tata Power Signs \$4.24 Billion MoU with ADB for Clean Energy Projects

Tata Power has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to secure financing for clean energy projects in India, totaling \$4.24 billion. This partnership aims to support a range of key projects, including a 966-MW solar-wind hybrid project, pump storage initiatives, and efforts around energy transition, decarbonization, and battery storage.

The agreement also includes financing for capital expenditures aimed at strengthening Tata Power's distribution networks. The total estimated cost of the projects under this MoU is approximately \$4.25 billion, demonstrating the scale and importance of the collaboration.

Praveer Sinha, CEO and Managing Director of Tata Power, emphasized the importance of this partnership in advancing India's renewable energy ambitions. He stated, "Our collaboration with ADB is a crucial step as we explore innovative financing



solutions to drive transformative power sector projects. This MoU reinforces our commitment to enhancing India's clean and renewable energy capacity, modernizing power infrastructure, and ensuring sustainable and inclusive growth." These initiatives align with India's ambitious clean energy goals and contribute to both energy security and environmental resilience.

As part of the collaboration, ADB and Tata Power will work to promote inclusiveness, resilience, and gender empowerment in

deploying green technologies. They aim to create opportunities for women as agents of change in accessing green jobs and technologies. Suzanne Gaboury, Director General for Private Sector Operations at ADB, highlighted that the partnership aligns with ADB's strategy to foster sustainability and energy security in Asia and the Pacific, supporting India's transition to sustainable energy solutions.

This collaboration is also in line with India's goal to achieve 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based power generation capacity by 2030. Battery storage and pump storage projects are key components of this plan, ensuring stability in the grid as solar and wind energy remain intermittent.

In a related announcement, Tata Power recently signed a partnership with Druk Green Power Corporation to develop 5,000 MW of clean energy capacity in Bhutan, further expanding its renewable energy footprint across the region.

Threads Updates Algorithm to Prioritize Posts from Followed Accounts

Meta’s microblogging platform, Threads, has introduced changes to its algorithm that will prioritize posts from users’ followers, reducing the number of recommended posts from accounts they don’t follow. This shift aims to offer a more personalized experience for users, focusing on content from people they already interact with.

As of Thursday, the update alters the algorithmic ranking to give more weight to posts from accounts a user follows, meaning users will see fewer posts from accounts they don’t follow. Threads had already allowed users to filter their feed to only show content from those they follow, but the app’s default feed was previously driven by an algorithm that included recommendations from unfamiliar accounts.

In a post on Threads, Instagram head Adam Mosseri explained the rationale behind the update. “We are rebalancing ranking to prioritize content from people you follow, which will mean less recommended content from accounts you don’t follow and more posts from the accounts you do starting today,” Mosseri said.

The change will have a notable impact on content creators, who have relied on the



algorithm to reach users beyond their immediate followers. For creators, the update means that their content will be more visible to their existing audience but may not reach new users as easily, as the recommendation system will now be less prominent.

Threads’ move to prioritize user-followed content comes as part of an ongoing effort to refine its user experience. The platform has been adjusting features in response to user feedback, and the latest algorithm update is a direct response to concerns about an overwhelming amount of recommended content. By offering a more curated feed, Threads aims to foster deeper engagement with users’ personal networks and deliver content that is more relevant to them.

Rare ‘Doomsday Fish’ Washes Up on California Beach, Captivating Scientists

A rare deep-sea creature, often referred to as the “doomsday fish,” recently washed up on Grandview Beach in Encinitas, California, sparking fascination among scientists. The discovery was made by Alison Laferriere, a doctoral student at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who was walking her dog when she stumbled upon the creature. Initially mistaking it for debris, Laferriere quickly identified it as an oarfish—a species known for its rarity and unique appearance.



In a social media post, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography shared the discovery, stating, “Just when you thought the oarfish hype had died down, look what decided to make another appearance.” The post detailed that this particular oarfish was slightly smaller than the one found in La Jolla earlier this year, measuring approximately 9 to 10 feet long.

Oarfish, which can grow up to 36 feet in length, are typically found in deep ocean waters and rarely wash ashore. Their unusual, elongated bodies and striking appearance have earned them the nickname “doomsday fish,” as they have been histor-

ically associated with local legends of impending disasters.

Following the discovery, Ben Frable, the manager of the Scripps Oceanography Marine Vertebrate Collection, quickly coordinated with the NOAA Fisheries Service team to recover the specimen. It was then transported to the Southwest Fisheries Science Center for further study.

The oarfish’s appearance on the beach offers valuable insights into the mysterious lives of these deep-sea creatures, with scientists eager to learn more about their biology and behaviors. Although such findings are infrequent, each discovery contributes to a better understanding of marine life in the deep ocean.

YouTube Expands Dream Screen AI Feature for Video Backgrounds in Shorts

YouTube has announced a new update to its Dream Screen AI feature for Shorts, which now includes the ability to generate video backgrounds, in addition to the previously available image backgrounds. Initially launched in June as an AI-powered tool for creating image-based backgrounds, Dream Screen’s latest capability gives creators more freedom in crafting their content by incorporating dynamic video backdrops.

Currently, this expanded feature is being rolled out as an experimental option for a limited number of creators in specific regions, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States. There is no official word on when Dream Screen will be made available to all users, though it is expected to be more widely accessible in the future.

The new AI-driven background generation is powered by Google’s Veo video model, developed by DeepMind. To use Dream Screen, creators simply need to enter a text prompt describing the kind of background they want for their short video. The feature is designed to provide



a green screen effect, allowing users to insert customized images or video clips as backdrops for their content.

As of now, Dream Screen’s video generation function is limited to English language prompts. YouTube has implemented several safeguards within the feature to prevent the creation of inappropriate content, ensuring compliance with the platform’s Community Guidelines. Additionally, the tool has restrictions to avoid generating photorealistic images of identifiable individuals, reducing the potential risk of deepfake content.

This update to Dream Screen marks an exciting step for YouTube Shorts, allowing creators to elevate their videos with unique, AI-generated backgrounds, offering new creative possibilities for short-form content.

Technology to Combat Food Waste in India’s Restaurants: Report Finds

A recent report highlights how technology can play a crucial role in combating food waste in India’s foodservice industry, which is grappling with both profit loss and environmental concerns due to excess food wastage. The report also underscores the need for sustainable practices as millions across the world continue to suffer from undernourishment and malnutrition.



Parthasaradhi Reddy Bokkala, Lead Consumer Analyst at GlobalData, explained that one of the main reasons for food wastage is the difficulty in predicting customer demand accurately. This leads to restaurants preparing more food than required, ultimately resulting in wastage. Smaller restaurants, in particular, face additional challenges, including limited resources and the inability to negotiate favorable terms with suppliers for better pricing or waste-reduction services.

The report suggests adopting technology to streamline operations and reduce waste. Technologies such as inventory management systems and predictive analytics could help restaurants better plan food purchases, minimizing overproduction and waste. Additionally, online food delivery platforms like Zomato and Swiggy have introduced features aimed at curbing food wastage. For example, Zomato’s “Food Rescue” initiative seeks to address food wastage by redistributing unsold

food to those in need. Both Swiggy and Zomato have also rolled out an order scheduling feature, allowing customers to place orders in advance, which helps restaurants better manage kitchen operations and avoid unnecessary food preparation.

Reddy acknowledged that large restaurant chains can more easily afford technological solutions, while smaller businesses often struggle financially. However, he noted that online food delivery platforms’ proactive efforts could help smaller restaurants overcome financial barriers to investing in technology. The report concludes that while these technological innovations are still in the early stages, they have significant potential to revolutionize waste management and promote sustainability in India’s foodservice sector.

Man Turns Cigarette Butts Into Soft Toys: Controversial Yet Creative Solution

A viral video featuring Naman Gupta, a man from Noida, has sparked both intrigue and concern across the internet. Gupta has developed a unique approach to recycling cigarette butts, turning them into soft toys like teddy bears. While the initiative aims to address environmental waste, it has left many viewers divided, with some calling it “well-intended yet horrific.”

The video opens with a striking statistic: “Over 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are discarded as litter globally every year.” This staggering number highlights the environmental impact of cigarette waste, which often ends up in public spaces and takes years to decompose. In response, Gupta has come up with a way to recycle these cigarette butts into high-quality stuffed animals.

Gupta explains that the process begins with collecting discarded cigarette butts from various locations. The butts are then subjected to a 24-hour biodegradable recycling procedure. During this process, the fibres from the butts are extracted, cleaned,

and repurposed as stuffing for soft toys. The final products, including teddy bears, are reportedly child-friendly and certified safe for use.

While Gupta’s idea may seem innovative, the concept has sparked mixed reactions online. Many users have praised his creativity and dedication to reducing environmental pollution, recognizing the need to repurpose waste in sustainable ways. However, others have raised concerns about the health risks associated with using cigarette butts, even if they are recycled, and whether the cleaning process is thorough enough to remove harmful chemicals.

Despite these concerns, Gupta remains committed to his project, aiming to tackle the global issue of cigarette butt littering while creating functional products. He continues to assure customers that all his soft toys are safe and meet safety certifications.



While the initiative may be well-intentioned, the debate over the safety and ethics of recycling cigarette butts into products for children is far from settled. Gupta’s work is a bold attempt to address a pressing environmental issue, but it has undoubtedly left many questioning the implications of such innovation.

West Indies Cricket Legends Interact With PM Narendra Modi In Guyana

During his historic visit to Guyana, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with West Indies cricket legends Clive Lloyd, Alvin Kallicharran, and Devendra Bishoo. This visit marked the first by an Indian Prime Minister in over 56 years and was part of the final leg of his three-nation tour. The visit aimed to strengthen India's relations with Guyana, and one of the highlights was the Prime Minister's engagement with prominent figures from the world of cricket.

Clive Lloyd, the former World Cup-winning captain, expressed his excitement about the future of West Indies cricket, mentioning that 11 players from Guyana will now have the opportunity to train in India. He lauded PM Modi's keen interest in promoting cricket and expressed gratitude for the initiative. "He is doing things to help boost cricket, and we would like more Prime Ministers like him," said Lloyd, reflecting the positive impact of PM Modi's involve-



ment in the sport.

Alvin Kallicharran, another West Indies cricket great, praised PM Modi's deep knowledge of cricket, noting his familiarity with players and

their tours to India. Kallicharran remarked on the personal connection they shared, saying, "The connection is tremendous. The kind of help to work with our young cricketers is very kind of the Prime Minister and India."

Devendra Bishoo, who represented the West Indies as a spinner, shared his admiration for PM Modi, describing him as "amazing" and "simple," reflecting the warmth and humility of the Indian leader during their interaction.

Earlier, PM Modi expressed his gratitude to Guyana's President Dr. Irfaan Ali for the warm welcome, acknowledging the longstanding ties between India and Guyana. During the visit, both nations reaffirmed their commitment to resolving global issues through dialogue, diplomacy, and a shared focus on climate justice.

PM Modi's visit concluded with the signing of several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to further strengthen India-Guyana relations, cementing the importance of bilateral cooperation in various fields, including cricket and sustainable development.

IPL 2025 to Begin on March 14 as BCCI Reveals Official Dates for Next Three Seasons



In a groundbreaking move, the Indian Premier League (IPL) has officially announced the dates for the next three seasons of the tournament. The 2025 season is scheduled to run from March 14 to May 25, followed by the 2026 season from March 15 to May 31, and the 2027 season from March 14 to May 30. This announcement is the first of its kind, with the IPL referring to these as "windows" that are expected to become the final dates.

The 2025 season will feature 74 matches, consistent with the previous three editions. However, this is ten fewer than the 84 matches initially projected in the IPL's 2022 media rights document for the 2023-27 cycle. The media rights tender had forecasted varying match counts, with 74 matches for 2023 and 2024, 84 matches for 2025 and 2026, and up to 94 matches for the final season in 2027.

In terms of player participation, most overseas players from Full Member nations have received clearance from their respective boards to take part in the tournament over the next three years. However, Pakistani players remain absent from the IPL due to ongoing political tensions between India and Pakistan, a situation that has persisted since the inaugural season in 2008.

As the 2025 season approaches, the IPL is gearing up for its mega auction in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on November 24 and 25. A total of 574 players will be featured, including 366 Indian players and 208 overseas players, with three from associate nations. The auction will include 318 uncapped Indian players and 12 uncapped overseas players, with 204 available slots—70 of which are for overseas players. The highest reserve price is set at Rs 2 crore, with 81 players opting for the highest bid.

Jasprit Bumrah Shines as India Dominates Day 1 Against Australia in Perth Test

India's stand-in captain, Jasprit Bumrah, was the star of the day as his brilliant bowling spell helped reduce Australia to a precarious 67/7 on the opening day of the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy at Perth. Bumrah made an immediate impact, dismissing debutant Nathan McSweeney early in the innings. He then followed it up with a stunning double strike, removing Usman Khawaja and Steve Smith on consecutive balls. To cap off an impressive performance, Bumrah claimed the wicket of Australian captain Pat Cummins, leaving Australia struggling at the close of play.

Bumrah's fiery spell was backed by excellent support from Mohammed Siraj and debutant Harshit Rana. Siraj, known for his consisten-



cy, kept the pressure on the Australian batters, while Rana had a memorable debut, claiming his first-ever Test wicket by cleaning up Travis Head. Rana's wicket was a key moment in the match, as it further compounded Australia's struggles against India's pace attack.

Earlier in the day, India faced their own challenges with the bat, managing to post a total of 150 in their first innings. The highlight of India's batting performance was debutant Nitish Reddy's gritty knock of 41 runs, which proved crucial in taking India to a competitive total. Reddy's resilience in difficult conditions was commendable as he fought hard against the Australian bowlers.

Australia's Josh Hazlewood was the standout bowler for the hosts, claiming four wickets and causing significant damage to the Indian top order. Despite his efforts, Australia's batting line-up crumbled under pressure from India's potent bowling attack.

With India on top after Day 1, the match promises an exciting contest as Australia looks to bounce back on Day 2.

Satwiksairaj /Chirag Shetty Progress To China Masters Super 750 Semi-Finals

Indian men's doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty delivered a stellar performance on Friday to defeat Denmark's second seeds Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen, securing a spot in the semifinals of the China Masters Super 750 badminton tournament. In their first tournament since the Paris Olympics, the duo triumphed 21-16, 21-19 in 47 minutes, avenging their previous final loss at this event.

The Asian Games gold medalists were in top form, dominating their opponents with well-executed rallies and strong defense. In the opening game, Satwik and Chirag took an early lead, reaching an 11-8 advantage at the interval. They continued their momentum, extending the lead to 16-10 with fast, angled returns. Although the Danes fought back briefly, a crucial net error from Chirag and a powerful smash from Rasmussen delayed the inevitable. However, the Indians clinched



Jin Yong and Seo Seung Jae in the semifinals.

the first game after Rasmussen's error, finishing 21-16.

The second game was much tighter, with the Danes pushing the Indians in the flat exchanges. The score was level at 8-8 before Satwik and Chirag managed to edge ahead with a narrow 11-10 lead at the interval. The game continued to be a nail-biter, with both teams trading points. At 16-15, the Indians led by one point, but Astrup and Rasmussen fought back to take a 17-16 lead. However, a critical mistake from Astrup at 18-19 gave the Indians the advantage, and a well-placed push from Chirag followed by a smash from Satwik sealed the win at 21-19.

Satwik and Chirag will face either eighth-seeded Japanese pair Takuro Hoki and Yugo Kobayashi or Korea's

Jayasuriya Praises New Zealand, Balances Rest for Upcoming Challenges

Following Sri Lanka's 2-0 series win over New Zealand in the recently concluded ODI series, head coach Sanath Jayasuriya commended the Kiwis' competitive approach during the series. The win extends Sri Lanka's unbeaten streak at home, having triumphed over top teams like India, New Zealand, and the West Indies in recent months.

In addition to the ODI success, Sri Lanka is also making waves in Test cricket. Their victory in the Oval Test in England and a 2-0 series win over New Zealand at home has propelled them to third place in the ICC World Test Championship standings. With crucial upcoming matches against South Africa and Australia, Sri Lanka has a promising chance of making it to the World Test Championship final at Lord's, which would be their first-ever appearance.

For the limited-overs series against New Zealand, Sri Lanka's Test squad members Kusal Mendis, Pathum Nis-

sanka, Kamindu Mendis, and Asitha Fernando were retained for the ODI games but were rested for the final match after securing the series. Jayasuriya emphasized the importance of maintaining balance in player selection to ensure both immediate success and long-term preparation.

"We can't take things for granted, even against this New Zealand team. Yes, some of their players didn't come, but they have a good team. They played good cricket here," Jayasuriya remarked. He further explained that resting key players ahead of Sri Lanka's Test series in South Africa allows the team to manage player fatigue while maintaining focus on both formats.

The Sri Lankan team will look to build on their recent successes when they take on South Africa in the first Test on November 27, aiming to extend their history of wins in South Africa, including their historic series victory in 2019.



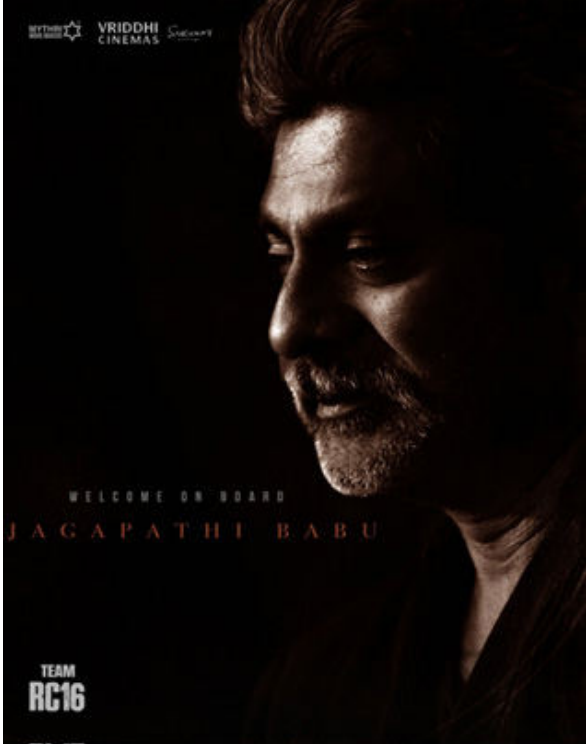


Jagapathi Babu joins the cast of RC 16

The much-anticipated re-union of Ram Charan and Sukumar, following the blockbuster success of **Rangasthalam**, is set to happen once again with their upcoming film **RC16**. This project has already generated significant excitement among fans, not only because of its talented lead cast but also due to the involvement of several notable figures, including Jagapathi Babu, who is reuniting with the team in a key role.

Jagapathi Babu, known for his powerful portrayal of the villain in **Rangasthalam**, will once again collaborate with Ram Charan and Sukumar, but this time, he will play an important role in **RC16**. His performance in **Rangasthalam** as the antagonist received critical acclaim, and his return to the team has raised curiosity about what character he will bring to life in this new venture. The film is being directed by Buchi Babu Sana, who previously worked as an assistant director under Sukumar in **Rangasthalam**. This connection adds another layer of anticipation to the film, as fans are eager to see how the dynamic between the director and the actor evolves in **RC16**.

The film's production is handled by Mythri Movie Makers, with the backing of Sukumar Writings. Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor is playing the female lead, adding further star power to the movie. The music for **RC16** will be composed by none other than AR Rahman, with Egan Ekambaram, the costume designer from **Tan-*



galan*, also lending his expertise to this project. With such a talented team involved, expectations are soaring.

The shooting of **RC16** is progressing rapidly, with the film's updates already making waves on social media. Buchi Babu Sana recently shared an update, revealing a heartfelt moment with the blessings of Mother Chamundeshwari in Mysore, which was met with excitement by fans.

As the buzz around **RC16** continues to grow, fans are eagerly awaiting more details about Jagapathi Babu's role and the storyline of this much-anticipated film. With its star-studded team and exceptional talent behind the scenes, **RC16** promises to be another major hit in the making.

Mechanic Rocky : A Decent Thriller with a Gripping Second Half

Vishwak Sen, fresh off the failure of **Gangs of Godavari**, returns with a new thriller, **Mechanic Rocky**. Directed by Ravi Teja Mullapudi, the film hit the screens today, featuring Meenakshi Chaudhary, Shraddha Srinath, and Sunil in key roles. Let's dive into how the film fares.

The film follows Rocky (Vishwak Sen), a mechanic who runs a driving school with his father (Naresh). When a local don (Sunil) threatens to take over his land, Rocky begs for time to arrange ₹40 lakhs to save his school. Amid this, his father passes away, and Rocky discovers his father's ₹2 crore insurance policy. However, Rocky is shocked to learn that the beneficiary is not him but someone else. As he delves deeper into the mystery, the story unfolds with surprising twists, leading to a thrilling climax.

Vishwak Sen delivers a solid performance, fitting perfectly into the mass role. His portrayal, especially during tense moments, stands out. The second half of the film is where the story truly picks up, with director Ravi Teja effectively building suspense and excitement. Meenakshi Chaudhary shines with a solid performance, bringing depth to her role. Shraddha Srinath also impresses with her transformation, adding a strong presence to the film.

Sunil's character as the don is impactful, and MTV Roadies fame Raghu also makes a mark as a bad cop. Naresh provides comic relief, and Harshvardhan's performance is noteworthy.



The film's runtime of 156 minutes is a significant drawback, particularly in the first half. The pacing is slow, and the comedy feels stale. The love story and flashbacks lack emotional depth, and some scenes fail to make an impact. A few unnecessary commercial elements, including a poorly executed wedding song, disrupt the flow.

The music by Jakes Bejoy and the background score are top-notch, though the songs slow down the narrative. Cinematographer Manojh Reddy's work, especially in action sequences and drone shots of Hyderabad, is impressive. Editing in the first half could have been sharper to improve pacing.

Mechanic Rocky is a decent thriller that becomes more engaging in the second half. While the first half struggles with pacing and emotional depth, the gripping twists in the latter part make it worth a watch. If you can overlook the initial dullness, this Vishwak Sen-starrer provides a satisfying experience.

Chay-Sobhita Opted for a Simple Wedding: Nagarjuna

Naga Chaitanya and Sobhita Dhulipala are set to tie the knot on December 4th at Annapurna Studios, with their families and close friends in attendance. The wedding is expected to be a simple, intimate affair, reflecting the couple's wishes for a modest celebration. Naga Chaitanya's father, Nagarjuna, recently opened up about the wedding details, sharing insights into the arrangements and the couple's preferences.



Nagarjuna clarified that, despite rumors of a grand celebration, the couple had specifically requested a simple wedding. According to Nagarjuna, Sobhita's family also wished for a traditional Telugu ceremony, complete with all the rituals that are a part of Telugu weddings. He emphasized that the wedding will be an intimate affair, with approximately 300-400 guests, including close family, friends, and a few industry colleagues.

Speaking about the couple's vision for the day, Nagarjuna described the wedding as "simple and heartfelt," much like the couple themselves. He expressed excitement for the event, highlighting how it would reflect the personal choices of Naga Chaitanya and Sobhita, who wanted the day

to be meaningful without excessive grandeur.

The venue for the wedding is Annapurna Studios, which is owned by Nagarjuna. A special set will be erected for the ceremony to accommodate the intimate gathering. While the details of a potential reception for fans and well-wishers remain uncertain, the focus will be on creating a memorable and personal celebration for those closest to the couple.

This will be Naga Chaitanya's second marriage. He was previously married to actress Samantha in 2017, with their wedding taking place in Goa as a destination event, blending both Hindu and Christian traditions. However, this time, Chaitanya and Sobhita have opted for a more private and traditional ceremony, marking a new chapter in their lives together.

Mohan Babu's First Look as Mahadev Shastri in 'Kannappa' Revealed

The much-anticipated historical drama **Kannappa** has released the first look of legendary actor Mohan Babu, who will be portraying the powerful character of Mahadev Shastri in the film. Produced by the Manchu family, with a budget of approximately Rs. 100 crores, **Kannappa** is shaping up to be one of the most prestigious projects from the family, with Manchu Mohan Babu taking the reins as the producer and Manchu Vishnu in the lead role.

Directed by Mukesh Kumar Singh, renowned for his work on the **Mahabharata** serial, **Kannappa** promises to be a cinematic spectacle. Set against a historical backdrop, the film features a star-studded cast, including Prabhas and several top stars from Bollywood and Kollywood. The film is expected to offer audiences a rich narrative, blending mythology and history.

The team behind **Kannappa** has been

unveiling intriguing first looks from the film, and the recent release of Mohan Babu's look as Mahadev Shastri has piqued excitement among fans. Known for his versatile acting, Mohan Babu's portrayal of Mahadev Shastri is expected to be one of the highlights of the film. His powerful screen presence and experience are expected to bring a commanding presence to the character, adding depth to the film's narrative.

With the combination of historical storytelling, star power, and high production values, **Kannappa** is one of the most eagerly awaited films in the industry. Fans of Mohan Babu, Vishnu, and the entire Manchu family are eager to see how this ambitious project unfolds on the big screen. The first looks of the cast have certainly set the bar high, and **Kannappa** is all set to become a significant release.



'Bagheera' Now Streaming in Multiple Languages on OTT

"Bagheera," the latest offering from the director of KGF and Salaar, Prashanth Neel, is now available for streaming on Netflix. Directed by Dr. Suri and produced by Hombale Films, which also produced the highly successful KGF and Kantara, the movie hit the big screens on October 31 and received positive feedback.

Starring Kannada actor Srimurali, known as the "Roaring Star," in the lead role, **Bagheera** tells a gripping story that has already gained attention in theaters, grossing over Rs. 29 crores despite a modest production budget of Rs. 20 crores. Now, the film is testing its luck on the OTT platform, where it is streaming in four languages: Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam. This provides an excellent opportunity for audiences who missed the theatrical release to watch the film from



the comfort of their homes.

The movie's first look and teaser generated significant buzz, setting high expectations, and now fans are eager to see how **Bagheera** fares on the digital platform. In addition to Srimurali, the film features Rukmini Vasanth in the female lead role, while Prakash Raj plays a pivotal character. Rangayana Raghu, Insaan Ashraf, Garuda Ram, and Achyut Kumar also play key roles in this action-packed drama.

With its star-studded cast, high-quality production, and strong direction, **Bagheera** is expected to continue its success on OTT, attracting viewers across various linguistic regions. Fans of Prashanth Neel's blockbuster creations like KGF and Salaar will undoubtedly find **Bagheera** worth the watch.