



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE
H 31°C L 21°C	H 34°C L 24°C	H 32°C L 23°C



KTR to Embark on Statewide Walkathon

- * KTR answers users' questions in the 'Ask KTR' campaign
- * Criticism that Congress rule has become a curse for Telangana
- * KTR that it will be difficult for Telangana to recover from the damage done by the Congress
- * Only then did people start opposing the Congress - KTR



TPN , Hyderabad: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has announced his plans for a statewide walkathon, a response to demands from party workers and a step aimed at strengthening the BRS presence across Telangana. During the recent "Ask KTR" campaign organized by XVediga, he addressed a range of questions and shared his views on the current political landscape.

Telangana Government Commits to Musi River Revival Project

TPN , Hyderabad: The Telangana government, led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is making significant strides in the revival of the Musi River, with arrangements progressing smoothly. CM Reddy has been holding a series of reviews with officials at the Secretariat to ensure efficient planning and implementation.

plans to invite tenders within the next 15 days to begin filling the Gandipet reservoir (Osman Sagar) with water from the Godavari River. In the first phase of the project, work will commence along the stretch from Gandipet to Bapughat.

the larger Musi revival project. A key highlight is the installation of a massive statue of Mahatma Gandhi, set to be taller than the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel statue in Gujarat, symbolizing Telangana's commitment to both environmental restoration and cultural heritage.

government has earmarked Rs. 7,000 crores for establishing sewage treatment plants (STPs) to purify water flowing into the river. These STPs will help reduce pollution by treating wastewater before it enters the river, contributing to cleaner and healthier water.

In a recent statement, CM Reddy outlined plans for the development of Bapughat as part of

To address the issue of water contamination in the Musi, the

The government has announced

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Diwali Gift for Hostel Students

Telangana CM Approves 40% Hike in Allowances

Government decision to increase diet and cosmetic charges CM orders 40 percent increase in fares 7 lakh students to be benefited



TPN , Hyderabad: In a major announcement for hostel students, the Telangana government has approved a 40% increase in diet and cosmetic allowances. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy directed officials to implement the revised rates within the next ten days, ensuring that students in government hostels across the state receive fortified, nutritious food. The decision, taken on the auspicious occasion of Diwali, will benefit approxi-

mately 7,65,705 students residing in various government hostels, including those under SC, ST, BC, and minority welfare departments, as well as Telangana Gurukula Vidya Sansthanas. The CM approved recommendations from a committee of officials, which had proposed the increase to improve the quality of food and personal care available to students.

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New CM for Telangana Soon?

Sensational comments of BJP MLA Maheshwar Reddy Rahul Gandhi not giving an appointment to Revanth Reddy in Delhi Uttam, Bhatti, Komati Reddy, Ponguleti will become the CM

Hyderabad : BJP Legislative Party (BJLP) leader Yeleti Maheshwar Reddy made striking comments against Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his leadership within the Congress party, hinting at a possible change in Telangana's leadership between June and December 2025. Speaking to the media on Wednesday, Maheshwar Reddy claimed that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has repeatedly refused to meet with CM Revanth Reddy in Delhi. According to Maheshwar, despite multiple attempts, Revanth returned without securing an appointment,



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అధ్యక్షులు **పోరాటం** **సామాజిక న్యాయ కావ్యధికారం**

త్యాగాలు బి.సి లయి - అధికారం ఆదిపత్య కులాలకా? ఇంకానా ఇకపై చెల్లదు

హలో బిసి - చలో మిర్యాలగూడ

మారోజు పీఠం, ఆకుల భూమిల ప్రాంగణం

బి.సి. గోరొనే

తేదీ : 03-11-2024

మధ్యాహ్నం 3 గం||లకు

స్థలం : NSP గ్రౌండ్, మిర్యాలగూడ

సభాధ్యక్షులు : తమ్మడబోయిన అర్జున్ **ప్రధాన వక్త : తీన్వార్ మల్లన్న MLC**

కో-కన్వీనర్, బి.సి. రాజకీయ చైతన్య వేదిక

ప్రత్యేక అతిథులు :

- శ్రీ వి. హనుమాంబ, మాజీ ఎంపి
- శ్రీ. చిరంజీవి, రిటైర్డ్ ఎ.ఎ.ఎస్
- శ్రీ సోల విద్యానిధి రావు, కొన్ని మాజీ డిప్యూటీ చైర్మన్
- శ్రీ. లక్ష్మయ్య, మాజీ ఎంపి
- డా. చెరుకు సుధాకర్, ప్రజా ఉద్యమకారుడు
- శ్రీ పూల రవీందర్, మాజీ ఎమ్మెల్యే
- శ్రీమతి విమలలక్ష్మి, డి.యూ.ఎఫ్., ఎ.సి.ఎఫ్
- ప్రొ. సింహాద్రి, అధ్యక్షులు సమాజీవాది పార్టీ, తెలంగాణ
- ప్రొ. జి. లక్ష్మణ్, ఉస్మానియా యూనివర్సిటీ
- డా. బాల శ్రీనివాస్ పటేల్, సామాజిక అర్థిక రాజకీయ విశ్లేషకులు
- శ్రీ కోల జనార్దన్ గౌడ్, కన్వీనర్, బి.సి. రాజకీయ చైతన్య వేదిక
- శ్రీ. చింతపడు వెంకటేశం, కో-కన్వీనర్, బి.సి. రాజకీయ చైతన్య వేదిక
- శ్రీ సింగం సూర్యారావు, (సీనియర్ జర్నలిస్ట్) అధ్యక్షులు బి.సి. సమాజం
- శ్రీ కొడెపాక కుమారస్వామి, ప్రముఖ సామాజిక వేత్త
- శ్రీ మారం శ్రీనివాస్, కన్వీనర్ బి.సి. జె.పి.సి.
- శ్రీ రామకూర రాజు (పిడికొలి రాజు) అధ్యక్షులు సోషల్ జస్టిస్ పార్టీ
- శ్రీ ముక్కం వెంకటేశ్వర్, ప్రముఖ సామాజిక కారులు

విశిష్ట అతిథులు :

- శ్రీ ముదిర జగ్గమయ్య గౌడ్, మాజీ ఎమ్మెల్యే
- శ్రీ పల్లి రవికుమార్ గౌడ్, మాజీ చైర్మన్, కల్వ గీత కార్యకర్త
- శ్రీ దుర్గం రవీందర్, సీనియర్ జర్నలిస్ట్
- శ్రీ కానిని వీరేష్, ముదిరాజ్ మహాసభ సామీయ ప్రధాన కార్యదర్శి
- శ్రీ గుళ్ళ శ్రీధర్, కన్వీనర్, జాతీయ బి.సి. సంక్షేమ సంఘం
- శ్రీ బత్తుల సుబ్బారావు పటేల్, అధ్యక్షులు హిందు బి.సి. మహాసభ
- శ్రీ వేముల వెంకటేశ్, అధ్యక్షులు జాతీయ వర్షాన సంఘం
- శ్రీ వల్లి జానయ్య యాదవ్, కంటెస్టెడ్ ఎమ్మెల్యే
- శ్రీ పెద్ది రామారాజు యాదవ్, కంటెస్టెడ్ ఎమ్మెల్యే
- డా. పర్వతం వెంకటేశ్వర్, కో-కన్వీనర్, బి.సి.ఇంటెలిక్చువల్ ఫోరం
- శ్రీమతి బత్తిని లత, బి.సి.ఇంటెలిక్చువల్ ఫోరం
- శ్రీ కోల సైదులు, కో-కన్వీనర్ బి.సి. జె.పి.సి.
- శ్రీ కె.వి. గౌడ్, కో-కన్వీనర్ బి.సి.ఇంటెలిక్చువల్ ఫోరం
- శ్రీ మాచి కరుణాకర్, సీనియర్ జర్నలిస్ట్
- శ్రీ మేకపోతుల సరేందర్ గౌడ్, అధ్యక్షులు తెలంగాణ బి.సి. సంక్షేమ సంఘం
- శ్రీ తిరుమలగిరి లక్ష్మీ, బి.సి. యువజన సంఘం తెలంగాణ కార్యనిర్వహక అధ్యక్షులు
- డా. అబ్బాసు వేణు కుమార్, డి.బి.సి. జె.పి.సి. చైర్మన్

ఉగ్గ శ్రీనివాస్ పటేల్ తండు సైదులు

బి.సి. రాజకీయ చైతన్య వేదిక & బి.సి. జె.పి.సి.

Ph : 7569693805, 9177566741, 9885611011



Musi River Revival Project

continued from P-1

Tenders for the STPs are expected to be issued this week, with plans to transport water from the Mallanna Sagar to Usman Sagar reservoirs as part of the project. The Musi River revival project reflects Telangana's dedication to environmental restoration and historical preservation, aiming to make the river a symbol of the state's progress.

KTR to Embark on Statewide Walkathon

continued from P-1

KTR expressed sharp criticism of the Congress-led government in Telangana, calling it "a curse" for the state. He accused the Congress of failing to fulfill its promises and claimed that its rule has brought economic setbacks, increased unemployment, and an overall decline across sectors, from agriculture to industry. He described the Congress leadership as focused on "political persecution" instead of progress, stating that the party's promises, such as support prices for farmers and bonuses for weavers, had gone unfulfilled. Reflecting on his commitment to hold the Congress government accountable, KTR emphasized that BRS will act as the main opposition force, advocating for transparency and the implementation of promises made by the Congress. While responding to a question on changing the government, he acknowledged that Congress had a five-year mandate but insisted that BRS would ensure that people's voices were heard. KTR also highlighted his party's social media strength, noting that supporters have been vocal against what he described as mainstream media bias in favor of Congress. He promised a general meeting soon to thank and organize the party's social media volunteers further. Touching on KCR's health, KTR reassured supporters that KCR remains active and engaged in guiding party strategies, and added that as long as the state exists, KCR's contributions to Telangana will be remembered.

Diwali Gift for Hostel Students

continued from P-1

The revised allowances reflect the government's commitment to enhancing the welfare and health of hostel students across Telangana. In response to this decision, concerned officials expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for his support of student welfare. This increase comes as a timely gift during the festive season, providing students with improved resources for their well-being.

New CM for Telangana Soon?

continued from P-1

including a recent instance where Priyanka Gandhi was in Kerala, yet Rahul Gandhi did not grant Revanth a meeting. Maheshwar Reddy also alleged that internal opposition within the Congress party, especially regarding the Moosi project, has reached the central leadership. He claimed that senior Congress ministers in Telangana are deeply dissatisfied with the handling of the project and have voiced these concerns to the high command through various channels. Accusations of mismanagement and alleged "collection and corruption" policies under CM Revanth Reddy's administration have reportedly fueled discontent. Maheshwar Reddy further suggested that the Congress leadership views Revanth Reddy as a greater political risk than former Andhra Pradesh CM Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR).

Former Union Minister Pallam Raju has allegedly submitted a detailed report on CM Revanth Reddy's actions to Congress President Sonia Gandhi. According to Maheshwar, the report claims that Revanth Reddy is pushing a "self-centered agenda" and has withheld details of the Rs. 1.5 lakh crore Moosi project from party leaders. He noted that CM Revanth and Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka have frequently given contradictory statements on Moosi, adding to the party's internal tensions. Speculating on the future, Maheshwar Reddy predicted that one of four senior Congress leaders—Utam Kumar Reddy, Bhatti Vikramarka, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, or Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy—might soon replace Revanth Reddy as Telangana's Chief Minister. He further claimed that five Congress MLAs are in discussions with BRS leader KCR, adding strain to the party's leadership in Telangana.

BC Welfare Minister Appeals for Public Support

Telangana Launches Comprehensive Caste Census

TPN , Hyderabad : In a significant step toward inclusive development, Telangana's BC Welfare and Transport Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar has announced the launch of a comprehensive caste census in the state. This landmark survey, fulfilling a commitment made at the Congress party's BC Declaration in Kamareddy on November 10, 2023, aims to assess the social, economic, educational, occupational, and political status of Telangana's marginalized communities, including BC, SC, and ST groups.

approved by the Telangana Cabinet on February 4, 2024, and later passed unanimously in the Legislative Assembly. With an allocation of Rs. 150 crore, 85,000 trained enumerators will conduct door-to-door surveys from November 6 to November 30, 2024, supervised by officials at various administrative levels.

The Planning Department, designated as the nodal agency, will oversee this ambitious data collection, which, according to Prabhakar, will help design targeted welfare schemes. Emphasizing the importance of public cooperation, Prabhakar likened the survey to a "mega health checkup" for Telangana, requesting every household to participate actively in this unprecedented state initiative.



The caste census initiative was

household to participate actively in this unprecedented state initiative.

Telangana BC Commission Stands Firm on Strict Caste Census Process



TPN , Karimnagar : The Telangana government is set to conduct a rigorous caste census across the state starting November 6, announced BC Commission Chairman Niranjana in Karimnagar. Addressing the media, Niranjana underscored that the caste census will be carried out with strict adherence to accuracy, warning of action against anyone providing false information. He emphasized that the census is essential for understanding the socio-economic conditions of all castes and is a historic effort under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's leadership.

Chairman Niranjana clarified that the BC Commission operates independently, beyond any political influence, and respects judicial oversight. Highlighting the critical nature of accurate data, he urged citizens to provide truthful information, as inaccuracies could impact support for their caste groups. He also acknowledged potential legal challenges but assured that the Commission would uphold transparency and follow all court directives.

As part of the census, detailed questions on family political involvement, welfare benefits, employment, land ownership, and annual income will be asked. CM Revanth Reddy described the census as a "health checkup" for Telangana's diverse population. The data collection process is scheduled to conclude on November 30, with insights expected to guide future welfare initiatives across the state.

Congress Confident of Victory in Jharkhand Elections

TPN , Ranchi : Telangana Deputy Chief Minister and Congress star campaigner Bhatti Vikramarka expressed strong confidence in the Congress Party's success in the upcoming Jharkhand Assembly elections. Speaking at the Samwad meeting held at JK Hall in Ranchi, Bhatti highlighted the importance of a united front and urged party activists to work cohesively to ensure a Congress-led government in Jharkhand.

The Deputy CM discussed key election campaign strategies, alliance coordination, and election promises, emphasizing that the alliance's agenda is designed to advance Jharkhand's progress. He also underscored the importance of voting for the INDIA alliance, stating it is essential to uphold constitutional principles, safeguard national resources, and secure the country's future.

Bhatti expressed optimism, saying, "If all party activists work in harmony, we will form the government in Jharkhand." The meeting highlighted Congress's commitment to its election promises and reinforced its strategic vision for the state. The alliance aims to rally the electorate around shared values and developmental priorities to achieve a decisive victory in the state.



Good News for Cotton Farmers

WhatsApp Services Now Available



TPN , Hyderabad : Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao announced the launch of WhatsApp services specifically for cotton farmers in the state. This initiative aims to enhance communication and streamline processes related to cotton purchases.

During a review meeting at the Secretariat with marketing managers and officials, Minister Nageswara Rao emphasized the need for immediate arrangements to purchase cotton arriving at markets and ginning mills. He encouraged farmers to utilize the new WhatsApp service at *8897281111* for real-time updates on waiting times,

payment statuses, and access to a complaint forum. The service will also provide a district-wise list of markets and ginning mills.

Minister Nageswara Rao directed district officials and secretaries to be readily available to assist farmers. This initiative is expected to improve efficiency in the cotton purchasing process and support farmers in navigating market challenges. An official announcement has been made regarding this development, marking a significant step forward in supporting the cotton farming community in Telangana.

High Court Calls BC Commission Worthless: Padi Kaushik Reddy Responds



TPN , Karimnagar : BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy expressed outrage following the High Court's remark labeling the Backward Classes (BC) Commission as "worthless." Speaking at an awareness program held at the Karimnagar Collectorate aimed at addressing BC issues, Reddy stated that he and fellow MLA Dr. Sanjay were denied the opportunity to voice their concerns during the public hearing.

Reddy criticized the commission, alleging

ing it functions more like a "Congress Commission" rather than an impartial body. He pointed out that the commission was tasked with proposing a 42% reservation for BCs, questioning why leaders from the Congress and BJP were absent from the inquiry. He highlighted the inconsistency in conducting the public hearing, given the court's directive to form a new commission.

In a tweet, Reddy reaffirmed BRS's stance on the commission's practices,

demanding a scientific approach to the caste census and the establishment of a specialized BC Commission dedicated to the welfare of backward classes. He accused the current state government of failing to support weaker sections, contrasting it with the previous BRS administration's commitment to schemes like BC Gurukul and BC Bandhu. Reddy noted the lack of trust in the commission, citing the absence of Congress MLAs at the event.



Bandi Sanjay Criticizes KTR's Padayatra Plans

TPN , Karimnagar : Union Minister Bandi Sanjay made provocative remarks regarding former minister K.T. Rama Rao's (KTR) announcement of a padayatra across Telangana, which he stated was initiated at the request of party workers. In a media briefing, Sanjay criticized both KTR and the ruling BRS government, asserting that during their previous march, they faced violence and emphasizing that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) is "enjoying himself" in his farmhouse instead of addressing public concerns.

Sanjay questioned KTR's credibility and the Con-

gress party's ability to deliver on its promises, particularly regarding the implementation of the six guarantees. He expressed skepticism about the government's assurance to farmers, stating that it remains unclear if they will receive promised bonuses. Sanjay also highlighted the cancellation of the free bus scheme in Karnataka and criticized the silence surrounding other issues, including scams linked to the BRS and Congress.

He called for transparency and accountability from both parties, insisting they clarify the status of their commitments to the public.

Minister Sitakka Criticizes BRS Education Policies, Highlights Increased Support for Students



Minister Sitakka expressed gratitude to CM Reddy for the unprecedented 40% increase in these charges, noting that the rates had remained stagnant for seven years for diet and 16 years for cosmetic charges. She criticized the previous BRS government, led by K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), for neglecting the education department and failing to provide essential facilities such as toilets, drinking water, and adequate infrastructure during its decade in power.

TPN , Hyderabad: Minister for Panchayat Raj and Tribal Development, Dr. Dhanasari Anasuya Sitakka, condemned the state of the education system under the BRS regime, asserting that it failed to address the needs of students. Speaking at a media conference at the Telangana Secretariat, she praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for implementing a significant increase in diet and cosmetic charges for hostel and gurukula students, benefiting approximately 7.65 lakh students.

She emphasized that the lack of proper support had left many children suffering from half-starvation. With the recent changes, she assured that hostel students would receive full meals and that the responsibility for ensuring proper nutrition would fall on teachers and hostel staff. Sitakka reaffirmed that the increased charges would be processed through a green channel to ensure timely support for students.

Srinivas Goud Vows to Stand Firm Against Congress Government's Threats

TPN , Mahabubnagar: Former Minister Srinivas Goud publicly challenged the Congress government, stating that he is unafraid of any number of illegal cases filed against him. During a media conference at the BRS party office, he asserted that the government's attempts to silence dissent would not succeed.

Goud expressed concern for the plight of families affected by recent government actions, highlighting a visit to Varada Bhaskar's family, where he witnessed their distress. He condemned the demolition of houses belonging to disabled individuals, criticizing the lack of adequate medical facilities in Mahabubnagar. He pledged to advocate for a new hospital and to ensure support for those in need, contrasting this commitment with the Congress government's failures.

He accused the ruling party of using false campaigns to undermine BRS leaders, warning that if the government discourages questions about their actions, he and his supporters will continue to voice their concerns. Goud dismissed the legal actions



against him as intimidation tactics, insisting that they only serve to strengthen his resolve. He called on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to fulfill past promises to the people, asserting that he would remain steadfast in his opposition to unjust practices.

MP Raghunandan Rao Critiques KTR's Governance Amid Protests



TPN , Medak: Medak MP Raghunandan Rao has criticized former minister KTR, questioning his commitment to the people of Telangana. Speaking at a BJP membership registration event in Sangareddy, Rao remarked that KTR's political actions should cease, stating, "After ten years in power, KTR has failed to engage with the public." He highlighted the absence of KTR during critical times, asserting that he is more focused on wealth and power than on serving constituents.

Rao challenged the effectiveness of the BRS government, stating, "If Congress ruled for only ten months, how could anyone endure a longer BRS tenure?" He also implied that KTR's circle of trust is limited to family members. Additionally, he demanded the release of CCTV footage related to alleged incidents at KTR's farmhouse, suggesting transparency is needed. Rao concluded by pointing out the lack of safety during recent festivities, questioning the government's effectiveness in ensuring public security.

BJP MLA Claims Five Congress MLAs Are in Contact with KCR

TPN , Hyderabad: BJP leader Maheshwar Reddy has made a bold claim, stating that five Congress MLAs are currently in contact with Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). In a recent discussion, Reddy suggested that the Congress leadership, which had previously dismissed the idea of BRS MLAs joining their ranks, is now taking the matter seriously due to pressures related to party leader Revanth Reddy.

Reddy explained that the five MLAs who have shifted their allegiance have established connections with KCR, which he claims the Congress leadership is acknowledging with a sense of pride. He specifically mentioned Congress leaders Uttam Kumar Reddy, Batti Vikramarka, and Komatireddy Venkata Reddy as potential candidates vying for the Chief Minister position, asserting that any one of them has a legitimate chance of step-

ping into that role. Furthermore, Reddy noted that KVP Rama Chandra Rao has written a letter against Revanth Reddy, indicating that the Congress high command is actively considering who will be the next CM. He emphasized that a committee will be formed to address this issue, signaling significant political maneuvering within the Congress party in light of these developments.

Government Focuses on Irrigation Projects in Rajanna Sirisilla District

TPN , Rajanna Sirisilla : Government Whip Adi Srinivas conducted a site visit to the Malkapeta Reservoir and other irrigation projects in the Vemulawada Constituency, accompanied by Chief Engineering Officer Anil Kumar and other officials. During his visit, Adi Srinivas emphasized the government's commitment to completing unfinished irrigation projects to ensure adequate water supply for farmers. He highlighted that the administration aims to finalize 90% of ongoing works while addressing the remaining 10% that are incomplete.

Srinivas recalled that the Sri Pada Ellampalli project was initiated in 2005 under the leadership of then Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy, who sanctioned a budget of 1,737 crore. He pointed out that there have been no new projects initiated since

those launched by the Congress government in 2009. In the Vemulawada Constituency, the government is working on projects expected to provide irrigation to 1 lakh acres. Plans include installing a lift at Singasamudra to fill the Upper Manaru reservoir using gravity from the Malkapeta Reservoir, as well as irrigating 43,000 acres through the Kalikota Suramma pond.

Chief Engineering Officer Anil Kumar stated that the government has directed the prioritization of project completion based on technical feasibility and budget availability, contingent upon water resources. He noted that the project reviews align with the directives from Water and Drainage Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, with a review meeting on pump houses scheduled for tomorrow at Ranganayak Sagar.

KTR Criticizes Congress for Reckless Guarantees Without Budget Planning

TPN , Hyderabad: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has expressed his strong disapproval of Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge's comments regarding the party's promises of guarantees without a proper budget plan. KTR sarcastically remarked, "Do you understand now that if you give guarantees based on gossip, you will be cheated first?" He recalled the financial aftermath in Karnataka when five guarantees were announced without adequate fiscal consideration, questioning Kharge's understanding of the situation. "If you promise without looking at the budget, it leads to an inevitable financial crisis," he emphasized.

KTR criticized the Congress party for repeating the same mistakes in Telangana by entangling the state with six guarantees. "Why don't you remem-

ber these things? Without considering anything, the only goal is power," he stated, highlighting how the state's progress has stalled due to these empty promises.

He urged the Congress party to acknowledge its hypocrisy and apologize to the four crore residents of Telangana. "Telangana has been on a path of progress for ten years, and the misleading guarantees from Congress must be recognized as a mistake," he added. KTR warned that the unconsidered promises would not only harm the current generation but also future ones, asserting that the damage done to Telangana over the past year due to Congress's guarantees is irreparable. "The fraud by Congress regarding these guarantees is unforgivable," he concluded.





Major Drug Seizure at Shamshabad Airport

TPN , Hyderabad : A significant drug bust occurred at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Shamshabad, where authorities seized a large quantity of illegal substances. Recently, the airport has seen an uptick in the smuggling of drugs and gold from various countries, prompting enhanced scrutiny by Customs and DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence) officials.

During a routine check, DRI officials detained two passengers arriving from Banka. One individual was found in possession of 13



hydrophonic drugs, leading to the registration of a case under the

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. One person has been arrested, while another is currently under interrogation.

The total estimated value of the seized drugs is approximately Rs. 13 crores. DRI officials have urged airport staff to remain vigilant and conduct thorough checks on passengers arriving from international destinations to prevent further attempts at smuggling. The recent seizures underscore the ongoing challenges faced by authorities in combating drug trafficking at major transportation hubs.



Bondada Engineering Limited Honored as Top Performer in BSE SME Segment

TPN , Hyderabad : In a prestigious ceremony during the Muhurat Trading session, Doctor Bondada Raghavendra Rao, the esteemed founder of Bondada Engineering Limited, was awarded the Top Performers of the Year accolade in the BSE SME segment. This recognition highlights the company's remarkable achievements and significant contributions to the small and medium enterprises sector.

Dr. Rao expressed his gratitude upon receiving the award, emphasizing the dedication and hard work of his team that made this success possible. The award underscores Bondada Engineering's commitment to innovation and excellence in engineering solutions.

As the SME sector continues to play a crucial role in India's economic growth, this recognition serves as an inspiration for other businesses striving for success in the dynamic marketplace. The event concluded with a sense of optimism for the future, celebrating the contributions of SMEs to the nation's development.



Major Drug Seizure at Doctor's Residence in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad : A shocking incident unfolded in Hyderabad as police seized a significant quantity of illegal drugs from a doctor's home. The doctor allegedly acquired the drugs to host a party during the Diwali festival. The planned drug party was set to take place at the doctor's residence in Gulmohar Park, under the jurisdiction of the Chandanagar Police Station.

Acting on tip-off information, Chandanagar police conducted a raid on the property. During the operation, officers discovered that the accused were importing drugs from Rajasthan to sell in the city. The police confiscated 150 grams of MDMA, valued at approximately Rs. 18 lakhs, from the scene.

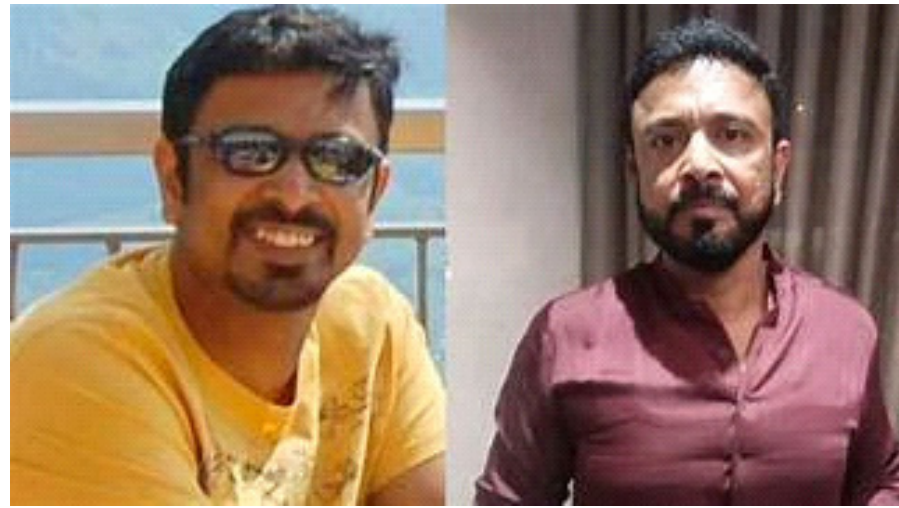
One individual has been arrested in connection with the case, while five others remain at large. Chandanagar police have registered a case and are actively investigating the incident. Further details surrounding the case are still forthcoming as authorities continue their inquiries into the drug trafficking operation.



Hyderabad Police Advocate for Community Dialogue Following Temple Desecration Incidents

TPN , Hyderabad : In response to recent incidents of temple and idol desecration in the twin cities, the Hyderabad police have emphasized the importance of dialogue among communities. On November 1, Police Commissioner CV Anand urged proactive measures to address potential flash-points, calling on committee members to act as ambassadors of peace within their neighborhoods.

The central peace and welfare committee convened to establish communication channels between local communities and law enforcement, aiming for prompt and effective grievance resolution. Proposed initiatives include community engagement programs designed to foster understanding and cooperation among diverse religious groups. The committee also recognized the need for preventive measures, such as educational programs to promote tolerance and respect for diversity. Strategies to combat misinformation and rumors, which can escalate community tensions, were also discussed.



Investigation into Chevella Party Case Concludes for Raj Pakala and Nageshwar Reddy

TPN , Ranga Reddy : The Excise Police have completed their investigation into Raj Pakala and Nageshwar Reddy regarding the illegal consumption of liquor in the Janwada Party case in Chevella. The two were interrogated as part of a case registered by the Chevella Excise Police.

During the investigation, the police posed twenty questions, focusing on key details such as the source of the alcohol, how it was transported to the farmhouse, the quantity brought, the involvement of others in organizing the party, and the distribution of the liquor.

Raj Pakala, identified as A2, was examined from 2 PM to 5 PM, while Nageshwar Reddy, labeled as A3, was questioned from 5 PM onwards. Notably, Raj Pakala declined to speak to the media following the interrogation. The investigation aims to shed light on the illegal activities surrounding the event and determine the extent of involvement by those accused.

One Arrested for ₹7 Crore Investment Fraud in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad: Vijji Jagadeesh Chandra Prasad, a manager at DB Stock Broking Consultancy's Kukatpally branch, has been arrested in connection with a major investment fraud case involving ₹7 crore. Prasad, along with accomplice Deepankar Barman, allegedly devised multiple fraudulent investment schemes that promised extraordinary returns, enticing many investors from Hyderabad and neighboring areas.

The schemes included an annual plan claiming a 120% profit, a half-yearly plan with a 54% return, a quarterly scheme guaranteeing 24%, and a monthly scheme promising 7% returns. After amassing approximately ₹7 crore from unsuspecting investors, the duo abruptly shut down operations in July, vanishing without a trace and leaving investors in distress.

Following numerous complaints, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Cyberabad Police arrested Prasad. He faces charges under various sections of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the Telangana Protection of Depositors of Financial Establishments Act, 1999. The Cyberabad Police have also issued an advisory urging the public to remain vigilant against high-return investment schemes, which are often traps set by fraudsters. Further investigations are currently underway.



3 Smugglers Nabbed with Hash Oil Worth ₹12.95 Lakh in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad: The Cyberabad police arrested three men and seized 2,590 liters of hashish oil valued at ₹12.95 lakh at the Shobhana Bus stop in Balanagar on Thursday, October 31. The arrested individuals have been identified as Sabavath Suman (25), Ramavath Lalu (38), and Kethavath Vijay Kumar (32), all hailing from the Devarakonda mandal in Nalgonda district.

The trio was apprehended as they arrived in Hyderabad to sell the hashish oil, which they had illegally procured from Odisha via Andhra Pradesh. According to the police, main accused Sabavath Suman, with the assistance of Ramavath Lalu, traveled to Paderuvi village in the Alluri Sitaram Raju district, where they met Kiran, a local from Odisha who supplied the hash oil. Kiran is currently absconding, and efforts are underway to locate him.

The duo traveled over 1,000 kilometers on Suman's motorcycle, which had its number plate removed. The police seized the bike during the arrest. Suman and Kethavath Vijay had prior narcotics-related arrests. The Cyberabad police urge citizens to report any drug-related information by calling 100 or contacting the Cyberabad NDPS Enforcement unit at 7901105423.

Raj Bhavan, Telangana, Celebrates Foundation Day of Eight States and Five Union Territories



TPN , Hyderabad: Telangana Raj Bhavan celebrated the Foundation Day of eight states and five Union Territories on November 1, 2024, as part of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative. Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, served as the Chief Guest at the event held in Samskruthi Hall.

This day marks the Foundation Day of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu, along with the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry.

Governor Varma commended the cultural and student exchange programs that promote national integration and highlighted the unifying power of music and dance. The celebration featured diverse performances, including Kuchipudi from Andhra Pradesh, Thiruvathira and Mohiniyattam from Kerala, and Bhangra from Punjab. Attendees enjoyed a culinary spread showcasing the rich flavors of the represented states and territories.

Heavy Rains Hit Hyderabad; Waterlogging in Gachibowli and Madhapur

TPN , Hyderabad: A sudden downpour swept through parts of Hyderabad on Friday evening, drenching several areas and causing significant waterlogging.

According to data from the Telangana State Development Planning Society, Madhapur received the highest rainfall, recording 58.8 mm, while nearby Gachibowli followed closely with 56.8 mm. This led to waterlogging along the DLF route, slowing traffic and stranding commuters.

Other affected areas included Chandanagar, which saw 41.5 mm of rain, and Lingampally, which recorded 38.5 mm. Kukatpally received 38.0 mm, while Miyapur reported 27.5 mm. Streets in Madhapur and Hitex Junction were also heavily waterlogged.

The heavy showers caused traffic slowdowns in busy areas such as Lingampally, Gachibowli, Madhapur, and Kondapur, resulting in delays for commuters. Authorities are monitoring the situation and urging residents to exercise caution while traveling.





384 Applications Received at Prajavani Program in Hyderabad



TPN , Hyderabad: The Prajavani program held at Mahatma Jyotiba Poole Praja Bhavan on Friday, November 1, saw a total of 384 applications submitted by citizens.

Officials reported that the majority of applications, 255, were directed to the minority welfare department. The panchayati raj and rural development department received 60 applications, while the electricity department had 24 submissions. Additionally, 15 applications pertained to revenue issues, and 31 were filed under various other departments.

The event featured participation from State Planning Commission Vice Chairman Dr. Chinna Reddy and Public Administration Special Officer Divya, who were present to receive the applications.

This follows a previous Prajavani program on October 29, which recorded 588 applications, with 221 directed to the minority welfare department. Similarly, on October 25, 509 applications were submitted, highlighting the ongoing community engagement and responsiveness of the program to citizen needs.

Police Seize 290 kg of Ganja from Tanker in Asifabad



TPN , Asifabad : In a major drug bust, police in the Kumaram Bheem Asifabad district seized 290 kilograms of ganja (cannabis) from a tanker truck on Thursday evening, October 31. The operation occurred at an interstate check post in Wankidi, where officers conducted inspections due to suspicious behavior exhibited by the driver. Upon inspection, authorities discovered the ganja hidden in specially designed compartments within the tanker. The estimated value of the seized drugs is approximately Rs 72.50 lakh.

In addition to the ganja, police confiscated two mobile phones and the tanker itself. The driver, identified as Balveer Singh, was arrested, and police are actively pursuing leads to apprehend additional suspects involved in the smuggling operation.

Heavy Rain Causes Devastation for Paddy Farmers in Medak District

TPN , Medak: On Friday evening, heavy rainfall in the Siddipet and Medak districts resulted in significant losses for local paddy farmers. Many farmers had dried their harvested paddy along the Narapur-Medak road in Kowdipally, only to see their crops washed away by the sudden downpour. The rains caused extensive damage not only at procurement centers but also on platforms and roads where farmers had spread their harvested paddy to dry. Despite their efforts, the relentless rain left the farmers feeling helpless as they watched their hard work disappear.

Additionally, the slow pace of paddy procurement in the erstwhile Medak district forced farmers to wait at the centers with their produce, exacerbating their losses. The heavy rains also impacted standing crops, raising concerns about the overall agricultural output in the region.



Caste Survey to Be Conducted with 100% Accuracy, Says Dana Kishore

TPN , Hyderabad: M. Dana Kishore, Principal Secretary of the State Municipal Urban Development Department, emphasized the need for a comprehensive and accurate caste survey during a training program for supervisors and enumerators on Friday, November 1. The session, held at Gauri Shankar Community Hall in Banjara Hills, focused on the upcoming house-to-house family survey in the Khairatabad zone, set to commence on November 6.

Kishore stated that the survey would cover various aspects, including social, economic, educational, employment, political, and caste-related data, with a target of

achieving 100% accuracy. To facilitate this, 21,000 enumerators will be deployed across the Greater Hyderabad area, with each supervisor overseeing ten enumerators to ensure a systematic process.

He urged enumerators to accurately record the conditions of various communities and to seek clarification from their supervisors whenever necessary. Emphasizing the importance of the survey in enhancing government schemes for the underprivileged, Kishore recommended that enumerators familiarize themselves with the survey documentation before fieldwork to ensure precise data collection.



Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra Reviews 'Jan Poshan Kendra' at AG Colony



TPN , Hyderabad: Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra conducted a surprise visit to fair price shop No. 819 at AG Colony on Friday to review its operations. This shop is one of 60 upgraded into 'Jan Poshan Kendras' as part of a pilot project implemented in Telangana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

The initiative allows fair price shops to sell additional items alongside subsidized grains, aiming to address the income challenges faced by ration dealers. After thoroughly assessing the shop's functioning and service quality, Chopra encouraged the dealer to increase sales to boost monthly income to Rs 1 lakh. Currently, the dealer earns about Rs 30,000 per month.

Later, Chopra met with the Minister for Civil Supplies, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, and Commissioner of the Civil Supplies Corporation, D.S. Chouhan, to discuss further improvements in the program.

BRS Leader Praveen Kumar's Residence Burgled

TPN , Hyderabad: The residence of former IPS officer and BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar in Kosini village, Sirpur-Kaghnagar, was allegedly burgled on the night of October 30.

In a post on X, Praveen Kumar reported that valuable documents were stolen during the incident, although details regarding the specific items taken have not been disclosed.

Concerned about the implications of the theft, Kumar urged law enforcement to investigate any potential conspiracy behind the break-in. In his message directed at the Telangana Director General of Police, he called for a thorough examination to uncover any hidden motives associated with the crime.

A case has been registered, and further investigation is currently underway to identify the burglars and determine the circumstances surrounding the incident.



UoH Student Elections Presidential Results Withheld, Recount Scheduled for November 1



TPN , Hyderabad: The University of Hyderabad (UoH) administration has withheld the results of the student union presidential election for the 2024-2025 academic year, with a recount scheduled for Friday, November 1. The election commission's decision to keep the results on hold has raised suspicions among students.

On October 30, the election commission chairperson released a circular outlining the guidelines for the recounting process, prompting protests from various student organizations. These groups have raised concerns over discrepancies in the notification, questioning the rationale behind initiating a recount one week after the original

announcement of results.

Critics point out that an active member of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) is part of the election grievance committee, leading to claims of bias in its functioning. Students have accused the election commission of partisanship and a lack of transparency, expressing concerns about the possibility of ballot box tampering.

A joint statement from the Students' Federation of India (SFI), Ambedkar Students' Association (ASA), Dalit Students' Union (DSU), and Bahujan Students' Front (BSF) condemned the undemocratic nature of the ongoing political situation at the UoH campus.

BRS Urges Election Commission to Extend Voter Enrollment Deadline for Graduates MLC Constituency

TPN , Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has urged the Election Commission of India to extend the deadline for voter enrollment in the Medak-Nizamabad-Adilabad-Karimnagar Graduates constituency from the current date of November 6 by at least two months. Senior BRS leader and former chairman of the State Civil Supplies Corporation, Ravinder Singh, met with Chief Electoral Officer Sudharshan Reddy to submit this request.

In his representation, Singh expressed concerns about the slow pace of voter registration in rural areas, attributing it to insufficient awareness programs. He noted that enrollment officers are already overwhelmed with their daily responsibilities and struggling to complete the registration tasks. Singh suggested that the Election Commission appoint at least one additional staff member at each voter enrollment center to raise awareness and encourage youth participation in upcoming elections.



BRICS Expansion: A New Era in Global Alliances

The recent BRICS summit in Kazan, chaired by Russia, has garnered significant international attention, reflecting the shifting geopolitical landscape. Amidst Western efforts to isolate Russia through military action and sanctions, the summit underscores a different perspective from the Global South, which views Russia not as an adversary but as a strategic ally.

The expansion of BRICS in 2023, with the inclusion of Egypt, UAE, Iran, Ethiopia, and Saudi Arabia, indicates a growing alignment among major nations in the Global South. This shift highlights a desire for a reformed international system that better represents their priorities and concerns. Nearly 40 countries have expressed interest in joining BRICS, signaling a perception of Russia as an attractive partner, contrasting sharply with the West's approach.

Countries in the Global South are increasingly drawn to BRICS to enhance their political, economic, and security options amidst perceived Western hypocrisy and double standards. This sentiment has driven nations to seek a balance of power within the existing international framework rather than creating a completely new system. The Kazan summit, attended by 24 world leaders, reinforced the resilience of Russia and its partnerships despite ongoing Western isolation efforts.

However, expanding BRICS poses challenges. As a consensus-based forum, integrating new members complicates decision-making processes, potentially undermining the credibility and functionality of the organization.



The recent foreign ministers' meeting in June 2024 faced difficulties in issuing a joint communiqué due to differing opinions.

In response to these challenges, the current strategy focuses on welcoming new partner countries while pausing further expansion of full membership. The acceptance of 13 new partners, including Algeria, Turkey, and Vietnam, reflects a diverse geographical spread but also raises questions about balancing interests among existing members.

China's influence in the selection process has been notable, as it has not pushed for Pakistan's inclusion, likely due to India's strong opposition. India's reservations about Turkey's partnership—stemming from its stance

on Kashmir—were ultimately navigated, allowing Turkey to join as a partner.

The expanded BRICS partnerships signal a collective desire to challenge Western hegemony and promote multilateralism. While the potential for BRICS to forge alternatives to the dollar-dominated financial system is ambitious, achieving these goals will require overcoming internal rivalries and economic disparities among member nations.

In conclusion, the expansion of BRICS, despite its complexities, represents a crucial step towards rebalancing global power dynamics, aligning with the aspirations of many countries in the Global South seeking greater equity and representation on the world stage.

Revisiting Nehru: A Complex Legacy on Caste and Social Justice



A recent discourse has emerged that re-evaluates Jawaharlal Nehru's legacy, portraying him not only as a secular and democratic leader in the anti-colonial struggle but also as someone who opposed caste-based reservations and the upliftment of Other Backward Classes (OBCs), including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs). This interpretation raises important questions about the nuances of Nehru's views on social justice and equality.

Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, is often celebrated for his vision of a modern, secular nation-state. His commitment to democratic principles and secularism positioned him as a champion of the rights of all citizens, irrespective of caste or religion. However, his approach to social hierarchies and reservations has come under scrutiny, particularly in the context of post-independence policies aimed at addressing caste-based inequalities.

Critics argue that Nehru's policies reflected a certain ambivalence towards affirmative action. He was skeptical of the idea of caste-based reservations, fearing that they might entrench divisions rather than foster unity. Nehru believed in meritocracy and the need for a classless society, often expressing concerns that reservations could perpetuate caste identities. This perspective aligns with his vision of a modern India where citizenship transcends social hierarchies.

However, this stance has drawn criticism, especially from proponents of caste-based reservations who argue that Nehru's reluctance to fully embrace affirmative action overlooked the systemic injustices faced by marginalized communities. They contend that his policies inadvertently favored upper castes, failing to adequately address the historical disadvantages experienced by SCs and OBCs.

Furthermore, the evolving socio-political landscape of India has seen a shift in the discourse around caste and reservations. Movements advocating for the rights of OBCs and SC/STs have gained momentum, challenging the historical narratives surrounding Nehru's legacy. These movements emphasize the necessity of affirmative action as a means to dismantle entrenched inequalities and promote social justice.

As we reassess Nehru's legacy, it becomes crucial to recognize the complexities of his views on caste and reservations. While he undeniably contributed to India's democratic framework and secular identity, his hesitations regarding affirmative action continue to spark debate. Understanding Nehru's position in this context allows for a more nuanced conversation about caste, social justice, and the ongoing struggle for equality in contemporary India.

In conclusion, the narrative surrounding Nehru's approach to caste and reservations invites critical reflection on the interplay between historical legacies and current socio-political dynamics, highlighting the need for ongoing dialogue on social justice in India.

Delhi's Air Pollution Crisis: A Cycle of Blame and Inaction

As pollution levels in the National Capital Region (NCR) soar to alarming heights, frequently hitting the 'very poor' and 'severe' categories, the annual blame game among politicians intensifies. High air pollution in Delhi has become a grim certainty each winter, alongside ineffective measures and the severe health impacts on millions of residents.

Recently, Delhi Chief Minister Atishi attributed the spike in pollution to farm fires in neighboring Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, both governed by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). She pointed out that while stubble burning in Punjab, led by her Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), has decreased, incidents in the neighboring states have surged. In response, BJP Delhi chief Virendra Sachdeva criticized the AAP government for its inadequate handling of the pollution crisis.

The culprits behind Delhi's toxic air are well-known: low wind speeds, dust from construction, vehicular emissions, and smoke from burning garbage and agricultural waste. Politicians and bureaucrats alike are aware of these contributors, yet little meaningful action has been taken. The Supreme Court recently chastised the Union government, emphasizing that the Environmental Protection Act has become ineffective due



to insufficient enforcement measures. The court also rebuked the Chief Secretaries of Punjab and Haryana for their superficial responses to the stubble burning crisis.

Despite the dire consequences of air pollution, including reduced life expectancy, political leaders seem more focused on emotive issues that have little bearing on the immediate health and safety of citizens. The latest Air Quality Life Index report highlights that residents in Delhi-NCR could lose an average of 11.9 years of life due to the region's pollution levels, as compared to World Health Organization guidelines.

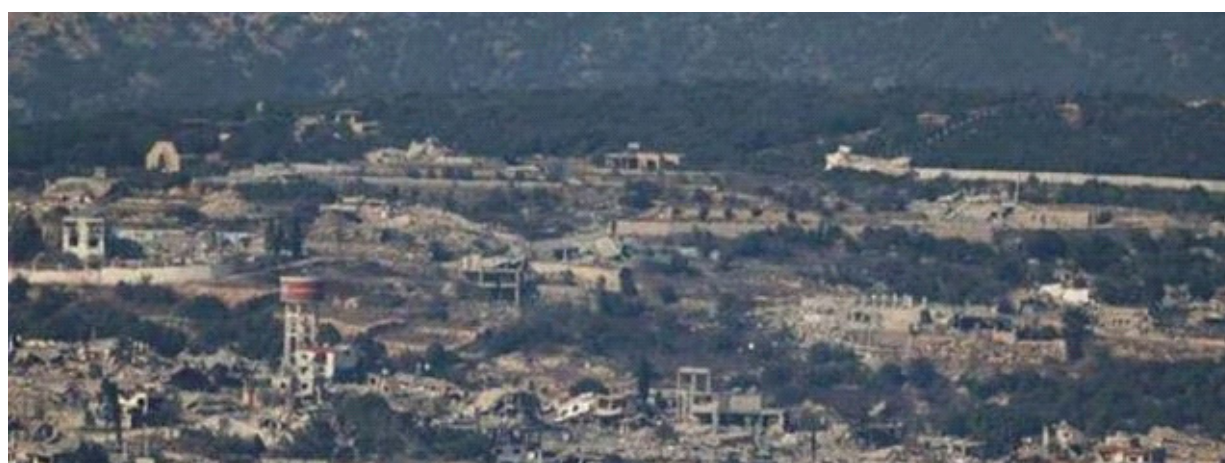
Amidst this backdrop of environmental degradation, it's ironic that India, a rapidly growing economy and aspiring global leader, leaves its citizens vulnerable to such hazards. The country's significant progress in reducing poverty and fostering economic growth contrasts sharply with the helplessness felt by Delhi's residents in the face of systemic pollution.

Authorities continue to respond with temporary measures, such as implementing Stage II of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), which includes bans on coal and firewood use, as well as restrictions on diesel generator sets.

How India can secure its soldiers in UN forces amid Israel-Hezbollah escalation

Recent escalations in the Israel-Hezbollah conflict have drawn international attention to the safety of UN peacekeepers in southern Lebanon, particularly after two Sri Lankan soldiers and two Indonesian peacekeepers were wounded during Israeli strikes near Naqoura. India, which has maintained a significant peacekeeping presence in the region since November 1998, has expressed growing concerns about the deteriorating situation along the "Blue Line," the UN-recognized boundary between Lebanon and Israel.

India has contributed an infantry battalion to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), established to assist Lebanon in restoring authority and maintaining peace following the South Lebanon conflict. Following the 2006 Israel-Lebanon war, UNIFIL's mandate expanded to include clearing mines and preventing civilian casualties. Currently, about 903 Indian troops serve within a larger force of 10,000 personnel from 50 nations, making India one of the top contributors to the mission. India's recent condemnation of Israeli actions



marks a significant shift from its earlier position, where it refrained from supporting a joint letter signed by 104 countries condemning Israel for banning UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres from entering its territory. This ban followed Guterres' perceived failure to unequivocally condemn Iranian missile strikes on Israel. India's decision to remain silent was seen as a reflection of its cautious approach to the Israel-Palestine

conflict, traditionally opting for abstention rather than condemnation.

However, India's latest statement underscores a newfound urgency to address escalating tensions in West Asia. As a leading troop contributor, India faces increased pressure to ensure the safety of its forces while balancing strategic security interests with humanitarian concerns in the region.

This shift aligns with India's aspirations to take a more prominent role within the Global South, as it seeks to strengthen its position on international issues. Since mid-September, daily exchanges of drone and artillery fire between Hezbollah and Israel have resulted in significant civilian casualties and displacement. The peacekeeping forces have been actively engaging with both Lebanese and Israeli authorities to encourage restraint and maintain stability. The recent strikes on UNIFIL personnel highlight the perilous environment in which peacekeepers operate, caught between conflicting parties.

Moving forward, India must exercise caution in its peacekeeping endeavors and advocate for a renewed focus on stability in the region. Timely interventions are essential to safeguard both Indian troops and local civilians. Moreover, India should work towards establishing a comprehensive peace mechanism that encourages accountability for violence against UN personnel, as previously called for in a resolution presented at the UN Security Council in December 2022.

PM Slams Congress Over Unfulfilled Promises Amid 'Shakti' Scheme

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday lambasted the Congress Party for failing to deliver on its promises, claiming that its governance in various states has worsened. His comments came in the wake of Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar's suggestion to revisit the 'Shakti' scheme, which allows free bus travel for women in the state.

Modi stated that Congress is "badly exposed" as its assurances have turned into unfulfilled guarantees. He pointed to the deteriorating developmental trajectory and fiscal health in Congress-ruled states, emphasizing that the true victims of such governance are the poor, young people, farmers, and women, who face diluted benefits from existing schemes.

In his remarks, Modi asserted that Congress is preoccupied with internal politics rather than focusing on development. "In Karnataka, they are busy in intra-party politics instead of delivering on development. They are even consider-



ing rolling back existing schemes," he said. He urged the public to remain vigilant against what he termed the "culture of fake prom-

ises" fostered by Congress.

In response, Congress General Secretary K.C. Venugopal rejected Mo-

di's claims, asserting that the party is effectively implementing its promises in Karnataka. He argued that the central government is failing to meet its commitments, such as generating two crore jobs, while blaming the opposition for its shortcomings. "The government of India is not delivering on what they promised," he stated, defending Congress's record in the state.

The controversy over the 'Shakti' scheme intensified after Shivakumar suggested that some women prefer to pay for their travel instead of relying on free rides. Although Chief Minister Siddaramaiah dismissed the idea of revisiting the scheme, Shivakumar later clarified that there would be no withdrawal of any of the five guarantee schemes, accusing the media of misrepresenting his comments.

As tensions rise, the debate continues over the effectiveness of Congress's promises and the future of its flagship welfare initiatives.



Not A Big Fan Of The House: Rahul Gandhi On His Janpath Residence

Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, recently shared his thoughts about the 10, Janpath bungalow in Lutyens' Delhi, where he has spent significant time. He revealed that he is "not a big fan" of the house, citing personal reasons tied to his family's history. Specifically, he mentioned that his father, former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, was living there when he was tragically assassinated in Tamil Nadu's Sriperumbudur on May 21, 1991.

In a Diwali video released on Friday, Gandhi was seen interacting with paint workers at the residence, where preparations were underway for the festive season. During a conversation with his nephew, Raihan Rajiv Vadra, he expressed his sentiments about the home: "My father died (while he was living) here, so I am not a big fan of this house."

The 10, Janpath bungalow was allocated to Rajiv Gandhi in 1990, and following his death, it was transferred to his wife, Sonia Gandhi, who has continued to reside there. Rahul Gandhi, previously living at 12 Tughlaq Lane since becoming a Member of Parliament, returned to 10, Janpath after he was disqualified from the Lok Sabha last year due to a conviction in a defamation case.

Despite his disqualification being later revoked, he remains at 10, Janpath, where he has lived during his new term as the Lok Sabha MP for Rae Bareilly. This return to the family home carries a mix of nostalgia and sorrow for Gandhi, as it holds painful memories intertwined with his father's legacy.



Karnataka Deputy CM Advocates for Kannada as the "Language of Life"

At the 69th Karnataka Rajyotsava celebration held at Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar emphasized the government's dedication to making Kannada the "language of life." In his address, he underscored the cultural and historical importance of Kannada, reflecting on the progress of the state and urging citizens to honor their heritage.

Shivakumar articulated a vision of Kannada as a language that unites and inspires. "Our aim is to make Kannada a language of life. We must respect our motherland by raising the flag of our land high," he declared, calling for a collective commitment to preserving and celebrating their cultural identity.

Highlighting Karnataka's natural beauty, he referred to the state as "heaven," pointing out its sacred rivers, including the Tunga, Bhadra, Cauvery, and Krishna. He marked the 50th anniversary of the naming of the state, noting that Kannada pride transcends geographical boundaries and recognizing the contributions of Kannadigas globally. Reflecting on the historical richness of Kannada, Shivakumar stated that the language boasts a heritage of over 2,000 years. He encouraged all citizens to protect and celebrate this linguistic legacy. He also praised Karnataka's diversity and peaceful reputation, attributes that attract people from around the world.

The Deputy Chief Minister paid tribute to the celebrated poet Kuvempu, whose philosophy of "Vishwamanava" (universal human) continues to resonate with Kannadigas. "Kannada is our pride; it is our duty to respect and honor our Karm-abhoomi," he said. He announced that schools, colleges, and private firms had been directed to commemorate Kannada Rajyotsava on their premises, fostering a sense of unity and pride.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh slams NITI Aayog

Congress leader and former Union Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh expressed strong concerns on Friday regarding the impact of sulphur dioxide emissions from power plants on air pollution in India. His comments followed a media report suggesting that the NITI Aayog proposed halting the installation of equipment designed to reduce sulphur emissions at coal-fired power plants. As of now, there has been no official statement from NITI Aayog regarding this proposal.

In a post on social media platform X, Ramesh emphasized that India is the world's largest emitter of sulphur dioxide, and the emissions from power plants play a significant role in deteriorating air quality. He recalled that there had previously been a decision mandating the installation of flue gas desulphurization systems in power plants to mitigate these harmful emissions. Initially, a deadline for this installation was set for 2017, but it was later extended to 2026. Now, Ramesh claims that NITI Aayog may be advocating for the complete removal of this deadline.



"It is ridiculous to suggest that sulphur dioxide emissions are of no concern to public health in India, especially when the harmful effects of pollution are starkly visible in our cities," Ramesh stated. His remarks highlight the ongoing debate around air quality management and the responsibilities of regulatory bodies in addressing environmental issues.

The implications of such proposals are significant, as India grapples with severe air pollution challenges, particularly in urban areas where industrial emissions, vehicle exhaust, and other pollutants contribute to health crises. Ramesh's comments underscore the need for continued investment in cleaner technologies and regulatory measures to protect public health and the environment.

Bibek Debroy, PM Modi's Economic Advisory Council Chief, Passes Away

Bibek Debroy, Chief of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Economic Advisory Council, passed away at the age of 69, leaving a significant void in India's intellectual and public policy landscape. He was admitted to AIIMS on Thursday night with subacute intestinal obstruction and had underlying health issues, including hypertension and diabetes.

A recipient of the Padma Shri award, Debroy was known for his profound contributions across various fields, including economics, history, and cultural studies. He previously served as the Chancellor of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics in Pune and was a member of NITI Aayog until June 2019. His influential work in the railways played a key role in initiating vital reforms in India's largest public sector employer. Debroy authored and edited numerous books and articles, showcasing his commitment to making complex ideas accessible to the general public.



In response to his passing, President Droupadi Murmu expressed her condolences, highlighting Debroy's exceptional understanding of India's socio-economic landscape and his contributions to diverse fields, including the translation of significant scriptures. Prime Minister Modi also paid tribute, recalling Debroy's vast knowledge and passion for academic discourse, stating, "He left an indelible mark on India's intellectual landscape."

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman remembered Debroy's dedication to policy-making and his deep interest in ancient texts, emphasizing his skill in translating Sanskrit literature into English. Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh noted Debroy's ability to explain complex economic issues in an understandable way, marking him as a thought-provoking commentator who contributed significantly to public discourse.

ISRO Launches India's First Analog Space Mission In Leh

The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has launched its inaugural analog space mission, aimed at studying the challenges posed by extraterrestrial conditions for future space explorations. This groundbreaking mission features a compact, inflatable habitat known as Hab-1, which simulates life in an interplanetary environment. It is taking place in Leh, Ladakh, an area chosen for its unique geological features that resemble Martian and lunar landscapes.



ISRO announced the mission with enthusiasm, stating, "India's first analog space mission kicks off in Leh!" The agency highlighted that the mission will help tackle the challenges of establishing a base station beyond Earth. Hab-1 is designed to be self-sustaining,

equipped with essential facilities such as a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation. This setup will provide valuable data for India's ambitions regarding long-duration missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

This mission is a collaborative ef-

fort involving the Human Spaceflight Centre, AAKA Space Studio, the University of Ladakh, IIT Bombay, and the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council. Ladakh's cold, arid climate and high altitude offer an ideal testing ground for technologies and strategies essential for extended space missions.

During the mission, scientists will assess new technologies, robotic equipment, vehicles, habitats, and communication systems. They will also investigate power generation, mobility, infrastructure, and storage capabilities. Additionally, Hab-1 will examine the psychological impacts of isolation and confinement on human health and performance.

The insights gained from this analog mission are expected to be pivotal for the future of human-robotic exploration operations. Rajnagar Divisional Forest Officer Sudarshan Gopinath remarked, "This analog mission is a significant step towards understanding the complexities of living on other planets," emphasizing the importance of the findings for upcoming missions.

China's New Astronauts Begin Training for Lunar Exploration

China's fourth generation of astronauts, recently selected, commenced an intensive training program in Beijing this August, as confirmed by Lin Xiqiang, Deputy Director of the China Manned Space Agency. This new cohort includes ten recruits, notably featuring two astronauts from Hong Kong and Macao, enhancing the regional representation within the group.



The training regimen is designed to be comprehensive, incorporating various elements such as physical conditioning, lectures on manned spaceflight, and cultural activities. These components aim to facilitate a smooth transition into their roles while promoting team integration and resilience among the trainees. Over the course of their training, the astronauts will engage in more than 200 programs spanning eight distinct categories. This rigorous preparation is essential for mastering critical lunar surface operations, which are pivotal for China's ambitious plans for manned lunar exploration.

Particular attention is being given to the astronauts from Hong Kong and Macao. According to a report by China Daily, since their entry into the Astronaut Center of China on August 8, these recruits have undergone specialized sessions focusing on the history of China's space program, as well as language training in Mandarin. Lin Xiqiang highlighted their high levels of enthusiasm and noted that they are successfully integrating with the larger team.

This initiative marks a significant step in China's ongoing space endeavors, which aim to establish a permanent human presence on the Moon by the end of the decade. As the training progresses, the focus will be on ensuring that all astronauts are well-prepared for the challenges of space travel and the specific demands of lunar missions. With the inclusion of astronauts from diverse regions, China is not only strengthening its space program but also promoting unity within its broader national narrative.



Donald Trump Unstable, Obsessed With Revenge: Kamala Harris

In a bold and unprecedented critique, Vice President Kamala Harris attacked former President Donald Trump during a rally in Las Vegas on Friday, emphasizing his alleged obsession with revenge and desire for unchecked power. With just days to go before the November 5 election, Harris's remarks highlighted a stark contrast between her vision for America and Trump's approach.

Harris, the Democratic leader of Indian heritage, characterized Trump as a figure driven by "hate" and division. She claimed that if re-elected, he would bring an "enemies list" to the White House, while she would arrive with a "to-do list" focused on improving the lives of Americans. "We all know who Donald Trump is," she stated. "He is increasingly unstable, obsessed with revenge, and out for unchecked power."

Joined by singer Jennifer Lopez at the rally, Harris underscored her commitment to prioritizing the needs of the people. She declared that her top focus would be reducing the cost of living, asserting, "If I am elected, I will walk in with a 'to-do list' on behalf of you."

Harris positioned herself as a leader who values dialogue and inclusion, contrasting sharply with Trump's rhetoric. "Unlike Donald Trump, I do not believe that people who disagree with me are the enemy. He wants to put them in jail. I want to give them a seat at the table," she stated, pledging to prioritize the country over party interests.

Addressing economic issues, she promised to make housing more affordable, cut taxes for small businesses, and lower healthcare costs. "I see the promise of America in everyone here," she emphasized, reinforcing her vision for a united nation.

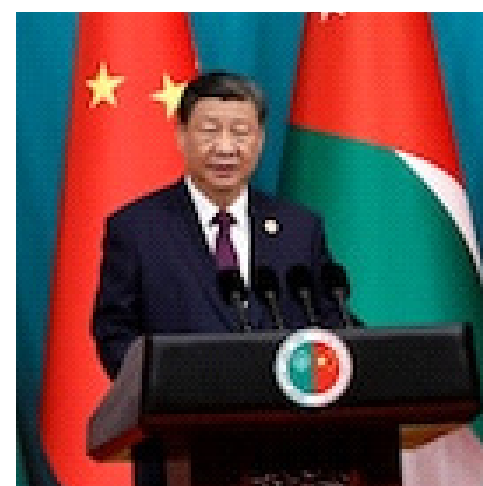
Harris also criticized Trump's comments regarding women, stating that his assertion about protecting women "whether they like it or not" demonstrated a fundamental misunderstanding of women's rights. "He does not understand women's rights to make decisions about their own lives, including their own bodies," she said.

With the election approaching, Harris's remarks reflect the intense and closely contested nature of the race, particularly in key battleground states.

China's Expanding Influence in Africa: Economic and Security Dynamics

China's engagement in Africa is largely driven by economic goals, primarily through its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). However, these economic pursuits are closely intertwined with security considerations, highlighting the complex political landscape of the region.

Traditionally, China has participated in UN peacekeeping operations within Africa, but its recent security initiatives have broadened significantly. One of the key methods for this engagement is the use of private security companies (PSCs). Although these companies were legalized in China in 2009, their presence in Africa dates back to the 1990s. With the expansion of the BRI, particularly in infrastructure development, Chinese PSCs have gained prominence, especially following attacks on Chinese nationals involved in BRI projects in unstable regions like the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic.



By 2021, around 20-30 PSCs were operating in BRI countries, with Africa hosting the largest number. These companies primarily aim to protect Chinese investments and personnel, distinguishing their role from that of military operations like those of Russia's Wagner Group. Despite being private entities, Chinese PSCs remain

closely linked to the People's Liberation Army, reflecting China's broader military ambitions under Xi Jinping.

China has established its first overseas military base in Djibouti, highlighting its strategic interests in Africa. The country is reportedly considering the development of military bases in up to 13 African nations, indicating Africa's significance in China's global security strategy.

Additionally, China's security cooperation with African countries includes professional military education (PME) programs and participation in multilateral security forums. This initiative aims to stabilize the region while securing access to markets and resources. Reports suggest that over 50 African nations have engaged in Chinese-led PME, enhancing military ties and promoting Chinese governance models.

China's Global Security Initiative (GSI) seeks to create a new security framework in Africa, focusing on military cooperation, counterterrorism, and peacekeeping, but it notably lacks emphasis on human rights. Concerns are growing about the potential for increased Chinese military influence in Africa, which may undermine regional sovereignty and empower authoritarian regimes. As China rises as a key defense partner in Africa, its security strategies are poised to have lasting implications for the continent's stability and governance.

"Israel's Attacks Suggest Rejection Of Ceasefire": Lebanon Prime Minister



Lebanon's Prime Minister Najib Mikati has condemned Israel's recent escalation of military actions against his country, characterizing it as a blatant rejection of ongoing efforts to negotiate a ceasefire amidst a protracted conflict. In a statement made on Friday, Mikati pointed to the expansion of Israeli attacks as clear indicators of Israel's unwillingness to engage in diplomatic resolutions.

"The Israeli enemy's renewed expansion of the scope of its aggression on Lebanese regions, its repeated threats to the population to evacuate entire cities and villages, and its renewed targeting of the southern suburbs of Beirut with destructive raids are all indicators that confirm the Israeli enemy's rejection of all efforts being made to secure a ceasefire," Mikati asserted.

His remarks came shortly after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held discussions with visiting U.S. officials regarding potential terms to end the ongoing conflict. Mikati emphasized that Israel's recent diplomatic maneuvers appeared to undermine prospects for peace. "Israeli statements and diplomatic signals that Lebanon received confirm Israel's stubbornness in rejecting the proposed solutions and insisting on the approach of killing and destruction," he stated.

Since hostilities flared up on September 23, the conflict has resulted in at least 1,829 fatalities in Lebanon, according to an AFP tally based on health ministry data. The humanitarian toll has raised international concerns about the escalating violence and its impact on civilians.

Mikati's concerns were echoed in a recent communication from U.S. envoy Amos Hochstein, who indicated during a phone call that a ceasefire could potentially be reached before the upcoming U.S. elections on November 5. However, the situation remains tense, with the Lebanese Prime Minister calling for urgent action to secure peace and protect the lives of Lebanese citizens amid the ongoing conflict.

The volatile situation in Lebanon underscores the complex dynamics of the region and the challenges faced in achieving lasting peace. As diplomatic efforts continue, the plight of civilians caught in the crossfire remains a pressing concern for both Lebanese officials and the international community.

Iran Plans 'Harsh, Unimaginable' Retaliation Against Israeli Airstrikes

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has instructed military officials to ready forces for a potential retaliatory attack against Israel following recent airstrikes that targeted Iranian military installations. This escalation marks a significant increase in hostilities between the two nations, which have been engaged in a series of reciprocal strikes.



Last week, the Israeli Air Force conducted operations aimed at neutralizing anti-aircraft batteries and radar installations within Iran, asserting that these strikes effectively diminished key military capabilities. In response, Iranian officials have issued stern warnings, describing any future actions by Israel as likely to provoke "harsh" and "unimaginable" retaliation. The heightened rhetoric reflects a growing resolve within Iran to respond decisively to perceived threats.

Military analysts suggest that Iran's response may be strategically timed to follow the upcoming U.S. elections on November 5. This timing could be intended to capitalize on any shifts in U.S. foreign policy or to gauge the international community's reactions in the wake of the electoral outcomes.

Will Stand With Hindu Canadians: PM Trudeau

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau offered warm Diwali wishes to the Hindu community on Thursday, emphasizing solidarity amid ongoing diplomatic tensions between India and Canada related to the rise of Khalistani extremism. In his message, Trudeau highlighted the importance of Diwali and its celebrations among one of Canada's largest and most diverse diasporas.



"Happy Diwali! Today, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, and Jain families will celebrate the triumph of light over darkness with festivities, candles, diyas, and fireworks," Trudeau wrote on X. He extended his best wishes for joy and prosperity during this significant time, acknowledging the cultural richness that the various communities bring to Canada.

Trudeau's message comes at a time when relations between India and Canada are strained, following allegations of increasing Khalistani extremism in Canada, which the Indian government has criticized. Despite these tensions, Trudeau's Diwali wishes reflect an effort to maintain ties with the Indo-Canadian community, which plays a vital role in the multicultural fabric of the nation.

The Prime Minister's remarks resonate with the spirit of Diwali, a festival symbolizing hope, renewal, and the victory of good over evil.

India's coal production rises 7.4% in October

New Delhi: India's coal production witnessed a robust increase of 7.4% in October 2024, reaching 84.45 million tonnes (MT), up from 78.57 MT in the same month last year. This surge in production reflects the government's ongoing efforts to bolster domestic coal supply amidst rising energy demands.



The cumulative coal dispatch from April to October 2024 also reported a notable rise, climbing to 571.39 MT compared to 541.51 MT during the same period in 2023-24. This increase in dispatch underscores the resilience of the coal sector, which remains a critical component of India's energy infrastructure.

The growth in coal production and dispatch is

essential for meeting the country's energy requirements, especially with the approaching winter season, when demand for heating and electricity typically spikes. The government has been prioritizing coal production to ensure

that power plants have adequate fuel supplies to avoid shortages and maintain stable energy delivery.

Several factors contributed to this growth in coal output, including improved operational efficiencies in coal mines and enhanced logistics. The Ministry of Coal has emphasized the importance of increasing production capacity and streamlining supply chains to support the growing energy needs of the nation.

Furthermore, initiatives aimed at ramping up exploration and investment in the coal sector are beginning to yield results. The focus on sustainable mining practices and the integration of technology in coal extraction and management

have also played a role in boosting production levels.

As India continues to navigate its energy transition, the coal sector remains pivotal in providing a reliable energy source while balancing environmental considerations. The recent growth in coal production and dispatch illustrates the sector's critical role in supporting the country's economic development and energy security.

Overall, the positive trends in coal production and dispatch are encouraging signs for both the industry and the broader economy, indicating a solid foundation for continued growth in the coming months.

Surge in Fuel Consumption Reflects India's Economic Growth



India's fuel consumption saw significant growth in October 2024, with petrol, aviation turbine fuel, and LPG usage all increasing compared to the same month last year. Petrol sales surged by 7.3%, while LPG consumption jumped 7.5%, and jet fuel demand rose by 2.5%. These trends are indicative of rising demand in a rapidly growing economy, particularly during the festive season.

According to data from public sector oil companies, petrol sales from Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum—together accounting for over 90%

of the market—rose by 3.1 million tonnes, up from 2.87 million tonnes in October 2023. This increase aligns with the growing popularity of cars, SUVs, and two-wheelers across both urban and rural sectors.

The uptick in air travel, driven by a burgeoning middle class enjoying higher economic growth, contributed to a rise in jet fuel consumption, which reached 647,700 tonnes in October. Domestic airlines reported flying 13 million passengers in September, reflecting a 6.38% increase from the previous year.

In the cooking gas sector, LPG sales climbed to 2.82 million tonnes, marking a 7.5% year-on-year increase. The rise in LPG consumption is largely attributed to the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), which has provided over 103 million deposit-free LPG connections to women from disadvantaged households.

Launched in 2019, PMUY aimed to enhance access to cleaner cooking fuel, and its success has led to the introduction of Ujjwala 2.0, which continues to expand LPG availability. Efforts to promote LPG usage through awareness campaigns have also contributed to increased per capita consumption among beneficiaries. Overall, these trends highlight a growing demand for fuels amid India's economic expansion.



SEBI Proposes Changes to NFO Filing Procedures for Mutual Funds

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has put forth new proposals aimed at enhancing the regulatory filing process for new fund offers (NFOs) by mutual funds. This move is designed to safeguard the innovative concepts presented by fund houses in their new schemes.

Under the proposed changes, if a fund house introduces an innovative scheme with unique features, SEBI will allow it to keep certain details confidential. Specifically, the scheme information document (SID) will only be made public five working days prior to the scheme's launch. According to the consultation paper released on Wednesday, asset management companies (AMCs) will now be required to submit the initial draft of the SID exclusively to SEBI. This adjustment addresses concerns that the current system facilitates competitors in replicating investment ideas. Presently, AMCs must upload a draft SID before launching an NFO, which contains crucial details about the new fund. SEBI observed that once a draft SID is published on its website, other AMCs often follow suit, leading to a situation where a competitor's NFO may launch

before the original innovator's fund. Consequently, the AMC that conceived the idea risks losing its first-mover advantage.

Furthermore, SEBI noted that the processing time for SIDs has significantly improved, with observation letters typically issued within 21 working days from the application's receipt.

In a separate proposal, SEBI also emphasized that AMCs must outline achievable timelines in the SID concerning the deployment of funds according to the specified asset allocation of the scheme. It suggested that AMCs should aim to deploy the funds raised during the NFO within 30 business days following the allotment of units. If an AMC is unable to meet this timeline, they must provide written explanations, including details of the efforts made to deploy the funds, to their Investment Committee.

These proposed changes reflect SEBI's commitment to fostering innovation in the mutual fund industry while ensuring fair practices and transparency for investors.

Adani Power Suspends Half of Supply to Bangladesh Over Unpaid Bills

Adani Power Jharkhand Limited (APJL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Power, has significantly reduced its power supply to Bangladesh due to outstanding bills totaling USD 846 million. Reports from local media indicate that the company cut its supply by half on Thursday night, leading to a considerable power shortfall in Bangladesh, which experienced a deficit of over 1,600 megawatts (MW) as a result.

According to data from Power Grid Bangladesh PLC, the Adani plant, which has a capacity of 1,496 MW, is now generating only 700 MW from a single unit. This drastic reduction has raised concerns about the reliability of power supply in the region.

Earlier, Adani Power had communicated with the Bangladesh Power De-

velopment Board (PDB), demanding that outstanding dues be cleared by October 30. In a letter dated October 27, the company warned that failure to settle the bills would force them to take "remedial action" under the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), which could include suspending power supply altogether after October 31. The letter pointed out that the PDB had not provided a letter of credit (LC) for USD 170.03 million from Bangladesh Krishi Bank, nor had it cleared the total outstanding amount.

A PDB official explained that while they had previously settled a portion of the dues, Adani Power had raised its charges since July. The PDB has been making weekly payments of approximately USD 18 million, while the current charges exceed USD 22 million. This discrepancy has caused

the outstanding payments to balloon once again. Additionally, the official noted that a payment submitted to Krishi Bank last week was hindered by a dollar shortage, preventing the bank from opening a letter of credit.

The situation has been further complicated by a supplementary agreement signed last year, which initially required Adani to charge coal prices lower than those of other coal-fired plants. With the expiration of this one-year agreement, Adani has reverted to charging according to the original PPA, exacerbating the financial strain on the PDB.

As this issue unfolds, it remains to be seen how both parties will navigate this critical financial impasse and its implications for power supply stability in Bangladesh.

India's Gross GST Collection in October 2024 Jumps 8.9%



India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection for October 2024 reached Rs 1,87,346 crore, marking an impressive 8.9% increase compared to the same month last year. This figure represents the highest collection in the past six months, highlighting a positive trend in economic activity and tax compliance.

On a month-to-month basis, GST collections rose by 8.1%, further underscoring the growing strength of the economy. In October 2023, the GST collection stood at Rs 1,72,000 crore, showcasing a consistent upward trajectory in tax revenues.

Experts attribute this increase to enhanced economic activities across various sectors. Abhishek Jain, the indirect tax head and partner at KPMG,

commented that nearing Rs 1.9 lakh crore in GST collections, along with a more than 10% rise in collections from domestic supplies, signifies the resilience of the Indian economy. He noted the encouraging growth in the processing of GST refunds during this month, which indicates improved efficiency in tax administration.

The rise in GST collections is a positive indicator for the government as it strives to maintain fiscal health and fund various developmental initiatives. Enhanced compliance measures and better monitoring of tax submissions have likely contributed to this improvement.

The data suggests that businesses are increasingly adapting to the GST framework, reflecting a broader accep-

tance of this indirect tax system.

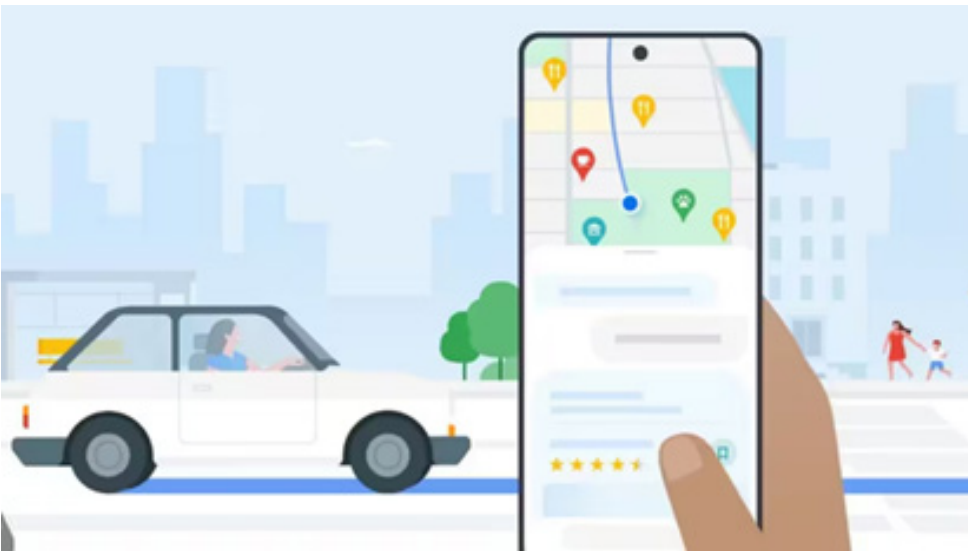
The robust GST figures are also crucial as the government prepares for upcoming financial policies and budgetary allocations. With the festive season approaching, sustained economic activity is essential for further revenue growth. As businesses ramp up operations to meet seasonal demands, GST collections may continue to rise in the coming months.

In conclusion, the surge in GST collections for October 2024 is a promising sign for the Indian economy, reflecting improved tax compliance and economic vitality. Continued monitoring and support for businesses will be vital to sustaining this momentum and ensuring long-term fiscal stability.



Google Maps Introduces New AI-Powered Features with Gemini

Google Maps is rolling out several exciting new features enhanced by Gemini AI, aimed at providing users with more relevant navigation information and curated local experiences. Announced recently, these updates are set to improve how users explore their surroundings and plan their travels.



One of the standout features is called **Inspirations**, which allows users to ask Google Maps for recommendations on activities in a specific area. For example, a user might inquire about “things to do with friends at night,” and the AI will generate a list of options, highlighting venues with live music, special events, and more. Each suggestion appears in an easy-to-digest card format, making it simple to browse through various activities.

Moreover, users can engage with the app to ask specific questions about the recommended places, such as whether they are wheelchair accessible or family-friendly. This inter-

active feature ensures that users get tailored information that meets their needs, enhancing the overall experience of discovering new locations.

In addition to Inspirations, Google is expanding its **Immersive View**, which provides users with a 3D visualization of nearby structures and real-time weather updates. This feature is being rolled out to 150 cities worldwide, enabling users to get a clearer picture of their destination while planning trips.

According to Google, AI is already playing a crucial role in the app's functionality, enabling more than 100 million updates to the map each day. This capability ensures that users have access to the most current information while navigating.

Meta's AI-Driven Boosts User Engagement on Facebook and Instagram

Meta has announced a notable increase in user screen time on its platforms, Facebook and Instagram, following the implementation of a new AI-driven algorithm. According to a recent report by the Independent, this enhancement has resulted in an eight percent rise in time spent on Facebook and a six percent rise on Instagram. While the report did not specify the exact amount of additional time users are logging, prior data from Statista indicated that Indian users were averaging just under 20 hours per month on Facebook and over 13 hours on Instagram between 2019 and 2021.

Meta's CEO, Mark Zuckerberg, is placing significant emphasis on this AI technology. During a recent earnings call, he hinted at plans to introduce a new content feed focused solely on AI-generated material. “I think we're going to add a whole new category of content which is AI-generated or AI-summarized,” he stated, underscoring his commitment to leveraging AI for content creation.

Despite some industry leaders expressing caution regarding the implications of AI, Zuckerberg is advocating for its potential. He has urged the U.S. government to engage actively with AI to foster innovation, emphasizing the need for a collaborative approach. “This is an emerging technology, and there are important equities to balance here,” he noted, suggesting that it would be preferable for American companies to help shape AI standards in collaboration with the government.

Interestingly, Meta opted not to sign a recent AI



Pact that included over 100 companies pledging to prioritize trustworthy AI development, highlighting a divergence in approach within the tech community.

In addition to the focus on AI, Instagram's head, Adam Mosseri, revealed that the platform is intentionally lowering the quality of less popular videos. This strategy, aimed at enhancing user engagement, has faced backlash from users frustrated by the reduced video quality. “If something isn't watched for a long time... we will move to a lower-quality video,” Mosseri explained.

OpenAI Enhances ChatGPT with New Chat History Search Feature



OpenAI, the company led by Sam Altman that developed the widely popular ChatGPT, has introduced several exciting features to both the app and web version since its launch in 2022. Among the most notable additions earlier this year was the ‘Memory’ feature, which allows the AI chatbot to retain and store information from discussions across all chats. While this functionality proved useful, it lacked a crucial aspect: the ability to search through past conversations.

In a recent blog post, OpenAI announced that users of ChatGPT on the web can now enjoy a new chat history search feature, enabling them to quickly and efficiently locate previous discussions. This addition is set to enhance the user experience significantly, allowing for easier navigation of past interactions.

To utilize this new feature, users can simply open ChatGPT in their preferred web browser. From the

left sidebar, they need to click on the search icon, represented by a magnifying glass. Alternatively, users can take advantage of keyboard shortcuts: pressing ‘Ctrl+K’ on Windows or ‘Cmd+K’ on Mac will bring up the search functionality.

Once activated, users can type in keywords or phrases from their past conversations. ChatGPT will then search for the best matches, although it's important to note that, for now, only exact matches are supported. This means users should be specific with their search terms to yield relevant results.

Upon retrieving the search results, users can click on the conversation they wish to revisit, allowing them to read or continue from where they left off. Notably, even if users choose to archive conversations, those chats remain searchable, albeit not visible in the sidebar. However, if a chat is deleted, it will be permanently removed from the chat history.

Indonesia Bans Google Pixel Phones Over Local Rules

Indonesia has announced a ban on the sale of Google Pixel smartphones, citing non-compliance with regulations that require a minimum of 40% of a smartphone's components to be locally manufactured. This decision follows a similar move just days earlier, when the country blocked the sale of Apple's iPhone 16 for the same reason.

Febri Hendri Antoni Arief, spokesperson for Indonesia's Ministry of Industry, emphasized that the government is committed to enforcing these rules to ensure fairness for all investors in the country. “Google's products have not adhered to the scheme we set, so they can't be sold here,” he stated on Thursday.

Currently, Google has indicated that its Pixel phones are not officially distributed within Indonesia. This lack of compliance with local content requirements has led to the prohibition of these devices in the domestic market. While consumers can still purchase Google Pixel phones from overseas, they must adhere to local tax regulations. Additionally, the government has warned that it may deactivate phones that are sold illegally within the country.

The recent ban highlights Indonesia's push to encourage local manufacturing and ensure that international tech companies



contribute to the local economy. By requiring a significant portion of smartphone components to be sourced domestically, the government aims to bolster its manufacturing sector and create a more equitable market for both local and foreign investors.

WhatsApp Launches Custom Lists Feature for Chat Organization

WhatsApp has recently rolled out an exciting new feature that allows users to create and manage custom lists for quicker access to their favorite contacts and groups. This addition follows the introduction of a favorites categorization system, which made it easier for users to filter chats and access important conversations.

In a blog post released on Thursday, WhatsApp announced that the **Custom Lists** feature will be available to users worldwide in the coming weeks. This functionality enables users to group their contacts into personalized lists—such as family, work, or neighborhood—making it easier to find and communicate with specific groups of people. Each custom list can include both one-on-one chats and group conversations, providing a streamlined way to organize and access chats.



To create a custom list, users simply need to click on the “+” icon located within the filter tab. They can then name the list and add any combination of groups

or contacts to it. These lists will be conveniently displayed alongside the existing filters, such as All, Unread, and Groups, enhancing the overall chat experience.

This new feature is particularly beneficial for users with extensive contact lists, as it allows for quicker navigation and more efficient communication. By categorizing contacts and groups, users can swiftly locate important conversations without having to scroll through their entire chat history.

WhatsApp continues to focus on enhancing user experience by introducing features that promote better organization and ease of use. The Custom Lists feature represents a significant step forward in helping users manage their chats more effectively, ultimately improving the overall functionality of the app.



India Struggles as New Zealand Takes Control on Day 1 of 3rd Test

On an eventful Day 1 of the third Test in Mumbai, India found themselves in a precarious position, ending the day at 86/4 and trailing New Zealand by 149 runs. After a disappointing batting performance, India's batsmen faltered dramatically, losing four wickets in just 20 minutes, following New Zealand's dismissal for 235.

The day began with Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar dominating the New Zealand batting lineup, with Jadeja claiming 5/65 and Sundar 4/81. Their efforts ensured that New Zealand crumbled from a promising 159/3 to all out for 235, showcasing their proficiency on a spin-friendly pitch.

Will Young (71) and Daryl Mitchell (82) were the standout performers for New Zealand, but Jadeja's skill in exploiting the conditions turned the tide in India's favor. Young's innings came to a close when Jadeja managed to induce an edge, leading to an easy catch for Rohit Sharma at slip. Mitchell, though he fought valiantly, struggled with the heat and hu-

midity, often needing hydration breaks, yet he played a crucial role in holding the innings together.

In response, India began their innings with high hopes but quickly faced disaster. Rohit Sharma (18) fell victim to a delivery that surprised him, leading to a catch at slip. The team seemed rattled as they lost three wickets in just eight balls. Yashasvi Jaiswal's reckless reverse slog sweep was particularly disappointing, while Virat Kohli's run-out further compounded India's woes.

Jaiswal and Shubman Gill (31 not out) had briefly attempted to stabilize the innings with a 53-run partnership, but the collapse was swift and alarming. With India facing a daunting challenge to keep their World Test Championship hopes alive, the pressure will be on the remaining batsmen to turn things around in the coming days. As the match progresses, India must find a way to rebuild and respond to the mounting pressure from the Kiwis.



KKR to Use Narsingarh Stadium as Second Home Ground in IPL 2025

The Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) are set to play some of their home games at an under-construction international cricket stadium in Narsingarh, Tripura, during the 2025 IPL season. This decision comes as the iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata prepares for a significant renovation next year.

According to a Tripura Cricket Association (TCA) official, the international stadium at Narsingarh has been under construction since 2017, with an estimated cost of ₹185 crore. However, it is not yet completed. IPL chairman Arun Kumar Dhumal recently visited the site and indicated that if the stadium is ready by February 2025, it could serve as a secondary home ground for KKR, or another state team may benefit if the timeline is met.

Subarta Dey, secretary of the TCA, emphasized the importance of this opportunity for Tripura, stating, "It's a golden chance to host IPL matches at the proposed stadium." The association has enlisted a reputable construction agency to expedite the project's completion. Dey mentioned that the TCA will closely monitor the progress and will replace the current agency if they fail to meet the deadline, which has already seen the project 80% complete over the past seven years, despite an initial 22-month timeframe.

During a recent TCA general body meeting, members discussed the urgency of completing the stadium. Dey expressed optimism, stating, "If we could finish the stadium's work by February next year, I am confident we can host at least two IPL matches for KKR at the Narsingarh international cricket stadium."

As the IPL season approaches, the focus remains on ensuring the new venue is ready to accommodate fans and players alike, allowing KKR to maintain a strong home-field advantage even during renovations at their traditional home ground.



Alcaraz Upset at Paris Masters as Humbert Advances

World number two Carlos Alcaraz suffered a surprising defeat at the Paris Masters, losing to 18th-ranked Ugo Humbert in the third round. Humbert triumphed with a score of 6-1, 3-6, 7-5, marking his first victory over Alcaraz after two earlier losses this year. Alcaraz, who struggled to find his rhythm, acknowledged that he "was not up to the level" of his opponent.

The match was challenging for Alcaraz, who found himself trailing 0-5 in the opening set before finally securing a game. "It was a very intense match. I started with some doubts about my game," he said. He praised Humbert's aggressive playing style, noting, "Ugo's performance was really high. The way he hits the ball is incredible."

Humbert, proud of his performance, expressed excitement about the match atmosphere, stating, "It was a crazy match, a crazy atmosphere." The Frenchman, who has claimed titles in Marseille and Dubai this year, now advances to face Australia's Jordan Thompson for a chance to reach the semi-finals.

Alcaraz's recent performances have been tumultuous, highlighted by a disappointing second-half of the season following his loss in the Paris Olympics final to Novak Djokovic. He faced early exits at both the US Open and Shanghai Masters, and this latest defeat raises questions about his form heading into the end of the season.

India Falls to Pakistan in Thrilling Hong Kong Sixes Match



The Indian team, led by Robin Uthappa, faced a tough defeat against arch-rivals Pakistan, losing by six wickets in the Hong Kong Sixes 2024 tournament on Friday. The match, held at the Tin Kwong Road Cricket Ground in Hong Kong, showcased a high-scoring affair filled with explosive batting from both sides.

Batting first, the Men in Blue set a formidable target, amassing 119 runs in their six overs. Bharat Chipli was the standout performer, smashing 53 runs off just 16 balls, demonstrating his aggressive style of play. Uthappa himself contributed significantly, scoring 31 runs from a mere 8 deliveries, helping to propel India to a competitive total.

In response, Pakistan's chase was nothing short of sensational. Asif Ali was the star of the innings, blasting an impressive 55 runs off just 14 balls, displaying incredible power hitting. His quick-fire knock set the tone for the chase, and he was well supported by Muhammad Akhlaq, who added 40 runs from 12 balls. The partnership proved crucial as they kept the run rate soaring.

Faheem Ashraf then stepped in to seal the deal for Pakistan, finishing off the innings with an over to spare. The combination of swift runs and strategic batting ultimately led to Pakistan's victory, much to the delight of their supporters.



Historic Welcome for New Zealand Women's Team After World Cup Triumph

The New Zealand women's cricket team, known as the White Ferns, received an extraordinary welcome upon returning home as the shortest World Cup champions in history. Their remarkable achievement of clinching the World Cup trophy has ended a long wait for the team and its fans, and the homecoming was nothing short of celebratory.

The team, led by captain Sophie Devine, arrived back in New Zealand on Friday after a challenging ODI series against India, where they faced significant defeats. However, the focus of their return was on their historic World Cup victory, and the New Zealand cricket board organized a grand reception to honor the champions. Fans turned out in large numbers to applaud the White Ferns, creating an atmosphere filled with pride and joy.

During the reception, Sophie Devine and her teammates interacted with young fans, sharing insights about their journey and the significance of their success. Devine took the time to engage with children, making them feel part of this monumental achievement. Videos from the event quickly went viral on social media, showcasing the warm and enthusiastic reception the team received.

The historic win has not only elevated the status of women's cricket in New Zealand but has also inspired a new generation of players and fans. The White Ferns' triumph serves as a reminder of the hard work and dedication that goes into achieving such milestones in sports. As they bask in the glory of their victory, the team is also looking ahead to future challenges and opportunities to build on this success.

The overwhelming support from fans and the cricketing community reflects the impact of their achievement, and the White Ferns are now seen as role models for aspiring athletes.



Venkatesh Sankranthiki Vasthunnam First Look

The success of "Bhagavanth Kesari" has solidified director Anil Ravipudi's reputation for skillfully handling unique concepts while delivering engaging entertainment. His next venture, "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam," marks a continued collaboration with actor Venkatesh, promising yet another distinctive cinematic experience.

The film's intriguing title, "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam," sets the stage for a story that melds festive elements with darker themes. The first look poster, which features vibrant Rangoli designs alongside a gun, perfectly encapsulates this balance, hinting at a narrative that is both celebratory and intense.

In the poster, Venkatesh is seen in a white lungi, sporting a serious expression while wielding shades and a gun, suggesting a layered character. He is joined by Aishwarya Rajesh, who embodies traditional grace, and Meenakshi Chaudhary, who brings a modern flair to the ensemble. The detailed crime board in the backdrop hints at a complex storyline, capturing the audience's attention right from the start.

In "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam," Venkatesh portrays an ex-cop, adding depth to his character as he navigates a world filled with challenges. Aishwarya Rajesh and Meenakshi Chaudhary will play pivotal roles as his wife and former lover, respectively, further enriching the narrative with their dynamic interactions. The film is produced by Shirish and presented by Dil Raju of Sri Venkateswara Creations.

Set to release during the festive season, "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam" promises to blend celebration with suspense, making it a highly anticipated project. With Anil Ravipudi at the helm and a talented cast, audiences can expect a captivating film that pushes the boundaries of conventional storytelling.



'Kubera' Teaser Date Announced

Shekhar Kammula's latest venture, 'Kubera,' is generating significant buzz in Tollywood, especially with its star-studded cast. Featuring the talents of Akkineni Nagarjuna and Dhanush as the leading men, alongside national crush Rashmika Mandanna as the heroine, the film has captured the audience's attention. The striking posters released so far have only heightened anticipation for the movie.

In a recent announcement, the film unit revealed that the much-awaited teaser for 'Kubera' will be released on November 15. Along with this exciting news, a new poster was unveiled, showcasing Nagarjuna, Dhanush, and Rashmika Mandanna, which has impressed fans and sparked curiosity about the film's storyline and tone.

As the production approaches its final stages, the audience is keenly awaiting the teaser to get a glimpse of what Kammula has in store. Known for his engaging storytelling and unique narratives, the director's approach to 'Kubera' is one of the many aspects that has piqued interest. Fans are eager to discover how this film will unfold and what themes it will explore.

Moreover, the film is being positioned as a Pan-India release, aiming to reach a wider audience across different regions. The music, composed by the talented Devisree Prasad, adds another layer of excitement, as his previous work has been well-received in various films.

With all these elements in play—an impres-



sive cast, a revered director, and promising music—the expectations for 'Kubera' are soaring. As the teaser release date approaches, fans are left wondering about the film's potential success at the box office and the kind of story Kammula aims to tell. The countdown has begun, and the excitement continues to build!



New Romantic Poster from 'Pushpa-2' Unveiled

Fans of Allu Arjun are eagerly awaiting the release of 'Pushpa-2,' directed by Sukumar, with the film now set to hit theaters worldwide on December 5. This announcement comes as a delightful surprise, as it was initially slated for a December 6 release. To mark the festive occasion of Diwali, the makers unveiled a romantic poster featuring Rashmika Mandanna and Allu Arjun, which has since gone viral among fans.

Following the massive success of 'Pushpa: The Rise,' which established itself as a blockbuster on a Pan-India scale, expectations for 'Pushpa-2: The Rule' have skyrocketed. The film is poised to make history as one of the biggest releases in Indian cinema, with plans to showcase it in 11,500 screens across six languages. This includes an impressive 5,000 screens overseas and 6,500 screens within India, signaling the film's expansive reach.

Rashmika Mandanna reprises her role as the

female lead, joined by a talented ensemble cast featuring Fahadh Faasil, Rao Ramesh, Anasuya Bharadwaj, and Jagapathi Babu in pivotal roles. The music for the film is being composed by Devi Sri Prasad, a collaboration that fans are particularly excited about. Cinematography is being handled by Kuba, a Polish cameraman, adding a fresh perspective to the visual storytelling.

In addition to the main cast, there are rumors of Bollywood beauty Shraddha Kapoor making a special appearance in a song, with filming for this sequence set to begin on November 4. Following this, fans can look forward to a new trailer releasing in the second week of November, as promotional activities ramp up.

With all these elements in place, 'Pushpa-2' is shaping up to be a major cinematic event. The excitement surrounding the film is palpable, and fans are counting down the days to its highly anticipated release.

Odela 2 Poster : Rakshas Arrives

Director Sampath Nandi is at the helm of "Odela 2," the much-anticipated sequel starring Tamannaah Bhatia. Following the success of the prequel, which was directed by Ashok Teja, this new installment promises to build on the original's popularity. Early glimpses of Tamannaah as Shiva Shakthi have garnered an enthusiastic response, showcasing her in a powerful and captivating light.

In a thrilling reveal timed for the Diwali festivities, the filmmakers also unveiled the first look of Vasishtha N Simha, who takes on the character of Rakshas. The imagery presents him in a striking and eerie manner, with his face partially obscured by a skull, making him almost unrecognizable. This haunting



first look sets the tone for what appears to be a truly frightening portrayal, raising excitement for the character's role in the film.

The project is being produced collaboratively by Madhu Creations and Sampath Nandi Teamworks, signaling a significant investment in its development. The music is being

composed by Ajaneesh Loknath, while Soundar Rajan handles the cinematography, both of whom are expected to elevate the film's overall impact.

With its compelling characters and the creative minds behind it, "Odela 2" is shaping up to be a remarkable addition to the genre. Tamannaah's transformation into Shiva Shakthi, alongside Vasishtha N Simha's chilling portrayal of Rakshas, promises an engaging narrative filled with suspense and drama. As the release date approaches, fans are eagerly anticipating what this talented team has crafted, hoping to deliver a sequel that captures the essence of the original while venturing into new, thrilling territories.

Mohanlal's "L2: Empuraan" Set for Theatrical Release in 2025

Superstar Mohanlal's highly anticipated sequel, "L2: Empuraan" (L2E), directed by Prithviraj Sukumaran, is generating buzz as it moves closer to its release. This film marks a significant milestone, as it will be the debut venture of the renowned production house, Lyca Productions, in the Mollywood industry.

The filmmakers have officially announced that "L2: Empuraan" will hit theaters on March 27, 2025. As the second installment in the "Lucifer" franchise, this sequel is set to be released in multiple Indian languages, including Telugu, broadening its appeal across the country and reaching a diverse audience. Currently in production, the team is gearing up for an exciting promotional campaign that will build anticipation leading up to the release.

