

## Weather Forecast

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

# SEIZE THE SHIP

**If Any Pressure Comes from Central Government, We'll See!**

**TPN, Kakinada:** Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has once again demonstrated his unwavering commitment to justice and national security. Known for his firm stance against corruption, Pawan Kalyan has taken decisive action against the alleged smuggling of government rice at Kakinada Port, an issue he previously fought against during the YCP regime. With his new position of power, the Deputy CM has escalated efforts to put an end to these illegal activities.

During his visit to Kakinada Port, Pawan Kalyan inspected the Stella L ship, where 640 metric tons of rice, allegedly part of a smuggling operation, were seized. The operation reportedly involves 64 rice exporters forming a syndicate, with Arbindo Realty managing port operations with a 40% stake. The Deputy CM expressed grave concerns over delays in docking, which were attributed to bad weather by port authorities—a claim he dismissed as suspicious non-cooperation. “This is not just a smuggling case; it’s a potential threat to national security,” Pawan Kalyan declared during his visit.

Pawan Kalyan, visibly dissatisfied with the lack of cooperation from port authorities, ordered the immediate seizure of the ship. “When I planned this visit, people tried to dissuade me, claiming the livelihoods of 10,000 people are tied to the port. But what’s more important is the security and rightful operation of this facility. The ship involved in the smuggling operation must be seized without delay,” he said emphatically.



He announced plans to escalate the issue to the highest levels, promising to write to the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Home Affairs, seeking urgent intervention. This bold move by the Deputy CM has been widely praised, with videos of him commanding action trending across social media platforms. The incident showcases the dynamic leadership of Pawan Kalyan, who has refused to succumb to political pressures.

“If there’s any pressure from the Central Government, we’ll face it head-on,” he asserted, highlighting his resolute approach. This episode marks a pivotal moment in Andhra Pradesh’s fight against corruption, with Pawan Kalyan setting a new standard for accountability and action. His decisive leadership and fearless resolve have reinforced public trust in his ability to safeguard the state’s interests and security.



## Kakinada Port Turns Into a Hub for Smuggling: DCM

- Serious threat to national security due to official negligence
- We will break down entire Smuggling network
- Ship carrying PDS rice seized
- Illegal ration rice discovered at Kakinada Port

**TPN, Kakinada:** Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed grave concern over Kakinada Port becoming a hub for smuggling activities. “What are the authorities doing while such large quantities of ration rice are being smuggled from here?” he questioned

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## Shawl for Show, Oscar for Lies: Sharmila's Swipe at Jagan!

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** YS Sharmila has intensified her criticism of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, raising pointed questions about his alleged dealings with Adani. Taking to social media platform X, Sharmila mocked Jagan, suggesting that his actions not only warrant a ceremonial shawl but also an Oscar for “masterfully delivering lies.”

Sharmila highlighted the recent controversy surrounding a reported Rs. 1,750 crore bribe linked to Jagan, describing it as an event of international infamy. She questioned Jagan’s agreement with Adani, asking why AP agreed to a rate of Rs. 2.49 per unit while Gujarat secured Rs. 1.99. “If there are no transmission charges, why didn’t AP get the same rate as Gujarat? Wasn’t your Energy Department itself projecting Rs. 1.70 as the maximum transmission cost?” she asked. She further criticized the secrecy surrounding Jagan’s meetings with Adani, labeling them unprecedented for a sitting Chief Minister. Sharmila also referenced reports from U.S. agencies like the FBI and SEC, which allegedly provided evidence of the financial dealings. “How can you deny the findings of a detailed 100-page report that explicitly mentions Rs. 1,750 crore being linked to the AP CM?” she questioned.



Challenging Jagan’s transparency, Sharmila accused him of failing to investigate alleged irregularities in energy contracts, despite his criticism of the previous TDP government for similar issues. “Instead of addressing these concerns, you’ve locked the state into long-term agreements with Adani, exposing the extent of corruption,” she alleged.

Finally, Sharmila threw down the gauntlet, daring Jagan to swear on the Bible and categorically deny all allegations if he believed them to be untrue. “If you’re innocent, prove it. The people of Andhra Pradesh deserve the truth,” she concluded.

## CM Chandrababu's Anantapur Tour Schedule



**TPN, Anantapur:** AP Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu’s tour of Anantapur district has been finalized. He will visit the Rayadurgam constituency on Saturday, during which he will distribute NTR Bharosa pensions and interact with villagers in Nemakallu. The schedule for the visit has been released by the CMO, and police are making tight security arrangements to ensure smooth proceedings.

### CM's Schedule:

- Chandrababu will leave his residence in Undavalli at 11:00 AM and reach Gannavaram Airport by road.
- He will depart from Gannavaram by a special flight and arrive at Bangalore Airport at 12:25 PM.
- From there, he will travel by helicopter, reaching the Nemakallu Helipad in Bommanahal Mandal, Rayadurgam constituency, at 12:45 PM.

- He will receive petitions from the public between 12:45 PM and 12:50 PM.
- He will rest from 12:50 PM to 1:20 PM.
- At 1:20 PM, he will proceed by road to Indiramma Colony, Nemakallu, reaching there at 1:25 PM.
- From 1:25 PM to 1:55 PM, Chandrababu will distribute NTR Bharosa pensions to beneficiaries.
- He will visit the Anjaneyaswamy Temple in Nemakallu between 1:55 PM and 2:00 PM and then meet with villagers until 3:05 PM.
- At 3:10 PM, he will return to the Nemakallu Helipad and receive additional petitions until 3:15 PM.
- He will depart for Bangalore by helicopter at 3:45 PM.

The Chief Minister’s visit is aimed at addressing public grievances and distributing welfare benefits to beneficiaries under the NTR Bharosa scheme.



## YS Viveka Murder Case Supreme Court Issues Notices to YS Bhaskar Reddy

- Bhaskar Reddy, accused in the Viveka murder case
- Telangana High Court grants bail to Bhaskar Reddy
- CBI petitions Supreme Court seeking cancellation of bail

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** The Supreme Court has issued notices to Bhaskar Reddy, father of YCP MP YS Avinash Reddy, in connection with the murder case of former minister YS Vivekananda Reddy. Notably, the Telangana High Court had granted bail to Bhaskar Reddy, who is an accused in this case. Following this, the CBI filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking the cancellation of his bail.

A bench led by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna heard the petition and subsequently issued notices to Bhaskar Reddy. The next hearing has been scheduled for March.

It has been more than five years since the murder of Vivekananda Reddy, and the CBI has been investigating the case for a considerable time. However, the investigation is yet to reach a definitive conclusion.

# Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao's 50th Golden Jubilee Celebrations

## A Grand Affair of Inspiration and Admiration

**TPN, Hyderabad:** The 50th birthday celebrations of Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao, a visionary leader and an epitome of innovation and inspiration, were held with grandeur at Boulder Hills Golf and Country Club, Gachibowli. The event turned into a jubilant gathering of admirers, well-wishers, and prominent personalities from diverse fields, including politics, industry, and social spheres, all coming together to honor Dr. Raghavendra Rao's remarkable journey.

Hailing from Avanigadda, Dr. Raghavendra Rao's impact resonated deeply as a large contingent of fans and well-wishers from his hometown traveled in a rally to convey their heartfelt wishes. The outpouring of love and admiration underscored his influence not just as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bondada Engineering Ltd. (BEL) but as a mentor and role model to countless individuals.

Dr. Raghavendra Rao's critical thinking and leadership have been a source of inspiration for young minds and a bridge for collaboration among political leaders across party lines. His unwavering support and encouragement have been instrumental in shaping \*True Point\* newspaper's journey toward delivering unbiased and impactful journalism. Dr. Raghavendra Rao's continued guidance has been a beacon for the team, motivating them to uphold the highest journalistic values since the paper's launch in October.

Adding a special touch to the evening, distinguished former IPS officer V.V. Lakshminarayana attended the event, reviewed the first edition of True Point, and extended his best wishes for the newspaper's success.

Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao's 50th birthday was not just a celebration of his achievements but a testament to the lives he has touched, the vision he carries, and the legacy he continues to build.



## Parent-Teacher Meeting: Minister Nara Lokesh Releases Invitation Letter



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** AP Education Minister Nara Lokesh has urged everyone to actively participate in the Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM), scheduled to be held across the state on December 7. He described the PTM as a significant event for the school education system and invited public representatives, donors, alumni, and voluntary organizations to make it a grand success.

"I request you to join the Parent-Teacher Meeting on December 7, celebrated as the biggest festival of the school education system, and contribute to its success. This meeting aims to strengthen schools, foster student development, and resolve challenges. It will create a meaningful connection between students, teachers, and parents," Lokesh stated.

Under the themes of "Educate, Engage, and Empower," the state government has decided to simultaneously organize the PTM in all schools across Andhra Pradesh in a festive atmosphere. Minister Lokesh appealed to representatives, from ward members to Members of Parliament and from sarpanches to the Chief Minister, to actively participate in their respective constituencies and villages, setting aside political differences.

The PTM will enable parents to understand their children's academic performance, behavior, and discipline. Parents can also bring up any issues or concerns about their children's learning, interests in sports, or artistic abilities with the teachers, encouraging holistic development. Minister Lokesh emphasized keeping the education system free from political influence. He requested all public representatives to avoid wearing party flags, scarves, or colors while attending the PTM.



## Taking or Supplying Drugs is a Crime: Eagle Chief A.K. Ravikrishna

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** The Andhra Pradesh government recently established EAGLE (Elite Anti-Narcotics Group for Law Enforcement) to combat marijuana and narcotics in the state. A.K. Ravikrishna has been appointed as the chief of this initiative.

Speaking to the media, Ravikrishna emphasized that both consuming and supplying drugs are criminal offenses. He stressed the importance of raising awareness about the prevention of drug and marijuana abuse. He highlighted the severity of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, urging people to understand its strict provisions.

Ravikrishna explained that, under the NDPS Act, individuals found guilty can face punishments ranging from one year to 20 years of imprisonment. Additionally, fines exceeding Rs. 2 lakh can be imposed. He also warned that if a student is charged under this act, it could severely impact their future prospects, causing irreversible losses.

## Kakinada Port Turns Into a Hub...

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He warned that negligence in dealing with smuggling activities in the coastal area poses a significant threat to national security.

"When such massive quantities of ration rice are being smuggled, what is the guarantee that explosives and narcotics won't follow? Isn't there a risk of terrorists, like Kasab, infiltrating through these illegal routes?" Pawan Kalyan asked. He vowed to bring these issues to the attention of the Central Government and investigation agencies.

On Friday, State Food and Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar inspected the seized Stella L ship, loaded with ration rice, alongside Pawan Kalyan. The inspection was conducted using a special boat.

"Kakinada Port has become a haven for smugglers," said Pawan Kalyan. He accused field-level officials of leniency de-

spite directives for strict action against illegal rice smuggling. "Smuggling doesn't stop at rice; it can also involve narcotics and explosives. Ignoring these activities under political pressure is a grave mistake that could endanger the country's security," he added.

Highlighting the presence of national organizations and major companies around Kakinada, he warned, "If dangerous elements exploit these smuggling routes, it could jeopardize the security of these institutions. Such negligence is akin to rolling out a red carpet for terrorists."

He questioned the system, asking, "Should public representatives intervene every time to prevent such activities? Action must be taken against boat owners, smugglers, and those backing these operations."

Pawan Kalyan pledged to dismantle the smuggling network and ensure ration rice reaches the poor.

## Police Seek Vijaypal's Custody in Raghurama Case

**TPN, Guntur:** The police have arrested retired CID Additional SP Vijaypal in connection with the custodial torture case against former MP and current Assembly Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishna Raju. Vijaypal was recently remanded after the Supreme Court denied his anticipatory bail plea. In this context, the police filed a petition in the Guntur Special Court on Thursday, seeking five days' custody of Vijaypal. Judge G. Spandana accepted the petition for hearing. The police informed the court that Vijaypal played a key role in the case, failed to cooperate with the investigation, and attempted to mislead the probe by withholding crucial information. They argued that further interrogation is necessary to uncover the conspiracy angle and details surrounding the alleged attempt to murder Raghurama Krishna Raju.

## AP Secretariat Employees' Leader Venkatrami Reddy Arrested in Tadepalli

**TPN, Amaravati:** AP Secretariat Employees' Association leader Venkatrami Reddy has been arrested by the excise police for allegedly organizing a liquor party without obtaining prior permission. Reports indicate that a case has been registered against him under multiple sections.

It is known that elections for the Secretariat Employees' Canteen Director posts are approaching. Allegations suggest that Venkatrami Reddy was attempting to influence the

outcome by enticing employees to support his preferred candidates.

On Thursday night, acting on credible information, excise officials and local police conducted a raid at Kondapavuluri Garden in Tadepalli, Guntur district, where the liquor party was allegedly held. Venkatrami Reddy was arrested for organizing the event without proper authorization. A significant quantity of liquor bottles was also seized from the location.

The elections are being held for 10 director posts in the Secretariat Canteen, with 28 candidates in contention. Among them, 11 candidates reportedly belong to Venkatrami Reddy's faction. He has been accused of attempting to lure Secretariat employees with alcohol and dinner to ensure the victory of his candidates. A case has been filed against him under various sections, including charges for failing to secure prior permission for the party and violating excise regulations.



## Balineni Slams Jagan's Leadership, Mistakes Behind YSRCP's Defeat

- Jagan did not give MP tickets to 17 people who attended Revanth's party.
- If I had been removed from YSRCP, I would have become a minister by now.
- People were terrified under Jagan's rule.



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Jana Sena leader and former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy launched a sharp critique against YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, holding him responsible for the party's recent electoral losses. Speaking in a recent interview, Balineni accused Jagan of sidelining loyal leaders and ignoring party workers, which he claimed led to the party securing only 11 seats.

Balineni revealed that Jagan denied MP tickets to 17 leaders, including Magunta Srinivas Reddy, after they attended a function hosted by Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He alleged that this decision was politically motivated and unfair. "If I had been removed from YSRCP, I would have contested for another party and become a minister by now," Balineni remarked, hinting at missed opportunities.

Reflecting on Jagan's tenure, Balineni said people were fearful under his rule, especially regarding their voting preferences. "Even surveyors couldn't get honest answers from voters, as people

were afraid of retaliation for not supporting YSRCP," he added.

He criticized Jagan's handling of party affairs, stating that the chief minister relied solely on welfare schemes, neglecting grassroots workers. "Jagan thought schemes would guarantee victory, but ignoring party workers led to defeat," Balineni said, emphasizing that Jagan failed to introspect after the loss.

Balineni also questioned Jagan's rhetoric, where he blamed the public for the party's performance. "Why blame people? If you make mistakes, people respond accordingly," he said. He cited examples of neighboring states where leaders have been repeatedly elected due to good governance.

When asked about Jagan's potential comeback, Balineni remained skeptical. "People need to trust him again. But given the fear during his rule, that trust is hard to regain," he concluded.

## Gudivada Amarnath Defends Power Deal With Adani Accused the Govt Spreading Misinformation

**TPN, Visakhapatnam:** Gudivada Amarnath, President of the Visakhapatnam District YSRCP, addressed the media on Friday, strongly defending the state government's power purchase agreement. He criticized certain media outlets for spreading false information about transmission charges related to the deal.



Amarnath clarified that clause 3.2 of the agreement between the central and state governments explicitly exempts the state from paying interstate transmission charges for 25 years. "The yellow media is creating unnecessary controversy without understanding the agreement. How can they blame us without reading it?" he questioned.

He highlighted that the YSRCP government secured power at a unit price of ₹2.49, which will reportedly save the state exchequer ₹1.10 lakh crore over the next 25 years. Amarnath emphasized the financial prudence of the deal, contrasting it with alleged losses incurred during the previous government's tenure.

"Under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, an additional burden of ₹87,500 crore was placed on the state exchequer," Amarnath alleged. He questioned whether Naidu's actions align with his image as a "visionary leader."

Amarnath's comments come amid growing criticism from opposition parties and sections of the media regarding the state's power agreements. He urged the public to trust the YSRCP government's commitment to safeguarding the state's financial interests.

"The facts are clear. This agreement benefits the state significantly. The opposition and their media allies are simply trying to mislead people," he asserted.

The media conference marks a continuation of the YSRCP's efforts to counter criticism surrounding its energy policies, as the party seeks to reinforce public confidence ahead of upcoming elections.

## Rachamallu Sivaprasad Reddy Slams Govt Over Adani Power Deal

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** YSRCP State Spokesperson Rachamallu Sivaprasad Reddy hit out at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and certain media outlets for their criticism of the state's power purchase agreement with SECI. Speaking at a press conference, Reddy dismissed the opposition's allegations as baseless and misleading.



"This is like a bullock cart scenario, but they are campaigning as if a calf is being slaughtered," Reddy said, referring to the TDP's portrayal of the deal. He accused Chandrababu Naidu and his associates of spreading false propaganda. Reddy clarified that the central agency SECI had officially proposed to supply electricity to the state at a rate of ₹2.49 per unit, which is one of the low-

est in the country. "After thorough discussions and consideration, the agreement was signed only after receiving cabinet approval. Is this still bad publicity?" he questioned.

Taking a jab at the TDP and sections of the media, Reddy accused them of engaging in political theatrics. "The Telugu Desam Party and the yellow media are tying the knee like a 'Bodigundu,' trying to stir controversy where none exists," he remarked, emphasizing that the deal was in the best interests of the state.

The YSRCP spokesperson urged the public to see through the opposition's narrative, reiterating the government's commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility in all its agreements.

## Minister Satya Prasad Criticizes Jagan Reddy, Suggests He Deserves Several "Awards"

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** In a recent statement, Satya Prasad, the state Minister for Revenue, Registration, and Stamps, harshly criticized Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy over the ongoing Adani power scam issue, claiming that Jagan's actions have led to massive financial burdens on the state. According to Satya Prasad, Jagan's agreements with power companies, which involved high power purchase rates, have placed a two-lakh-crore rupee burden on the people of Andhra Pradesh. He accused Jagan of failing to admit the truth and instead "showing the dignity of a goat" by not addressing the core issues related to the agreement.



The Minister went on to suggest that Jagan Reddy deserves several titles and awards for his actions, adding a sarcastic tone to his critique. "Jagan Reddy can certainly be given the 'International Criminal' award for taking his corruption empire to an international level and gaining a reputation as a world-class corrupt person," Satya Prasad stated. He also suggested that Jagan should be honored with the title "Nammaka Drohi" (Traitor to the People) for breaking his promises regarding the Amaravati capital and deceiving the public.

Further, the minister mocked Jagan with the suggestion of giving him the "Bail Bird" title for being the longest-serving economic offender out on bail in the country. Satya Prasad also criticized Jagan for lying and boasting about his achievements, earning him

the title of "Pittala Dora," or a fool. He continued by accusing Jagan of dragging his family members through defamation, earning the "Andhra Bhrashta Ratna" (Andhra's Corrupt Gem) award, and referring to his rule as one marked by violence, suggesting that the "monster in human form" title would be fitting for him.

Satya Prasad's remarks come as part of an ongoing political dispute over Jagan Reddy's handling of various state issues, including the controversial power deals and other governance matters.

## MLA Pulivarthi Nani Accuses Chevireddy of Political Mischief

**TPN, Tirupati:** Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani addressed a press conference at the Tirupati Press Club, strongly criticizing Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy for engaging in political mischief and spreading false information related to a recent case involving a minor girl. Nani expressed his frustration over Bhaskar Reddy's actions, particularly regarding the handling of a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.



The controversy began when a case was filed under the POCSO Act on December 5th, after a complaint from the girl's father. Nani accused Bhaskar Reddy and the YCP (Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party) of irresponsibly spreading sensitive information about the minor girl on social media, despite the district police's efforts to handle the case with discretion. Nani pointed out that the district police, led by District SP Subbarayudu, had already clarified that no such incident had occurred in the Yalamanda area, yet Bhaskar Reddy continued to stir the situation on social media.

Nani highlighted the legal implications of violating the POCSO Act, stressing that the identities of the child's parents should not have been disclosed, as per the law. He condemned Bhaskar Reddy for making false claims and creating unnecessary political drama, which he felt endangered the dignity of both the

child and the community.

The MLA further criticized Bhaskar Reddy for his past actions, accusing him of being involved in previous attempts to undermine his wife's reputation and for failing to uphold the law, despite his supposed legal background. Nani also warned Bhaskar Reddy against engaging in unfair political tactics in Chandragiri and Tirupati districts, urging him to face him politically if he had any concerns.

Nani concluded by calling for an end to false propaganda and misinformation, insisting that those responsible for violating the law should be held accountable. He urged all involved to act responsibly and in the best interest of the public.

## Fly Ash Transport Dispute Between JC Prabhakar Reddy and Adinarayana Reddy Reaches CMO



**TPN, Amaravati:** A heated dispute has erupted between former Tadipatri MLA JC Prabhakar Reddy and Jammalamadugu BJP MLA Adinarayana Reddy over the lucrative contract for transporting fly ash from the Rayalaseema Thermal Power Plant (RTPP). The conflict centers on who holds the rights to transport fly ash to the L&T plant in Tadipatri. Tensions flared when JC Prabhakar Reddy's faction sent lorries to transport fly ash, claiming ownership of the contract. However, Adinarayana Reddy's faction intervened, blocking the vehicles and asserting that the contract falls within their constituency. The situation quickly escalated as both sides halted each other's vehicles, with demands intensifying from both parties.

In response to the growing tensions, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy intervened to prevent the dispute from damaging the party's image and disrupt-

ing government operations. The Chief Minister summoned both factions to the Secretariat, instructing BJP MLA Adinarayana Reddy, his associate Bupesh Reddy, and JC Prabhakar Reddy to resolve the issue amicably. While Adinarayana Reddy and Bupesh Reddy attended the meeting, JC Prabhakar Reddy excused himself due to illness. During the meeting, the Chief Minister reportedly gave a stern warning to Adinarayana Reddy, emphasizing that such disputes must not tarnish the government's reputation.

The conflict has escalated into a significant challenge for the ruling party, with both factions unwilling to back down from their claims over the fly ash transport contract. Further discussions are expected to take place in the coming days to find a resolution and restore normalcy to the region.

# YS Jagan Holds Meeting with Local Body Representatives of United Krishna Dist



**TPN, Tadepalli:** YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) President and former Chief Minister, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, held an important meeting with public representatives from local bodies in the United Krishna district. The meeting, which took place on Friday, focused on the party's strategies and ongoing developmental initiatives within the region.

Jagan Mohan Reddy, who has consistently emphasized local governance and the importance of grassroots participation, discussed key issues impacting the district and the state. The session provided a platform for the public representatives to voice concerns and offer suggestions on various development projects.

The meeting was attended by local leaders, including members from municipalities, panchayats, and other elected representatives from the United Krishna district, which includes areas that were previously part of both Krishna and Guntur districts before their merger.

During the meeting, Jagan Reddy addressed concerns related to infrastructure, welfare schemes, and other developmental activities in the region. He reiterated his commitment to ensuring that the people of Krishna district receive the benefits of the state's welfare programs, and he urged the representatives to be proactive in ensuring the smooth implementation of these initiatives.

The party president also spoke about the importance of strengthening the party's base at the local level, stressing that public representatives play a crucial role in delivering the party's vision of inclusive development. He assured the gathering that the state government would continue to prioritize the welfare of all sections of society. This meeting is seen as part of a broader effort by the YSRCP to reinforce its presence in key constituencies and ensure that the party remains closely connected with the people through their local representatives.

# Safe Krishna Water Supply to A. Kondur by June

## Special Efforts to Combat Kidney Diseases

**TPN, Vijayawada:** In NTR District on Friday, Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sa inspected the Drinking Water Supply at A. Konduru Village, Efforts are underway to provide safe drinking water to 38 villages in A. Kondur mandal, where residents have been severely affected by kidney diseases. District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sa announced that the ongoing project to supply safe Krishna water will be completed by June 2025. The project, funded by the state government with a budget of ₹50 crore, aims to ensure the long-term prevention of kidney diseases by providing clean drinking water and enhanced medical services.



During an inspection at Kudapa village in Reddygudem mandal, Dr. Lakshmi Sa reviewed the progress of the water reservoir and pipeline works. Of the planned 200 km of pipeline, 90 km has already been completed, with 22 km currently under construction. Additionally, 14 new overhead tanks are being built across A. Kondur mandal, supplementing existing ones in 38 villages. The Collector emphasized the need to expedite the project, directing officials to meet the June deadline. Dr. Lakshmi Sa also visited the Primary Health Center and Mini Dialysis Center in A. Kondur, assessing the medical services provided to kidney patients. She expressed satisfaction with the services but stressed the importance of upgrading infrastructure to offer

better care. The Collector urged medical officials to operate the mini dialysis center efficiently, ensuring continuous and accessible support for patients. Local MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, along with public representatives and health officials, pledged their cooperation in improving healthcare services. The Collector called for transparent and dedicated efforts from government staff in A. Kondur, Reddygudem, and Thiruvur to uplift living standards in the region. Officials, including RDO K. Madhuri, DMHO Dr. M. Suhasini, RWS SE Vidyasagar, and DPO P. Lavanya Kumari, accompanied the Collector during the inspection.

# Aster Ramesh hospitals work appreciated in PCR London valves international conference



**TPN, Vijayawada:** Advancements in medical technology have made it possible to replace heart valves using the Transcatheter Valve Replacement method, eliminating the need for open-heart surgery. This minimally invasive procedure ensures reduced risk and faster recovery, making it especially beneficial for elderly patients and those with underlying health conditions.

Ramesh Hospitals' advanced treatment techniques have been praised by medical experts on national and international platforms such as India Valves, PCR Tokyo Valves, and PCR London Valves. On the 26th of this month, at the PCR London Valves conference held in London, Dr. Nukavarapu Raja Ramesh, Senior Interventional Cardiologist at Aster Ramesh Hospitals, presented a case of successfully performing aortic valve replacement for a patient with severe left ventricular dysfunction. His approach received widespread appreciation from the conference attendees.

with aortic or mitral valve conditions, without requiring traditional open-heart surgery, earning international recognition once again.

He highlighted that heart valve replacement procedures are among the most complex in interventional cardiology. However, with advanced medical technology and artificial intelligence, precise customization of valve size and shape using 3D printing is possible. This approach also helps predict and mitigate risks like coronary artery blockage. He noted that several complex cases handled at their hospital have been published in national and international medical journals.

Dr. Ramesh Babu emphasized that Ramesh Hospitals remains at the forefront of providing advanced cardiac care in Andhra Pradesh. He credited this achievement to the expertise and dedication of their interventional cardiology team, congratulating them for their efforts and excellence.

Dr. Pothineni Ramesh Babu, Chief Interventional Cardiologist at Aster Ramesh Hospitals, stated that Ramesh Hospitals was the first in Andhra Pradesh to successfully perform TAVI (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation) and MitraClip procedures. To date, they have successfully performed transcatheter valve replacement procedures for over 30 patients

Senior and interventional cardiologists from Aster Ramesh Hospitals, including Dr. Bhaskara Naidu, Dr. G. Krishna Mohan, Dr. Somnath, Dr. Raja Ramesh, Dr. Anoop, Dr. Ram Manohar, Dr. Madhu Krishna, Dr. Venkatesh Reddy, Dr. Chandra Mouli, and Dr. Shahanaz, along with Chief Operating Officer Dr. Nadella Giribabu, participated in the event.



# Kapu Welfare Program in Pedana Constituency

**TPN, Pedana:** A special meeting was organized by the Construction Sena in Devuni Thota, Pedana Mandal, under the auspices of the Kapu Welfare. The meeting was convened to discuss the upcoming Kapu Karthika Vana Samaradhana program, scheduled to take place at the Pedana Constituency level on the 30th of this month.



Leaders from the Kapu Sangha emphasized the importance of making this program a grand success. They informed the attendees that the event will begin with a special puja program to-

tomorrow morning, followed by the main Samaradhana event. The program is expected to serve around ten thousand people in the constituency.

The Kapu Sangha leaders highlighted that this initiative is a significant occasion for the community and called on all members to actively participate and contribute to its success. The event is set to commemorate the Karthika Vana Samaradhana with a focus on fostering unity and well-being within the Kapu community in the region.

This program is part of the ongoing efforts to support and uplift the Kapu community in the Pedana constituency, with the leadership urging widespread involvement from local residents.

# AIDS Awareness Rally Held in Mangalagiri

**TPN, Mangalagiri:** An AIDS awareness rally was organized by the Health Center at Indiranagar UPHC in Ganapati Nagar, Mangalagiri, to mark World AIDS Day on December 1st. The event aimed to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS and its prevention among local residents.

Following the presentation, the rally commenced with participants raising slogans such as "HIV eradication is our responsibility" and "HIV is not a disease - it is contagious."

The rally began with a PowerPoint presentation by Dr. Hariitha, an AIIMS Dermatologist, who educated ANMs, ASHA workers, and patients at the Health Center about AIDS. The session focused on HIV prevention, early detection, and treatment options. Dr. Hariitha emphasized that HIV is not a disease, but a contagious condition that can be managed with timely medical intervention.

Dr. P. Anusha, the Medical Officer at the Health Center, addressed the gathering, highlighting this year's AIDS theme: "Follow the path of rights, My health - My right." She stressed the importance of early detection and treatment, noting that AIDS tests are available at nearby health centers. She reassured the public that there is no need to fear AIDS, urging individuals who show symptoms to seek medical help without



delay. AIIMS doctors Dr. Rajeshwari, Dr. Shubham, Health Center Supervisor Jayalakshmi, and other local health officials participated in the event, showing their support for the awareness campaign. The rally was a vital step in promoting education on AIDS and encouraging the community to take proactive health measures.

# Collector Vetri Selvi Clears Misunderstanding on Teacher Vacation Restrictions in Eluru

**TPN, Eluru:** Eluru District Collector Vetri Selvi has responded to concerns raised by district teachers' unions regarding recent restrictions on teacher vacations, clarifying that she did not impose any such limitations. Speaking in a meeting with union leaders, including JAC Chairman Chodagiri Srinivas, Secretary Nerusu Rama Rao, and UTF leader Ravikumar, the Collector emphasized that the issue was a misunderstanding. The unions had expressed concern about the MEOs (Mandals Education Officers) imposing conditions on the use of teacher vacations, stating that teachers were being asked to complete their vacations quickly. However, Vetri Selvi clarified that no official directive had been issued by her office regarding vacation restric-



tions. She reiterated that the Government Order (G.O.) on vacations should be followed, and emphasized that teachers should not be subjected to any undue conditions. "I did not say to impose restrictions on vacations for MEOs. Follow the G.O. on vacations," Vetri Selvi stated. "If any MEOs are using my name to threaten teachers about their leave, please inform me about the specific MEOs and

the mandal concerned." During the meeting, the Collector also directed the District Education Officer (DEO) to take immediate action by holding a video conference with MEOs to ensure they adhered to the guidelines without imposing any additional conditions. The DEO was instructed to implement the leave procedure as outlined in G.O. No. 70. Regarding the teacher leadership training, the Collector explained that the district's SPD had assigned the classes, but a resolution could be pursued through discussions with state-level officials. The meeting ended on a positive note, with teachers thanking the Collector for addressing their concerns in a friendly and constructive manner.

## Home Minister Anitha Holds a Praja Darbar Programm At Nakkapalle Assures Solutions to Public's Problems



**TPN, Anakapalle:** Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha assured the people of Payakaraopet constituency that their troubles would be addressed and solutions provided to every issue raised. Speaking during the Praja Darbar held at the Nakkapalle Tahsildar's office on Friday, Anitha expressed her commitment to resolving the difficulties faced by the public, stating, "I will wipe away the tears of the people in trouble."

A large number of residents from the four mandals of the Payakaraopet constituency attended the event, submitting over 1000 petitions. The complaints received were varied, with many focused on land disputes, law and order concerns, family issues, new pensions, ration cards, and more.

Anitha emphasized that each complaint would be thoroughly reviewed, and efforts would

be made to provide a solution. Some issues were addressed and resolved on the spot with the help of local district authorities and officials from the four mandals.

The Praja Darbar served as an effective platform for the public to voice their grievances, with the Home Minister ensuring that their concerns would be prioritized for resolution.

## Measures for Comprehensive Development of Nakkala Colony Announced - MLA Somireddy

**TPN, Nellore:** Sarvepalli MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy visited Nakkala Colony under Chemudugunta Panchayat in Venkatachalam Mandal to assess the development needs of the area. During his visit, he was accompanied by officials from various departments and took the opportunity to address several community issues. Speaking to the media, MLA Somireddy outlined plans for the comprehensive development of Nakkala Colony.



He highlighted that, during the tenure of the late Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao's government in 1983, each family in Nakkala Colony was allocated a 33-acre plot. With the population now having increased, the government plans to provide plots for the homeless and construct pucca houses. MLA Somireddy emphasized that they will prioritize completing the long-delayed construction of houses that were left unfinished.

In addition to housing initiatives, MLA Somireddy announced that a community hall would be built within Nakkala Colony. He also shared plans to provide loans to local residents experienced in making artificial flowers, with the assistance of the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), to promote local entrepreneurship.

Furthermore, Somireddy assured that efforts would be made to ensure every resident has an Aadhaar card, and work will be done with authorities to make sure eligible people benefit from welfare schemes. He reiterated that, during every village tour, attention would be given to tribal colonies, with special focus on resolving their issues.

The MLA stressed the importance of leaders, activists, and educated individuals from the villages working together to foster awareness and development in tribal communities. He called for continued efforts to improve the quality of life in these areas and uplift their socio-economic conditions.

## Actress Keerthy Suresh Visited Tirumala Temple, Announces Marriage At Goa



**TPN, Tirumala:** Popular actress Keerthy Suresh, known for her stellar performances in Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam cinema, visited the renowned Tirumala temple on

Friday, seeking the blessings of Lord Venkateswara ahead of a major life milestone. During her visit, the actress Sared joyous news with her fans and the media. Keerthy announced that she will be getting married next month to her long-time boyfriend, businessman Antony Tatil. The couple has chosen the picturesque destination of Goa for their wedding ceremony. Keerthy, who has garnered immense fame for her roles in films like Mahanati and Sarkaru Vaari Paata, revealed her plans with a heartfelt message, expressing her excitement and happiness as she embarks on this new chapter in her life.

The actress, dressed in traditional attire, offered prayers at the Tirumala temple, seek-

ing divine blessings for her upcoming wedding. Fans and media gathered around her as she Sared the special moment, though she kept details of the wedding private, focusing instead on her gratitude and faith.

Antony Tatil, a successful businessman, has reportedly been a part of Keerthy's life for several years. Their relationship has been kept largely out of the public eye, making announcement a delightful surprise for fans on Friday. Keerthy's upcoming marriage has already become a topic of conversation among her admirers, who are eagerly awaiting more details about the wedding, set to take place in the serene and beautiful coastal state of Goa.

## District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sa Focuses on Education and Farmer Support



**TPN, NTR Dist:** District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sa emphasized the importance of improving educational standards and providing special attention to students from welfare homes. Speaking during her first field visit after assuming charge, Dr. Lakshmi Sa called for efforts to make NTR district a leader in educational outcomes. She urged teachers to focus on elevating government school education and improving results.

Accompanied by local legislator Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, Dr. Lakshmi Sa conducted a surprise inspection of the Kasturba Gandhi Girls' School in A. Kondur. During the visit, she reviewed the progress of additional classrooms under construction and directed officials to expedite their completion. The Collector interacted with students, inquiring about their education and living conditions, particularly the food and accommodation provided.

She stressed the importance of regular assessments, identifying students who are falling behind in their studies, and providing special classes to help them catch up. The Collector also highlighted the government's renewed focus on the mid-day meal scheme, ensuring that meals are aligned with students' preferences.

In addition to education, Dr. Lakshmi Sa discussed efforts to support the agricultural community. During a visit to the A. Kondur Dialysis Center, she met a local farmer and inspected his harvested paddy. The Collector informed farmers that paddy purchasing centers have been set up for the Kharif season to ensure they receive the government support price. In light of cyclone warnings, officials from agriculture and allied departments have been instructed to take all precautionary measures to protect crops, reassuring farmers that the government is committed to their welfare.

Dr. Lakshmi Sa's visit underscored her dual focus on both improving educational outcomes for students and supporting the agricultural community, as well as ensuring their well-being.

## Court Dismisses the Rishiteswari's Suicide Case, Parents Express Grief



**TPN, Guntur:** The long-running case surrounding the tragic suicide of Rishiteswari, a student from Nagarjuna University, has ended with a disappointing verdict. Nine years after her suicide on July 14, 2015, the Guntur District Court dismissed the case, leaving the victim's family devastated and questioning the pursuit

of justice. Rishiteswari, a young student from Warangal, Telangana, had written a suicide note before taking her life, blaming the harassment and ragging by senior students at the university. The note clearly stated that she could not bear the mistreatment any longer. The incident sparked wide-

spread protests, with student groups and family members demanding justice. In the aftermath, a police investigation was launched, and allegations surfaced against several individuals, including Baburao, the principal of the Architecture College. It was claimed that Baburao had organized an unsanctioned freshers' party where alcohol was consumed, and senior students had participated in ragging. Despite these allegations, the court ruled on Friday that the case would be dismissed, ending the legal proceedings.

### Grief and Frustration from the Victim's Family

In the wake of the court's decision, Rishiteswari's parents expressed their profound grief. Her mother, Durgabai, stated, "We have been fighting for nine years, hoping that justice would be

served, but it hasn't. If we Don't get justice, how can others hope for it?" She expressed her exhaustion from the prolonged fight, admitting that she no longer had the patience to continue.

Her father, Muralikrishna, also voiced his frustration, particularly regarding the fact that Rishiteswari's diaries, which detailed the harassment she faced, were not considered in the investigation. "Everything was written in the diary. The forensic report confirmed that it was her writing. Why wasn't it taken into account?" he questioned, struggling to understand the court's decision.

The family now faces the difficult decision of whether to appeal the case, but the emotional toll of nearly a decade of seeking justice weighs heavily on them.

## Cryptocurrency Scam in Donne Town, 300 Victims Lose ₹23 Crores

**TPN, Nandyal:** In a shocking case of cryptocurrency fraud in Donne town, Nandyal, around 300 people were duped out of nearly Rs. 23 crores by a man who promised high returns on investments. The accused, Ramanjaneyulu, a resident of Peddavuduguru village in Guthi mandal, Anantapur district, had set up a shop in Donne town under the guise of "Keva Industries Organic Herbal Company" in 2021. He lured victims by promising returns of Rs. 10 for every Rs. 100 invested in cryptocurrency. Many believed his claims, and a total of Rs. 23 crores was collected from unsuspecting investors. However, after the initial excitement, the promised returns never materialized. No cryptocur-

rency was delivered, and victims were left empty-handed. Out of the total amount collected, Ramanjaneyulu returned Rs. 17 crores to some clients, but a significant portion of the money was still unaccounted for. The case came to light when victims, who had lost large sums of money, turned to the police for help. In an unusual twist, rather than demanding his arrest, the victims asked the police to recover the remaining money. Despite their pleas, the police arrested Ramanjaneyulu, seizing approximately Rs. 2.40 crores in cash from him. The seized money is now set to be handed over to the Income Tax Department, as per the court's orders.

Donne DSP P. Srinivasulu and Circle Inspector Imtiaz Bhasha have launched a full investigation into the scam, collecting details about the total money involved and the payments made to victims. The authorities have assured that justice will be done, but the victims are growing frustrated with the slow pace of the legal process. They have voiced concerns that the case could drag on for years and are urging the authorities to expedite the recovery of their funds. This scam has highlighted the growing risks associated with cryptocurrency investments, particularly in rural areas where scams are becoming increasingly common.





# The G20's Fragile Future: Struggling for Relevance in a Divided World

The G20, once envisioned as a platform for bridging the divide between the developed G7 nations and the Global South, is facing increasing challenges in a world marked by geopolitical tension and rising rivalries. Under India's presidency, the G20 found new purpose by amplifying the voice of the Global South, moving the focus of discussions away from the traditional concerns of developed nations. India's efforts culminated in the Voice of the Global South Summit, a historic initiative that set the tone for the New Delhi G20 Summit and reflected a broader agenda that prioritized the needs of developing nations.

India's leadership in shifting the G20's focus was particularly evident in the New Delhi G20 Declaration, where issues like climate change, global health, and debt relief for developing nations took center stage. Despite the presidency transitioning to Brazil, India maintained its momentum by organizing a third summit aimed at continuing to push the Global South's priorities in the international conversation. This shift marks a significant evolution in the G20's purpose, but it has not come without complications.

The rise of tensions between the G7 and Russia over the ongoing conflict in Ukraine has had a profound impact on the G20's ability to function as a cohesive unit. Russian President Vladimir Putin's absence from the New Delhi and Rio de Janeiro summits underscored the deep divisions within



the group. His non-participation, combined with the G7's firm stance on Russia's actions in Ukraine, highlighted the growing fragmentation within the G20. The group's ability to address global challenges, such as economic recovery, climate change, and development, is increasingly undermined by these geopolitical divides.

Adding to the uncertainty surrounding the G20's future is the potential return of former U.S. President Donald Trump. His "America First" approach during his previous term disrupted multilateral cooperation, and there are concerns

that his re-election could steer the U.S. further away from multilateral institutions like the G20, undermining the group's collective decision-making process.

In conclusion, while the G20 has served as a critical forum for global governance, its relevance in an era of heightened East-West rivalries and domestic political shifts is uncertain. As the world becomes more fragmented, the future of the G20 depends on its ability to adapt to changing dynamics and remain a meaningful platform for dialogue between the Global South and the West.

# Ukraine's Long-Range Strikes Escalate Tensions with Russia



In a significant shift in the ongoing Ukraine conflict, the US, alongside the UK and France, granted Kyiv permission earlier this month to use long-range weapons against Russian targets. This move came in response to Russian aggression and Moscow's deployment of North Korean troops in Kursk. Within 24 hours of receiving approval, Ukraine launched a series of missile strikes, firing six ATACMS missiles into Bryansk and storming Russian air defense positions in Kursk with Storm Shadow cruise missiles.

In retaliation, Russian President Vladimir Putin approved revisions to the country's nuclear doctrine, lowering the threshold for nuclear weapon use. This development marks a dangerous escalation, with Russia also testing a new hypersonic missile, the Orshnik, targeting a defense facility in Dnipro, Ukraine. This marked the first time Russia had deployed medium-range ballistic missiles in combat, bringing the conflict closer to the possibility of nuclear confrontation.

Ukraine's request for long-range weapons had been considered by President

Biden as early as September. However, the request went unanswered until Russia's Security Council proposed changes to its nuclear policy, prompting a decision to grant Ukraine the necessary weapons. Despite former President Donald Trump's election victory in November and his apparent desire to broker peace and end the conflict, President Biden remains committed to supporting Ukraine, ensuring continued US involvement in the war.

The tempo of the conflict has rapidly escalated. After Russia's strike on Dnipro, Ukraine retaliated with a salvo of ATACMS missiles, targeting the Kursk region. Ukraine now has the capability to strike up to 300 km into Russian territory, including key military installations in regions like Smolensk, Tula, and Rostov-on-Don. These areas are crucial to Russia's military infrastructure, and Moscow perceives these attacks as direct signs of increased Western involvement in the war.

In response, Russia has escalated its strikes on Ukraine. According to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Moscow has launched over 800

bombs, 460 drones, and 20 missiles since Ukraine's first long-range strike. Ukraine's territorial losses are mounting, particularly in Kursk and Donbass, where Russian forces, bolstered by North Korean troops, are gaining ground.

Amid the escalating conflict, Russia's updated nuclear doctrine has raised alarms. It now allows for the potential use of nuclear weapons in response to conventional attacks, a departure from its previous policy that reserved nuclear strikes for nuclear threats or existential attacks. This nuclear saber-rattling continues to intensify as the war drags on.

As all eyes turn to the potential return of Donald Trump to the White House, Russian officials hope that his peace plan could bring the war to a close. Trump has expressed a desire to end the conflict, but the evolving situation in Ukraine may force him to continue supporting Kyiv, mirroring policies of his predecessor, President Biden. The outcome of the next US administration could significantly influence the trajectory of the conflict.



# Pakistan In Turmoil Again

Pakistan is grappling with a deepening crisis as violence and political unrest continue to disrupt the nation. On November 27, 2024, security forces fired tear gas at thousands of supporters of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, who had stormed the capital, Islamabad, demanding his release from prison. At least six people were killed, and many others were injured in the ensuing clashes. Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supporters, led by his wife Bushra Bibi and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, had planned a sit-in at D-Chowk, near the parliament, in a last-ditch effort to pressure the government. However, the Pakistani government, led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, launched a major crackdown, arresting many protesters and dispersing the rally.

This protest comes at a time of national turmoil. Over the past several months, Pakistan has been embroiled in an ongoing battle between PTI supporters and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government. Khan, who was overthrown in a parliamentary no-confidence vote in 2022, has since accused the current government of being complicit with the military to remove him from office. Khan was imprisoned in August 2023 after being convicted in nearly 150 cases. Despite his imprisonment, Khan remains highly popular, particularly in the provinces of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where his supporters have regularly organized protests, even though these movements have been short-lived due to government crackdowns.

The political chaos is further exacerbated by increasing sectarian violence, particularly in the northwest Kurram district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Recent clashes between Shia and Sunni communities have resulted in the deaths of at least 82 people, following retaliatory attacks after gunmen killed 40 Shia Muslims in late November. Additionally, the insurgency in Balochistan continues to escalate, fueled by the province's opposition to Chinese investments and a history of separatist movements.

# Israel-Hezbollah Ceasefire: A Fragile Path to Peace



A ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah officially took effect, bringing some relief after weeks of intensified conflict. The deal, brokered by the Biden Administration with France's support, was welcomed by many as a necessary step to halt the devastating violence that had claimed thousands of lives, with Lebanon reporting over 3,500 casualties. This ceasefire marks a pivotal moment in a long-running conflict, but its sustainability remains uncertain.

The recent escalation saw Israel targeting Hezbollah's infrastructure and leadership, aiming to eliminate a key player in the 'Axis of Resistance' alongside Iran. Israel's military operations included precision strikes designed to decapitate Hezbollah's leadership, including its leader Hassan Nasrallah, hoping to cripple the group's capabilities. In response, Hezbollah unleashed missile barrages and other high-precision weaponry, even hitting Israel's symbolic targets, including the home of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The goal of the ceasefire is to bring stability to the region, allowing for the return of displaced residents, particularly in areas like Dahiyeh in Beirut. It also aims to pave the way for political dialogue that could address the underlying issues fueling the conflict. While this truce provides a temporary respite, the complex web of alliances and grievances between Israel, Hezbollah, and regional powers raises questions about how long it will last.

The international community, led by the United States and France, has pushed for this ceasefire to prevent further escalation and the loss of civilian lives. The Biden Administration sees this as a necessary step to manage the crisis, especially after the failure to deter Hezbollah's involvement in the broader conflict. However, despite the ceasefire, Hezbollah's military strength and ideological commitment to confronting Israel will continue to pose a significant challenge.

In conclusion, the Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire offers a fragile hope for peace but serves as a reminder of the ongoing volatility in the region. While the ceasefire has allowed for temporary relief, both parties remain deeply entrenched in their positions, and the path to lasting peace remains fraught with uncertainty.

# PM Modi Slams Opposition, Highlights BJP's Growing Strength in State Polls

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday lashed out at opposition parties, accusing them of spreading constant propaganda against the BJP-led central government. Addressing party workers, he stated that the opposition's primary goal was to "mislead people and capture power," making a pointed reference to those who view power as their "birthright" but have not held power at the Centre for the past decade.

Modi further emphasized that despite not being in power in Odisha, the BJP had consistently worked towards the state's development. He claimed the party's efforts had contributed to its growing influence in the region, despite the skepticism of political experts who had dismissed the possibility of BJP forming a government in Odisha.

"The results of the Odisha elections surprised many so-called political experts who had written off the BJP's prospects in the state. However, BJP's growing success in states like Odisha, Haryana, and Maharashtra is a testament to the strength and dedication of our party workers," Modi said, refer-



ring to the BJP's strong electoral performance in these regions.

The prime minister's remarks were aimed at bolstering the morale of BJP workers and reinforcing the party's po-

sition as a dominant political force. He underscored the importance of continued dedication to public service, pointing out that the BJP's success was not just about winning elections but about fulfilling its promises to the people.

## "No protests for Bangladeshi Hindus a matter of concern"

BJP MP Kangana Ranaut has raised concerns over the rising violence against Hindu communities in Bangladesh, especially targeting Sadhus and saints. During a recent statement, Ranaut expressed distress about the "very unfortunate" conditions faced by religious leaders in the country, calling attention to the lack of protests or social media campaigns in India regarding these atrocities.

Ranaut criticized the absence of public outcry, stating, "There are no protests against atrocities faced by Hindus in Bangladesh here, there is no campaign on social media like all eyes on Bangladesh." She pointed out that since Muhammad Yunus came to power in Bangladesh, unrest in the country has intensified. Ranaut expressed her solidarity with the Hindu community in Bangladesh, praying for their safety and well-being.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) echoed Ranaut's concerns, condemning the rising violence against minority communities in Bangladesh. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal remarked that the increasing attacks against Hindus should not be dismissed as media exaggerations. He urged the interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, to take stronger action to protect the rights of all minority groups in the country.

The violence has escalated following the arrest of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das Brahmachari at Dhaka airport on sedition charges. The monk's detention, after his bail was denied, sparked protests across Dhaka and Chittagong. These protests escalated into clashes between demonstrators and security forces.



## Indian Army Launches "Eklavya" Online Learning Platform for Enhanced Training

On Thursday, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Pradeep Singh Bhatnagar launched "Eklavya," a new online learning platform designed to enhance the professional development of Indian Army officers. This initiative is in line with the Army's vision for the "Decade of Transformation" and the theme for 2024, "Year of Technology Absorption."

The Eklavya platform was developed under the guidance of the Army Training Command, with the Army War College acting as the sponsoring agency. Created at zero cost through collaboration with the Bhaskaracharya National Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N), Gandhinagar, and the Directorate General of Information Systems, it is hosted on the Army Data Network and is designed to offer a scalable, integrated approach to officer training.

The platform hosts a variety of courses, with 96 courses already available across 17 Category 'A' Training Establishments of the Indian Army. These courses are divided into three categories:

- Pre-Course Preparatory Capsules:** These offer foundational study materials for offline physical courses, shifting basic content online and leaving in-person training for more advanced and application-based topics. This approach will help decongest courses and allow for more focus on emerging aspects of warfare.



## Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde Talks with Amit Shah and JP Nadda on Government Formation

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Friday revealed that he had held "good and positive" discussions with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J.P. Nadda regarding the formation of the new government in the state. Speaking to reporters before his departure for Mumbai, Shinde stated that the decision on the next Chief Minister of Maharashtra would be finalized "in a day or two" during an upcoming meeting of the Mahayuti coalition in Mumbai.

Shinde, along with Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar, had met with Shah and Nadda late Thursday to discuss a power-sharing agreement after the BJP-led coalition secured a decisive majority in the recent Assembly elections.

"We have held discussions, and the decision regarding the CM post will be taken in the next couple of days. Further talks will continue, and we will announce the final decision when it is made," said the outgoing Chief Minister. He emphasized that he would not be an obstacle in the government formation process and would respect the decision taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit



Shah. "I value the 'ladka bhau' (beloved brother) title more than anything else," Shinde said, underlining his commitment to the collective leadership of the alliance. He also noted the importance of respecting the people's mandate, which had re-elected the alliance with a strong majority, rather than focusing solely on po-

sitions. The meeting with Shah and Nadda was described as a productive one, with Shinde stating that there was good coordination between the alliance partners. He reiterated that the priority was to honor the people's mandate and swiftly form the government.



## Siddaramaiah meets PM Modi, urges action on farm loans and water projects

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday to address several financial and infrastructure issues facing the state. During their discussion in the Parliament complex, Siddaramaiah raised key concerns, including a significant reduction in agricultural credit for the state and the delay in crucial infrastructure projects.

One of the major issues highlighted by Siddaramaiah was the 58% cut in Karnataka's short-term agricultural credit limit by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The loan limit for 2024-25 was reduced from Rs 5,600 crore in the previous year to just Rs 2,340 crore. The Chief Minister warned that this drastic reduction would push over 35 lakh farmers towards private lenders, further straining the agriculture sector. He urged the central government to restore the previous loan limits to ensure the stability of the farming community.

Siddaramaiah also sought immediate financial assistance for the Upper Bhadra Project, a critical irrigation initiative designed to address drought concerns in central Karnataka. He requested the release of Rs 5,300 crore to expedite the project's completion. Additionally, he pressed for faster clearances for two other key water-related projects—the Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir and the Kalasa Banduri water diversion project—both of which are stalled due to pending approvals from the Jal Shakti and Environment ministries.

The Chief Minister also advocated for the development of Bengaluru's infrastructure, a vital part of the state's economy. He requested Rs 10,000 crore to enhance infrastructure across 13 emerging city corporations, under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). This funding is expected to boost urban development and improve the city's growing infrastructure needs.

Siddaramaiah further raised concerns over Karnataka's reduced share in tax allocation under the 15th Finance Commission and called for compensation grants. He emphasized the need for a fair distribution of funds under the 16th Finance Commission to ensure that states contributing significantly to national revenues are not unfairly penalized.

Accompanying Siddaramaiah in the meeting were Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, Energy Minister K J George, and Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh. Later, Siddaramaiah also met Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to congratulate her on her election as MP from Wayanad.



## Atishi Jokes About Bus Marshals, Targets BJP MLA in Delhi Assembly

In a light-hearted exchange during Friday's Delhi Assembly session, Chief Minister Atishi humorously suggested that reinstating bus marshals would guarantee the victory of the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in next year's Delhi Assembly elections. The remark was aimed at Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Vijender Gupta, who had criticized AAP's handling of safety measures for women on public transport.

Atishi's comment came in response to Gupta's criticism of the AAP government's decision to remove bus marshals, security personnel on buses meant to ensure the safety of women passengers. She pointed out the ongoing discussions about reinstating bus marshals and took a playful jab at Gupta, the MLA from Rohini, who had previously claimed that the removal of bus marshals had been at the request of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

"At a meeting on November 10, we discussed the issue. By November 13, we had submitted a report to the Lieutenant Governor (LG)," Atishi said, adding, "Now, the proposal is still pending with him." She then humorously told Gupta, "You keep saying that the marshals were removed because Kejriwal asked for it, but now I am the Chief Minister, and I am saying, 'Please bring them back.'"

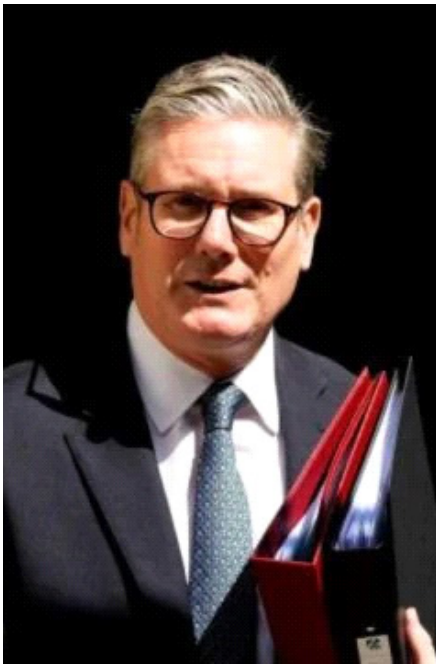
Atishi didn't miss an opportunity to make a playful comment about Delhi's Lieutenant Governor, VK Saxena, with whom the AAP government has had frequent disagreements. "If the LG listens to everything a Chief Minister says, then he should listen to me and reinstate the bus marshals," she quipped, smiling broadly.

## UK PM Keir Starmer Announces Plans to Cut Migration Following Record Highs

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced on Thursday that his government would introduce new measures to reduce migration, including reforms to the UK's points-based immigration system. This decision comes after the release of official data showing that net migration to the UK in 2023 exceeded initial projections, reaching a record 900,000.

The data has raised concerns, prompting the government to take action to manage the growing influx of migrants. While Starmer's government has introduced stricter visa rules in recent months, which have already led to a decline in the number of arrivals, the Prime Minister's announcement signifies a more comprehensive approach to controlling migration levels.

In a statement, Starmer emphasized that the UK's immigration system needed to be better aligned



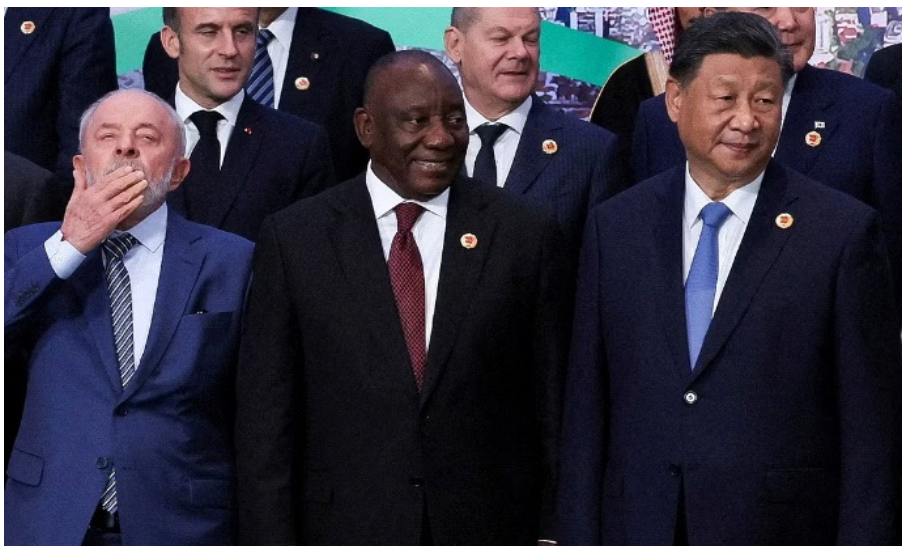
with the country's economic needs and capacity. He explained that the new reforms would focus on reducing pressure on public services, housing, and jobs, while ensuring that immigration policies continue to support the UK's labor market.

The government's points-based system, which was introduced after Brexit, aims to select migrants based on skills, qualifications, and job offers. However, with net migration figures soaring, critics argue that the system has not been effective in preventing high levels of immigration, particularly from low-skilled workers. Starmer's government has promised to tighten regulations around non-skilled migration and ensure that entry into the UK is granted based on more stringent criteria.

While the new plans are still in development, they are expected to be a key part of Starmer's agenda as the government prepares for the upcoming general election. The issue of migration has long been a contentious topic in British politics, and with migration numbers reaching historic highs, it is likely to be a central focus in the coming months.

## South Africa Takes Over G20 Presidency Amid Global Challenges

South Africa is set to assume the presidency of the G20 starting this Sunday, making history as the first African nation to lead the influential global forum. This shift in leadership comes a year after the African Union was granted permanent membership, marking a significant milestone for the continent. South Africa's leadership is seen as a unique opportunity to address the issues that are critical to the development of Africa, with President Cyril Ramaphosa setting the tone for the nation's priorities.



In his speech, Ramaphosa outlined the key focus areas for South Africa's G20 presidency, which include promoting inclusive economic growth, tackling food security, combating climate change, and harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence. While these issues resonate strongly with the African continent's needs, South Africa's leadership faces the challenge of navigating global economic tensions and trade wars that threaten to overshadow these goals.

As global challenges mount, including an ongoing pandemic recovery and rising geopolitical tensions, the G20 presidency will require South Africa to balance re-

gional aspirations with the realities of global diplomacy. Economic disputes, including those over trade tariffs between major economies such as the U.S., China, and the European Union, could complicate South Africa's ability to push its development-focused agenda.

Adding to the uncertainty is the upcoming change in leadership at the G20, with the United States set to take over the presidency in December 2025 under the leadership of Donald Trump. His administration has already indicated a potential shift in trade policy, raising concerns over the possibility of

restrictive tariffs on nations like China, Canada, and Mexico. Such moves could escalate tensions and make it more difficult for South Africa to champion its goals of inclusive growth and international cooperation.

Despite these challenges, South Africa's presidency holds the promise of advancing critical global conversations about sustainable development, climate action, and economic inclusivity. The coming year will test whether it can balance the needs of the Global South with the geopolitical realities of the G20's most powerful members.

## Australia's PM Albanese Shifts Focus to Election Campaign Amid Rising Living Costs



Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is shifting gears toward election mode, aiming to regain voter confidence by addressing the growing concerns around high living costs, particularly housing. This comes after a flurry of legislative activity, with 31 new laws passed in a marathon session late Thursday night, including a groundbreaking social media ban for children—a first in the world. The swift legislative action has sparked speculation that Albanese may call a national election before February, though the official date must be set by May

17. Albanese's center-left Labor government, which came to power in 2022, faces a challenging contest against the conservative Liberal-National coalition in the upcoming election. Polls indicate a decline in public support for the prime minister, as Australians grapple with the rising costs of housing, food, and energy, exacerbated by global inflation.

In a press conference following the midnight legislative session, Albanese acknowledged the difficulties that Australian households are fac-

ing due to these cost-of-living pressures. "We know that we have more work to do on cost of living, but we're making progress," he said. The prime minister emphasized his government's understanding of the economic strain on families and reiterated that addressing these issues remains a priority.

The surge in living costs has been a major point of contention for Albanese, who is now focused on policies that can alleviate the financial burden on ordinary Australians. While his government has enacted a series of reforms, including measures aimed at housing affordability, it remains to be seen whether these initiatives will be enough to win back voter support ahead of the election. With the election looming, Albanese's government is betting on its legislative agenda to secure its political future. However, as inflation continues to affect household budgets, the upcoming months will be crucial in determining whether the Labor government can turn the tide and regain its footing in the polls.



## India Expresses Concern Over Rising Violence Against Hindus in Bangladesh

India has raised "serious concern" with Bangladesh over the increasing incidents of violence against the Hindu minority and the growing extremism in the country. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) made these remarks during its weekly press briefing, where it highlighted the rising communal tensions and the surge in extremist rhetoric in Bangladesh.

India has been maintaining regular communication with the interim government in Dhaka, stressing the importance of addressing the rising violence targeting Hindus and other minorities. The MEA emphasized that New Delhi has consistently raised the issue with the Bangladesh government, urging them to uphold their responsibility to protect all citizens, particularly vulnerable minority communities.

"We are concerned about the surge of extremist rhetoric, increasing incidents of violence, and provocation," the Ministry stated, underlining that these developments could not be dismissed as mere media exaggeration. The ongoing attacks

against Hindus and other religious minorities in Bangladesh have prompted growing apprehension in India, particularly as communal tensions rise ahead of important political events in both countries.

Furthermore, the MEA responded to the recent remarks by the Bangladesh government, which labeled the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) as a "fundamental organisation." The Indian government rejected this characterization, reaffirming ISKCON's global reputation as a respected religious and social organization with a significant history of community service. India called upon the Bangladeshi authorities to take necessary steps to ensure the safety and protection of all minorities, particularly those from the Hindu community, amid the rising tensions.

The situation in Bangladesh has drawn considerable international attention, with India emphasizing the need for both governments to work towards ensuring the peaceful coexistence of all religious groups in the country.

## French President Macron Recognizes 1944 Massacre of West African Soldiers

French President Emmanuel Macron has formally recognized the massacre of West African soldiers by the French Army in 1944, offering an official acknowledgment in a letter to Senegalese authorities. This recognition comes ahead of the 80th anniversary of the tragic event, which took place on December 1, 1944, in the village of Thiaroye, located just outside the Senegalese capital, Dakar. Macron's statement marks the first time the French government has officially termed the killings as a "massacre."

The victims of the massacre were between 35 and 400 West African soldiers, many of whom had fought for France during World War II as part of the Tirailleurs Sénégalais, a colonial infantry unit. These soldiers had served in the Battle of France in 1940 but were later involved in disputes over unpaid wages. On December 1, 1944, tensions escalated, and French soldiers opened fire on the unarmed West African troops, killing them in what was described as a brutal retaliation for a suspected mutiny over the wage issue.

Macron's recognition comes at a time when France's influence is waning in West Africa, where former French colonies have increasingly sought independence from French political, military, and economic control. This shift in regional power dynamics has placed additional pressure on France to confront its colonial past and address historical injustices, particularly regarding its treatment of African soldiers who served in the French military.

By acknowledging the massacre for the first time, Macron is responding to longstanding calls for justice from the descendants of the victims and African leaders. This move is seen as an important step in addressing France's colonial legacy and healing relations between France and its former colonies, particularly in West Africa.

## "Donald Trump Not Safe Now": Putin Cautions US President-Elect

Russian President Vladimir Putin has expressed concern for the safety of US President-elect Donald Trump, following several attempts on his life. Speaking to reporters in Kazakhstan after a summit, Putin described Trump as an experienced and intelligent politician but noted his belief that Trump is not safe, citing assassination attempts on the former president.

Trump was wounded in a July 2024 assassination attempt in Pennsylvania, and in a separate incident in September, a man was arrested for allegedly attempting to assassinate Trump at one of his Florida golf courses. These incidents have raised alarms about the risks Trump faces, according to Putin.

Putin expressed shock at the tactics used during the US election campaign, calling them "absolutely uncivilized" and pointing to the multiple assassination attempts as evidence of the extreme measures taken against Trump. "In my opinion, he is not safe now," Putin stated, adding that while Trump is intelligent, he must remain cautious given the potential threats. Putin, who himself is heavily protected, also condemned the political attacks on Trump's family, describing them as "revolting" and noting that such tactics would not even be used by "bandits" in Russia. He emphasized the personal toll such criticism can take on Trump's family and children.

Turning to international affairs, Putin weighed in on the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, particularly regarding the Biden administration's approval of long-range Western missiles for Ukraine. He suggested that this decision could be part of a larger political strategy to either help Trump by giving him something to potentially roll back or, conversely, to complicate his relationship with Russia further.





## Nifty, Sensex Rally on Heavyweights and Sectoral Gains



Domestic stock markets surged today, driven by heavyweights like Bharti Airtel, Reliance Industries, and Sun Pharma, closing with significant gains on Friday. Despite mixed signals from global markets, investors showed confidence. The easing of fears regarding the US economy also supported the rally. As a result, Nifty 50 and Sensex rose substantially, with the latter gaining 700 points. The pharma and healthcare sectors saw notable buying activity.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 79,043 in the previous session, opened at 79,032 today. It touched an intraday low of 79,026 and an intraday high of 79,923 before closing at 79,802, up 759 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 23,927, hit a low of 23,927 and a high of 24,188, and finally settled at 24,131, up 216 points. Bank Nifty rose 148 points to close at 52,055.

In the Nifty50 index, 43 companies

advanced, while 7 declined. Bharti Airtel, Sun Pharma, Cipla, M&M, and Tata Consumer Products were the top gainers. On the other hand, Power Grid, Shriram Finance, Hero MotoCorp, HDFC Life, and Nestle India saw losses. Except for PSU Bank and Realty, all sectoral indices ended in the green, with Auto, Media, Pharma, Healthcare, Oil & Gas showing strong momentum.

Out of 2,870 stocks traded on the NSE, 1,742 gained, and 1,043 declined. Shares of 66 companies touched all-time highs, while 20 stocks hit their 52-week lows.

**The rupee ended flat at 84.49 against the US dollar. Among stock-**



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### specific movements:

- Aster DM Healthcare announced plans to acquire a stake in Quality Care India.
- Sun Pharma Research shares surged to an 11-month high.
- Adani Green Energy rose by 23%.
- Power Mech Company secured a Rs. 510 crore order from Adani Power.
- Bharti Airtel shares jumped 6% after ICICI Securities assigned a buy rating.
- HSBC issued a buy rating for KIMS, with a target price of Rs. 670.
- Zee Entertainment gained 5% after shareholders rejected the proposal to reappoint Puneet Goenka as a director.

Japanese banks have reportedly decided to support Adani, further fueling market optimism.

## India's Economic Growth Slows to 5.4% in July-September Quarter



India's economic growth slowed to a near two-year low of 5.4% in the July-September quarter of the 2023-24 fiscal year, down from 8.1% in the same period last year, according to official data released on Friday. This decline was primarily attributed to weaker performance in the manufacturing sector, which experienced a significant slowdown.

Despite the dip in growth, India continues to be the fastest-growing major economy, surpassing China, whose GDP grew by 4.6% during the same quarter. The last time India recorded such low growth was in the third quarter (October-December) of the 2022-23 financial year, when the economy expanded by just 4.3%.

The data, compiled by the National Statistical Office (NSO), showed that the agricultural sector saw a notable improvement, with Gross Value Added (GVA) growth accelerating to 3.5% in the July-September period, up from 1.7% a year earlier. This rise was driven by favorable monsoon conditions and higher agricultural output.

On the other hand, the manufacturing sector faced a sharp deceleration, with GVA growth slowing to just 2.2% compared to 14.3% during the same quarter in 2022. The sluggishness in manufacturing growth, which is a critical driver of India's economy, had a significant impact on the overall GDP performance.

The overall GDP growth for the first half of the current fiscal year (April-September 2023) stood at 6%, a decrease from 8.2% in the first half of the previous fiscal year. The growth in the first quarter (April-June) of 2023-24 remained steady at 6.7%, indicating that the slowdown was more pronounced in the second quarter.

While India's economy faces challenges in key sectors, particularly manufacturing, it still holds a relatively strong growth trajectory compared to other major economies. However, policymakers will need to address these weaknesses to sustain growth in the coming months.

## Oil Prices Fall Amid Eased Supply Concerns, Heading for Weekly Drop

Oil prices dropped on Friday, heading toward a weekly decline of more than 3%, as concerns over potential supply disruptions from the Israel-Hezbollah conflict eased, alleviating earlier fears.

Brent crude futures fell by 55 cents, or 0.8%, settling at \$72.73 per barrel by 0758 GMT. Meanwhile, U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were at \$69.52, down 20 cents, or 0.3%, compared to Wednesday's close. On a weekly basis, Brent futures were down by 3.3%, and the U.S. WTI benchmark had fallen 3.8%.

The tensions between Israel and Hezbollah, which had raised concerns about oil supply disruptions, appeared to calm after both sides traded accusations over alleged ceasefire violations on Thursday. A ceasefire deal had been brokered earlier in the week, initially reducing the risk of a broader conflict that could disrupt Middle Eastern oil supplies.

Despite these geopolitical tensions, oil supply from the Middle East has remained largely unaffected during Israel's conflicts with both Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza.

In other developments, OPEC+ (the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies including Russia) postponed its next policy meeting from December 1 to December 5 to avoid a scheduling conflict. It is widely expected that OPEC+ will extend its current production cuts at the meeting.



BMI, a unit of Fitch Solutions, revised its Brent price forecast for 2025, lowering it to \$76 per barrel from \$78, citing a "bearish fundamental outlook" and expectations of continued weakness in the oil market. BMI analysts warned that despite OPEC+'s efforts to curb production, it may not be enough to eliminate the anticipated production surplus in the coming year.

Meanwhile, geopolitical risks remain high. Russia recently targeted Ukrainian energy facilities for the second time this month, which analysts at ANZ said could spark retaliation that might affect Russian oil supply.

In Iran, the U.N. nuclear watchdog reported that Tehran plans to install over 6,000 additional uranium-enriching centrifuges, raising concerns about the potential impact on global oil markets. Goldman Sachs analysts have predicted that Iranian oil output could decrease by up to 1 million barrels per day next year if Western sanctions enforcement tightens.

## Sensex Jumps 759 Points, Nifty Hits 24,100; Airtel and Pharma Lead

Indian equity markets ended the week on a high note, with both the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 closing significantly higher. The Sensex surged by 703.38 points, or 0.89%, to settle at 79,747.12, within a range of 79,923.90 to 79,026.18. Similarly, the Nifty50 climbed 216.95 points, or 0.91%, to close at 24,131.10, extending a positive sentiment across sectors.

Airtel was a key driver of the market rally, rising by 4%, followed by strong performances from Cipla, Sun Pharma, Mahindra & Mahindra, and Tata Consumer, all seeing substantial gains. On the flip side, Power Grid Corporation, Shriram Finance, Hero MotoCorp, HDFC Life, and Nestle India were the top losers, with declines reaching as much as 1.35%.

Among the heavyweights, Reliance Industries (RIL) stood out, gaining 1.63%. In the broader market, the Nifty Midcap100 and Nifty Smallcap100 indices also posted positive returns, rising by 0.16% and 0.75%, respectively.

Sector-wise, the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries were the standout performers. The Nifty Pharma index rose 2.35%, while the Healthcare index gained 2.04%. These gains were supported by strong performances in stocks such as Sun Pharma and Cipla.

Looking ahead, market attention will shift towards India's Q2 GDP data and trends in Asian markets. Investors will also be closely watching foreign institutional investor (FII) activity



after a recent brief period of net buying. Data from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) revealed that FIIs sold stocks worth Rs 11,756.25 crore on November 28, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) were net buyers, purchasing shares worth Rs 8,718.30 crore.

In corporate news, shares of Easy Trip Planners Ltd surged over 16%, as the stock traded ex-bonus and the company launched its new business travel platform, EMT Desk, for corporate clients.

Additionally, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) announced a change in the expiry day for derivatives contracts, moving it from Friday to Tuesday, starting January 1, 2025. This change is expected to impact market dynamics in the new year.

## Uber One Subscription Launches in India with Exclusive Benefits



Uber has launched its Uber One subscription service in India, offering a host of exclusive benefits for frequent users of the ride-hailing platform. The loyalty program, which has already been available in the US and Canada, targets regular riders by providing perks such as Uber One credits, access to top-rated drivers on eligible rides, priority support, and a complimentary subscription to a food delivery platform. With India being the latest market to adopt Uber One, the program is expected to boost customer engagement and loyalty.

The subscription starts at Rs. 149 per month, but as part of a limited-time offer, new users can avail a massive 80% discount on the first month, bringing the price down to just Rs. 29.80. For those looking for long-term options, Uber One also offers quarterly and yearly subscription plans, though the app currently only lists the monthly and yearly plans. The yearly subscription is priced at Rs. 1,499, offering users a potential 16% savings over the course of the year compared to the monthly plan.

Subscribers to Uber One can earn 10% in Uber One credits on most rides, including Uber Go, Go Sedan, Premier, XL, Reserve, Black, Auto, Moto, and Package bookings. For Shuttle users, the reward increases to 35% in credits, while Intercity and Rentals bookings offer 1% credits. However, there are some limitations. The credits are capped at Rs. 150 per trip for monthly and quarterly plans, and users can only accumulate credits on up to 150 rides per month, or 600 rides annually for yearly subscribers. Furthermore, these credits expire within 60 days from the issue date and cannot be applied to any portion of a payment made with Uber One credits.

To take advantage of these benefits, users need to maintain an active Uber One subscription, which ensures that they can make use of their accumulated credits on future bookings. With its appealing perks and discounts, Uber One is expected to enhance the user experience and attract more riders to the platform.

## Mosquito Repellents: Harmful Chemicals Linked to Cancer Risks in Humans

Mosquito repellents, commonly used to keep insects away and protect us from diseases like dengue and chikungunya, have become a staple in many households. These repellents often come in the form of vaporizers or sprays that release chemicals into the air to eliminate mosquitoes. While they are effective in controlling pests, their potential harmful effects on human health have raised concerns.

Experts have pointed out that many mosquito repellents contain chemicals that are classified as category-2 carcinogens. This means that they are substances that have been shown to potentially contribute to the development of cancer in humans. Prolonged exposure to these chemicals, especially in poorly ventilated areas, can increase the risk of health issues such as respiratory problems, skin irritation, and even certain types of cancer.

Dr. Arun Nayak, a prominent urologist, recently highlighted the detrimental impact of mosquito repellents on our health, particularly on the brain and immune system. According to Dr. Nayak, these chemicals can interfere with the proper functioning of the brain, leading to cognitive issues over time. They also pose a serious threat to children and pregnant women. In children, exposure to these chemicals can compromise their developing immune system, making them more susceptible to illnesses. For pregnant women, there is concern that these substances may affect the development of the fetus's brain, potentially leading to long-term



health issues.

Aside from health risks, mosquito repellents also have a negative impact on the environment. The chemicals released into the air can contribute to air pollution, affecting the quality of indoor air and posing risks to other living organisms.

While mosquito repellents provide essential protection against deadly diseases, it is crucial to use them with caution. Ensuring proper ventilation, limiting exposure, and opting for natural alternatives where possible can help mitigate the health risks associated with these products. As we continue to rely on these repellents, it's important to stay informed about their potential side effects and take steps to minimize harm.

## Apple Could Bring Blood Pressure Monitoring Feature to Apple Watch



Apple has patented an innovative technology that could bring blood pressure monitoring to the Apple Watch, a highly anticipated feature for the wearable. According to a recent filing with the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Apple has developed a new method for measuring blood pressure, inspired by traditional blood pressure monitors, which may allow the company to offer this feature without relying on optical sensors commonly used in existing wearables.

The patent describes a wearable device equipped with several key components designed to monitor blood pressure. These include a strap, a pump, an inflatable chamber, and a liquid-filled sensing chamber. In addition to these elements, the device will use a vibration sensor and a pressure sensor to detect the user's blood pressure levels. This innovative approach marks a departure from the optical sensors typically used for heart rate monitoring in current Apple Watch models.

The patent suggests that this technology could be integrated into a device that closely resembles the Apple Watch, as shown in the accompanying diagrams. The wearable will likely

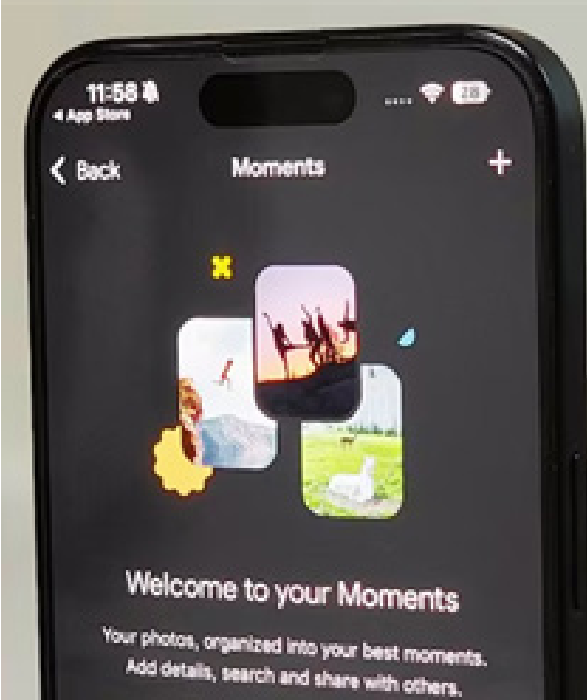
include the familiar crown and side button seen on previous Apple Watch models, while the blood pressure measurement process is detailed in the patent's illustrations.

This new development signals Apple's continued investment in health monitoring features for its wearable devices. If implemented, the blood pressure monitoring feature could significantly enhance the Apple Watch's health tracking capabilities, enabling users to monitor an essential aspect of their cardiovascular health directly from their wrist. With growing interest in wearable health technology, this potential addition would position the Apple Watch as an even more comprehensive tool for wellness monitoring.

Though this technology is still in the patent stage, it highlights Apple's ambition to expand the health-related functionalities of its devices, offering users more advanced tools to track and manage their health. If the technology becomes a reality, it could revolutionize how people monitor their blood pressure, making it easier and more convenient to stay on top of their health.

## Google Photos iOS Redesign: New Moments Tab and Functional Changes

Google Photos has rolled out a fresh redesign for its iOS app, introducing several changes to the user interface and functionality. One of the most noticeable changes is the updated bottom navigation bar, which now features fewer options. The most significant modification involves the removal of the 'Memories' tab from the app's home page, which has been replaced by a new 'Moments' button. This new button, however, is not located directly on the home page but can now be accessed through the Collections tab, creating a more streamlined experience for users.



collections of important photos and videos, making it easier for users to revisit and share their cherished moments.

In addition to this redesign, the app has introduced a new feature called 'Updates.' This new feed allows users to easily track the activity within shared albums, conversations, memories, and storage. The Updates section is conveniently displayed on the home page, providing a centralized location for users to stay informed about recent changes and additions within their Google Photos account.

The update is part of Google Photos for iOS version 7.9, now available for download on the App Store. Along with the new Moments tab, the bottom navigation bar has been simplified to include only three main options: Photos, Collections, and Search. Despite the reorganization, the functionality of the Moments tab remains unchanged. It still uses artificial intelligence (AI) to curate personalized

The redesign and new features come after the app's previous overhaul, which added more user-friendly functions. With these updates, Google Photos continues to improve its platform, making it more intuitive and engaging for iOS users. Whether you're organizing your photos or sharing memories with loved ones, the app's latest changes are designed to enhance the overall user experience.

## Influencer's viral rum and coke combo with ice cream has fans screaming

Old Monk fans are buzzing with excitement after influencer Shipra Hattangadi's latest viral video introduced a surprising twist to the classic rum and Coke combination. In her video, Shipra adds a scoop of vanilla ice cream to the drink, creating a refreshing and indulgent new version of the beloved Old Monk cocktail.



Shipra Hattangadi is known for her creative takes on traditional alcoholic beverages, often reimagining classic cocktails in fun and innovative ways. She gained widespread attention during the Diwali season when she showcased a series of cocktails inspired by popular Indian sweets like Soan Papdi and Gulab Jamun. Building on her reputation for shaking things up in the world of mixology, Shipra's latest creation featuring Old Monk rum has sent fans into a frenzy.

The idea of adding vanilla ice cream to rum and Coke may seem unconventional at first, but Shipra's combination has quickly captivated fans of both Old Monk and ice cream lovers alike. The smooth, creamy texture of the ice cream pairs perfectly with the rich, flavorful rum, while the fizzy Coke adds a

refreshing element. The result is a dessert-like drink that's as enjoyable to sip as it is to look at.

Shipra's unique take on the Old Monk combo has not only sparked curiosity among her followers but also generated excitement across social media, with many eager to try the new drink for themselves. As her viral video continues to be shared, it's clear that Shipra's inventive approach to cocktails is resonating with fans, who are eager for more creative concoctions in the future.

This new twist on an old classic is just the latest in Shipra Hattangadi's growing repertoire of inventive drink recipes, and it's safe to say that she's once again raised the bar in the world of mixology.



# Lionel Messi Nominated for The Best FIFA Men's Player 2024

In a surprising turn of events, Lionel Messi has been nominated for \*The Best FIFA Men's Player 2024\* award, despite not being included in the top 30 shortlist for the prestigious Ballon d'Or earlier this year. This unexpected nomination has sparked curiosity among football fans and analysts alike, as Messi's inclusion in the list comes as a surprise given his relatively low-key year compared to other top contenders.

The period of consideration for the award spans from August 21, 2023, to August 10, 2024, and Messi's achievements during this time have been modest. Playing for Inter Miami in Major League Soccer,

Messi has scored 30 goals across 38 games for both club and country, while also contributing 19 assists. However, his club performances have not been as impactful as in previous years, with Inter Miami failing to secure major titles during this period. Messi's most notable accomplishment during this time was helping Argentina win the Copa America 2024, where he played a key role in the team's success.

The list of nominees for \*The Best FIFA Men's Player\* includes several high-profile names, including Erling Haaland, Jude Bellingham, Rodri, Vinicius Jr., and Dani Carvajal, who were widely expected to be contenders.

Despite the lack of standout performances for Messi's club during this period, his reputation and legacy as one of the greatest footballers of all time seem to have played a significant role in his nomination.

Football fans around the world are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the winner, with Messi's inclusion in the shortlist stirring debates about the criteria and significance of individual awards. As the award ceremony approaches, Messi's nomination continues to be one of the most talked-about topics in global football.



## Sindhu and Lakshya Sen Reach Semifinals at Syed Modi International Super 300

Star Indian shuttlers PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen moved one step closer to clinching the women's and men's singles titles, respectively, at the Syed Modi International Super 300 badminton tournament on Friday. Both players secured straight-game victories in their quarterfinal matches, advancing to the semifinals.

Top-seeded Sindhu, a two-time champion at this event (2017 and 2022), displayed her skill and dominance as she defeated China's Dai Wang 21-15, 21-17 in a 48-minute match. Reflecting on her performance, Sindhu said, "Today's match was important. Even though she is a low-ranked player, I focused on rectifying my mistakes from yesterday. I was aggressive from the beginning, and overall, I'm happy with my game compared to yesterday." Sindhu, ranked 18th in the world, will face fellow Indian Unnati Hooda in the semifinals.

Lakshya Sen, the 2021 World Championship bronze medalist, also impressed with his dominant performance, beating compatriot Meiraba Luwang Maisnam 21-8, 21-19 in his men's singles quarterfinal. "It was a good match. The second game was tough at some moments, but I'm happy I could pull out the match," said Lakshya, who will now meet Japan's Shogo Ogawa in the semifinals.

Unnati Hooda, who triumphed at the 2022 Odisha Open, advanced to the semifinals after a commanding 21-16, 21-9 victory over USA's Ishika Jaiswal. Despite missing six months earlier this year due to injury, Hooda showed her resilience, saying, "I took



time to adjust to the court conditions, but I stuck to my game plan, and it became better with time."

In doubles action, second-seeded Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand continued their impressive form, defeating the sixth-seeded duo of Go Pei Kee and Teoh Mei Xing 21-8, 21-15 to reach the semifinals. In mixed doubles, fifth-seeded Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto also advanced after defeating Malaysia's Loo Bing Kun and Ho Lo Ee 21-16, 21-13.

However, there was disappointment for Ayush Shetty, who exited the men's singles after a 7-21, 14-21 loss to Ogawa. In the women's singles, Tasnim Mir and Shriyanshi Valishetty also bowed out in the quarterfinals.

As the tournament progresses, all eyes are on Sindhu and Lakshya as they aim for victory in the semifinals.

## ECB Bans Players from PSL During Domestic Season

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has made a significant move to prevent its players from participating in the Pakistan Super League (PSL) and other franchise leagues that clash with the domestic summer. This decision, which excludes participation in the Indian Premier League (IPL), comes as part of a new policy aimed at prioritizing domestic commitments.

According to a report in \*The Telegraph\* on November 28, the ECB's decision means that English players will not be allowed to take part in the PSL or any other franchise leagues during the domestic season, which typically runs from April to September. However, the board has confirmed that players will still be available for the IPL for the next three seasons.

The timing of this move is significant, as it limits the opportunity for English cricketers to participate in the highly lucrative PSL, a competition that has grown in prominence over the past few years. This ban could negatively impact the earnings of several top English players who have made a name for themselves in the PSL, but the ECB maintains that this is a necessary step to ensure the health and competitiveness of the domestic game.



The policy change is expected to have a mixed reaction within the cricketing community. While some argue that it will help bolster the quality of England's domestic competitions, others fear it could restrict opportunities for players to earn significant money from other leagues. Additionally, it might limit the exposure of English cricketers to different playing conditions and experiences, which could be valuable for their international careers.

Despite the potential drawbacks, the ECB remains focused on enhancing the quality of domestic cricket and ensuring that players remain committed to the national team's priorities. By limiting the clash of franchise commitments with the domestic calendar, the board hopes to maintain a balance between lucrative global opportunities and the demands of international cricket.

## Gukesh and Ding Liren Draw Fourth Round, Remain Tied in Chess Championship

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh and defending World Chess Champion Ding Liren played out a largely risk-free draw in the fourth round of their 14-round World Chess Championship match in Singapore on Friday. After 42 moves, the two players agreed to a draw via repetition, leaving them both with 2 points each after four games. The first player to reach 7.5 points will be crowned the champion.



Gukesh remarked when asked about his prospects of becoming the youngest-ever world champion.

Liren, 32, had won the first game of the series before drawing in the second. Reflecting on the fourth round, he stated, "This round, I tried to play safe. It turns out I got a little bit of an advantage, but the score is still balanced." He added that his recovery from a tough loss in the third game had worked out well, noting he was in a "very good mood" following the rest day.

Gukesh, who played with the black pieces on Friday, remains the youngest-ever challenger for the World Chess Championship title at just 18 years old. He had previously won the third game on Wednesday, narrowing the gap with Liren. Speaking after the game, Gukesh acknowledged that while he had a few chances to press for an advantage toward the end, playing with black limited his opportunities for a more aggressive stance. "I am just trying to make good moves,"

The match continues to be intense, with both players looking to take the lead in the coming rounds. Viswanathan Anand, the only Indian to have won the World Chess Championship title, made the ceremonial first move for Gukesh in the fourth round, further elevating the significance of this historic match for Indian chess.

## India to Fine-Tune Batting Combination in Two-Day Tour Match Against PM's XI

India will look to solidify their batting lineup ahead of next week's day-night Test against Australia in Adelaide during a two-day practice match against the Prime Minister's XI at Manuka Oval, starting Saturday. The match serves as a key opportunity for the Indian team to familiarize themselves with the pink ball, which behaves differently, especially during the twilight hours, compared to the traditional red ball. India's only loss in day-night Tests came four years ago in Adelaide when they were bowled out for a mere 36 runs, but they rebounded strongly to win the series.

The team arrives in high spirits following their dominant win in the opening Test in Perth. However, with Rohit Sharma returning after missing the first Test due to the birth of his second child, and Shubman Gill's anticipated return to fitness, the Indian team faces



crucial decisions and finalize their batting lineup.

With only two days of play, the Indian team is expected to focus on getting valuable time with the bat. Players like Sarfaraz Khan, who is unlikely to feature unless there is an injury, will also look to get some match practice. The team's mood is relaxed, and Gill's presence at the net sessions suggests his recovery is progressing well.

The Prime Minister's XI, led by all-rounder Jack Edwards, features several rising stars,

including players from Australia's U-19 team. With experienced players like Matt Renshaw and Scott Boland in the opposition, India can expect a competitive challenge during the practice match.

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India's squad for the match includes Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, and Jasprit Bumrah, among others, while the PM's XI features Edwards, Boland, and Renshaw.



## Peelings Song Set to Release on December 1, Ahead of Pushpa 2 Premiere

As the countdown for the highly anticipated \*Pushpa 2\* continues, excitement among fans is reaching fever pitch. Starring Allu Arjun and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles, this action-packed sequel directed by Sukumar is set to release in theaters on December 5, 2024. With just a few days left for the film's grand debut, the buzz surrounding the movie has only intensified, especially with its music making waves.

After fans have been grooving to the DSP-composed \*Kissik\* track, the makers have dropped another electrifying musical update. The song \*Peelings\*, expected to be one of the most energetic tracks in the

film, is set to dominate playlists worldwide. The track will feature a unique Malayalam lyrical intro that has already caught the attention of listeners. It's been described as a high-energy number that is sure to become a fan favorite.

To further build anticipation, a promo featuring Allu Arjun and Rashmika Mandanna has already been released, showcasing glimpses of the powerful chemistry between the stars, as well as offering a taste of the song's infectious beat. Social media is abuzz with fans eagerly sharing and discussing the catchy tune, which promises to be a major highlight of \*Pushpa 2\*'s soundtrack.

In an exciting announcement, the makers have confirmed that the full version of \*Peelings\* will be unveiled on December 1, 2024, during the grand pre-release event at Mallareddy College in Hyderabad. The event will be a star-studded affair, further heightening the excitement surrounding the movie's launch. Fans are eagerly awaiting the release of the song, which is expected to make a massive impact as the film gears up for its much-awaited theatrical release just days later.

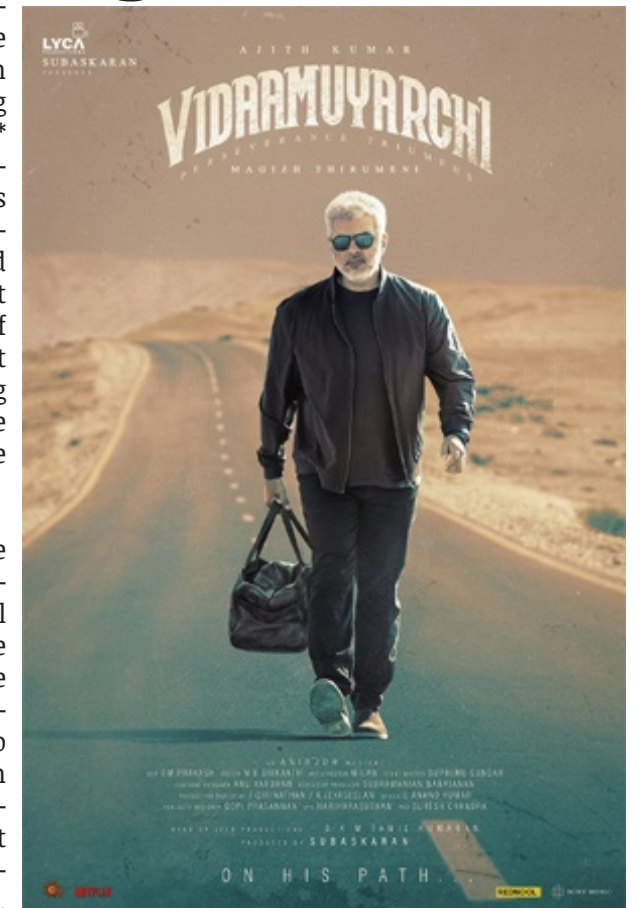
Stay tuned for more updates as the release date approaches, and get ready to experience \*Pushpa 2\* in all its glory.

## Ajith's \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* Set for Pongal Release

Ajith fans have been eagerly awaiting updates on the actor's upcoming films, with much speculation surrounding the release of \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* and \*Good Bad Ugly\*. Both movies have been in various stages of production, but until recently, their release dates remained uncertain. However, a recent statement from the makers of \*Good Bad Ugly\* suggested that the film might release during Pongal, leading many to assume that \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* would be delayed.

But here's the biggest surprise for Ajith's fans: \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* is officially set for a Pongal release! The confirmation came from Lyca Productions, the film's producers, who recently shared the exciting news. To make the announcement even more thrilling, the team unveiled a stylish teaser without prior notice, which immediately caught the attention of fans. The teaser showcases striking visuals and gives a glimpse of the film's sleek, high-energy vibe, leaving fans eagerly awaiting its full release.

Directed by Magizh Thirumeni, \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* promises to be an action-packed entertainer. Trisha stars as the female lead, marking her much-anticipated collaboration with Ajith. The film also boasts a stellar ensemble cast, including Arjun Sarja, Regina Cassandra, Aarav, and Nikhil Nair, among others, in pivotal roles. The music for the film is composed by Anirudh, adding another layer of excitement for fans,



given his track record of delivering hit soundtracks.

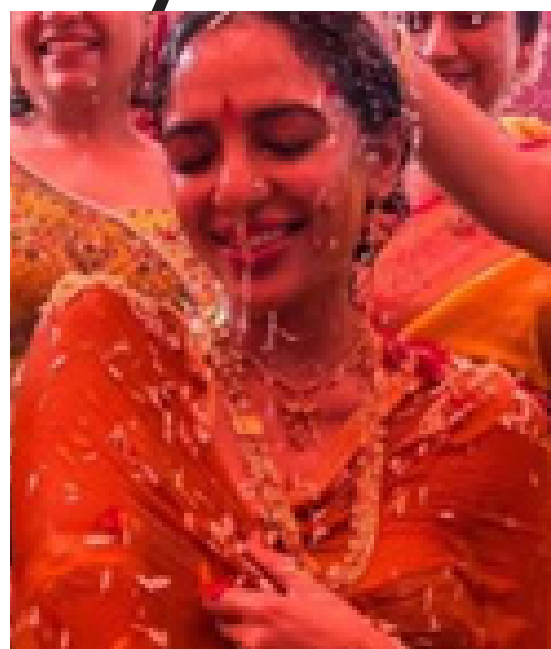
While an exact release date has not yet been revealed, the confirmation of \*Vadaa Muyarchi\* hitting theaters during Pongal is enough to send fans into a frenzy. As the film gears up for its release, expectations are high, and fans are looking forward to seeing Ajith back on the big screen in what promises to be a thrilling cinematic experience. Stay tuned for more updates as the release date approaches!

## Chay and Sobhita's haldi ceremony pics take social media by storm

As Naga Chaitanya and Sobhita Dhulipala prepare for their highly anticipated wedding, the couple has been sharing glimpses of their pre-wedding celebrations. The much-awaited wedding, which is set to take place on December 4, 2024, in Hyderabad, has fans eagerly awaiting every update.

Today, the couple celebrated their Haldi ceremony, and the pictures from this joyous occasion have quickly gone viral on social media. The images capture the couple immersed in the traditional rituals, with both Chaitanya and Sobhita glowing in vibrant yellow hues, symbolizing the happiness and blessings associated with this pre-wedding tradition. Fans have flooded social media with admiration for the couple's chemistry, and the heartfelt moments have been widely shared, further heightening the excitement surrounding their big day.

The wedding will follow traditional Brahmin customs, promising a rich cultural experience, and is expected to be a



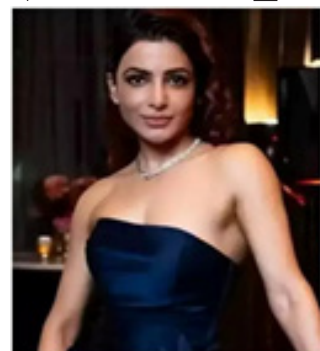
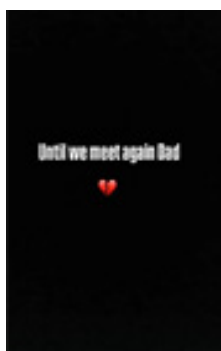
star-studded affair with several prominent figures from the film industry and beyond in attendance. As the couple gears up for their nuptials, the anticipation continues to build, with well-wishers and fans looking forward to more

updates on the celebration.

Stay tuned for more on the Chay-Sobhita wedding, as the couple prepares to embark on this new chapter of their lives.

## Samantha Mourns the Loss of Her Father, Joseph Prabhu

Samantha Ruth Prabhu, the beloved actress, is going through an incredibly tough time as she faces yet another heart-breaking personal loss. After dealing with a painful divorce, struggling with the myositis medical condition, and the physical challenges that came with it, Samantha's world has been further shattered by the passing of her father, Joseph Prabhu.



she shared with her father, highlighting his unwavering love and encouragement.

At present, the exact cause of his passing has not been disclosed, and fans and well-wishers are awaiting further information. However, the loss is undoubtedly a devastating blow for Samantha, who has already endured so much in recent years.

support throughout her life.

Joseph Prabhu, a Telugu Anglo-Indian, had always been a strong figure in Samantha's personal life. Despite her hectic career and busy schedule, the actress ensured that she spent time with her parents, cherishing every moment they had together. Samantha has often spoken about the special relationship

As she mourns her father's death, Samantha continues to receive support and condolences from fans, colleagues, and the industry. The actress, known for her strength and resilience, is now facing one of the most challenging moments of her life.



Rashmika Mandanna dazzled in Mumbai as she effortlessly captured the spotlight during the promotions of \*Pushpa 2: The Rule\*. The actress looked absolutely stunning in a black saree-style ensemble, exuding both elegance and contemporary chic. Her outfit, a flawless mix of traditional charm and modern style, highlighted her status as a fashion icon both on and off the screen.

The true magic unfolded when Rashmika was joined by her \*Pushpa\* co-star, Allu Arjun, for the promotional event. The power couple of Telugu cinema turned heads as they coordinated their look in black, with Allu Arjun donning a sharp black suit that complemented Rashmika's graceful appearance. Their chemistry was undeniable as they took to the stage, where they performed a lively dance to the hit track \*Naa Saami Ranga\*, sending

the audience into a frenzy.

In a bold statement that excited fans, Allu Arjun declared that \*Pushpa\* is not just a national phenomenon but has now become an international sensation. With the release of \*Pushpa 2: The Rule\* fast approaching on December 5th, the excitement surrounding the film is only intensifying. The duo's appearance, paired with their infectious energy, has added to the growing anticipation, promising even more action, drama, and charisma in the upcoming film.

As the countdown continues for the release of \*Pushpa 2\*, it's clear that Rashmika Mandanna and Allu Arjun's star power continues to shine, both in their work and in their seamless fashion statements. Fans can expect nothing short of a blockbuster experience when the much-awaited sequel hits theaters.