



Weather Forecast

| HYDERABAD | VIJAYAWADA | TIRUPATHI |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| TEMPERATURE | TEMPERATURE | TEMPERATURE |
| H 28°C L 21°C | H 29°C L 24°C | H 24°C L 22°C |

KTR Slams Congress, Defends KCR's Legacy on Deeksha Diwas

**Preserving Telangana's Legacy
KCR's Role in Statehood Movement
Congress' Governance Criticized
BRS Vows Continued Struggle**

TPN , Hyderabad: On the occasion of Deeksha Diwas, BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) delivered a spirited speech at Telangana Bhavan and Karimnagar, highlighting the legacy of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and criticizing the Congress government for its one-year rule in Telangana.

KTR described KCR as the "Himalayas in the history of Telangana" and a leader whose stature cannot be matched. He recalled KCR's bold statement during the Telangana movement—"KCR will die, Telangana will come"—and commended his unwavering commitment, which led to the formation of Telangana in 2014.

KTR emphasized the importance of preserving Telangana's history and struggles for future generations, warning against potential setbacks under Congress rule. He stated, "Any nation that forgets its history becomes a slave to foreign powers. Telangana, too, risks losing its identity if we fail to convey our story and sacrifices to the next generation."

Legacy of KCR's Leadership
KTR highlighted the challenges KCR faced while founding the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS, now BRS) in 2001, emphasizing that KCR rejected ministerial offers to lead the statehood movement. Despite facing skepticism, setbacks, and slander, KCR emerged victorious, leading the state to its creation and earning the love and trust of the people.

Reflecting on Telangana's movement,



KTR criticized Congress for its past austerity measures that inflamed Telangana's people, saying, "If Telangana exists today, it is because of KCR's leadership, the sacrifices of martyrs, and Congress' eventual compulsion to grant statehood."

Criticism of Congress Rule

Lashing out at the current Congress government, KTR accused them of failing to deliver on their promises, including the widely publicized six

guarantees. He criticized no section of society is satisfied with Congress' governance, citing issues like inadequate food and safety in Gurukuls, leading to student suicides. "The Congress' victory celebration is a mockery of the people's suffering," KTR stated.

Call for Action

Urging BRS leaders and workers to intensify their outreach efforts, KTR vowed to continue fighting until Congress fulfills its promises. He reiterated

ed that while Congress may hold power, the people's affection remains with KCR and the BRS.

"The pink flag represents the aspirations of Telangana. We will stand by the people and fight for their rights," he declared.

KTR's speech resonated as a call to action for the BRS to challenge Congress and uphold KCR's legacy in Telangana's ongoing journey.

Government Halts Land Acquisition for Pharma Village

**Pharma Village Proposal Withdrawn
Farmers' Protests and Concerns Addressed
Focus Shifts to Textile Industries
New Notification Expected Soon**



TPN , Telangana : The Telangana government, led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, has made a significant decision to halt the land acquisition process for the proposed Pharma Village in Lagacharla, Vikarabad district. The move comes in response to growing opposition from local farmers and residents, who expressed concerns about the project. A government statement confirmed the withdrawal of the notification issued on August 1, 2024, which had aimed to acquire 632 acres from 580 farmers.

public welfare and does not wish to impose hardships on citizens. While some farmers supported the initiative, others expressed concerns, particularly about potential pollution caused by pharmaceutical industries. Acknowledging these apprehensions, the government decided to reassess its plans.

The Pharma Village was intended to boost industrial development in the area, with a focus on creating employment opportunities for the locals. However, when officials, including the district collector, visited the village to gather feedback, they faced protests that escalated into clashes. The government is also investigating alleged political conspiracies behind the unrest.

In a bid to address unemployment in the region, the government is now considering alternative industries that are less likely to face public resistance. Sources suggest that plans are underway to establish a textile industrial park instead, which is expected to create substantial job opportunities without posing environmental risks. A new land acquisition notification may be issued in the coming days for this purpose.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy emphasized that his administration prioritizes

This proactive approach demonstrates the government's commitment to balancing development with the concerns of its citizens while ensuring sustainable growth in Vikarabad district.

Prioritizes Poorest in Indiramma Housing Scheme

**Priority for Marginalized Groups Technology-Driven Transparency
Special Focus on Tribal Areas**

TPN , Telangana : Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has directed officials to ensure the poorest of the poor receive top priority under the Indiramma Housing Scheme. He emphasized the need to prioritize disabled individuals, agricultural laborers, landless families, and sanitation workers during beneficiary selection.



In a high-level meeting to review the scheme's sanction procedures and beneficiary selection, the Chief Minister outlined several key measures to ensure fairness and efficiency in implementation.

Key Directives

Priority for Landowners in Phase One: Beneficiaries with their own land will receive initial priority. Village secretaries and mandal-level officers will be held accountable for implementing this directive.

Use of Technology: The **Indiramma App** must be optimized to elim-

inate errors and ensure transparency in the selection process.

Special Quota for Tribal Areas: A dedicated quota will be allocated for tribal regions and Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (IT-DAs).

Flexibility in Construction: Beneficiaries interested in building additional rooms will be given the opportunity to do so.

Strengthening the Housing Department: Additional staff and officers will be appointed to ensure

the scheme's smooth execution. The Chief Minister stressed that these measures are aimed at addressing housing challenges for the most vulnerable sections of society. He urged officials to work with integrity and utilize technology to maintain transparency.

This initiative is part of the Telangana government's commitment to inclusive development, ensuring every deserving family benefits from the state's welfare programs.

Telangana Employees to Receive 5% Interim Relief

- Government Sector Employees Set to Receive Salary Hike
- 5% Interim Relief to Benefit Teachers, Staff in Cooperatives
- CM Revanth Responds to Employee Demands with Pay Increase

TPN , Telangana : As the Revanth Reddy government approaches its one-year anniversary, a significant decision has been made on the occasion of the Praja Vijayotsavam. The Telangana government has announced that it will grant interim relief (IR) to employees of government institutions, societies, and universities, aligning them with state government employees and pensioners.

Govt Unveils Full Details of Dilavarpur Company Permits





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.



Govt Unveils Full Details of Dilavarpur Company Permits

Controversial Permits for Ethanol Plant Environmental Violations Uncovered Central and State Approvals Scrutinized

TPN, Telangana : The Telangana government has disclosed comprehensive information regarding the permits granted to the ethanol company located in Dilavarpur, Nirmal district, which were issued during the previous BRS government. Allegations have surfaced suggesting that permits were granted under misleading pretenses, especially concerning environmental and regulatory violations.

According to the information released, the Central government only authorized the production of fuel ethanol. However, the Cabinet of the former BRS regime extended approvals for a broader range of products, including ethanol, extra neutral alcohol (ENA), industrial spirit, and absolute alcohol, under the guise of fuel ethanol production. This move is being criticized for bypassing key regulatory processes, particularly environmental permits.

The government further revealed that while the Central guidelines required the company to obtain the NOC (No Objection Certificate) from local bodies, the PMK Distillations company proceeded without securing the necessary local approvals. Additionally, a compound wall was constructed without the appropriate permissions. These violations allegedly occurred with the support of the former BRS government.

Notably, the former government's actions in 2022, including issuing a letter of indent and granting approval for the production of 600 lakh liters of ethanol and other products, have come under scrutiny. The Cabinet ratified these decisions in December 2022, and the company was granted exemptions from public consultation based on its self-certification. The Central government had granted its permits for fuel ethanol production in February 2023, with water allocations approved in June 2023 and final permissions processed through TSIPASS in December 2023.

This disclosure is sparking controversy, as critics claim that the previous government's leniency towards the company has led to significant regulatory lapses and potential environmental concerns.

Interim Relief

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This move will result in increased salaries for thousands of employees in these sectors. The Finance Department of Telangana issued orders to provide a 5% interim relief on the current basic salary for employees in government institutions, cooperative societies, and universities. This follows a similar decision made in October of the previous year when the government had granted a 5% interim relief to state government employees and pensioners. At that time, only government employees benefited from the decision. However, in response to requests from other employee groups, particularly following public victories, the government de-

ecided to extend this benefit to other sectors. CM Revanth Reddy instructed the Finance Department to issue orders ensuring that employees in government institutions and cooperative societies receive the same interim relief. This decision is expected to positively impact thousands of teachers in universities and colleges, as well as staff in cooperative societies, by increasing their salaries and allowances. Employees in these sectors have expressed their happiness, calling it a timely and much-needed gesture from the government. Many are celebrating the government's decision, viewing it as a New Year's gift after a year of governance under the Revanth Reddy administration.

RS Praveen, KTR Face Allegations from Minister Surekha

- Surekha Accuses RS Praveen Kumar of Gurukul Conspiracies
- KTR Criticized for Repeated Jail Claims and Ignoring MLAs' Concerns

TPN, Telangana : In a fresh political feud, Telangana Minister Konda Surekha has made sensational allegations against BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar. She claimed that Praveen Kumar was behind conspiracies involving the state's Gurukuls and welfare hostels, accusing him of appointing his followers as staff during his tenure as secretary. Surekha criticized the previous government for neglecting welfare hostels, alleging that poor conditions, including food contamination, led to significant student grievances during that period.



Responding to a student's death in a hostel under her government, Surekha urged the opposition not to politicize the tragedy, emphasizing the special medical attention the student received. She also took aim at KTR, accusing him of repeatedly claiming he would go to jail for the people, saying his statements stem from his past wrongdoings.

Surekha, a former MLA during the BRS government, slammed both KCR and KTR for ignoring the concerns of legislators. She questioned their lack of communication with fellow MLAs and ministers, further criticizing KTR's dramatic claims of bringing down the government if given the chance to rule.

Komatireddy Unveils Key Farmer and Infrastructure Plans



TPN, Telangana : Minister Komatireddy Venkatredy made significant announcements regarding farmer support and infrastructure development during a meeting with Congress workers at Ramreddy Garden near Nizamabad on November 29. The Minister confirmed that farmers would receive an assurance of Rs 7,000 per acre for Sankranthi, offering relief to many in the farming community. In addition, Komatireddy revealed plans to launch the Indiramma House Scheme next month, a move aimed at addressing housing issues for the poor. He also criticized the Kaleshwaram project, stating that it had been built with a borrowing of Rs 7 lakh crore but had ultimately collapsed.

Komatireddy emphasized that in the next three years, BT roads would be laid in every village, with roads expanded from the mandal level to district centers. He outlined this plan as part of the government's broader effort to improve rural infrastructure and connectivity. Turning to political matters, Komatireddy strongly countered former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's Deeksha Divas, calling it a "fake fast." He claimed that KCR had taken glucose, saline, and vitamins during his fast and mocked the event as a staged show of sacrifice. The Minister contrasted KCR's actions with his own, recalling his 11-day fast in Nalgonda for the formation of Telangana.

Komatireddy also criticized KCR for failing to deliver even a single double-bedroom house for the poor in the last decade. He added that the Telangana government's current condition was increasingly criticized, predicting the government's fall soon.

This series of announcements and statements reflect Komatireddy's commitment to addressing key issues and his growing criticism of the BRS leadership.



Tummala Says Farmers Prefer Bonus Over Rythu Bandhu



TPN , Telangana : Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nag-eswara Rao made a bold statement regarding the state's flagship farmer welfare scheme, Rythu Bandhu, suggesting that farmers believe a bonus is better than the benefits provided by the scheme. Tummala's comments have gone viral, with the minister criticizing the previous government's approach to farmer welfare.

In a public address, Tummala claimed that farmers have expressed a preference for bonuses of up to Rs. 15,000 per acre over the existing Rythu Bandhu scheme, which offers financial assistance for crops. He acknowledged that while the government has made efforts such as loan waivers, insurance, and farmer assurances, it may have been misguided in some areas.

Tummala emphasized that his priority is to listen to farmers and implement measures that they believe will benefit them the most. His remarks come amid claims from the opposition that the Congress government is planning to hold a "Rythu Bandhu bandh" to protest the scheme.

The minister's comments reflect the growing debate over how best to support Telangana's agricultural community, with some advocating for more direct financial aid in the form of bonuses.

Vinay Bhaskar Calls for KCR's Return as Chief Minister

TPN , Telangana : Vinay Bhaskar, along with other BRS leaders, organized the Deeksha Diwas program at the party office in Balasamudram, where he made significant remarks about the future leadership of Telangana. Bhaskar emphasized that K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) should once again be appointed as Chief Minister, citing his pivotal role in the movement for Telangana's statehood.

Recalling the struggles and challenges faced during the Telangana movement, Bhaskar highlighted how the current government is allegedly troubling the people and failing to deliver on promises. He urged the public to remember the past sacrifices made for the formation of the state and to recognize the leadership of KCR. Bhaskar expressed disappointment over the denial of permission for the Deeksha Diwas event, despite claims that development works attributed to the current government were originally spearheaded by the BRS. He also mentioned the unresolved issues like the coach factory and tribal university, which were promised for Warangal district but have yet to materialize.

Furthermore, Bhaskar announced that the party will begin a movement demanding local job opportunities in Kazipet, reflecting the party's ongoing commitment to regional development.



Kasam Venkateswarlu Criticizes Congress for Failing to Deliver



TPN , Telangana : BJP state general secretary Kasam Venkateswarlu strongly condemned the arrest of BJP leaders across Telangana, labeling the house arrests as "evil." He expressed concern over the Congress government's handling of state affairs, claiming it is misleading the people under the guise of "Prajapalan" (people's rule), but is, in reality, engaged in destructive governance.

Venkateswarlu stated that the Congress party has failed multiple times in its administration, not only in short-term evaluations but also in long-term assessments. He questioned whether the government, which has not passed basic tests of governance, had any right to celebrate its failures.

He pointed out the inconsistency of the government's actions, citing the arrests of BJP leaders in Nalgonda while a Chief Minister's meeting was scheduled in Mahabubnagar. Venkateswarlu demanded the immediate release of arrested BJP leaders, questioning the need for permission to submit a petition. Furthermore, he criticized the Congress government for blaming others without conducting any investigation into food poisoning incidents, showing a lack of accountability.

Rajagopal Reddy Criticizes Gurukul Staff Over Poor Food Quality



TPN , Telangana : Munugodu MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy voiced strong displeasure during a surprise inspection of the Mahatma Jyothibapule BC Girls Gurukul hostels in Munugodu town. The MLA was angered by the substandard quality of the food being served to the students, especially the rice, curries, sambar, and curd. He criticized the cooking agency staff for serving stale rice and ordered them to improve the quality immediately.

Rajagopal Reddy pointed out that despite the Congress government increasing mess charges to ensure better welfare for students, the food quality remained poor. He expressed frustration with the staff, demanding better meals for the students and emphasized that such negligence was unacceptable. His sharp remarks targeted both the cooks and the administrators of the cooking agency, urging them to take immediate corrective action.

Prashanth Reddy Criticizes CM Revanth's Government



TPN , Telangana : Former Minister Prashanth Reddy expressed sharp criticism of the current Telangana government during his participation in the BRS Deeksha Diwas. Reddy described the BRS as a "defunct party" and claimed that under CM Revanth Reddy, Telangana has descended into chaos within just 11 months. He accused the government of engaging in media diversion tactics, with minis-

ters participating in Deeksha Diwas activities for show rather than addressing real issues.

Reddy reminisced about the pivotal role of KCR's Deeksha Diwas in securing Telangana's statehood, stating that the movement once held the Center's attention. He lamented that now, under Congress leadership, the state is once again "held hostage," this time by Revanth Reddy. According to Reddy, the current administration is causing unrest in the state and warned that the BRS would reclaim power in the 2027 midterm elections to correct the mistakes of the Congress government.

He concluded by asserting that the BRS was unafraid of police cases and promised to restore the state's true progress in the future, as the eyes of Congress leaders have now been "wide open."

Ayilaiah Vows Action After Discovery of Expired Injections

TPN , Telangana : Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah has expressed serious concerns after discovering expired injections in a local government hospital during a surprise inspection. On Friday morning, Ayilaiah visited government hostels and ashram schools in his constituency, where he also conducted an inspection of food quality and basic facilities. After speaking with students at the Jyothirao Phule hostel, he expressed satisfaction with the food served but warned the staff that with the recent increase in diet charges, quality must be maintained. He emphasized that any failure to provide adequate food would lead to strict action.

In his visit to the local government hospital, Ayilaiah discovered expired injections in the hospital's injection box, which he described as a serious lapse in medical care. He criticized the negligence of doctors and hospital staff and vowed to take action against any neglect of medical services.

The MLA also urged BRS leaders to refrain from politicizing issues concerning children and the welfare of students. He promised to ensure that necessary steps were taken to improve facilities in government hostels and maintain high standards in the healthcare sector.



Kavitha Commemorates November 29 as Historic Day



TPN , Telangana : BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha took to social media on November 29 to mark the historic significance of the day in the Telangana statehood movement. She highlighted that November 29, 2009, was a turning point in Telangana's history, remembering the unwavering commitment of her father, KCR, who risked his life to fulfill the aspirations of millions. Kavitha recalled KCR's iconic deeksha (fast) with the resolve that "Telangana will come, KCR will be right."

She urged the public to honor this day by participating in Deeksha Diwas celebrations across the state, remembering the spirit of the movement. The BRS party is observing this day to protest against Congress' policies and to reaffirm its commitment to the state's welfare.

Minister Komatireddy Reviews Development Projects

TPN , Telangana : Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy conducted a detailed review of ongoing development projects in Nizamabad district at the Collector's office. He assessed the progress of state and national highways and road constructions, commending Collector Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanthu for completing 95% of the district's survey work.

The minister prioritized road repairs, directing officials to fill 250 kilometers of potholes starting from the 1st of the month. He set a target for pothole-free roads by Sankranti and ordered the completion of the Indalwai-Bheengal road within two days. Additionally, Komatireddy urged for the expedited revised estimate for the



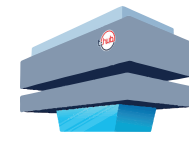
Nizamabad flyover project.

On grain procurement, the minister confirmed a target of 5 lakh tonnes, with Rs 736 crore already paid. He em-

phasized the timely payment of dues and assured support for farmers, despite opposition criticism.

Komatireddy also addressed issues with Mission Bhagiratha, questioning delays in water supply despite a Rs 3 crore allocation. He instructed officials to resolve the issue promptly.

In support of the RRR project, the minister announced meetings with Prime Minister Modi and Union Minister Gadkari to push for further progress, reaffirming the government's commitment to development and welfare.



Relief for Patnam Narender Reddy in Telangana High Court



TPN , Hyderabad : Patnam Narender Reddy, the former MLA of Kodangal, received significant relief from the Telangana High Court, which quashed two of the three FIRs filed against him in connection with the Lagacharla incident. The court ruled in favor of Reddy after he challenged the registration of the FIRs, arguing that they were filed in violation of legal procedures.

Reddy had filed a petition claiming that the registration of multiple FIRs for a single incident was against the rules. After hearing his petition, the court agreed with the arguments presented by his lawyer and quashed two of the FIRs. This decision provided substantial relief to Patnam Narender Reddy, clearing part of the legal burden he faced.

Israel to Provide Expertise for Musi Cleanup, Says Sridhar Babu



TPN , Hyderabad : IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu expressed his enthusiasm over Israel's commitment to providing technical expertise for the Musi River revitalization project, a key initiative by the Telangana government under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. During a meeting at the Secretariat, Babu thanked Israeli Ambassador Ruven Azhar for his support and noted Israel's strong interest in fostering mutual cooperation.

Babu highlighted Israel's leadership in fields like artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, urging further collaboration between the two nations in these sectors. He also requested assistance in areas like modern technology, research, and industrial development, particularly in defense, agriculture, and water conservation. Furthermore, he sought Israel's expertise in wastewater reuse technologies.

Babu emphasized that Telangana's Young India Skill University has equipped a skilled workforce ready to support any Israeli industry looking to establish operations in the state, underlining the potential for growing bilateral ties.

Osmania University Students Protest Over Substandard Food



TPN , Hyderabad : Students of Osmania University (OU) staged a protest on Friday morning, accusing the university administration of serving substandard food in the hostels. The protest took place in front of the Arts College, with students from the New Godavari Hostel leading the demonstration.

The students raised slogans and threw sambar on the road, voicing their dissatisfaction with the quality of food being provided. They expressed concern that the food served in the hostels was unhygienic and could lead to

health issues. The protesters demanded immediate intervention from the university's Vice Chancellor (VC) and the hostel wardens, urging them to address the situation.

The students called on the higher authorities at Osmania University and the state government to take swift action to ensure that quality food is served to the students. They warned that continuing to serve substandard food would harm their health and called for justice and immediate changes.

Nampally Court Summons Konda Surekha in Defamation Case



TPN , Hyderabad: Telangana Forest Minister Konda Surekha has been summoned by the Nampally court in connection with a defamation case filed against her by actor Nagarjuna. The court has directed Surekha to appear physically before it on December 12. The case stems from remarks made by Surekha in October 2023, in which she alleged that Telangana Minister KT Rama Rao (KTR) was responsible for the divorce between Tollywood actors Naga Chaitanya and Samantha Ruth Prabhu. Nagarjuna filed a defamation suit, claiming the minister's comments had tarnished his family's reputation.

The Nampally court had reviewed Nagarjuna's defamation petition and subsequently ordered the registration of a case against Surekha. Earlier, the minister was summoned for an initial hearing on October 23, but the proceedings have now been scheduled for a further appearance next month.

Surekha's controversial statement, made on October 2, implicated KTR in the breakup, alleging that he demanded Samantha's presence in exchange for not demolishing the N-Convention Center, a claim which Nagarjuna asserted was defamatory.

NHRC Launches Inquiry into Surrogate Woman's Death in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad : The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has initiated a suo motu inquiry into the tragic death of a 25-year-old surrogate woman in Hyderabad's Raidurg area, who allegedly died by suicide to escape sexual abuse. The woman, originally from Odisha, was reportedly brought to the city under a surrogacy arrangement with her husband.

The NHRC issued notices to the state's chief secretary and the director general of police, demanding a detailed report within two weeks, which should include the status of the FIR and any related cases of harassment under the surrogacy arrangement in Telangana. Local reports suggest that after the couple arrived in Hyderabad, the woman was made to stay alone in a separate room in a high-rise apartment. On November 26, she fell from the ninth floor of the building, and initial investigations suggested suicide. However, further investigation revealed sarees and a dupatta tied to the balcony railing, indicating she might have tried to escape.

Her husband later accused the man who hired her for surrogacy of inappropriate behavior and alleged attempts to abuse her. Authorities have registered a case of abetment to suicide against Rajesh Babu, the alleged abuser, and are pursuing the investigation.

HC Dismisses KA Paul's Petition on Defected MLAs

TPN , Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Thursday, November 28, dismissed the petition filed by Praja Shanti Party president Kilari Anand Paul, which sought to prevent defected MLAs from the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) who joined the Congress, from attending the Telangana Assembly sessions. The petition also sought to bar the defected MLAs from participating in legislative debates and casting votes. Paul argued that the defected legislators violated the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, which deals with disqualification due to defection. He claimed that the MLAs, who had contested the elections on the BRS ticket and later joined the Congress, should be disqualified under the anti-defection law.

The division bench, led by Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice J. Sreenivas Rao, dismissed the petition, emphasizing that the Speaker of the Assembly must first adjudicate the disqualification petitions in accordance with the prescribed procedures under the Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA) (Disqualification on the Ground of Defection) Rules, 1986. The bench further clarified that no action could be taken against the defected MLAs until the Speaker's ruling on their disqualification. The court acknowledged concerns raised by the state advocate general, A. Sudershan Reddy, regarding the potential violation of the constitutional separation of powers, and modified a previous order that had set a specific timeline for the Speaker's action. While the bench removed the time frame, it stressed the need for the Speaker to resolve the disqualification petitions promptly.



RTC Bus Crashes into Divider in Sangareddy; 20 Injured

TPN , Telangana : A Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) bus crashed into a highway divider in Sangareddy district on Friday, November 29, injuring at least 20 passengers. The incident occurred while the bus was traveling from Narayankhed to Jogipet in Andole mandal. The injured passengers were immediately shifted to nearby hospitals for treatment.

This incident follows a previous RTC-related accident on October 24, when a young man was run over by an RTC bus in Shamirpet, Hyderabad. The victim, riding a bike, collided with the bus while attempting to overtake, leading to fatal injuries.

India continues to face a high number of road traffic accidents, with road traffic crashes (RTCs) accounting for 43.7% of unintentional injuries, as reported by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Despite ongoing efforts to improve road safety, the country still struggles with a significant number of fatalities related to road traffic incidents.



Fire Breaks Out Near Navy VLF Station Site in Damagundam Forest



TPN , Hyderabad : A fire erupted near the Navy's Very Low Frequency (VLF) radar station site in Damagundam Forest, Vikarabad district, on Thursday, November 28. Locals have alleged that the fire was deliberately set, with suspicions arising over its timing and location near the radar station site. While the cause of the fire remains unclear, videos shared on social media show large areas of the forest burning.

In one video, a person claims that the fire started in the afternoon and has spread across many acres, suggesting that the trees in the area are being burned, not felled. The Forest Department has been criticized for not taking immediate action to extinguish the

flames.

The local fire department was alerted and a team was dispatched to contain the blaze, which was reportedly confined to a small area and was quickly controlled.

The fire comes amid ongoing protests against the establishment of the Navy's VLF radar station in the Damagundam Forest. Despite opposition, Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh had laid the foundation stone for the project in October, emphasizing the importance of such radar systems for national security. The station is seen as vital for strengthening India's defense communication capabilities.



KTR Shares Fascinating Insights About KCR on Deeksha Divas



TPN , Telangana : On the occasion of Deeksha Divas in Al-gunur, Karimnagar, BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) shared intriguing details about the leadership and vision of Telangana's first Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). KTR recounted a conversation with Captain Lakshmi Kanta Rao in 2001, where KCR expressed his unwavering belief that Telangana's formation would be achieved through

votes. KTR recalled that KCR had boldly stated that key political positions, including Zilla Parishad chairmen, MLAs, MPs, and even central ministers, would belong to Telangana.

KTR highlighted a pivotal moment during the Simha Garjana rally in Karimnagar when KCR told supporters that if two lakh people did not attend, they should not join the movement. Despite arriving five hours late, the event saw a turnout of over two and a half lakh people, reinforcing KCR's vision and leadership. KTR em-

phasized that from that day forward, he never questioned KCR's decisions.

Reflecting on KCR's pivotal role in the Telangana movement, KTR reminded the audience that while the younger generation might only know KCR as the successful Chief Minister, they should understand the sacrifices KCR made during the movement. He called on people to continue the fight against the Congress party to ensure the implementation of their promises, rallying the masses for the cause of Telangana's progress.

Ponnam Prabhakar Visits Sri Rudreswara Temple



TPN , Telangana : On Friday, State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar visited Sri Rudreswara Temple in Kondapaka Mandal, Siddipet District, where he performed special pujas. He was warmly welcomed by the temple priests, who later highlighted the significance of the temple and sought the Minister's support for its development.

Afterward, the Minister paid tribute to the statues of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and late Minister Madan Mohan in the village. Addressing the media, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized the state government's efforts to prevent food poisoning incidents in Gurukul Vidyalayas, welfare hostels, and government schools. He urged political parties not to politicize issues related to food fraud in these institutions, asserting that any irregularities would be addressed by the government.

He assured that if any unsanitary conditions or food fraud were reported, immediate action would be taken against the responsible officers and wardens. The Minister also mentioned increased mess and cosmetic charges, the appointment of more teachers, and improvements in hostel surroundings. He urged opposition parties to bring any issues directly to his attention for resolution. District Collector M. Manuchaudary and others participated in the program.

Mahadevapur Police Solve Chandrapalli Murder, Three Arrested

TPN , Telangana : Mahadevapur Police have successfully solved the murder case of Mutyala Srikanth Goud, a harvester owner from Chandrapalli, with the arrest of three accused. Srikanth was brutally stabbed on the 27th of this month, and police quickly apprehended Ponnam Sivakrishna Goud, MD Fayaz, and Kuruma Saikiran for their involvement in the crime.

Sivakrishna's wife, who was involved in the interest business, had frequently given Srikanth Rs. 1 lakh as interest and communicated with him often. After overhearing their phone conversations, Sivakrishna became suspicious and conspired with his friend Fayaz to murder Srikanth. They tracked his movements with the help of Kuruma Saikiran.

On the day of the murder, Sivakrishna and

Fayaz ambushed Srikanth on the road, stabbing him 24 times in the stomach. The police seized a knife, a helmet, bloody clothes, and two cell phones from the accused. Kataram DSP Rammohan Reddy disclosed the details of the case during a press conference at Mahadevapur Police Station. The swift resolution of the case showcases the police's effective investigation and determination to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Food Quality Issues in Asifabad Gurukul Rotten Eggs and Moldy Potatoes Found



TPN , Telangana : Students at the Mogad Dhagad Ashram School in Kautala mandal, Asifabad district, are facing severe issues due to poor food quality. During a recent inspection by Additional Collector Deepak Tiwari, alarming conditions were discovered that left him in shock.

The school, which houses students in the Gurukul system, has been struggling with basic infrastructure and food quality. Due to the absence of a qualified cook, food is being prepared by daily wage workers. The inspection revealed a troubling sight in the storeroom: rotten potatoes, moldy vegetables, and packets of salt without ISI certification. When the cooks attempted to prepare dal, they served water-based sambar instead, falling short of the menu's nutritional requirements.

Adding to the concern, when eggs were cooked, they were found to be rotten. Despite the onset of winter, students have not received their uniforms, and blankets were yet to be provided. This lack of basic necessities further highlights the neglect faced by students at the school.

Deepak Tiwari, who was horrified by the conditions, has ordered an investigation into the matter. The incident has raised serious concerns about the management of Gurukul schools and the well-being of students enrolled in these institutions. Authorities are now under pressure to take immediate corrective actions to address the situation and ensure the safety and welfare of the students. The incident has sparked widespread outrage, with many calling for accountability and urgent reforms in the management of Gurukul schools across the state.

Government Sanctions Science Centres in Kodangal

TPN , Hyderabad: On Thursday, November 28, the Telangana government announced the establishment of two new 'Science Centres' in the state, one in Kodangal (Vikarabad district) and the other in Sultanpur (Sangareddy district). The decision was made following recommendations from the Telangana Council of Science and Technology (TGSCOST).

These Science Centres will be developed under the Category III Type "B" category, with funding provided collaboratively by both the state and Union governments. The move is aimed at expanding access to higher education in Telangana, offering students in districts beyond Hyderabad better educational opportunities.

In addition to the Science Centres, the Telangana government had earlier allotted 211 acres and 26.5 guntas of land in Mulugu for the Sammak-



ka Sarakka Central Tribal University (SSCTU). This university, which began operations in 2023 under the mentorship of the University of Hyderabad (UoH), is currently offering undergraduate courses in English and Economics. SSCTU plans to expand its academic offerings soon, with the construction of permanent buildings underway on its 335-acre campus.

Tiger Attack in Asifabad Young Woman Killed, Locals Protest

TPN , Telangana : A tragic incident occurred in Gannaram village near Bengali Camp No. 6 in Kagaznagar mandal, Asifabad district, when a tiger attacked 21-year-old Morle Lakshmi. The young woman succumbed to her injuries from the attack.



Following the incident, grieving relatives and villagers gathered to stage a protest in front of the Forest Department office in Kagaznagar town, demanding support for the deceased's family.

In a related development, reports suggest that the tiger responsible for the attack may

have entered the Adilabad district forest area from Maharashtra. Officials stated that the tiger is currently roaming in search of a female tiger. They have advised locals to stay indoors for their safety as the animal continues its search in the area. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and urging the public to remain cautious.

ACB Nabs Government Official for Rs 10K Bribery in Nirmal



TPN , Hyderabad: On Friday, November 29, the Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested Gadhari Jagadish, a junior assistant in the Survey and Land Records department in Nirmal district, for accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000. Jagadish was caught red-handed by ACB officers while receiving the bribe through an office peon, S. Prashanth, in exchange for issuing land documents, including a Sethwar copy and Touch map, for a complainant in Mamada mandal.

This arrest comes a day after the ACB nabbed Gade Kartheek, an assistant engineer (AE) in the Drawing Branch of the District Panchayat Raj Engineer's office in Warangal. Kartheek was caught accepting Rs 5,000 to expedite the finalization of bills related to cement concrete road works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA). The bribe money was recovered and tested positive in a chemical test.

The ACB has urged citizens to report any incidents of bribery in the state by calling the toll-free hotline 1064.

RS Praveen, Konda Surekha Clash on Gurukul Issue



TPN , Telangana : In a heated exchange on Twitter, Dr. RS Praveen Kumar, the former Secretary of the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS), took to social media to criticize Minister Konda Surekha, accusing him of being disconnected from decency, culture, and humanity. He specifically targeted Reddy for his alleged role in ruining the lives of students in Orugallu city and

dismissed his right to speak about the welfare of poor students in Gurukuls.

Minister Konda Surekha responded sharply, questioning if the mention of Gurukul made Dr. Kumar uncomfortable. Konda Surekha challenged Kumar to a public debate on the subject of Gurukuls, dismissing what he referred to as "intoxicated ministers and Bhajantris" in the debate. Reddy

emphasized the importance of addressing the issue directly rather than engaging in political banter.

This exchange highlights ongoing tensions in Telangana politics surrounding the management and welfare of Gurukuls, with both sides aiming to sway public opinion on the issue.



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.'"

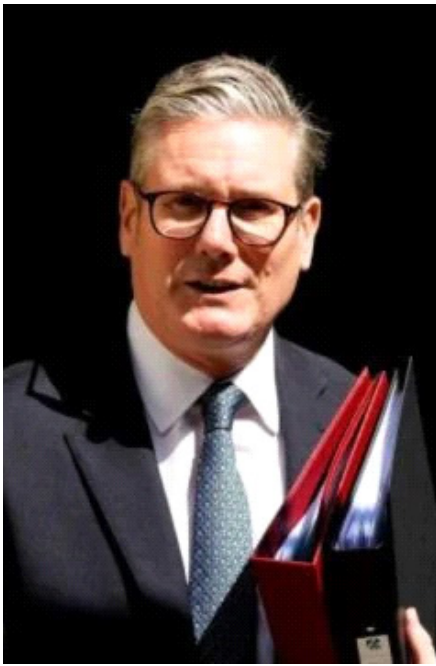
Atishi didn't miss an opportunity to make a playful comment about Delhi's Lieutenant Governor, VK Saxena, with whom the AAP government has had frequent disagreements. "If the LG listens to everything a Chief Minister says, then he should listen to me and reinstate the bus marshals," she quipped, smiling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



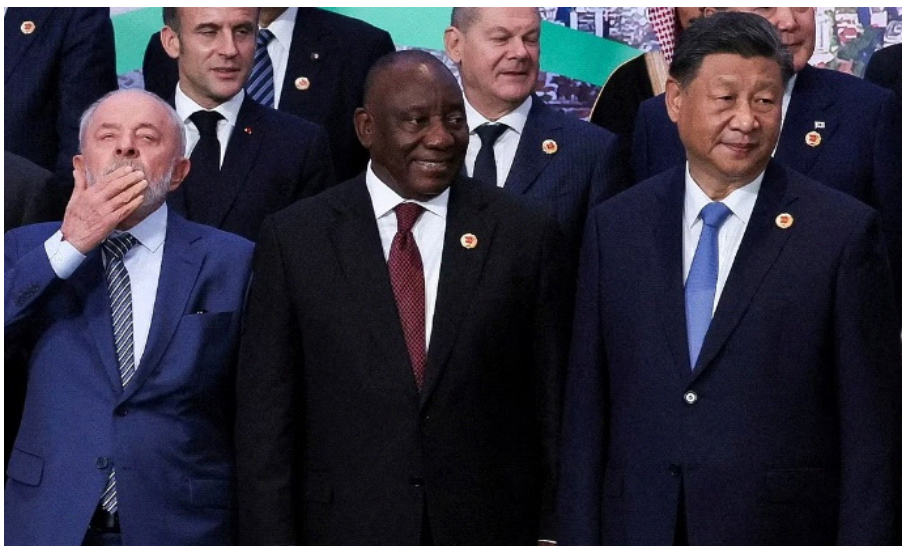
with the country's economic needs and capacity. He explained that the new reforms would focus on reducing pressure on public services, housing, and jobs, while ensuring that immigration policies continue to support the UK's labor market.

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.

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.

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.

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

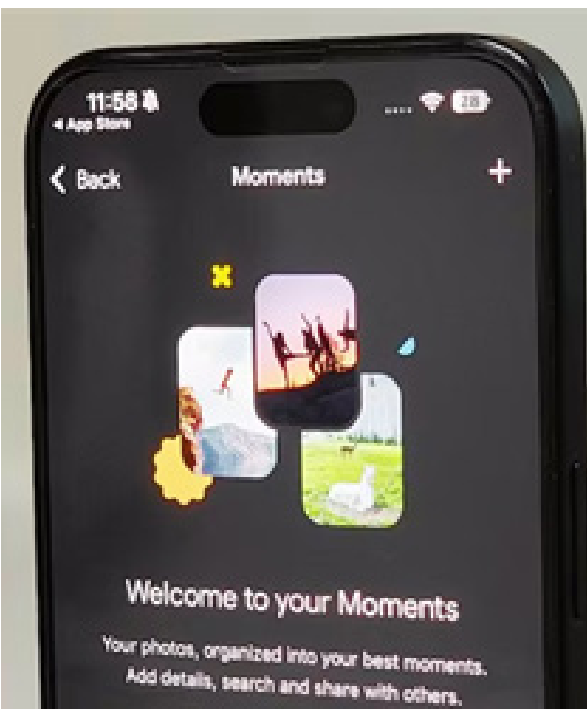
include the familiar crown and side button seen on previous Apple Watch models, while the blood pressure measurement process is detailed in the patent's illustrations.

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.



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,

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

the task of reshuffling their batting order for the upcoming match in Adelaide on December 6.

Rohit and Yashasvi Jaiswal are the designated openers, but with Jaiswal and KL Rahul performing well at the top in Perth, there may be a case for the Indian captain to move down the order. If that happens, Gill's position would also need to be adjusted. India will use the practice match to make these

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.

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.

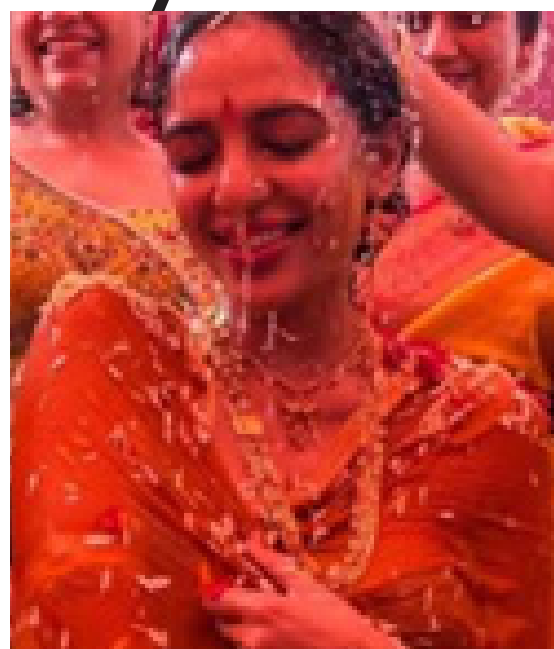
While an exact release date has not yet been revealed, the confirmation of *Vadaa Muyarchi* hitting theaters during Pongal is enough to send fans into a frenzy. As the film gears up for its release, expectations are high, and fans are looking forward to seeing Ajith back on the big screen in what promises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



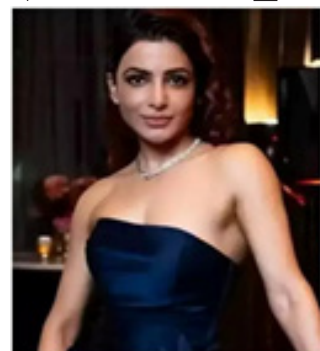
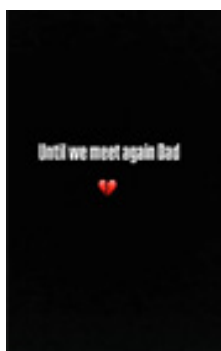
star-studded affair with several prominent figures from the film industry and beyond in attendance. As the couple gears up for their nuptials, the anticipation continues to build, with well-wishers and fans looking forward to more

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.



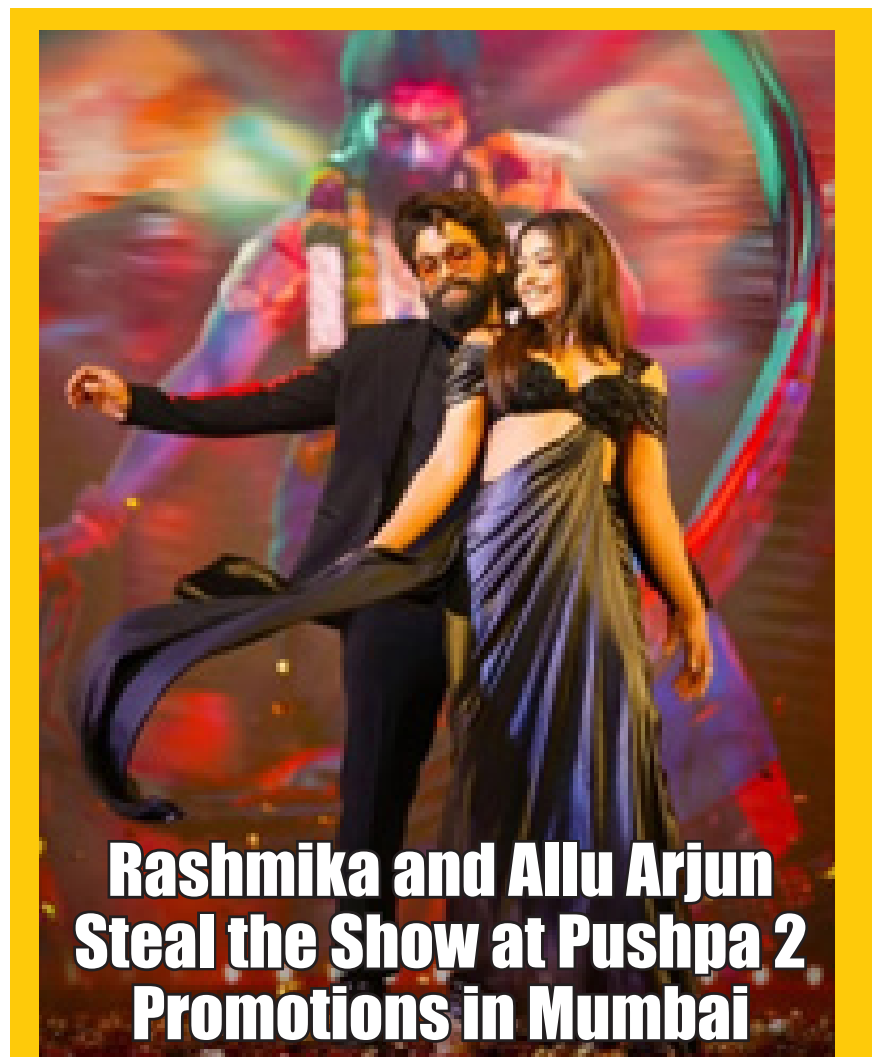
she shared with her father, highlighting his unwavering love and encouragement.

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.