



Weather Forecast

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

“Pothole-Free Roads Are Our Mission” - CM Chandrababu Naidu

TPN, Anakapalli: Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu reaffirmed his commitment to creating pothole-free roads across the state during a recent program in Paravada. Addressing local residents, he emphasized that efforts to fill potholed roads have officially begun today (Saturday) at Vennelapalem in Anakapalli district. He described pothole-ridden roads as “roads to hell,” noting the severe consequences they have had on public safety, including instances where pregnant women have had to deliver on these treacherous pathways.



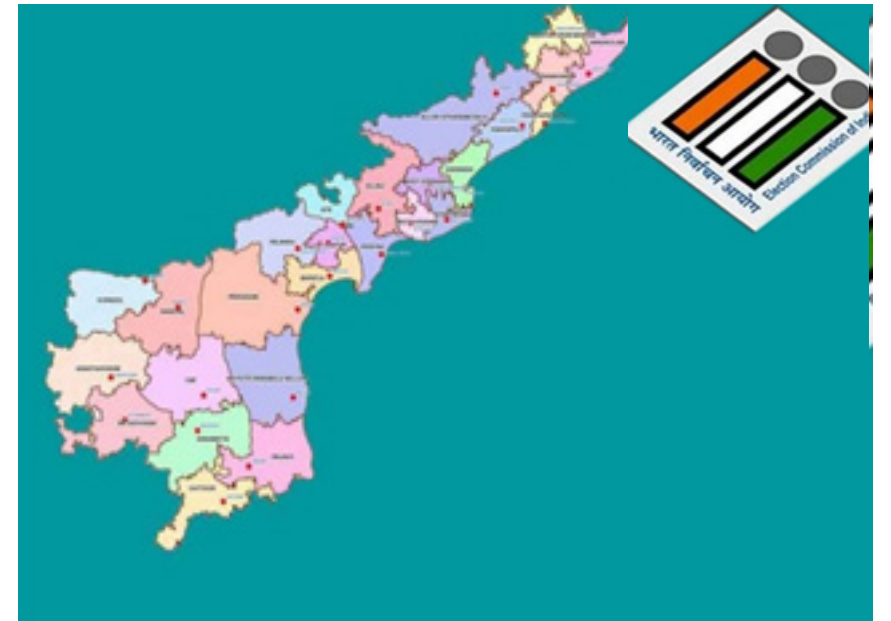
Naidu declared, “Wherever I go, there are no curtains, and no trees are falling. Good days have come again for the state. Good roads will come.”

Criticizing the previous government, CM Naidu pointed out that many lives were lost due to neglect of road maintenance. He revealed that only ₹1,000 crores had been allocated for road repairs over five years, stating that good roads are essential for a civilized society and serve as pillars of development. The Chief Minister expressed his goal of ensuring that the state has pothole-free roads by the next Sankranti.

Reflecting on past conditions, he remarked that roads would resemble swimming pools during rains, and he voiced his desire for a shift from “rowdy politics” to “development politics.” CM

He accused the previous administration of misusing funds, alleging that they acquired money through dubious means, including pledging government properties and promoting alcohol sales. The Chief Minister announced an allocation of ₹860 crores for filling potholes statewide and committed to implementing a comprehensive plan for future road construction. “Jagan has created destruction in the state, but we will restore order and progress,” he concluded.

MLC Election Schedule Announced for Vizianagaram



TPN, Vizianagaram: The schedule for the local body quota MLC election in Vizianagaram district has been officially released on Saturday. Voting for this election is set to take place on the 28th of this month, prompting a surge of activity among candidates and political parties eager to participate.

The election process commenced today, with the registration of graduated voters already underway. Hopeful candidates from various political parties are preparing to contest the MLC elections, reflecting the competitive atmosphere surrounding this local body quota election.

Key dates in the election schedule are as follows: nominations will be accepted from the 4th to the 11th of this month, with the scrutiny of these nominations scheduled for the 12th. Candidates will have until the 14th of this month to withdraw their nominations if they choose. Voting will occur on the 28th of this month, from 8 AM to 4 PM.

This election is particularly significant as it fills the MLC position that became vacant following the disqualification of Raghuraj. As the election date approaches, the political landscape in Vizianagaram is expected to become increasingly dynamic, with various parties mobilizing their resources to secure victory.

CM Chandrababu Naidu Slams Rushikonda Palace for Excessive Luxury

TPN, Visakhapatnam: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu expressed astonishment and disbelief during his inspection of the Rushikonda Palace in Visakhapatnam, describing the opulence as “unimaginable” and suggesting it is indicative of selfishness among the previous government’s leaders.



Speaking at a subsequent media conference, Naidu remarked on the extravagant nature of the buildings, stating, “I have traveled to many countries, but I have never seen such luxury.” He noted that the previous administration had claimed the structures were intended for tourism development; however, he questioned why dignitaries from Delhi prefer to stay at the Navy guest house instead.



Naidu criticized the extensive amenities provided, including a 100 KV substation, central air conditioning, and rooms for personal assistants, calling it a display of excess that violates ethical and legal standards. He described the spending as “like good water,” lamenting that it was not the leaders’ personal funds but rather public money that was squandered.

The Chief Minister revealed alarming details about the expenditures associated with the Rushikonda buildings, highlighting that ₹36 lakhs were allocated for a single bathtub and emphasizing the lavish conference facilities, including a 300-person capacity hall. “I don’t think even kings would build offices like this,” he asserted, contrasting the grandeur of the structures with the simpler design of the American White House and Rashtrapati Bhavan in India.



He warned that if a thorough investigation were to occur, many would be implicated. Naidu characterized the individuals behind the project as “hardened criminals,” advocating for a dialogue on whether such figures should remain in politics. “They build such luxurious buildings in the name of the poor,”

he asserted, urging the need for accountability and integrity in governance.

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Minister Lokesh Concludes Successful Investment Trip to America

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh has successfully wrapped up a week-long investment trip to the United States, where he held meetings with representatives from over 100 leading companies. Throughout this visit, Minister Lokesh was able to instill confidence in industrialists regarding the investment potential of Andhra Pradesh.

During his discussions, Lokesh presented Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's vision alongside the numerous advantages of setting up industries in the state. His efforts garnered positive signals from many large corporations regarding the proposals he put forth.

As a result of these productive meetings, large-scale agreements are anticipated to be signed at the upcoming investment conference scheduled to take place in Davos in January. The industrial circles in Andhra Pradesh are pleased with the success of Minister Lokesh's visit, viewing it



as a significant step toward attracting new investments and bolstering the state's economy.

Overall, Minister Lokesh's proactive approach and ability to connect with prominent industrial leaders have raised expectations for future investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh, further enhancing the state's position as a favorable destination for industry and innovation.

Minister Gottipati Ravikumar Announces Upcoming Elections and Focus on Development



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Minister Gottipati Ravikumar emphasized the coalition government's commitment to fulfilling election promises and addressing key issues facing the state of Andhra Pradesh. In a meeting with party leaders in West Godavari district, he announced that elections for graduates, water societies, and cooperative societies will be held soon, alongside MLC elections.

"The coalition government is moving towards implementing the election promises, and we are strategizing on how to effectively communicate our welfare schemes and development programs to the people," Minister Ravikumar stated, noting that the previous five years of YCP rule had left the state in a dire condition. He highlighted ongoing issues, such as electricity shortages and deteriorating road conditions, which were brought to his attention by local representatives.

Minister Ravikumar asserted that regular road repairs are essential for the state's

development and criticized the previous YCP government for neglecting road maintenance. He also stated that the coalition government would work on road construction and repairs with the assistance of the central government. "We have removed the garbage tax that burdened the people and have not imposed true-up charges," he added, criticizing Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy for allegedly purchasing electricity at inflated prices for his followers.

He pointed out that the coalition government, which has been in power for only four months, cannot resolve all issues immediately. "YCP has paralyzed development in the state for five years, and smart meters have not been installed anywhere," he clarified, refuting YCP's allegations against his government. Minister Ravikumar affirmed that the coalition government is focused on sustainable energy solutions, emphasizing the need for increased production in line with rising electricity consumption.

Deepam-2 Scheme Celebrated as a Boon for Poor Women – Minister Nadendla

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar hailed the Deepam 2.0 scheme as a significant step toward women's upliftment and empowerment. During a recent event held at the Chenna Reddy Colony Municipal Primary School, he expressed his satisfaction with the program's implementation in Tirupati, the birthplace of Lord Venkateswara.



Minister Manohar emphasized the coalition government's commitment to addressing the needs of the poor, stating that Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan are dedicated to enacting public welfare and development initiatives. He pointed out that the previous government had left the state in a precarious financial situation, burdened with debt.

The Deepam 2.0 scheme provides poor women with three free gas cylinders annually, a measure aimed at alleviating health issues associated with cooking over wood stoves. Minister Manohar highlighted

that similar provisions were made from 2014 to 2019 under the original Deepam scheme, and now the alliance government has reintroduced and enhanced the program.

Launched recently from Srikakulam district as part of the Diwali festivities, the scheme has garnered positive responses from women participants. "The joy expressed by women today reflects the significant impact this initiative will have on their lives," the minister noted, adding that there are approximately 1.5 crore gas connections in the state.

The Deepam 2.0 scheme is poised to make a substantial difference in the daily lives of many women, contributing to their health and well-being while promoting empowerment through access to clean cooking facilities.

Minister Gottipati Launches Pothole-Free Road Initiative at Bhimavaram

TPN, Bhimavaram: State Power Minister and West Godavari District In-charge Minister Gottipati Ravikumar announced the government's commitment to improving living standards through road development. On Saturday, he inaugurated the initiative by symbolically pounding a coconut to mark the beginning of work at the local China Amiram intersection.



Addressing attendees, Minister Ravikumar highlighted the dire state of roads in the region, attributing their poor condition to the negligence of the previous government. He noted that upon taking office, the coalition government prioritized road repair as a key target. "We have sanctioned over 800 crores for pothole repairs statewide," he stated, referring to the significant funds allocated by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in response to the public's plight.

Ravikumar revealed that repair work has commenced on 74 roads in seven constituencies, with a budget of Rs. 1,699 lakhs. Additionally, plans are in place to repair another 114 roads at a cost of Rs. 3,125 lakhs in the following week, aiming for completion by Sankranti.

The minister emphasized the necessity of a robust road infrastructure for the state's economic development, noting the challenges faced by citizens due to disorganized road conditions. "People incur physical

and financial burdens due to damaged vehicles and health issues caused by poor travel conditions," he explained.

Gottipati Ravikumar affirmed the coalition government's commitment to providing better governance and welfare programs, which already include increased pensions and a scheme offering three free cylinders to women. He urged public support for these initiatives and expressed optimism about implementing further welfare programs alongside the road construction efforts.

The launch event was attended by District Collector Chadalavada Nagarani, APIIC Chairman Mantena Ramaraju, Bhimavaram MLAs Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu, former Rajya Sabha Member Thota Sitaramalakshmi, and other local leaders and officials.

Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy's Key Remarks on AP Incarnation Day

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy emphasized the Telugu Desam Party's commitment to prioritizing the poor and weaker sections of society. Speaking at a membership registration program in the East Constituency on Saturday, he remarked that if the Telugu community were truly thinking democratically, it would not endorse Jagan's claim to have made himself the lifetime president of the YCP.



Parthasarathy stated that the celebration of Andhra Pradesh's Incarnation Day cannot occur on November 1 under any circumstances. He praised the leadership of TDP President Chandrababu Naidu for appointing individuals from diverse social groups to prominent party positions, moving beyond family ties.

The Minister underscored TDP's dedication to the welfare of the weaker sections and asserted that Chandrababu is a visionary leader who prioritiz-

es the state's development. He criticized the YCP leaders, saying they often speak rudely and falsely attribute the development of Andhra Pradesh to their own initiatives.

Parthasarathy also called attention to how the YCP government has disrespected the legacy of Potti Sriramulu, stating that the government has decided to commemorate Potti Sriramulu Jayanti and Vardhanti. He questioned whether Andhra Pradesh's Incarnation Day should be recognized on June 2 or October 1, the date of Sriramulu's passing.

In conclusion, he flagged that YCP leaders seem to be politicizing every issue, undermining the democratic principles that should govern the state. The remarks reflect the ongoing political tensions and the contrasting visions for the future of Andhra Pradesh as both parties gear up for the upcoming challenges.

Metro Rail Project Proposed for Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam at Rs. 42,362 Crores

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh state government has submitted a proposal to the Central Government for funding a comprehensive metro rail project in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam, with an estimated cost of Rs. 42,362 crore at 2024 prices. This initiative aligns with the stipulations outlined in the AP Redistricting Act of 2014, which mandates that the central government provide financial support for the construction of metro rail systems in the state.



the costs, reinforcing its commitment to enhancing urban transportation infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh. The metro rail project aims to facilitate efficient and sustainable public transport, easing traffic congestion in these rapidly developing cities.

Under this proposal, while the central government is expected to fund the majority of the project, the state government will also contribute a specified portion of

Officials believe that the successful implementation of the metro rail system will significantly improve connectivity, reduce travel times, and enhance the overall quality of urban life for residents in both Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam. The government is optimistic about the potential benefits of this project, as it seeks to transform the public transportation landscape in the state.

Minister Nimmala Strong Warning to Ambati Rambabu Over Polavaram Project Allegations

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has responded sharply to YCP leader and former minister Ambati Rambabu's recent comments regarding the Polavaram project, accusing him of spreading false information. Ramanaidu took to Twitter, challenging Ambati to provide evidence for claims that the height of the Polavaram project has been reduced.

Ramanaidu emphasized that the Polavaram project's height will be increased to 45.72 meters as planned, adding that any suggestions to the contrary are baseless. "If you have evidence, present it," Ramanaidu stated, countering claims that the YCP leader is misleading the public for political gain. "A person who pretends to sleep cannot be woken up," he quipped, implying that Ambati is deliberately ignoring the facts.

He also criticized the YCP's alleged attempts to mislead the public on the project's specifications. "There is a double-engine government at both the Center and the State—both are aligned on this," Ramanaidu remarked, referencing the coordination between the central NDA government and the Andhra state government on Polavaram's progress.

Highlighting the commitment of his party, Ramanaidu stated, "Our leader, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, views both Polavaram and Amaravati as crucial projects for the state's development and welfare." He reassured that the



project will follow all technical guidelines and asserted that they have "100 to 150 percent sincerity" towards completing it.

In response to accusations that funds were diverted, Ramanaidu dismissed them as "false allegations" and challenged the opposition to provide proof. He urged the YCP to avoid "diversion politics" and focus on constructive contributions rather than spreading misinformation.

Ramanaidu concluded with a firm message, stating that the government remains accountable to the people of Andhra Pradesh and committed to fulfilling the vision for Polavaram, while urging the opposition to "stop lying" and refrain from political tactics aimed at misleading the public.

YS Sharmila Criticizes NDA Govt In AP, "Free Cylinder" Scheme and Rising Electricity Charges

**APCC Chief Will Hold Protest Statewide
Protest On NOV 5th**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) Chief YS Sharmila Reddy has voiced strong criticism against the coalition government's policies, accusing it of creating financial burdens for the public despite promising relief. In her statement, Sharmila highlighted that while the government offers three free cylinders annually to poor families, it also imposes additional electricity charges, effectively offsetting any benefits.



uation has roots in previous government policies but insists that APERC alone sanctioned the billing hikes, not the current government. She accused both the previous YCP government and the current coalition of failing to fulfill their promises. "The previous government raised charges nine times. This administration pledged to reduce fees by 35% if needed and not burden the public with even a single rupee. Yet they're doing the opposite," she said.

She remarked, "Giving with one hand and taking away with the other" sums up the government's approach, noting that Rs. 2,685 crores are spent each year on free cylinders, but Rs. 6,000 crores are collected from citizens through electricity bills. An additional Rs. 3,000 crores, Sharmila claimed, will further strain families, casting a "shadow of darkness" over households already burdened by rising costs.

The APCC Chief questioned the coalition's alliance with the BJP and called for urgent support for struggling families. Sharmila demanded that the government honor its election promises and take on the burden of additional costs itself.

To push for these changes, the Andhra Pradesh Congress Party (@INC_Andhra) will hold statewide protests on the 5th of this month, advocating against the adjustment charges and demanding relief for the public.

Sharmila pointed out that this sit-

"Next Five Years are Crucial for Government," - Yanamala Ramakrishnudu

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council and former Minister Yanamala Ramakrishnudu emphasized that the coalition government must prioritize fiscal responsibility over the next five years, describing this period as a significant challenge. He urged the government to work towards a "Vision 2047" that focuses on eliminating debts and deficits to establish Andhra Pradesh as a surplus state.



that wise fiscal policies will drive economic stability and growth.

Reflecting on the current state of Andhra Pradesh's economy, he criticized the prior administration's handling of finances, claiming it led to Andhra Pradesh ranking only 9th in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) among Indian states. He attributed this to what he called the "mistakes of the Jagan government," underscoring the importance of reversing this trend through disciplined financial practices.

Ramakrishnudu highlighted the need for strategic financial management, recommending an increase in government revenue and a reduction in unnecessary spending. "Revenue expenditure should be minimized, while capital expenditure, which supports long-term growth, should be increased," he stated, stressing

Ramakrishnudu's remarks serve as both a warning and a roadmap, pressing the coalition government to adopt policies that promote sustainable economic growth and reduce fiscal dependency.

Kakani Govardhan Reddy Criticizes Alliance Govt and Calls for Accountability

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Kakani Govardhan Reddy has voiced strong criticism against the current alliance government, particularly targeting Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He used a metaphor to emphasize his point, stating, "If you expect biryani to be served, it is not Biryani; instead, curry rice is not served," suggesting that the government is failing to deliver on its promises.



Kakani pointed out that the government has lifted half a million ration cards, which he argues contradicts claims of providing free services like cylinders, implying that the promises made are hollow. He further accused

Pawan Kalyan of failing to address serious issues, asserting, "If you want to trample and take linen, since you got the post of Deputy Chief Minister..."

The leader accused the coalition of

allowing criminal activities to thrive, alleging that sand and liquor mafias operate freely with the complicity of their MLAs. "They are committing many crimes," Reddy charged, insisting that if Pawan Kalyan has the courage, he should investigate these crimes thoroughly.

In a pointed comparison, he described Jagan's welfare regime as vastly different from that of the alliance, likening the disparity to that between a fox and the Naga world. Reddy concluded with a warning, stating that if the spread of false propaganda continues unchecked, they will be compelled to expose the characteristics and shortcomings of the alliance leaders.

Jagan Cases are in BJP's Hands - CPI Narayana

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: CPI National Secretary Narayana recently made critical comments about former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. He noted that Jagan has been out on bail for 11 years, yet his cases remain unresolved, with court proceedings allegedly stalled. Narayana remarked, "Jagan's cases are in BJP's hands," suggesting that the ruling party at the center has significant influence over the progress of Jagan's legal matters.



He also highlighted the recent property dispute between Jagan and his sister, Y.S. Sharmila, adding that this inter-

nal family conflict further complicates Jagan's situation. Narayana urged the central government to focus on resolving Jagan's cases, suggesting it could also help address the family property issues.

In a broader critique, Narayana condemned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's approach toward Congress-governed states, calling it "shameful" and accusing it of undermining the country's federal structure. He claimed that the BJP is actively pursuing power across both northern and southern regions while regional parties grow stronger.

Narayana expressed confidence in the rise of regional movements, asserting that while national parties may be weakening, a strategic plan is underway to strengthen the CPI at the national level.

RK Roja Criticizes Coalition Government Over Rising Crimes Against Women

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In a scathing attack on the coalition government, MLA RK Roja condemned the rising incidence of crimes against women, asserting that the government's incompetence has emboldened criminals. She pointed out that during their four-month rule, over 100 rapes have been reported in the state, and she held Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Home Minister Anitha accountable for this alarming situation.



In a pointed remark, she highlighted the disconnect between public officials and their responsibilities, referencing MLA Balakrishna's time for entertainment on shows like "Unstoppable," while neglecting to meet with families affected by violence.

Roja expressed outrage over the proliferation of liquor through unauthorized "belt shops," suggesting that such policies have contributed to the deteriorating safety for women. "Shame on you," she declared, addressing the Chief Minister and his cabinet. She criticized the inaction from elected officials, noting that not a single MLA or minister has reached out to the victims or their families.

Roja demanded immediate action from the government, calling for the execution of those found guilty of such heinous crimes and a financial assistance of Rs. 20 lakhs to support the families of deceased victims. She expressed disbelief that the plight of young girls, many of whom have tragically lost their lives, seems to be overlooked, questioning, "How many of the accused has Pawan Kalyan held accountable?"

The opposition continues to urge the government to prioritize the safety of women and take a firm stance against such rising crimes in the state.

In response, Merugu Nagarjuna has categorically denied the allegations, stating that they are part of a malicious campaign to tarnish his reputation. He expressed frustration over what he de-

Former Minister Merugu Nagarjuna Responds to Allegations of ₹90 Lakh Fraud

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: A serious complaint has been lodged against former minister and YCP leader Merugu Nagarjuna, alleging financial misconduct. A woman has accused Nagarjuna of taking Rs. 90 lakh from her under the pretense of securing a job and later threatening her when she demanded her money back. She filed her complaint with the Tadepalli police, expressing her distress and requesting justice.



In response, Merugu Nagarjuna has categorically denied the allegations, stating that they are part of a malicious campaign to tarnish his reputation. He expressed frustration over what he de-

scribed as a targeted political attack against a rising Dalit leader. Nagarjuna emphasized his innocence, adding, "If I am guilty, I am ready to face any consequence, even to be hanged." He urged people not to resort to such defamatory tactics out of political animosity.

The former minister, reflecting on his tenure, mentioned that while he worked with many individuals in an official capacity, he maintained no personal contact that could substantiate such accusations. He further stated that he would file a complaint with the district SP, asserting that a false case had been lodged against him without any evidence to support the claims.

Nagarjuna called for an unbiased police investigation, emphasizing his confidence in being cleared of all charges. He reaffirmed his commitment to honesty and transparency, asking that the matter be addressed with integrity.



Vasireddy Padma Files Complaint Against Ex-MP Gorantla Madhav Over Remarks on Rape Victims



TPN, Vijayawada: Former Andhra Pradesh Women's Commission Chairperson Vasireddy Padma has filed a formal complaint against former MP Gorantla Madhav for his recent comments regarding rape victims, which she described as "shocking" and deeply insensitive. Padma, alongside Vijayawada Commissioner of Police Rajasekhara Babu, took this action after Madhav allegedly disclosed the names of rape victims, violating their right to privacy and causing public outrage.

Expressing her distress, Padma emphasized the importance of maintaining confidentiality in cases of sexual violence. "It is disgraceful for a former MP to speak in such a way about rape victims," she said, underscoring that Madhav's remarks have led to serious concerns among the public about respect and safety for women.

Padma has urged authorities to take immediate action against Madhav under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. She



stated, "Action should be taken against those who speak so irresponsibly about sensitive matters." Padma confirmed that she had formally requested the police to register a case and also filed a complaint with cybercrime authorities.

Furthermore, Padma criticized certain media channels, allegedly associated with Madhav's party, for broadcasting content supportive of his remarks. She argued that their continued airing of this content reveals a lack of commitment to women's rights within the party.

In a political development, Padma hinted at an upcoming decision regarding her political affiliation. While acknowledging her positive relationships across party lines, she specifically mentioned her close association with Vijayawada MP Kesineni Chinni. Padma noted that she would announce her political plans within the week, leaving speculation about her potential new political alignment.

Recieves Urges From Victims Seek Justice, Followers of Vallabhaneni and Pinnelli Face Allegations

TPN, Vijayawada: In a recent public petition reception held at the TDP central office, numerous victims expressed their grievances regarding alleged injustices committed by followers of Vallabhaneni Vamsi and Pinnelli. Masons from Gannavaram, along with former Minister Devineni Umamaheswara Rao, APS RTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana, and MLC Ashok Babu, gathered to seek redress for their grievances, asserting that they were cheated out of money owed to them by Vallabhaneni's associates, Gurram Nani and Venu.

During the event, Karnati Venkateshwarlu from Darivemula Dharmavaram village made a heartfelt appeal regarding the injustices faced by Karnati Seshaiyah, a key supporter of Pinnelli. Venkateshwarlu called for the cancellation of fraudulent documents and justice for Seshaiyah, who has reportedly been victimized by Pinnelli's followers, Puturi Mallareddy and Kolli Sambireddy. These individuals allegedly created forged registration documents, destroyed property using JCB machinery, and issued death threats.

In another poignant case, 92-year-old K. Nirmalamma from Ashok Nagar, Vijayawada, lamented that her ration card and pension



were unjustly reo K. S. Rama Raoked by YCP leaders, despite her relatives working with TDP. Meanwhile, Reddy Rambabu from Eluru District voiced concerns over the removal of pensions for TDP supporters, attributing it to a conspiracy orchestrated by the previous YCP government, which left many impoverished.

Additionally, Ganta Vijay Kumar from Buragamanda Grama Panchayat, Gantavaripalli, detailed his struggles with local authorities, stating that despite multiple visits to the Collectors' office, his issues were ignored.

The TDP leadership, represented at the event, committed to addressing the complaints and working towards resolving the issues raised by the petitioners.

NTR District Launches Pothole-Free Road Initiative



TPN, NTR District: In a concerted effort to achieve the Chief Minister's vision of a pothole-free Andhra Pradesh, significant strides have been made with the launch of a dedicated program aimed at improving road conditions across the state. District Collector Dr. Nidhi Meena and Vijayawada East Constituency Legislator Gadde Rammohan announced the sanctioning of 54 road works, amounting to ₹7.71 crores, during a ceremony at the Anjaneya Swamy Temple in Vijayawada on Saturday.

The initiative, part of the Mission Pothole-Free AP program, aims to ensure the completion of road repairs by December 31. Dr. Nidhi Meena highlighted that the district boasts approximately 1,039 kilometers of roads, of which 876 kilometers are designated as major district roads. The program will initially focus on enhancing 352 kilometers of these roads, addressing critical areas that have been neglected in recent years.

Legislator Gadde Rammohan emphasized the importance of these improvements, noting that poor road conditions have caused significant hardship for residents. He expressed satisfaction with the program's launch in Auto Nagar, a vital industrial area employing nearly one lakh workers. The Chief Minister's directive mandates that local officials and public representatives are accountable for any potholes identified within their jurisdictions.

As part of this initiative, repairs will be undertaken across various constituencies, with allocations as follows: 14 works in Mylavaram, 12 in Tiruvuru, 8 in Jaggayapet, 13 in Nandigama, and 3 in Vijayawada East, with additional works planned for Vijayawada West and Central.

The event also saw the participation of key officials, including Vijayawada RDO K. Chaitanya, R&B SE T. Satyanarayana, and local leaders such as Tummala Jagadish and Sunkara Durgaprasad. This program marks a crucial step toward enhancing road infrastructure and ensuring safer travel for the residents of NTR District.

YCP Social Media Worker Arrested for Obscene Posts Against Chilakaluri MLA Pattipati Pullarao

TPN, Chilakaluri: In a recent development in Guntur District, Krishnaveni, a social media worker affiliated with the YCP party, has been arrested for allegedly making obscene and false posts about Chilakaluri MLA Pattipati Pullarao.



The arrest took place in Tadepalli, where local police apprehended Krishnaveni following complaints regarding her inappropriate online behavior. The posts, which were deemed offensive, have sparked significant controversy and have been condemned by various political circles. Authorities are continuing to investigate the matter, highlighting the increasing concern over the impact of social media in political discourse and the need for responsible online conduct.

City Girl Goli Joshitha Shines at State Level Tennis Tournament

TPN, Vijayawada: Vijayawada's Goli Joshitha, a promising young tennis player, has made her mark by securing second place in the State Level Tennis Tournament for the Under-17 category, organized by the School Games Federation of India. The tournament took place at the DSA Stadium in Kakina from October 28 to 30, 2024.



Trained under the guidance of Coach SK Nagar Vali at KA Tennis Academy in Jain Colony, Gollapudi, Joshitha has showcased remarkable skills and unwavering dedication to the sport throughout her training.

This latest achievement adds to Joshitha's impressive accolades,

which include numerous victories in the Under-14 and Under-12 categories at tournaments hosted by the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh, the All India Tennis Association, and the School Games Federation of India.

"We are proud of Joshitha's accomplishments and grateful for the support of her family, coach, and academy," remarked Coach Nagar Vali of KA Tennis Academy.

Joshitha's success is not only a personal triumph but also serves as an inspiration to aspiring young athletes in Vijayawada and beyond, encouraging them to pursue their passions and strive for excellence in sports.

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Urges Proactive Approach to Solve Community Issues



TPN, Vijayawada: In a recent directive, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dhyanchandra emphasized the need for a proactive approach to addressing residents' issues, urging officials not only to respond to complaints but to work diligently to prevent them altogether. He instructed the secretaries of the secretariat to focus on joint consideration and regular monitoring to effectively resolve the problems faced by the community.

During a review meeting held on Saturday at

the Tummalapally Kshetraiah Kalakshetra, Dhyanchandra assessed the performance of 286 secretariats involved in planning, sanitation, and amenities. The meeting focused on discussing issues identified during joint inspections conducted over the past two weeks. Dhyanchandra questioned why residents continue to experience problems despite the efforts of the joint teams.

He tasked secretariat teams from all three circles under the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation with reporting their observations from the inspections, detailing what problems were resolved and how residents responded. He stressed the importance of addressing critical issues such as unauthorized constructions, vacant lots, and the segregation of waste at home.

Additionally, Dhyanchandra encouraged educating the public about the importance of

adhering to building plans and proper waste disposal practices. He urged secretariat staff to collaborate effectively, stating that coordinated efforts could lead to quicker resolutions of community problems.

The Commissioner also inspired the staff to maintain vigilance, working to prevent complaints rather than merely responding to them. He highlighted the necessity for all secretaries to have a comprehensive understanding of the issues within their jurisdiction.

The meeting was attended by key officials, including Additional Commissioner (Projects) Dr. D. Chandrasekhara, Chief Engineer R. Srinath Reddy, Chief City Planner GVGSV Prasad, and several other departmental heads and officers, all committed to enhancing civil relations and the welfare of Vijayawada's residents.



Durgamma Decorated with Glass Bangles for Special Ceremony On Today

TPN, Vijayawada: EO K. S. Rama Rao announced that a special ceremony will be held for Goddess Durgamma at the Durgamalleswara Swamy Temple on Sunday. K. S. Rama Rao stated that the goddess and the surrounding premises will be beautifully decorated with glass

The arrangements include a unique glass lamp that will allow the goddess to be visited. Free darshan will start at 4 AM, with the general darshan at 5 AM. After inspecting the glass decoration arrangements, EO K. S. Rama Rao provided instructions to the temple officials and staff to ensure

everything is in place for the event. EO K. S. Rama Rao also encouraged devotees to contribute generously by donating a large number of glass bangle items for the ceremony. This event promises to be a significant occasion for worshippers at the temple.

CM Chandrababu's Mission to Fulfill Election Promises - Minister Ramprasad Reddy

TPN, Chittoor: District in-charge minister M. Ramprasad Reddy emphasized that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is committed to fulfilling the promises made to the people during election campaigns. Speaking at the launch of the Deepam-2 program on Friday, held at the ZP High School in Naraharipet, the Minister highlighted CM Chandrababu's dedication to public welfare.



The Deepam-2 initiative aims to provide free cooking gas to 5.43 lakh women across the district, ensuring immediate support for those who need it. Reddy noted that the subsidy amount would be credited directly to beneficiaries' bank accounts within 48 hours of receiving the gas connection. Collector Sumit Kumar, who welcomed the Minister, shared the stage with other key leaders, including MLA Gurjala Jagannathan.

Additionally, Minister Reddy announced plans for free bus services for women, which are expected to be launched short-

ly. MLAs Jagannathan, Muralimohan, and Thomas pledged their support to these initiatives and shared their ongoing efforts to attract industries to Chittoor district to create employment opportunities for the youth.

Reiterating his commitment to serving the people, Reddy said that he and his colleagues are dedicated to the welfare and growth of the district, not personal gain. Other notable attendees included RDO Srinivasulu, DSO Sankaran, Tehsildar Chandrasekhara Reddy, MPDO Sivaraman, and former legislators AS Manohar and Gandhi.

Tadakapalli Tribals Hire Volunteer Teacher Amid Official Neglect

TPN, Tadakapalli: Frustrated after months of waiting for a teacher, the tribals of Tadakapalli have taken matters into their own hands by pooling their resources to hire a volunteer educator for their children. Despite repeated appeals, education department officials have yet to address the absence of a teacher, leaving villagers concerned about their children's education.



The teacher at Tadakapalli Government Primary School (GPS), located in Ammavari Dharakonda Panchayat, was transferred to another mandal in August. Since then, no replacement has been appointed. As a result, the school's 20 students, from classes one to five, have been left without instruction. Concerned parents, alongside MPTC member Bujjibabu, appealed multiple times to the District Education Department, ITDA PO, and District Collector. However, promises to resolve the issue have remained unfulfilled.

Worried that their children might forget what they had previously learned, villagers came together to hire an education volunteer. Under the guidance of MPTC member Bujjibabu, the villagers enlisted a local graduate, Murla Prasad, to teach. Each parent has committed to paying Rs. 200 per month to support his services. Prasad began teaching on Saturday, pro-

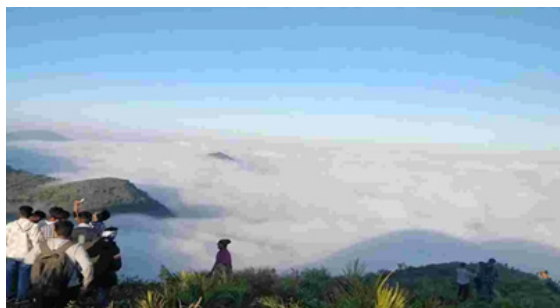
viding students with much-needed instruction.

The lack of official support has also affected other basic provisions at the school. In addition to missing out on education, students are no longer receiving the mid-day meals previously provided, adding to the frustration of the tribal community.

This grassroots initiative underscores the determination of Tadakapalli's tribals to ensure their children's education despite limited resources and government inaction. However, the adivasi community remains disheartened and increasingly impatient with the lack of response from authorities regarding both the teacher vacancy and basic student welfare.

Meghala Konda Forest Department's Restrictions Leave Tourists and Villagers Confused

TPN, Arakuloya: Meghala Konda, famously known as the "hill of clouds" and a beloved tourist destination in Arakuloya, has recently come under unexpected restrictions from the forest department, sparking confusion among tourists and local villagers alike.



Every day, numerous tourists gather here, captivated by the sight of white clouds drifting across the hillside, which has earned Arakuloya the title "Ooty of Andhra." However, on Saturday morning, visitors were met with an unsettling scene, access to Meghala Konda was restricted by forest department authorities, who have now claimed the area as a part of their reserved forest territory. A forest board has been installed, warning that the Madagada area falls within a reserve forest and restricting public entry.

Paderu ITDA recently initiated a double road construction project, worth Rs. 16 crores, to accommodate the high tourist traffic heading toward Mad-

agada Hill. However, the sudden intervention of the forest department, claiming ownership, has put this project in jeopardy. Following a survey conducted during the sub-collector's tenure, the revenue department clarified that the land falls under its jurisdiction (survey numbers 84, 85, 86) and does not belong to the forest department. Madagada village sarpanch, Jyoti, has openly condemned the forest department's actions.

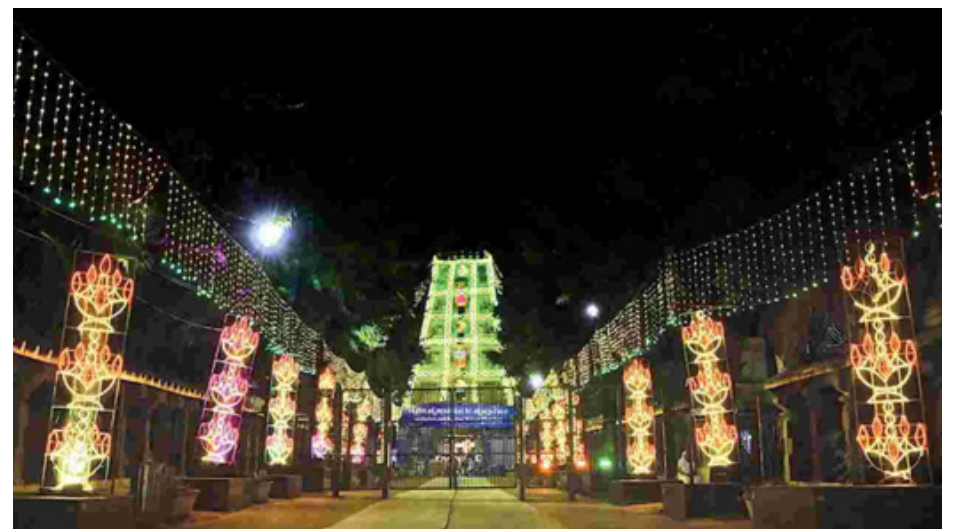
Tourists who flock to Meghala Konda for its early-morning views were caught off guard by these restrictions, questioning why access to such natural beauty should be limited. Local villagers and tourists are urging authorities to resolve this ownership dispute quickly, allowing everyone to enjoy the stunning cloud-covered hill without hindrance.

Grand Kartika Masotsavam Celebrations Begin at Srisailam Mahakshetra

TPN, Srisailam: The annual Kartika Masotsavam is set to be celebrated with grandeur at Srisailam Mahakshetra, running from November 2nd to December 1st. The temples of Srisailam Mallikarjuna Swamy and Bhramaramba Ammavaru have been beautifully adorned for the festivities, welcoming thousands of devotees who flock to the sacred site during this auspicious Kartika month.

Given the anticipated influx of devotees, the temple authorities have made special arrangements. To ensure a smooth experience, the traditional Abhishekam ritual of the Lord will be paused throughout Kartika month. Devotee traffic is expected to peak on Kartika Mondays, Ekadashi, and other holidays. In light of this, the temple management has temporarily halted access to the sanctum sanctorum of Swami for the month, allowing common devotees a comfortable darshan experience.

During the busiest days, including holidays and festival days, Swami's touching visit and mass abhishekams will be restricted. Instead, all devotees will have the opportunity for a "decorative darshan," where they can view the deity's beautifully decorated



forms. For regular days, Sparsha Darshan (touch darshan) will be available in three time slots: 7:30-9:00 am, 12:30-1:30 pm, and 9:00-10:00 pm. Devotees must book tickets online for Swamy's Sparsha Darshan, available through the official website at srisailadevasthanam.org.

Rajamahendravaram Municipal Commissioner Orders Quality Control in Road and Footpath Construction

TPN, Rajamahendravaram: Municipal Corporation Commissioner Ketan Garg has directed that all ongoing road and footpath construction in the city must be completed with high-quality standards. On Friday, he conducted inspections across various areas, including AV Apparao Road, Kambala Pond, AKC College Park, and Bhaskarnagar, assessing the progress and quality of work.



During the inspection, Commissioner Garg emphasized the importance of increasing greenery in the city and making Rajamahendravaram more environment-friendly. He urged that plants and lawns in city parks be maintained with care and instructed that staff working in these parks receive proper training. Additionally, he mandated that amenity secretaries monitor the upkeep of parks and dividers within their assigned areas to ensure consistent maintenance.

The commissioner stressed that tiles on JN Road, AV Road, and footpaths must remain intact. If any repairs are required, they should be addressed immediately to prevent further damage. He also instructed that berms be completed promptly after road construction, and that drains be extended to the berm level where applicable. Commissioner Garg directed officials to develop a proposal for enhancing Bhaskarnagar Park at the earliest.

The inspection was attended by Corporation EE Sheikh Madarsha Ali, DEE P. Prasad, Lovaraju, Horticulture AD K. Swathi, AE Sharmila, and other officials.

New DSP Pledges Action Against Cannabis Cultivation and Infrastructure Development in Tribal Areas

TPN, Chintapalli: The newly appointed DSP, SK Shahzab Ahmed, announced that targeted actions would be implemented to curb the cultivation of cannabis and expedite the construction of roads in the tribal regions. Taking charge on Saturday, DSP Ahmed was welcomed warmly by local CIs and SIs, who presented him with bouquets. This marks his first posting as SDPO after training, though he previously visited the area while serving with Greyhounds, an elite anti-Maoist force.



Addressing reporters, DSP Ahmed acknowledged that cannabis cultivation remains a significant issue in tribal areas, though police efforts have resulted in notable improvements. He pledged to work closely with tribal communities to raise awareness about the impacts of cannabis cultivation, aiming for its complete eradication. Additionally, he assured that police would continue vigilant monitoring of Maoist activities, noting a shift in local attitudes, as many tribal

members no longer support Maoist operations.

To strengthen community relations, DSP Ahmed emphasized that the police would continue organizing community policing programs, building on initiatives led by his predecessors. He encouraged tribal residents to approach local police stations without fear if they encounter any issues, stressing that peace and security in the region would remain top priorities.

The event was attended by Chintapalli and Koyyur Circle Inspectors P. Venkataramana and K. Ramesh, along with Sub-Inspectors Appalasuri and Venkateswara Rao.

Julakanti Bramareddy Distributes CM Relief Fund Checks in Macharla

TPN, Macharla: Julakanti Bramareddy participated in the CM Relief Fund check distribution program held at the Nehru Nagar party office in Macharla town, where he personally handed over checks to the beneficiaries. This initiative, aimed at providing financial aid to those in need, is part of the state government's efforts to support citizens facing economic hardships.



During the event, Bramareddy addressed the attendees,

highlighting the government's commitment to welfare and relief initiatives. Beneficiaries expressed gratitude for the financial assistance, which will help them manage various personal and family expenses. Party officials and local leaders were also present, supporting the smooth distribution of the relief checks.

Vijay's Political Journey: Navigating Tamil Nadu's Complex Landscape

Nearly eight months after launching his political party, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), actor Vijay held his inaugural political rally on October 27 in Vikravandi, Tamil Nadu. Drawing an impressive crowd of nearly 300,000 supporters, Vijay underscored his ambition for the 2026 assembly elections, positioning himself within the state's dynamic political arena.

In outlining his party's values, Vijay invoked revered figures like Periyar, Ambedkar, and Kamaraj, signaling his intent to establish a distinct ideological identity. He identified the BJP as his ideological opponent and the DMK as his political rival. However, his simultaneous reverence for Periyar—known for challenging orthodox Hindu beliefs—while promoting respect for all religions raises questions about his political coherence.

The transition from film to politics is often facilitated by the celebrity's inherent mass appeal. Unlike professionals from other fields, actors command a unique reach, making their voices resonate with a vast audience. This phenomenon can be likened to Karl Marx's assertion that religion is the "opium of the masses," a sentiment that applies to cinema and cricket in India as well.

Despite the advantages enjoyed by film stars, the political landscape is fraught with challenges. Successful transitions, like those of M.G. Ramachandran and Jayalalithaa, contrast sharply with the struggles faced by others like Vijayakanth and Kamal Haasan, who failed to capture the public's



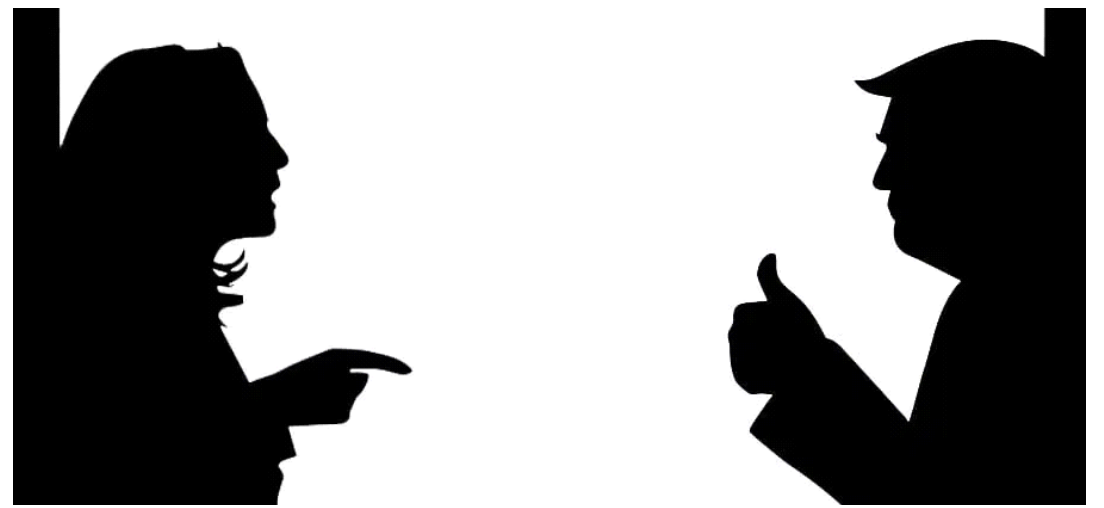
political imagination. This highlights the unpredictability of political success, even for those with a significant fan base.

The history of regional parties in India is mixed. While Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress has thrived in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu's political scene is dominated by the DMK and AIADMK, both of which have ruled for decades. Here, the Dravidian movement continues to influence politics, making it difficult for newcomers to gain traction. Rajinikanth's decision to step back from politics serves as a cautionary tale for Vijay, who, despite his youth and ambition, faces a steep uphill battle.

The 2026 Tamil Nadu assembly

elections promise to be contentious, with Vijay and BJP's Annamalai vying to disrupt the entrenched Dravidian parties. While the BJP has articulated a distinct economic vision, it has struggled to resonate in Tamil Nadu. Vijay, meanwhile, must establish a clear identity amidst the state's established freebie culture, which appeals to many voters.

As Tamil Nadu stands as India's second-largest economy with a strong industrial base and a high human development index, Vijay's challenge lies not in stoking discontent, but in offering a compelling vision that moves beyond rhetoric. His ability to navigate this complex landscape will determine his political fate in the coming years.



U.S.-India Relations: A Strong Alliance Regardless of Election Outcomes

Washington's increasingly warm relations with New Delhi are expected to endure, regardless of the outcome of the upcoming U.S. presidential election on November 5. Whether it is Kamala Harris or Donald Trump taking the reins, the strategic partnership between the United States and India is likely to remain robust and vibrant.

In recent years, the U.S.-India relationship has evolved significantly, marked by increased diplomatic engagement, economic cooperation, and military collaboration. The shared values of democracy and a commitment to a rules-based international order have further solidified their partnership. Both countries recognize the importance of working together to address global challenges, such as climate change, terrorism, and economic stability.

The current administration has placed a strong emphasis on strengthening ties with India, viewing it as a critical player in the Indo-Pacific region. The Quad alliance, comprising the U.S., India, Japan, and Australia, exemplifies this strategic alignment. This partnership aims to promote a free and open Indo-Pacific while countering rising Chinese influence in the region. Regardless of who occupies the White House, this strategic framework is unlikely to change significantly.

Moreover, both Kamala Harris and Donald Trump have shown a keen interest in fostering ties with India. Harris, with her Indian heritage, has often highlighted the importance of the U.S.-India relationship. Her approach may focus on enhancing cultural and people-to-people ties while promoting collaboration in technology and climate initiatives. On the other hand, Trump has previously championed the defense partnership and trade relations, advocating for policies that benefit both nations economically.

The resilience of U.S.-India relations can also be attributed to the strong Indian diaspora in the United States, which continues to play a vital role in fostering connections between the two nations. This community not only contributes to the U.S. economy but also serves as a bridge, advocating for mutual interests and collaboration.

While election outcomes can influence specific policies and priorities, the broader strategic interests of both countries are likely to remain aligned. The U.S. recognizes India as a crucial partner in its efforts to promote stability and security in the Indo-Pacific, and India views the U.S. as an essential ally in its pursuit of economic growth and regional influence.

The Swachh Bharat Mission: A Decade of Challenges and Unmet Goals

Last month marked the tenth anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), a significant initiative aimed at improving sanitation across India. Alongside the urban version of the mission, the country has made strides in promoting cleanliness and hygiene. However, each monsoon season reveals the persistent inadequacies in sanitation, sewage, and drainage systems in Indian cities and towns. Poorly constructed toilets, septic tanks, and drainage

systems frequently choke or overflow, creating hazardous conditions that particularly impact vulnerable populations, including low-income residents, migrants, and sanitation workers.



In India, the challenge is further complicated by the fact that centralized and capital-intensive sanitation systems are primarily confined to mega-cities, leaving smaller towns and cities disconnected from adequate waste management infrastructure. As a result, managing sanitation and waste effectively in urban areas has emerged as one of India's most pressing challenges.

The 2024-2025 budget reflects a lack of urgency regarding sanitation improvements. The allocation for drinking water and sanitation stands at Rs 77,390.68 crore, representing a meager increase of just 0.5 percent from the previous year. Notably, 90 percent of this budget is directed towards the National Rural Drinking Water Programme, with flagship initiatives like SBM Urban and SBM

Grameen receiving no additional funding. Furthermore, funding for the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and the Smart Cities Mission has been slashed from Rs 13,200 crore to Rs 10,400 crore.

While India has made progress in reducing open defecation—once the highest in the world with about 600 million people defecating outdoors—reports indicate that significant issues persist, especially in rural areas. Even towns and cities that have achieved "Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus" status still struggle with inadequate infrastructure for sewage and wastewater treatment, leaving many residents vulnerable to unsafe excreta disposal. The journey towards a truly clean and sanitary India remains fraught with challenges that require urgent attention and action.

The stark reality is that only 28 percent of India's urban sewage is treated; the rest is released untreated into rivers, seas, and streams. This environmental neglect exacerbates public health risks, leading to disease outbreaks, especially during the rainy season when urban wastewater hazards become more pronounced. Access to proper sanitation is not merely a matter of convenience; it is a fundamental human right, essential for health, dignity, and productivity. Alarming, sanitation remains one of the most off-track Sustainable Development Goals globally, with 43 percent of the world's population lacking access to safe sanitation facilities.

Reevaluating Trade Ties: Pakistan's Shift Towards India

During his recent visit to Washington for the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, Pakistan's Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb highlighted the importance of trade with neighboring countries, stating that not trading with one's neighbors is "illogical." This comment comes on the heels of Pakistan's decision to sever trade relations with India in 2019, following the abrogation of Article 370, which revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir. However, both Pakistan's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister have recently indicated a willingness to explore the possibility of resuming trade ties with India.

The media is now weighing in on the potential benefits of revitalizing trade between the two nations. The Express Tribune, in its October 31 edition, pointed out a noticeable gap between government rhetoric and action. While the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has historically emphasized the advantages of trade with India—advocating for a separation of trade from the Kashmir dispute—there remains skepticism about genuine governmental intent. The publication notes that just a few years ago, the PML-N criticized the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government for similar proposals, reflecting a complex political landscape where trade discussions often become entangled with nationalistic sentiments.

The News International took a broader perspective on Pakistan's trade dynamics in its October 29 edition, highlighting that Pakistan's overall trade relationships in the region are significantly underdeveloped. The report points out that Pakistani exporters frequently favor Western markets, which, despite their value, incur high logistical costs. This focus on distant markets may not serve Pakistan's economic interests in the long run.

The overarching message from the media is clear: enhancing trade relations with regional neighbors, including Afghanistan and Iran, as well as exploring opportunities with Southeast Asian nations, could offer Pakistan a pathway to reduce costs and establish a more diversified trade network. By re-engaging with India, Pakistan could not only bolster its economic prospects but also contribute to greater stability and growth within South Asia as a whole.

In conclusion, as discussions around trade normalization with India gain momentum, the challenge remains for the Pakistani government to align its actions with its rhetoric. Emphasizing regional cooperation could pave the way for more sustainable economic growth, helping Pakistan leverage its geographic position to foster beneficial trade relationships in a rapidly changing global economy.



"Harassment, Intimidation": India On Surveillance Of Officials In Canada

India's diplomatic relations with Canada have reached a new low, as the Indian government revealed on Saturday that some of its consular officials have been informed by the Canadian authorities of being under audio and video surveillance. The Ministry of External Affairs characterized this action as a "flagrant violation" of diplomatic conventions and protocols.

During a press briefing, Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "Some of our consular officials were recently informed by the Canadian government that they have been and continue to be under audio and video surveillance. Their communications have also been intercepted. We have formally protested to the Canadian government, as we deem these actions to be a flagrant violation of relevant diplomatic and consular conventions."

Jaiswal emphasized the challenging environment in which Indian diplomatic and consular personnel operate, stating that they already face threats from "extremism and violence." He further criticized Canada's justification of these actions, asserting that "by citing technicalities, the Canadian government cannot justify the fact that it is indulging in harassment and intimidation." He added that such actions only exacerbate tensions between the two countries and violate established diplomatic norms.

The revelation comes amid ongoing tensions and accusations between the two nations, highlighting the fragile state of their diplomatic ties. India has expressed its commitment to safeguarding the integrity and security of its diplomatic staff, insisting that Canada's actions are unacceptable and detrimental to international relations.

As the situation unfolds, both countries will need to navigate these complex diplomatic waters carefully, with the potential for further escalation if grievances are not addressed satisfactorily.



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Visit Australia and Singapore

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is set to embark on a visit to Australia and Singapore from November 3 to 8, where he will engage with leaders from both nations and participate in significant diplomatic discussions. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that during his trip, Jaishankar will co-chair the 15th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue (FMFD) alongside Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong in Canberra.

Jaishankar's itinerary includes delivering the keynote address at the inaugural session of the 2nd Raisina Down Under, which will take place at the Australian Parliament House. The minister is also expected to have interactions with various stakeholders, including Australian leadership, parliamentarians, members of the Indian diaspora, business leaders, media representatives, and think tanks.

A highlight of Jaishankar's visit will be the inauguration of India's fourth consulate in Australia, which will take place in Brisbane. This move underscores the strengthening ties between India and Australia, particularly in light of the increasing momentum of the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP).

The partnership has been a focal point for both countries, aimed at enhancing security and prosperity in the region. This commitment was emphasized during the second India-Australia 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Dialogue held in Delhi in November of the previous year, where both sides acknowledged the positive trajectory of their bilateral relations.

In addition to formal meetings, Jaishankar's visit reflects India's broader strategy to engage with key regional players in the Indo-Pacific, reinforcing collaborative efforts in areas such as trade, security, and cultural exchange. As India continues to expand its diplomatic footprint globally, Jaishankar's discussions in Australia and Singapore are anticipated to further solidify these strategic partnerships.

Overall, this visit represents a significant opportunity for India to enhance its diplomatic engagement and address various regional challenges in collaboration with Australia and Singapore.

Vijay to embark on statewide tour in Dec

Tamil superstar Vijay, founder of the Tamilaga Vettri Katchi (TVK), is set to embark on an extensive statewide tour beginning December 2 in Coimbatore, culminating with a significant public rally in Tirunelveli on December 27. This initiative aims to foster direct engagement with the public across Tamil Nadu as he prepares his party for the upcoming 2026 Assembly elections.

Launched in February 2024, TVK has made it clear that it will not participate in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, focusing instead on securing all 231 Assembly seats in Tamil Nadu in the next electoral cycle. Vijay's approach signals a strategic build-up to strengthen the party's grassroots presence.

During his tour, Vijay plans to appoint district-level office bearers and booth committee heads, emphasizing the importance of local leadership in the party's structure. Insiders report that he will also



acknowledge and elevate key figures responsible for the impressive turnout at a recent rally in Vikravandi, Villupuram district, which attracted over 300,000 attendees.

The political landscape has taken notice of Vijay's foray into politics, particularly with endorsements from veteran actor

Rajinikanth. Praising Vijay's well-organized debut rally, Rajinikanth expressed his congratulations during a recent media interaction, highlighting the significance of the event. However, he chose not to comment on specific allegations made by TVK leaders at the rally.

Vijay's entry into politics marks a pivotal moment, reminiscent of the late M.G. Ramachandran (MGR), the founder of AIADMK and a former Chief Minister. His involvement is expected to reshape the political dynamics in Tamil Nadu significantly.

While Rajinikanth previously considered entering politics and aimed to contest the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, he ultimately decided to keep his fan club, Rajini Makkal Mandram (RMM), as a charitable organization, stepping back from political ambitions. As Vijay steps into this arena, all eyes are on how his journey will unfold in the coming years.

Kejriwal Promises to Waive Inflated Utility Bills in Delhi Election Push

In a bold campaign pledge, Arvind Kejriwal, the national convenor of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), has vowed to waive inflated water and electricity bills if his party regains power in the upcoming Delhi assembly elections scheduled for next year. This announcement comes as part of AAP's broader strategy to connect with voters by addressing their financial concerns, particularly in light of rising living costs.

During a public address on Saturday, Kejriwal criticized the past practices of previous administrations, asserting that many residents have faced unjustly high utility bills. He expressed his commitment to ensuring that essential services remain affordable and accessible to all citizens of Delhi. "We will not allow inflated bills to burden our people. If AAP is elected, we will take immediate steps to rectify these issues," he stated, highlighting the party's focus on consumer protection.

Kejriwal's promises resonate with many Delhi residents who have raised concerns over excessive charges and billing inaccuracies in recent years. The AAP has positioned itself as a champion of the common man, emphasizing transparency and accountability in governance. This latest pledge reinforces the party's ongoing narrative of being responsive to the needs of the electorate.

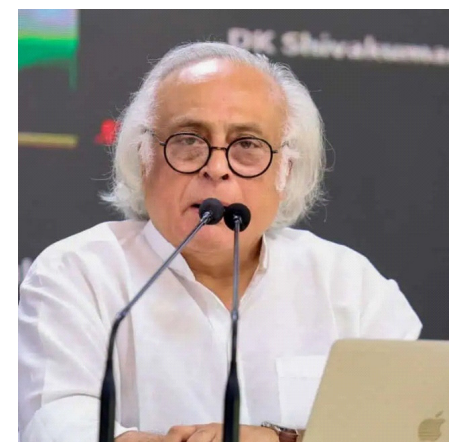


Congress seeks probe into BJP 'blackmail' to win Ajit Pawar for NDA

The Congress party has called for a thorough investigation into the alleged coercion and blackmail tactics used to persuade Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar to join the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). Jairam Ramesh, Congress general secretary in charge of communications, highlighted Pawar's recent comments to support claims that the BJP resorted to unethical methods in Maharashtra.

Ramesh emphasized that the BJP's so-called "washing machine," a term he used to describe the party's efforts to clean up its image by absorbing rival politicians, is particularly potent in Maharashtra. He noted that during its opposition days before 2014, the BJP accused Ajit Pawar of massive corruption, alleging a staggering Rs 70,000 crore involved in irrigation and water resources projects.

Recently, Ajit Pawar admitted that coercive measures were employed to bring him into the NDA fold, raising questions about the integrity of the political process. Ramesh pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had previously labeled the NCP a "Naturally Corrupt Party," only to now welcome Ajit Pawar as an ally.



CM Siddaramaiah Orders Withdrawal of Notices to Farmers Regarding Waqf Land

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has directed officials to immediately withdraw all notices issued to farmers concerning disputes over Waqf land. This decision was made during a high-level meeting involving senior officials from the Revenue department, the Minority Welfare department, and the Karnataka Board of Waqfs.

The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) released a statement emphasizing Siddaramaiah's strong directive to retract all notices sent to farmers, highlighting the importance of

not disrupting their lives or livelihoods. The decision comes in light of dissatisfaction expressed by Siddaramaiah regarding the recent actions of certain officials, as well as concerns that opposition parties, namely the JD(S) and BJP, were using the Waqf issue for political gain, potentially destabilizing the peace in the state.

In the statement, Siddaramaiah urged the public to dismiss any misinformation regarding the situation and instructed officials to handle the matter with the ut-

most sensitivity. The directive underscores a commitment to protecting farmers from harassment related to land under their possession, particularly in relation to properties associated with Waqf.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister mandated that any unauthorized alterations made to land records, known as Pahani or RTC, without appropriate legal procedures or prior notice, be nullified immediately. This move is aimed at restoring clarity and fairness in land ownership and administration.

Canada Labels India a 'Cyber Adversary'; New Delhi Rejects Claims

The Canadian government, led by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, has recently categorized India as a "cyber adversary," stirring diplomatic tensions between the two nations. This designation comes as part of Canada's latest cyber security report, which suggests that India is actively enhancing its cyber capabilities for purposes such as espionage and counter-terrorism. The report, titled "National Cyber Threat Assessment 2025-2026," has been met with strong criticism from India, which views the allegations as unfounded and politically motivated.

In a press conference, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in New Delhi expressed its disapproval of Canada's actions, labeling them as part of a broader strategy to malign India on the interna-



tional stage. Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for the MEA, stated that senior Canadian officials have indicated an intention to manipulate global opinion against India, further asserting that such allegations lack credible evidence.

Jaiswal emphasized that these claims echo previous

accusations made by Canada, which have similarly been dismissed by India as baseless. He reiterated that the country would not tolerate attempts to tarnish its reputation and sovereignty.

The Canadian report claims that India is striving to build a modernized cyber program

with domestic capabilities aimed at supporting its national security objectives. It suggests that India's cyber initiatives may also involve commercial cyber vendors to bolster its operations.

This latest development adds another layer of complexity to the already strained relations between India and Canada, especially following recent controversies involving Canadian allegations related to India's involvement in the killing of a Sikh separatist leader.

As both nations navigate this challenging diplomatic landscape, the implications of such accusations on bilateral ties remain to be seen. India's response underscores its commitment to safeguarding its national integrity against what it perceives as unjustified attacks.



White House Modifies Transcript of Biden's Remarks on Trump Campaign

The White House recently revised the official transcript of President Joe Biden's remarks concerning the Trump campaign, specifically a comment in which he referred to it as "garbage." This alteration came as the administration sought to clarify that Biden's words had been misinterpreted in the context of the ongoing political discourse.

During a public appearance earlier this week, Biden made remarks that seemingly criticized the former president's campaign strategies and policies. His use of the term "garbage" sparked significant media attention and prompted immediate reactions from political opponents and commentators alike. Some interpreted his comments as a direct attack on Trump, while others suggested that the president was dismissing broader political discourse.

In response to the ensuing confusion and media coverage, the White House took swift action to revise the transcript. The updated version aimed to provide clarity on Biden's intent and to ensure that the context of his comments was accurately represented. White House officials stated that the changes were necessary to avoid any potential misinterpretation of the president's stance.

The decision to modify the transcript reflects the delicate nature of political communication in an era of heightened scrutiny and divisive rhetoric. With both sides of the political spectrum quick to capitalize on any perceived misstep, the Biden administration is keen to maintain control over the narrative surrounding the president's comments.

As the presidential campaign heats up, such incidents are likely to become more frequent, with both major parties closely monitoring each other's statements for opportunities to gain an advantage. Biden's remarks about the Trump campaign are just one example of how language can become a focal point in the larger political narrative.

Jennifer Lopez Tears Up, Condemns Trump's Rally as "Offensive to Humanity"

In a fervent appearance in Nevada alongside Vice President Kamala Harris, Jennifer Lopez delivered a powerful speech addressing recent derogatory comments made about Puerto Rico. Referring to a rally led by Donald Trump at Madison Square Garden, where comedian Tony Hinchcliffe insultingly labeled Puerto Rico as a "floating island of garbage," Lopez expressed that the offense transcended ethnic lines, impacting "humanity and anyone of decent character."



Lopez, proudly identifying as Puerto Rican and an American, emphasized her deep connection to her heritage. "I am Puerto Rican, and yes, I was born here, and we are Americans," she asserted, reinforcing her identity in the face of disparagement. Her remarks resonated with many, as she articulated the collective indignation felt by Puerto Ricans and supporters of human dignity everywhere.

In her address, Lopez also highlighted the critical role women play in shaping the political landscape. "Women have the power to make the difference in this election," she proclaimed, underscoring the importance of female

voices and votes. This was a direct rebuttal to Trump's claim of protecting women "whether the women like it or not," which she critiqued as dismissive of women's autonomy and intelligence.

Lopez asserted that Trump's rhetoric reflects a lack of respect for women's rights to make their own choices regarding their lives and bodies. Her comments served not only to defend her heritage but also to rally women to take an active role in the upcoming election, reinforcing the idea that their voices and votes are essential for change.

As the election season heats up, Lopez's speech stands as a call to action, advocating for unity, empowerment, and respect for all individuals, particularly in the face of divisive and derogatory remarks. Her passionate advocacy emphasizes the vital intersection of cultural pride and women's rights in the contemporary political discourse.

North Korea Boosts Defense Amid U.S. and South Korea Tensions

North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, reiterated on Saturday that the country has no option but to bolster its self-defense capabilities. This statement comes in the wake of increasing tensions on the Korean Peninsula, which North Korea attributes to aggressive actions by the United States and South Korea.

In remarks delivered during a meeting with senior military officials, Kim emphasized that the current security environment necessitates continued efforts to enhance the nation's military strength. He accused the U.S. and South Korea of exacerbating the situation through joint military exercises and ongoing military cooperation, which he claims threaten North Korea's sovereignty and security.

Kim's comments reflect a long-standing narrative within the North Korean regime, portraying itself as a victim of foreign aggression while justifying its military developments as necessary for national defense. The leader stressed that these enhancements are crucial for deterring what he views as imminent threats from the U.S. and its allies.

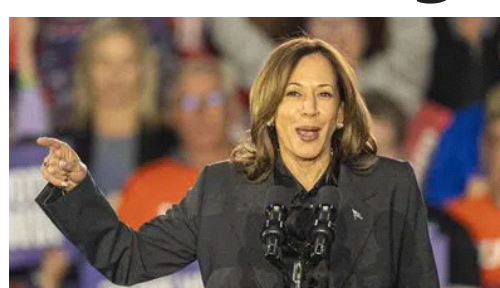


The meeting was marked by discussions on military strategies and the need to modernize North Korea's armed forces. Kim's insistence on self-defense comes at a time when North Korea has conducted a series of missile tests, which have drawn international condemnation and heightened fears of further escalation in military tensions.

The United States and South Korea have responded to North Korea's military activities with their own defense drills, arguing that such exercises are essential for maintaining regional stability. However, Pyongyang views these actions as provocative and a direct challenge to its security.

America deserves better than what Trump is offering: Harris

Democratic presidential candidate Vice President Kamala Harris has sharply criticized her Republican rival, Donald Trump, claiming that he fosters division among Americans. During her campaign in Wisconsin, she emphasized her commitment to pursue common-sense solutions and to serve as a President for all citizens, contrasting her approach with Trump's divisive rhetoric.



"America deserves better than what Donald Trump is offering," Harris stated, asserting the need for a leader who prioritizes both the nation and its role in the world. As the presidential race intensifies in key swing states, both candidates are making their final appeals to voters.

Harris underscored her belief that the role of a President should include listening to diverse viewpoints, including those who may disagree with her. "My pledge to the American people is to pursue common-sense solutions," she declared, aiming to unify rather than divide.

In her remarks, Harris accused Trump

of encouraging Americans to turn against one another and fixating on revenge against his political adversaries. She pointed out that Trump's recent statements suggest he would delegate healthcare policy to someone who has historically promoted misleading information and conspiracy theories, making the case that such choices would harm American families.

She described Trump as increasingly unstable and focused on a personal vendetta against his opponents, stating, "His enemies list has grown longer, and his rhetoric has become more extreme." Harris stressed that this attitude distracts from the real issues facing the American people, undermining the presidency's responsibilities.

Iran's Supreme Leader Warns of "Crushing Response" to U.S. and Israel Actions

Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, issued a stern warning on Saturday, stating that the United States and Israel will "undoubtedly receive a crushing response" for their actions against Iran. This declaration comes amid escalating tensions in the region, exacerbated by recent military and political maneuvers by both nations.

Khamenei's remarks were conveyed through state media, where he emphasized Iran's resolve to respond decisively to what he described as provocations from its adversaries. He characterized the U.S. and Israeli actions as aggressive and unjust, reinforcing a narrative of victimization that resonates with many within Iran.

The Supreme Leader's statements reflect a broader sentiment among Iranian officials who have long criticized U.S. policies in the Middle East, particularly its support for Israel. This

has been a consistent theme in Iranian rhetoric, especially in light of ongoing conflicts and perceived threats to Iran's sovereignty.

Khamenei's comments come against a backdrop of heightened military tensions, with both the U.S. and Israel conducting exercises and operations that Iran views as direct threats. The Supreme Leader did not specify what form the "crushing response" might take, but past Iranian responses have included missile strikes and support for proxy groups in the region.

The timing of Khamenei's statement also coincides with international discussions surrounding Iran's nuclear program, which has drawn widespread criticism and concern from Western nations. Iran's leadership has repeatedly insisted that its nuclear ambitions are peaceful, yet suspicions remain high, fueling tensions further.



Surge in LPG and Jet Fuel Demand Reflects India's Economic Growth



In October 2024, LPG consumption experienced a significant rise compared to the same month last year, indicating strong demand driven by a growing economy. According to data released by public sector oil companies, LPG consumption surged by 7.5 per cent year-on-year during the festive period. Additionally, jet fuel demand also saw a modest increase of 2.5 per cent.

Petrol sales from the major oil companies—Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum, which collectively hold over 90 per cent of the market share—climbed to 3.1 million tonnes in October 2024, compared to 2.87 million tonnes in October 2023. This growth is supported by the rise in car, SUV, and two-wheeler sales across both urban and rural regions, reflecting increased consumer spending and mobility in a prospering economy.

The uptick in jet fuel consumption, which reached 6,47,700 tonnes in October 2024, aligns with a surge in air travel. This increase is propelled by the expanding middle class that is reaping the benefits of robust economic growth, leading to greater disposable income and

more frequent travel. The aviation sector has seen consistent growth, evidenced by domestic airlines carrying 1.30 crore passengers in September 2024, marking a 6.38 per cent rise from the same period the previous year.

On the other hand, diesel sales experienced a downturn, falling by 3.3 per cent. This decline is attributed to the extended monsoon season, which delayed the sowing period and, consequently, reduced diesel demand in the agricultural sector. The impact of monsoon rains on farming activities often directly influences the consumption of diesel, as it is a key fuel for farm machinery and irrigation.

The data indicates a mixed picture for fuel consumption trends in India. While the demand for petrol and LPG has grown significantly, reflecting a thriving economy and increased consumer activity, the diesel segment faced challenges due to weather-related disruptions in the agricultural sector. Overall, the rise in fuel consumption, especially for petrol and jet fuel, showcases India's ongoing economic growth and the increasing mobility of its population.

India's power consumption rises amid strong growth



India's power consumption reached 140.47 billion units (BU) in October, reflecting a modest one percent increase compared to the same month last year, which had seen a substantial rise of over 22 percent. The consumption spike in October 2023, up from 113.94 BU in October 2022, was primarily driven by heightened demand from the industrial and agricultural sectors of the rapidly growing economy.

Despite this increase in consumption, peak power demand decreased to 219.22 gigawatts (GW) in October, following a record high of approximately 250 GW in May, largely due to summer heat. The International Energy Agency (IEA) noted that India is projected to experience one of the highest increases in energy demand globally over the next decade, driven by its economic size and escalating demands across all sectors.

India was the fastest-growing major economy in 2023, with a 7.8 percent increase in output, and is expected to become the world's third-largest economy by 2028. The IEA's World Energy Outlook forecasts that iron and steel production will grow by 70 percent by 2035, while cement output is anticipated to rise nearly 55 percent. Moreover, the stock of air conditioners is expected to grow more than fourfold, with electricity demand from these units projected to exceed Mexico's total consumption by 2035.

The IEA report also highlights that coal will continue to play a significant role in India's energy mix, with an addition of nearly 60 GW of coal-fired capacity by 2030, resulting in a 15 percent increase in coal-generated electricity. This growth occurs despite a significant expansion of solar PV capacity, as coal generation remains over 30 percent higher due to lower capacity factors for solar installations.

Concurrently, India is pushing forward with its green energy initiatives. The recently launched National Electricity Plan aims to achieve 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and over 600 GW by 2032. This plan includes the development of storage systems and an extensive transmission network to support green hydrogen and ammonia production at coastal hubs.

Overall, the National Electricity Plan anticipates adding over 191,000 km of transmission lines and enhancing inter-regional transmission capacity, while also establishing cross-border interconnections with several neighboring countries, indicating a comprehensive strategy for addressing India's growing energy demands while transitioning to renewable sources.

GST collection rises 9% on domestic demand

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue for October exceeded ₹1.87 lakh crore, marking the second-highest monthly collection since the implementation of the tax regime in July 2017. This impressive figure, recorded at ₹1,87,346 crore, reflects robust domestic demand and improved compliance measures, suggesting a promising start to the second half of the fiscal year 2025.

The October collection represents an 8.9% year-on-year increase, surpassing the previous second-highest monthly collection of ₹1,87,035 crore achieved in April 2023. Notably, this growth comes despite facing global economic challenges and a slowdown in some key states, including Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Karnataka. Chhattisgarh, on the other hand, reported a slight contraction of 1% year-on-year, collecting ₹2,656 crore.

The highest GST collection to date was recorded in April 2024, amounting to ₹2.10 lakh crore. For October 2024, net GST revenue also saw a healthy



growth of 7.9% year-on-year, reaching ₹1,68,041 crore, despite overall refunds totaling ₹19,306 crore. This translates to an annualized growth of 18.2%. Technological advancements have contributed significantly to this efficiency, with domestic refunds increasing by 42.8% from ₹7,352 crore in October 2023 to ₹10,498 crore in October 2024.

Experts suggest that the strong GST collection in October underscores the resilience of domestic demand. However, they caution that while GST revenues from domestic supplies demonstrated robust growth of

10.6% on an annualized basis, revenue growth from imports has diminished to less than 4%. This decline indicates the negative impact of global economic headwinds on the overall GST revenue landscape.

In conclusion, the strong performance of GST collections in October highlights the strength of India's domestic market while also signaling the need to navigate potential challenges posed by external economic factors. As the fiscal year progresses, maintaining this momentum will be crucial for sustaining economic growth.

Crude Oil Prices Rise Amid Iran-Israel Tensions and Record US Production

International crude oil prices saw a modest uptick in the previous session, buoyed by reports of Iran preparing a potential retaliatory strike against Israel from Iraq. Despite this geopolitical tension, record crude production levels in the US continue to weigh on prices ahead of upcoming US elections and a Federal Reserve meeting.

Brent crude futures increased by 29 cents, or 0.4 percent, closing at \$73.10 per barrel, while West Texas Intermediate (WTI) rose by 23 cents, or 0.3 percent, to settle at \$69.49. Both benchmarks experienced a brief surge of over \$2 a barrel during the session. However, both Brent and WTI recorded weekly declines of approximately four percent and three percent, respectively. In India, crude oil futures settled 2.71 percent higher at ₹5,981 per barrel on the multi-commodity exchange (MCX).

The uptick in oil prices comes amid reports from Axios indicating that Israeli intelligence believes Iran is poised to launch an attack on Israel from Iraq within days. Experts suggest that any Iranian response may be limited, akin to Israel's restrained actions in recent weeks, suggesting a focus on demonstrating strength rather than

escalating into full-scale warfare.

The ongoing hostilities between Iran and Israel have been part of a larger conflict in the Middle East, intensified by recent fighting in Gaza. Previous Iranian air attacks on Israel, including incidents on October 1, 2024, and in April, have largely been repelled, causing minimal damage.

Iran, a key member of OPEC, produced about four million barrels per day (bpd) in 2023 and is projected to export approximately 1.5 million bpd in 2024, a slight increase from 1.4 million bpd in 2023. Iran's influence in the region is significant, as it supports several groups engaged in conflict with Israel, including Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza.

Additionally, US officials have urged Lebanon to declare a unilateral ceasefire with Israel to facilitate stalled discussions aimed at ending hostilities with Hezbollah, although both sides have denied these claims. As the geopolitical landscape evolves, the interplay between production levels and regional tensions will continue to shape crude oil market dynamics.

Machines for India delayed, German firm flags bottleneck at Chinese customs

German tunneling giant Herrenknecht is currently grappling with significant customs clearance issues in China that are affecting its ability to deliver tunnel boring machines (TBMs) to India. This situation has garnered attention following a discussion between Indian Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and German Vice Chancellor Robert Habeck, during which Goyal highlighted the delays in the procurement of TBMs from Herrenknecht, which are manufactured in China.

In a statement addressing inquiries from The Indian Express, a Herrenknecht spokesperson noted, "For several months now, we have been observing extraordinary circumstances in



the customs clearance processes for machines to be delivered from China to India. These issues are hindering us from fulfilling our delivery obligations as expected and, in some cases, entirely." The company has refrained

from commenting on specific projects or the status of individual machines due to contractual agreements with its customers.

The conversation between Goyal and

Habeck, which took place during a Metro train ride in Delhi, emphasized the urgency of the situation, as Goyal expressed concerns over the stalled delivery of TBMs essential for various infrastructure projects in India. Habeck, who also serves as Germany's economic affairs minister, was in India as part of a high-level delegation led by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, further highlighting the importance of this issue in bilateral discussions.

As a family-owned enterprise, Herrenknecht is recognized globally for its expertise in mechanized tunneling and TBM manufacturing. The company operates in India through its subsidiary, Herrenknecht India, based in Chennai. Its machines are crucial for

numerous civil infrastructure projects across the country, including hydroelectric facilities, railways, roads, and sewerage systems, as well as the expansion and construction of metro networks in major cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai.

The ongoing customs challenges pose significant risks to the timely completion of these critical infrastructure projects, raising concerns about the broader implications for India's development and the effectiveness of its partnerships with international firms. As the situation evolves, both Indian officials and Herrenknecht are likely to seek solutions to mitigate these delays and enhance collaboration.

Flipkart charges different amount for same product in iOS and Android

A user on X has recently stirred up controversy by posting a collage of images suggesting that Flipkart charges different prices for the same product based on the operating system of the user's device. Saurabh Sharma shared the post, highlighting a significant price difference for the same cabin suitcase, claiming that iOS users are charged more than their Android counterparts.



In his post, Sharma included screenshots showing the product listed at varying prices on the Flipkart app, depending on whether it was accessed from an iOS or Android device. This sparked a flurry of reactions, with many users expressing disbelief and concern over the potential price discrimination. The collage quickly went viral, prompting discussions about fairness in pricing strategies among online retailers.

Sharma's findings drew attention to a common practice in the e-commerce industry, where companies sometimes use dynamic pricing strategies based on various factors, including user demographics and device types. However, the notion that consumers could be charged differently for the exact same product based solely on the operating system raises ethical questions and consumer protection concerns.

In response to the claims, some users took to the comments section to share their own experiences,

noting that they had observed similar discrepancies in pricing on different devices. Others urged Flipkart to clarify their pricing policies to maintain transparency and customer trust.

The incident has prompted a broader conversation about pricing practices in the digital marketplace, with many calling for increased regulation and oversight to ensure fairness for all consumers, regardless of their device preference. As e-commerce continues to grow, the importance of equitable pricing strategies is becoming more crucial for maintaining consumer loyalty.

While Flipkart has yet to officially respond to the allegations, the situation underscores the need for transparency in pricing and the impact of technology on consumer experiences. As consumers become more aware of such discrepancies, companies may need to reevaluate their pricing strategies to avoid backlash and protect their reputation.

Apple Acquires Pixelmator: A Leap into High-End Photo Editing

Apple Inc. has announced its acquisition of Pixelmator, the creator of a popular high-end photo-editing app, further enhancing its software offerings. In a blog post published Friday, Pixelmator revealed that its Lithuania-based team would be joining Apple as part of the deal. Founded 17 years ago by brothers Saulius and Aidas Dailide, Pixelmator develops applications for Mac, iPad, and iPhone users.



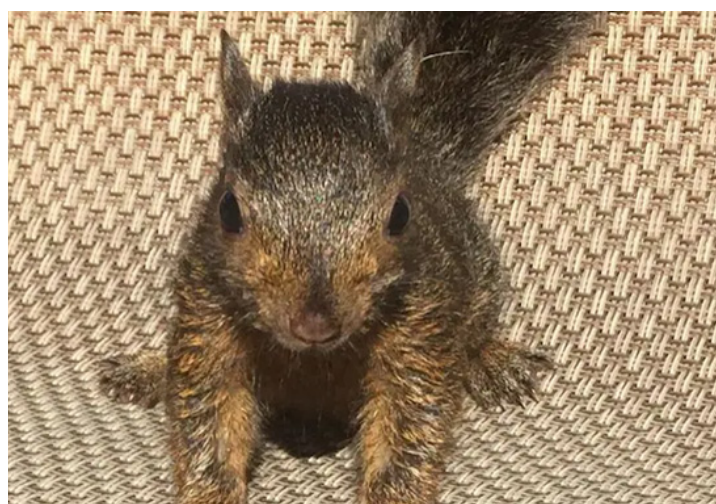
The partnership between Apple and Pixelmator has been strong, with Apple frequently showcasing Pixelmator's software in its marketing campaigns, including a recent iPad event. The design of Pixelmator's applications closely mirrors Apple's own user interface, reinforcing their compatibility and appeal to Apple customers. In their announcement, Pixelmator expressed excitement about the acquisition, stating, "We've been inspired by Apple since day one. Now, we'll have the ability to reach an even wider audience."

Pixelmator Pro, the company's flagship app, features advanced editing tools similar to those found in Adobe's Photoshop and Illustrator, including functionalities like layers and vector editing. The software is also integrated with various Apple technologies such as iCloud, Shortcuts, and the iPad's Pencil, making it a powerful tool for creatives.

This acquisition marks a significant move for Apple, as it has not offered a high-end photo editing app since discontinuing Aperture nearly a decade ago. With a growing portfolio of professional applications—including Final Cut Pro and Logic Pro—available on the iPad via subscription, the addition of Pixelmator aligns perfectly with Apple's strategy to cater to professional users.

While Pixelmator Pro is priced at \$50 for Mac users, a standard version for iPad and iPhone costs \$10. The company also offers a separate Photomator editing app compatible across Apple devices. Pixelmator has assured its users that there won't be any immediate changes to its applications, but further updates will be announced in the future, leaving many eager to see how this new chapter unfolds.

Peanut, The Squirrel With 537,000 Followers On Instagram



Peanut, a beloved squirrel who rose to internet fame with 537,000 Instagram followers, has been euthanized, according to New York authorities. The news comes after Peanut reportedly bit a government staffer during an intervention.

Rescued by New Yorker Mark Longo, Peanut was saved as a baby after his mother was killed by a car. Longo bottle-fed the young squirrel and attempted to release him into the wild, but after losing part of his tail, Peanut returned to Longo's care. Over the past seven years, Peanut became a social media star, captivating fans with adorable antics like nibbling on waffles and wearing tiny costumes, all shared on the Instagram account peanut_the_squirrel12.

In a heartfelt Instagram post following Peanut's death, Longo expressed his devastation, stating, "Internet, you WON. You took one of the most amazing animals away from me because of your selfishness." He lamented the loss of his "best friend," describing his shock, disbelief, and disgust at the situation.

The Chemung County Department of Health and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) confirmed in a statement that both Peanut and a raccoon residing with Longo were euthanized to test for rabies. The DEC had seized the animals on October 30, citing the potential risk of rabies exposure from keeping wild animals as pets. The statement revealed that a person involved in the investigation was bitten by Peanut, necessitating the euthanasia for rabies testing.

The DEC urged anyone who had come into contact with the animals to seek medical advice. In response to the tragic turn of events, Longo vowed to continue his fight for animal rights and called on his supporters to contribute to his legal fees and plans to establish an animal sanctuary. The loss of Peanut has sparked an outpouring of grief and outrage from his fans, highlighting the complex issues surrounding the ownership of wild animals and the consequences that can arise.

Delhi Man Burning Currency Notes On Diwali Leaves Internet Fuming

As the much-anticipated Diwali festival comes to a close, a fascinating clip has captured the attention of social media users. The video depicts an individual setting fire to crisp Rs 100 and 500 notes, raising eyebrows and prompting discussions about the seemingly reckless act of burning hard-earned money. The footage shows the notes engulfed in flames, with bystanders remaining indifferent and no efforts made to extinguish the fire, suggesting a deliberate act of destruction.



Initially, many viewers were astonished by the act, questioning the reasoning behind such a display. The sight of burning currency, especially during a time when families are celebrating and exchanging gifts, struck a nerve among those who value money as a means of livelihood. However, an intriguing twist emerged as keen-eyed social media users began to examine the footage more closely.

Upon closer inspection, it became apparent that the currency notes were not genuine. Beneath the denomination printed on the notes, the phrase "FULL OF FUN" was visible, a clear indicator that these were fake notes. Such wording is not found on real currency, leading to the conclusion that the clip was

staged using prop money for entertainment purposes. This revelation transformed the narrative, turning what was initially perceived as an outrageous act into a clever piece of content.

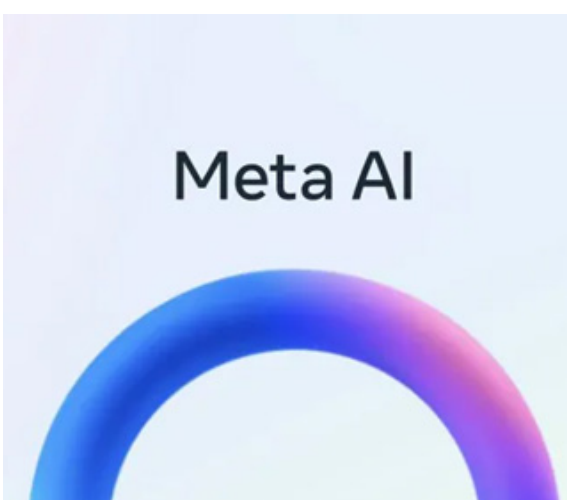
The video, which features the song "Bewafa Se Pyar Ho Gaya" by Rishu Babu as its soundtrack, has amassed over 1 million views on Instagram, captivating a wide audience with its unique concept. The exact location of the video remains unknown, adding an air of mystery to the whole affair.

This viral sensation not only highlights the creativity of content creators but also sparks conversations about the value of money and the humorous ways in which people engage with social media trends. As the clip continues to circulate, it serves as a reminder of the thin line between reality and staged performances in the digital age.

Chinese researchers develop AI model for military use

This week, Washington announced it is finalizing rules to restrict U.S. investment in artificial intelligence and other technology sectors in China that may pose a threat to national security. This announcement comes in light of new developments indicating that top Chinese research institutions, some linked to the People's Liberation Army (PLA), have utilized Meta's publicly available Llama model to create an AI tool for potential military applications.

According to three academic papers reviewed by Reuters, researchers from six Chinese institutions, including two under the PLA's Academy of Military Science (AMS), reported using an early version of Meta's Llama to develop a military-focused AI tool known as "ChatBIT." In a paper published in June, the researchers detailed how they took the Llama 13B large language model (LLM) and incorporated their own parameters to design ChatBIT, which is intended to gather and process intelligence and provide



reliable information for operational decision-making.

ChatBIT has been fine-tuned specifically for dialogue and question-answering tasks within the military context, as stated in the paper. Notably, the AI tool reportedly outper-

formed other models that were around 90% as capable as OpenAI's ChatGPT-4. However, the researchers did not clarify how they measured performance or whether ChatBIT has been deployed in active service.

Sunny Cheung, an associate fellow at the Jamestown Foundation specializing in China's emerging technologies, commented, "It's the first time there has been substantial evidence that PLA military experts in China have been systematically researching and trying to leverage the power of open-source LLMs, especially those of Meta, for military purposes."

The implications of this research are significant, prompting U.S. officials to reassess the potential risks associated with investments in AI technologies that could bolster military capabilities in China. As the geopolitical landscape evolves, the intersection of AI and national security remains a critical area of concern for policymakers.



India Trails New Zealand by 40 Runs at Lunch on Day Two of Final Test

India reached 195 for 5 at lunch on day two of the third and final Test against New Zealand, trailing by 40 runs. Resuming play at their overnight score of 86 for 4, Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill emerged as key contributors to the Indian innings. Pant played a counter-attacking knock, bringing up his half-century with flair, while Gill remained solid at the crease, finishing the session on 70 not out.

Pant's aggressive approach was a highlight of the morning session. He quickly accelerated the scoring and was instrumental in rebuilding India's innings. However, his innings came to an abrupt end when he was trapped leg before wicket by Ish Sodhi in the 38th over, leaving India at 165 for 5. Despite the setback, Pant's score of 60 showcased his intent and ability to counter the New Zealand bowling attack.

Shubman Gill, meanwhile, displayed a composed batting performance, complementing Pant's aggression with stability. He reached his half-century with a mix of solid defense and timely boundaries, ensuring India stayed in the contest. The Indian batsmen capitalized on a few missed chances by the New Zealand fielders, who dropped critical catches that could have altered the course of the innings.

New Zealand, having scored 235 in their first innings, aimed to capitalize on their lead. Daryl Mitchell and Will Young were the top scorers for the visitors, with Mitchell making 82 and Young contributing 71 runs. India's bowlers, led by Ravindra Jadeja, who took 5 wickets for 65 runs, and Washington Sundar, who claimed 4 for 81, managed to bundle out New Zealand for 235 in 65.4 overs. As the teams head into the next phase of the game, India will be looking to build a solid partnership and take control of the innings, while New Zealand will aim to exploit any weaknesses and secure a commanding position.

Mohun Bagan SG's Withdrawal Recognized as Force Majeure



Kolkata-based Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) announced on November 2 that the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has officially recognized the club's withdrawal from their AFC Champions League 2 match in Iran as a case of force majeure. The decision to forgo their scheduled match against Tractor FC on October 2 was made to ensure the safety and security of the players amid escalating tensions in the region.

The AFC acted swiftly after the club's withdrawal, initially pulling MBSG from the tournament while assessing the situation. The club communicated that, following their appeal, the AFC Competitions Committee acknowledged the legitimacy of their concerns regarding player safety

during a time of heightened political unrest in Iran.

In a statement, Mohun Bagan SG clarified that on November 2, they received confirmation from the AFC that "penal consequences, as per clause 5.7 of AFC Champions League 2 Competition Regulations, shall not apply to Mohun Bagan SG." However, the club emphasized that despite this recognition, they would remain withdrawn from the ongoing tournament due to clauses 5.5 and 5.6 of the competition regulations.

The decision to avoid travel to Iran was influenced by the volatile conditions following missile strikes launched by Iran on Israel, which heightened security risks. The situ-

ation was exacerbated by the death of a prominent general of the Revolutionary Guard, leading to widespread mourning and unrest in the country. Players voiced their concerns about the risks associated with traveling to Iran during this turbulent period.

In response to the overall security climate, the AFC had already begun rescheduling matches across its tournaments, indicating a proactive approach to ensure the safety of all teams involved. Following their withdrawal, Mohun Bagan SG accused the AFC of "unequal treatment," highlighting the challenges clubs face in navigating international competitions amid political instability.



Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden Exit Paris Masters in Quarterfinals

Veteran Indian tennis player Rohan Bopanna, alongside his Australian partner Matthew Ebden, faced a tough quarterfinal defeat at the Paris Masters in the men's doubles competition. The third-seeded duo battled for one hour and 46 minutes before succumbing to the Dutch-Croatian pair of Wesley Koolhof and Nikola Pietrangeli, losing 6-7, 5-7 in a closely contested match on Friday.

The first set was fiercely competitive, with both teams showcasing their skills. Bopanna and Ebden fought hard, but despite having several opportunities, they couldn't convert on crucial points. The set ultimately went to a tiebreak, where Koolhof and Pietrangeli displayed resilience, saving set points to clinch the set and take a 1-0 lead in the match.

The second set continued in the same vein, with neither team able to gain a significant advantage. However, the turning point came in the 12th game when Bopanna and Ebden suffered a setback due to a double fault, allowing Koolhof and Pietrangeli to break serve and seal the match.

Despite the disappointment of the quarterfinal exit, the week had its positives for Bopanna and Ebden, as they secured a spot in the prestigious season-ending ATP Finals earlier in the week. Their performance throughout the tournament has been commendable, but they will be looking to regroup and address the missed opportunities in their match against Koolhof and Pietrangeli.

Ravindra Jadeja Reaches 50 Wickets in WTC Cycle



Star Indian all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has etched his name in history by becoming the second Indian, after Ravichandran Ashwin, to take 50 wickets in a World Test Championship (WTC) cycle. Jadeja achieved this milestone during the third and final Test against New Zealand at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, where he delivered a stunning performance with a four-wicket haul on Day 2.

Returning to form, Jadeja dismantled the New Zealand middle order, claiming the crucial wickets of Daryl Mitchell, Tom Blundell, Ish Sodhi, and Matt Henry. His efforts left India in a favorable position, enabling them to set a target after enduring defeats in the first two matches of the series, marking their first series loss on home soil in 12 years.

Notably, Jadeja's impressive wicket tally surpassed his previous WTC cycle performance, where he concluded with 47 wickets from 13 matches. As of now, he stands as the third-leading wicket-taker in the ongoing WTC cycle, trailing only Ashwin, who tops the list with 62 wickets, and Australian fast bowler Josh Hazlewood, who has taken 51 scalps.

Jadeja's bowling form comes as a significant boost for the Indian team as they prepare for their next assignments following the New Zealand series. He previously showcased his prowess in the first innings with a five-wicket haul, bringing his total for the match to nine wickets, putting him on the cusp of achieving his third 10-wicket haul in Test cricket.

As India eyes a redemption in the Test match, they find themselves facing a New Zealand lead of 143 runs. With ample time remaining in the match, confidence is high within the Indian camp to chase down the target. However, the visitors' bowling attack, particularly in spinning conditions, poses a significant challenge, testing India's batting resilience.



IPL 2025 : CSK Keeps MS Dhoni, Fans and Experts Urge for His Return as Captain

The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 retentions were announced on Thursday, with all ten franchises revealing the players they have opted to keep ahead of the upcoming mega auctions, expected to take place by the end of November. One of the most talked-about decisions was Chennai Super Kings' (CSK) retention of MS Dhoni, the legendary wicket-keeper-batter, who was retained for Rs 4 crore under the uncapped player category.

In addition to Dhoni, CSK also retained key players, including captain Ruturaj Gaikwad at INR 18 crore, Matheesha Pathirana at INR 13 crore, Shivam Dube at INR 12 crore, and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja at INR 18 crore.

Dhoni stepped down from the captaincy in 2024, passing the baton to Gaikwad. However, CSK struggled under Gaikwad's leadership, failing to secure a playoff spot last season. This has led to speculation about Dhoni's potential return as captain, a move that former Indian cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar supports. He believes that having Dhoni lead CSK again would add excitement to the tournament, stating, "Even if Dhoni doesn't bat, he can make a more significant impact as captain and wicketkeeper."

Another former star, Mohammad Kaif, praised CSK's decision to retain Dhoni at a lower price, considering it a savvy move. "By retaining him at such a low cost, CSK has saved 10-15 crores," Kaif noted. He added that this strategy allows CSK to pursue high-profile players in the auction, enhancing their chances for the next season.



Varun Tej Shines In Matka Trailer

Mega Prince Varun Tej is poised for a spectacular return in the PAN-Indian film "Matka," directed by Karuna Kumar, known for his work on "Palasa 1978." Set to release on November 14, the film promises an immersive experience, thanks to a significant budget dedicated to authentically recreating the bygone era.

In "Matka," Varun Tej takes on the role of Vasu, a charismatic ringmaster in a circus who has a unique talent for controlling animals. The trailer, recently unveiled by Megastar Chiranjeevi, opens with striking visuals that delve into the film's central theme—Matka gambling. Running for two minutes and forty-eight seconds, the trailer

er showcases Varun's impressive range as he transitions through various avatars, illustrating the dramatic rise and fall of his character. Early reactions suggest that this performance could mark a major comeback for the mega actor.

Inspired by the life of Ratan Khatri, a figure who rose to prominence as a Matka King by betting on cotton rates from the New York Stock Exchange, Varun's character grapples with the darker side of gambling. The trailer emphasizes the theme of addiction and the consequences of greed, resonating deeply with middle-class audiences who may relate to the struggles depicted.

The film features Meenakshi Chaudhary as the female lead, supported by a talented ensemble cast including Nora Fatehi, Naveen Chandra, Ajay Ghosh, Kannada Kishore, Ravindra Vijay, and Ravi Shankar in key roles. Produced by Dr. Vijender Reddy Teegala and Rajani Thalluri under the banners of Vyra Entertainments and SRT Entertainment, "Matka" is set to captivate viewers with its compelling storyline and rich visuals. The film's soundtrack, composed by GV Prakash Kumar, is also anticipated to enhance the overall cinematic experience. With its intriguing premise and Varun Tej's dynamic performance, "Matka" is gearing up to be a must-watch this November.



"Pushpa 2" Item Song Buzz: Sree Leela Emerges as Top Contender

The hype surrounding "Pushpa 2: The Rule" continues to grow, particularly due to the anticipation of a chart-topping item song that has already captured the imagination of fans. One of the key elements contributing to the film's buzz is Samantha's electrifying performance in the previous installment, which left a lasting impression on audiences.

As the shooting for "Pushpa 2" progresses, speculation has been rife about who will feature in the upcoming item number. Various names have surfaced, including popular actresses like Tripti Dimri, known for her role in "Animal," and Disha Patani. However, the latest contender gaining momentum is Sree Leela.

Initially, Shraddha Kapoor was thought to be a confirmed choice for the song, but her high fee and limited availability prompted the filmmakers to explore other options. Reports indicate that Sree Leela has emerged as a top contender for the coveted role, and her selection is expected to be finalized soon. Renowned for her impressive dance skills, Sree Leela's collaboration with Allu Arjun promises to be a visual delight for fans. The two previously shared the screen in an advertisement for Aha App, and their chemistry is eagerly anticipated.

With the clock ticking down to the shoot, the production team is racing to finalize the heroine's selection within the next week. Insiders suggest that Sree Leela is poised to be the chosen one, and the excitement is palpable as fans await confirmation.

Adding to the thrill, there are whispers that Samantha may also make an appearance in the item song alongside Sree Leela and Allu Arjun. The possibility of this trio coming together for what promises to be a spectacular number has fans on the edge of their seats.

As the film gears up for its release, attention turns to composer Devi Sri Prasad, who is expected to deliver another infectious beat and captivating lyrics. The anticipation for this special number is reaching fever pitch, and all eyes are on who will ultimately dazzle in the spotlight of "Pushpa 2."



Shah Rukh Khan's Fauji 2 Trailer Unveiled

The trailer opens with Gauhar Khan portraying Lieutenant Colonel Simarjeet Kaur as she rides a bicycle, setting the tone for the action-packed sequences to follow. It then introduces a new generation of soldiers, showcasing actors like Aashish Bhardwaj as Daksh Desai, Utkarsh Kohli as Rangrez Phogat, Udit Kapur as Arjun Negi, and Rudra Soni as Harun Malik. Vikas Jain, who plays Colonel Sanjay Singh, also makes an appearance in the trailer, hinting at the leadership dynamics within the squad.

One of the standout elements of the trailer is the return of Shah Rukh Khan's iconic character, Lt. Abhimanyu Rai. In a nostalgic nod to the original series, Suvansh Dhar will portray Abhimanyu Rai, reflecting the legacy of Shah Rukh's role while introducing new narratives. Other notable cast members include Priyanshu Rajguru as Subbu Balakrishnan, Ayaan Manchanda as Aakash Chhetri, Aman Singh Deep as Vikram Singh Bagga, and Niel Satpuda as Vijay Sachan.

"Fauji 2" is generating buzz not only for its stellar cast but also for its connection to a beloved classic. As the trailer unfolds, it teases themes of camaraderie, bravery, and the challenges faced by modern-day soldiers, aiming to resonate with both new viewers and fans of the original show.

As Shah Rukh Khan celebrates his birthday, "Fauji 2" serves as a perfect gift to his fans, promising an engaging blend of nostalgia and contemporary storytelling. With the release of the trailer, anticipation continues to build for what is sure to be an exciting addition to the Indian television landscape.



Title Reveal Delayed for NBK109

After the success of "Bhagavanth Kesari," Nandamuri Balakrishna is gearing up for another action-packed entertainer, currently referred to as #NBK109, directed by Bobby Kolli. The buzz around the film has been building, particularly due to Balakrishna's stylish look showcased in various posters and sneak peeks, which has excited fans across social media platforms.

In recent weeks, there has been much speculation regarding the film's title, with several rumored options floating around, including "Asurudu" and "Veera Mass." However, new reports indicate that the makers have narrowed it down to three contenders: "Daaku Maharaj," "Sarkar Sitharam," and "Asurudu." Each title carries its own unique flair, contributing to the anticipation surrounding the film.

Initially, fans were eagerly expecting the official title and teaser to be released during the Diwali festival. However, due to delays in the graphics work, the announcement has been pushed back. Producer Naga Vamsi recently confirmed that the title teaser will now be unveiled in the second week of November, much to the delight of eager fans.

Among the potential titles, "Sarkar Sitharam" and "Daaku Maharaj" seem to be resonating most with the audience. Fans have expressed their preferences and are passionately discussing which title they believe would best suit Balakrishna's powerful screen presence and the overall theme of the movie. The excitement is palpable, as each title suggestion hints at the film's tone—be it action-oriented or laced with traditional elements.

As the November release date for the title teaser approaches, the anticipation continues to grow. Fans are not only eager to see which title will ultimately be chosen but are also looking forward to the film's first glimpses, which are sure to showcase the high-octane drama that Balakrishna films are known for. With expectations running high, NBK109 is poised to be another significant addition to Balakrishna's illustrious career.



Squid Game Season 2 Teaser Unveiled

The highly anticipated second season of Netflix's original series "Squid Game" is on the horizon, and fans are buzzing with excitement following the release of the teaser on November 1. This gripping survival thriller took the world by storm when it debuted in 2021, quickly becoming the most-watched series of the year.

The teaser offers a tantalizing glimpse into the return of Seong Gi-hun, portrayed by Lee Jung-jae, who is back as Player 456. Having emerged as a victor in the deadly games, Gi-hun returns with a new mindset, taking on a mentor-like role. His experiences from the first season have given him valuable insights into the perilous nature of the games and the heavy costs involved for those who participate.

Alongside Lee Jung-jae, fan favorites Lee Byung-hun, Wi Ha-jun, and Gong Yoo are reprising their pivotal roles, promising to deliver the same intense performances that captivated audiences in the first season. The return of these characters adds depth to the storyline, as their journeys intertwine once more within the brutal world of "Squid Game."

Directed by Hwang Dong-hyuk, the new season is expected to explore deeper themes of morality, survival, and the psychological toll of competition. As viewers gear up for the continuation of this thrilling narrative, questions abound about how the returning characters will navigate the dangerous challenges ahead and what new twists await them in the game.