



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE
H 28°C L 22°C	H 29°C L 24°C	H 26°C L 24°C

We Will Continue the 'Prajavani' Program: Bhatti Vikramarka



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka reaffirmed his commitment to the Prajavani program, emphasizing its role in addressing public grievances. Speaking at a press conference held at Praja Bhavan, Bhatti Vikramarka stated that the program would continue despite any challenges, as it serves as a platform to resolve issues and instill confidence among citizens. "The applications submitted through Prajavani are being actively addressed," he assured, underscoring the program's effectiveness in bridging the gap between the government and the people.

the installation of solar power systems would be expedited in areas where electricity supply is not available, enabling Adivasis to irrigate their lands and cultivate crops more efficiently.

In the same session, Erma Punnam, an Adivasi from Kotapalli mandal in Mancherial district, shared how the state's 'Prajavani' grievance redressal mechanism helped 93 Adivasis from 18 villages obtain Recognition of Forest Rights (RoFR) pattas for their podu lands. These pattas had been withheld by the district administration, despite being printed, until the intervention of the Prajavani program.

Telangana's Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has announced that the state government will install solar energy systems on podu lands across the state, particularly in areas lacking electricity. This initiative will allow tribal farmers to operate borewells on their podu lands using solar power, thus supporting their agricultural activities. The move aims to address the challenges faced by Adivasis, particularly in remote areas, by providing them the necessary tools to improve their farming practices.

Punnam recounted the difficulties he and others faced, including false charges and the confiscation of agricultural tools by forest officials. Despite these challenges, the Adivasi community managed to reclaim their podu lands, especially after the July 2022 movement in Koya Poshaguda tribal hamlet.

The Deputy Chief Minister's announcement of solar power systems for farming represents a significant step in empowering the Adivasi community by addressing essential agricultural needs such as access to water and electricity. Bhatti Vikramarka assured the Adivasis that the state government would provide the necessary resources to support their farming efforts on podu lands, which remain vital to their livelihoods.

During an interactive session at Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan on December 10, Bhatti clarified that the tribal welfare department would soon receive orders to implement this plan. He emphasized that



ASHA Workers Threaten Indefinite Strike Over Unmet Demands

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : ASHA workers affiliated with the Centre for Indian Trade Unions (CITU) staged a protest on Tuesday, December 10, by laying siege to the office of the Commissioner of the Medical and Health Department in Koti. They demanded the implementation of fixed wages of Rs 18,000 per month during the current winter session of the Assembly. The workers have warned that if their demands are not met by the Budget session in February 2025, they will resort to an indefinite strike.

Regarding other issues, the workers were promised holidays on Sundays and festivals, and it was confirmed that some pending wages for past surveys, such as for leprosy and pulse polio, had been paid, with the remaining amount to follow soon. However, the workers insisted that they would not continue their surveys unless the full payment is made immediately.

During the protest, ASHA workers submitted a representation to the commissioner and discussed 19 key demands. The joint director acknowledged that the fixed wages would require a policy decision by the government and assured the workers that their demands would be forwarded to the health minister.

The ASHA workers also demanded a Rs 50 lakh insurance cover, a retirement settlement of Rs 2 lakh, ESI benefits, and Rs 50,000 for last rites in case of death. CITU city secretary Jayalakshmi announced further protests starting December 17, including bus yatras, padayatras, relay hunger strikes in district headquarters, and protests in front of MLAs' homes, to intensify pressure on the state government.

BRS Protests Against Redesigned Telangana Thalli Statue

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: The BRS staged widespread protests across Telangana against the State government's decision to redesign the Telangana Thalli statue, which they claim undermines the legacy of the statehood movement. Party MLC K. Kavitha led a significant demonstration at Telangana Bhavan, joined by GHMC corporators and local leaders. In a symbolic gesture, Kavitha offered milk to the original Telangana Thalli statue installed by the BRS at Telangana Bhavan, defying the government's orders.

Protests erupted statewide after a call to action from BRS working president KT Rama Rao. Party cadres performed Palabhishekam (milk ablations) on existing Telangana Thalli statues, garlanded them, and raised slogans of "Jai Telangana" to oppose the redesign.

Kavitha criticized the Congress-led government, accusing it of replacing the state's cultural essence with a politically motivated design. "The new statue doesn't embody Telangana's spirit but instead represents Congress's political agenda."



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Mohan Babu Releases Audio Addressing Son Manoj

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: Movie actor Mohan Babu has released an audio message directed at his youngest son, Manchu Manoj. In the recording, he expresses his sorrow over Manoj's behavior, particularly his drinking problem, and states that he is going down a dangerous path. He also mentions that he is deeply hurt by his wife's words.

What Mohan Babu said in the audio: "Manoj, I raised you with a lot of love. I spent a lot on your education. You hurt me deeply after hearing your wife's words. Yes, we had a fight, which happens in every family. But



why are you turning violent at home? You're even beating the people who work for us. This is a great sin! The house in Jalpalli is my hard-earned money. You have no claim to it. You're addicted to alcohol and going down a wrong path," he said.

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KTR Condemns Police Brutality Against ASHA Workers

Demands Congress Govt Fulfill Promises

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Tuesday strongly condemned the police action against ASHA workers who were protesting for job security and better salaries at the Directorate of Health and Family Welfare in Koti. He criticized the use of male police personnel to suppress the peaceful protest, labeling it as a "disgrace to governance."

Visiting injured ASHA workers Raheembi and Santhoshini at Osmania General Hospital, KTR extended his solidarity and assured them of full support. "ASHA workers played a vital role during the COVID-19 pandemic and in delivering healthcare to remote areas. Their demands for job security and salary enhancements are legitimate," he stated.

He accused the Congress-led government of failing to honor its election promises to ASHA workers and

condemned the police for their high-handedness, particularly male officers who allegedly assaulted and mistreated the women protesters.

"Male police beating women is unacceptable and reflects a failure of the Home Department under the Chief Minister," KTR said, demanding the immediate dismissal of the officials responsible. He further questioned the erosion of law and order in the State, highlighting the ACP's actions as an example of administrative arrogance.

KTR pledged to raise the issue in the Assembly and take it to the State Women's Commission, the National Human Rights Commission, and the National Commission for Women, if necessary. He also assured medical support, including treatment at private hospitals, for the injured workers.





Telangana Thalli Statue

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Bathukamma, our symbol of identity, has been replaced with the Congress election symbol of a hand," she said.

She further questioned Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's intent, alleging that altering the design disrespects the sacrifices of Telangana's statehood movement. She demanded an explanation for distorting the image of Telangana Thalli, while simultaneously pushing for changes like adopting "TG" as the State's abbreviation to align with the people's aspirations.

Senior BRS leaders, including MLAs and MLCs, joined protests in their constituencies, cleansing statues and urging the government to reinstate the original design. They declared the re-design as an insult to the statehood struggle and demanded an immediate rollback of the decision.

Addressing Son Manoj

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Mohan Babu responded angrily, stating that Manoj had defamed him by going public with the issue. He asked whether his assets should be divided equally among his children or if he should donate them. "It's my choice. If I want, I will give it to my children, or I'll donate it. My father did not give me any property; I earned it myself. Manoj entered my house illegally and laid hands on my people. That's why I'm asking for police protection," he added.

"You can take your daughter"

Mohan Babu told Manoj that he could take his daughter with him. He also said that even if Manoj left her with him, he would take care of her. "If you want, I'll hand over your child in the presence of the police," he said. He mentioned that Manoj's mother had been admitted to the hospital due to the incidents happening at their house and assured that there was nothing wrong happening at their educational institutions.

Police Involvement at Mohan Babu's House

Reports indicate that the police have taken control of Mohan Babu's house in Jalpalli. It is also reported that the Rachakonda police have recommended the seizure of guns and licenses from both Mohan Babu and Manchu Vishnu.

Tension at Mohan Babu's House

Earlier, Manoj and Mounika met with senior police officials before arriving at their house in Jalpalli. However, security personnel blocked their entry, and the gates were not opened. As a result, Manoj and his wife sat in the car for a long time. After a while, Manoj went to the gate and argued with the security personnel, pushing the gates open to enter, claiming that his seven-month-old baby was inside. The police then sent the bouncers of both parties away. It seems that the police eventually took control of the house, removing the bouncers from both sides.

The unfolding conflict not only threatens the family's unity but also risks overshadowing its rich legacy in the entertainment industry. As the police investigate the complaints, the dispute serves as a reminder of how personal and financial conflicts can disrupt even the most celebrated families, highlighting the complexities of managing personal relationships alongside professional and public responsibilities.

Supreme Court Issues Notice to Telangana Govt on GO 46

TPN Correspondent, New Delhi : The Supreme Court has issued a notice to the Telangana Government regarding Government Order (GO) 46, seeking a counter-affidavit to explain the process followed for filling posts under the order, which reserves 95% of direct recruitment positions for local candidates within specific zones.

GO 46, issued by the General Administration Department on April 4, 2022, concerns the recruitment of 900 vacant positions in the state.

During the hearing, Advocate Aditya Sondhi, representing the petitioners, requested a stay on the recruitment process until the case is resolved. However, the Supreme Court advised all parties to await further proceedings before taking any action.

The next hearing is scheduled for January 27, giving the Telangana Government time to file its response.



NMC Directs Medical Colleges to Bolster Anti-Ragging Measures

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued a stern directive to government and private medical colleges across the country to strengthen anti-ragging measures and address lapses in compliance that risk the safety of young doctors. In its communication, the NMC highlighted gaps such as inadequate monitoring, absence of anti-ragging squads, delayed submission of annual anti-ragging reports, and insufficient steps to curb ragging effectively. These shortcomings, according to the NMC, compromise the regulatory framework and institutional integrity.

The NMC urged colleges to adhere strictly to the Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Medical Colleges and Institutions Regulations, 2021, by implementing robust mechanisms:

- Activate Anti-Ragging Squads to identify and monitor ragging activities.
- Raise Awareness about anti-ragging policies among faculty, staff, and students.
- Ensure Timely Reporting by submitting annual anti-ragging reports.
- Create a Safe Environment free from harassment for medical students.

Dr. Vijay Oza, In-charge Chairman of NMC and President of the Post Graduate Medical Education Board, warned that violations of these regulations would attract strict action. He emphasized the importance of fostering a conducive learning environment and reiterated that non-compliance would not be tolerated. This directive comes as part of NMC's efforts to protect young doctors and uphold institutional standards.



Telangana Thalli Image, State Official Song to Feature in School Textbooks



TPN Correspondent, Telangana: In a significant move, the Telangana government has decided to incorporate the newly designed Telangana Thalli image and the State's official song, Jaya Jayaha Telangana, into the State board textbooks. These changes will take effect in the academic year 2025-26.

According to School Education Director E.V. Narasimha Reddy, the government recently approved the inclusion of these elements to instill a deeper sense of regional pride among students. The process of printing textbooks for the next academic year has already begun, and the bilingual format—offered in combinations like Telugu-English, Urdu-English, or Hindi-English—will continue. This approach aims to facilitate a smoother transition for non-English medium students to English medium education while enhancing comprehension and learning.

Simultaneously, the School Education Department is preparing for a comprehensive overhaul of the State board curriculum. The new curriculum will align with the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF) 2023 and is slated for phased implementation starting in the academic year 2026-27.

The revised syllabus will first address non-language subjects such as Mathematics, Sciences, and Social Sciences, followed by updates to language subjects like Telugu, Hindi, Urdu, and English. Social Sciences will adopt a balanced approach, with 20% content at the local level, 30% at the regional level, 30% at the national level, and 20% at the international level.

Divided into four stages—foundational, preparatory, middle, and secondary—the NCF 2023 emphasizes holistic development, equity, inclusion, curriculum flexibility, and environmental consciousness. It also promotes competency-based education, multidisciplinary learning, and integration of technology, alongside a continuous assessment framework and localized content.

The last curriculum revision based on the NCF 2005 occurred in 2015. This new initiative marks a progressive step towards modernizing the education system in Telangana, blending cultural identity with contemporary pedagogical principles.

ICRISAT Secures Industrial Design Grant for Solar-Powered Water Hyacinth Harvester

TPN Correspondent, Sangareddy: The International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has achieved a significant milestone by receiving its first industrial design grant in India for a solar-powered water hyacinth harvester. Developed in-house by a team of ICRISAT scientists, this innovative equipment is a cost-effective and sustainable solution to a persistent environmental challenge.

Priced at under Rs 2 lakh, the solar-powered harvester is designed to be accessible for rural farming communities that cannot afford expensive machinery, often costing 10 times as much. It delivers substantial benefits, including a 50-60% reduction in costs, time, and labor, while utilizing clean energy. The machine is user-friendly and can be operated by semi-skilled or unskilled personnel, making it ideal for widespread adoption in rural areas.

Water hyacinth infestations are a global ecological problem, especially in rural ponds, where they disrupt aquatic ecosystems, harm fisheries, and block canals. Their rapid growth—transforming 8-10 plants into over 6,00,000 within 6-8 months—compounds the challenge. Traditional methods of removal, including chemical and biological controls, are costly and short-lived. Periodic manual or mechanical harvesting remains the only sustainable solution.

Dr. Stanford Blade, Interim Director General of ICRISAT, lauded the team's efforts, highlighting the harvester's role in addressing a pressing environmental issue with a solution tailored to rural communities. "This cost-effective innovation demonstrates ICRISAT's commitment to environment-friendly, technologically viable,

and economically sustainable solutions," he said.

The harvester was developed under the project "Sustainable Valorisation of Water Hyacinth Biomass through Aerobic Composting as a Rural Enterprise—A Waste to Wealth Initiative," supported by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha.

The project was spearheaded by Principal Investigator Dr. Aviraj Datta, with support from Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, Dr. Ramesh Singh, Hari Om Singh, Santhosh Kumar Raja, Yogesh Kumar, and Jinit Mahajan. Categorized as agricultural machinery, the harvester is a testament to ICRISAT's drive to offer sustainable solutions for rural enterprises while tackling global ecological challenges.



Telangana's Energy Projects to Generate Over 21,000 MW Power Once Completed

TPN Correspondent, Telangana : Ongoing thermal, hydro, and renewable energy projects in Telangana are set to generate a total of 21,135.4 megawatts (MW) of electricity upon completion, Union Minister of State for Renewable Energy, Sripad Yesso Naik, informed the Rajya Sabha on December 9.

Among the major projects is the 4,000-megawatt thermal power plant being developed in Yadadri. The first two units are scheduled to begin production in December 2024, with the third unit expected in March 2025, the fourth in February 2025, and the fifth in May 2025.

Telangana is also investing in hydroelectric power, with mini hydel stations being built at Peddapalli.

These stations, with a combined capacity of 4.6 MW, are slated to begin operations by March 2025.

In addition to these projects, Telangana has set an ambitious goal of adding 40,000 MW of renewable energy capacity by 2035, as outlined by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka at the Global Renewable Energy Investors Meet and Expo in Gandhinagar.



SC Refuses to Stop Telangana Govt from Appointing Amer Ali Khan, Kodandaram as Ministers



TPN Correspondent, New Delhi : The Supreme Court has declined a request from the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) to issue a restraint order against the Congress government in Telangana concerning the appointment of Professor M Kodandaram and Amer Ali Khan as ministers in the state cabinet.

The decision was made by a bench consisting of Justice Vikram Nath and Jus-

tice Prasanna B Varale during a hearing of a petition filed by BRS leaders Dasoju Sravan Kumar and Kurra Satyanarayana. The petitioners sought the court's intervention to direct the state government and governor to nominate them as Members of the Legislative Council (MLCs) under the governor's quota, following the rejection of their nominations by the governor after being proposed by the previous BRS government

in September 2023.

Senior counsel Mukul Rohatgi, representing the BRS nominees, argued that the authorities were acting unlawfully while the matter was still pending before the Supreme Court. He pointed out that Prof. Kodandaram and Amer Ali Khan had already been appointed as MLCs and expressed concerns that the Congress government might soon induct them into the cabinet.

In response, senior counsel K Ramakanth Reddy, representing Amer Ali, stated that there was no issue with the cabinet's recommendations for their nominations under Article 171(5) of the Constitution. He noted that Amer Ali, a journalist involved in various charitable organizations, had been rejected due to his political background, as indicated by the governor's order dated August 19, 2023.

The Supreme Court has scheduled the final hearing for this case on February 12, 2025, adjourning the matter until then.

Congress Govt Stalling Jakranpally Airport Project, Says MP Arvind



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : Nizamabad BJP MP Dharmapuri Arvind has accused the Congress government of intentionally delaying the construction of a proposed greenfield airport at Jakranpally in Nizamabad district. He demanded that the State government expedite the process to commence work on the long-pending project.

Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Arvind highlighted that the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had conducted a pre-eligibility study across six locations in Telangana, identifying sites for brownfield airports in Warangal and Adilabad, and a greenfield airport in Jakranpally. "Despite the site identification, the State government has failed to take the next steps, including conducting Obstacle Limitation Services (OLS) surveys, which are essential for moving forward," he said.

The BJP MP criticized the State government for its lack of initiative in obtaining the necessary approvals from the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation and other regulatory bodies. "Even after repeated requests, the government continues to drag its feet on this project, ignoring its importance for regional development," he stated.

Arvind also launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing him of mishandling administrative priorities. Referring to the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA), he alleged that the initiative had destroyed real estate prospects and adversely affected the poor. "The Chief Minister has no control over administration and is focused solely on looting public money under the guise of HYDRAA. His actions have harmed both the real estate sector and vulnerable communities," Arvind claimed.

The proposed greenfield airport at Jakranpally has been pitched as a critical infrastructure project for boosting connectivity and economic growth in the Nizamabad region. However, the alleged delay by the State government has raised concerns about its commitment to regional development.

Harish Rao Slams CM Revanth Reddy Over Food Poisoning Incidents in Schools



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : Senior BRS MLA Harish Rao has expressed his anger at Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's lack of attention to the series of food poisoning incidents in government schools and Gurukuls. Rao criticized the CM for being more focused on pleasing Delhi leaders than on addressing the pressing issues affecting students in his own state.

Rao strongly condemned the government's inaction as several food poisoning cases have been reported in the joint Mahabubnagar district, with students being hospitalized. "What is the government doing while our students are suffering? This is happening in the CM's own district, and the situation is dire across the state," he stated. He cited the recent hospitalization of 15 students due to food poisoning in the Tandur tribal girls' hostel in Vikarabad district as an example of the government's failure to protect its students.

He expressed deep concern over the increasing number of food poisoning incidents and called the government's negligence a crime. "The Chief Minister's words that he would send students to jail if they consumed adulterated food have turned into empty promises," he remarked, questioning how many more students need to be hospitalized or lose their lives before action is taken. Rao criticized the CM's lack of effective measures and accountability, highlighting the dangerous situation in educational institutions across Telangana.

Kamareddy MLA Files Complaint Against Illegal Constructions on Ponds



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : Kamareddy BNP MLA Katipalli Venkataramana Reddy lodged a complaint with Hydra Commissioner Ranganath at Buddha Bhavan, Hyderabad, against five companies accused of carrying out illegal constructions by encroaching on ponds. He also named the companies involved in his formal complaint.

Addressing the media, the MLA stated that he had raised the issue two months ago, urging the government to take action against the illegal constructions. Despite Chief Minis-

ter Revanth Reddy's assurance that such constructions would not proceed without proper permissions, Venkataramana Reddy highlighted that the illegal activities have continued unchecked.

The MLA demanded immediate legal action against the companies encroaching on water bodies and against officials who granted permissions for the constructions. He accused the Congress-led government of indulging in political theatrics by criticizing the previous administration over similar issues while failing to take concrete action against current violations.

Warning of legal recourse, Venkataramana Reddy emphasized that if the government remains unresponsive, he will approach the court to seek justice. He also called for the introduction of stricter laws to prevent land encroachments, ensuring accountability for both companies and officials involved in such unlawful activities.

Ex-BRS MLA Considering Appeal Against HC Verdict on Citizenship



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Former BRS MLA Chennamaneni Ramesh announced on Monday, December 9, that his legal team is contemplating an appeal against the recent Telangana High Court ruling, which upheld the Indian government's decision to revoke his citizenship.

Expressing disappointment with the verdict, Ramesh stated that the challenges to his citizenship were primarily motivated by political reasons, aimed at hindering his career. He criticized the judgment, emphasizing that it lacked objectivity and focused on the implementation of Section 10.3 of the Citizenship Act, a point raised in a 2019 ruling by the Telangana High Court.

Reflecting on the political turmoil, Ramesh acknowledged the support he has received from his friends and well-wishers throughout his journey, despite the difficulties faced.

KTR Questions Rahul Gandhi on Congress' Double Standards Over Adani Issue

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Tuesday accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of hypocrisy regarding the Adani issue. Highlighting the restrictions on BRS legislators entering the Telangana Assembly wearing T-shirts, KTR questioned why Congress MPs were allowed similar actions in Parliament.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), KTR said, "If it is right for you to wear a T-shirt with an Adani-Modi picture in Parliament, why are we not allowed to expose the Adani-Revanth affair in the Telangana Assembly?"

The BRS has been vocal about the alleged nexus between Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and industrialist Gautam Adani. The party criticized Congress for condemning Adani at the national level while engaging in agreements with him in the State. The incident comes amid growing political tension, with the BRS demanding clarity on Congress' stance and accusing it of adopting double standards on critical issues.

Jagadish Reddy Criticizes Congress, Alleges Attack on Telangana Culture

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : Former minister and BRS MLA Jagadish Reddy has alleged that Telangana's culture and spirit are being undermined following the Congress party's rise to power in the state. Speaking to the media, Reddy expressed anger over the absence of Telangana's cultural identity in the Congress' recent victory celebrations. He questioned whether anyone in those celebrations raised slogans like "Jai Telangana" or exhibited the fervor of the Telangana movement.

Reddy accused Congress leaders of betraying Telangana's legacy and disrespecting its cultural essence. He criticized the party for prioritizing its political agenda, such as unveiling a statue of the Congress symbol's mother figure, instead of paying homage to Telangana Thalli, the symbolic representation of the state.

He lambasted Congress members, labeling them as "traitors of Telangana" and accused them of disregarding Telangana's history and identity. Highlighting the Congress'

past, Reddy said that the Telangana dialect and the very term "Telangana" were once treated with disdain and even banned from the Legislative Assembly.

Reddy also claimed that Telangana was merged with Andhra Pradesh decades ago under dubious motives and warned that similar efforts to exploit Telangana's resources and erase its identity might be underway. He called upon people to reject what he described as an attack on the state's culture and heritage, urging them to preserve the spirit of the Telangana movement.





HC Refuses to Postpone Group 2 Exam Set for Dec 15, 16



TPN Correspondent, Telangana : The Telangana High Court has declined to postpone the Group-II competitive examination, which is scheduled for December 15 and 16. The decision came after Justice Pulla Karthik addressed a writ petition filed by 23 candidates across various districts, who argued that the exam dates overlapped with the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) exam set for December 16-18.

The petitioners requested the court to reschedule the Group II exam to accommodate those wishing to appear for both the Group II and RRB exams. However, the standing counsel for the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC) informed the court that over 5.51 lakh candidates had registered for the Group II exam, with more than one lakh candidates already having downloaded their hall tickets. The counsel highlighted that all arrangements for the exam were in place and that delaying the exam for a few candidates would unfairly affect the majority.

Justice Karthik concluded that it was not feasible to stay the examination at this stage and issued notices to relevant authorities, including the TSPSC secretary and officials from the railway recruitment board and Union railway ministry. The writ petition was adjourned for further proceedings.

The RRB exam, which is set to take place from December 16-18, is aimed at filling 7,951 vacancies across various positions, including junior engineer and depot material superintendent.

SCR to Operate Additional Trains for Sabarimala Pilgrims



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: To accommodate the surge in Sabarimala pilgrims, the South Central Railway (SCR) has announced additional special trains, including two from Secunderabad.

- Secunderabad – Kollam (07175): Scheduled to run on December 19 and 26.
- Kollam – Secunderabad (07176): Scheduled to run on December 21 and 28.

These trains will feature 2AC, 3AC, Sleeper Class, and General Second Class coaches, ensuring a comfortable journey for devotees.

SCR officials have urged pilgrims to plan their travel and book tickets early to avoid last-minute inconvenience.

NRAI Warns Restaurants Against Aggregator Gateways and Deep Discounts

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad : The National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) has issued a stern warning to restaurants about the potential long-term harm caused by adopting aggregator payment gateways and deep discounting programs. The association emphasized that while these practices may seem attractive in the short term, they disrupt pricing structures, undervalue dining experiences, and foster unfair competition.



Aggregator platforms charge high commissions of 4-8%, significantly higher than the 1-1.5% fees of traditional payment systems. Additionally, these platforms collect valuable customer and revenue data, leading to dependency and eroding direct customer relationships. Smaller restaurants often find it difficult to compete with the deep discounts offered by larger establishments.

NRAI President Sagar Daryani advised restaurants to carefully assess the financial impact of these programs and explore independent payment options to maintain control over their pricing and operations. He stressed the importance of preserving customer relationships and business autonomy for the long-term sustainability of the restaurant industry.

Cyberabad Police Recover 1,100 Lost or Stolen Mobile Phones

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad : The Cyberabad Police have successfully traced and recovered 1,100 mobile phones, worth several lakhs, that were reported lost or stolen. Using the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) portal, the recovered phones have been returned to their rightful owners.

Special teams were formed across the Cyberabad Police jurisdiction to track lost and stolen phones, leveraging the CEIR portal's capabilities. The traced phones included cases registered both through police reports and Meeseva applications. "These mobile phones were recovered not only in Telangana

but also from other states like Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh," said K. Narasimha, DCP (Crimes), Cyberabad.

The police advised citizens to be vigilant with their belongings. In case of mobile theft or

loss, they urged citizens to block their phone's IMEI number immediately via the CEIR portal at www.ceir.gov.in.

Alternatively, those who lose their phones should report the incident to the nearest police station to initiate the IMEI blocking process through the CEIR system.

Thieves Attempt to Break Into Temple, Flee Empty-Handed

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: A failed burglary attempt was reported at the Ayyappa Swamy temple in Mansoorabad, LB Nagar, during the early hours of Tuesday. Thieves attempted to steal the deity's gold ornaments and the collection box but fled the scene empty-handed.

According to the police, the suspects entered the temple located on the main road and tried to break open the collection box to access the cash inside. When their efforts failed, they took the collection box with them on a bike.

However, their act was noticed by a passing motorist who raised an alarm. In response, one of the suspects threatened the motorist with a knife before fleeing the spot.

The LB Nagar police have registered a case based on a complaint from the temple authorities. They suspect the burglars had initially planned to steal the deity's gold ornaments. Surveillance camera footage from the area is being examined to identify the culprits and bring them to justice.

TGMFC to Provide Rs 2 Lakh Compensation to Displaced Minority Families



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: The Telangana Minority Finance Corporation (TGMFC) Chairman Obedulla Kothwal has announced a compensation package of Rs 2 lakh for displaced minority families affected by the Musi River project. This initiative is part of a special livelihood scheme to resettle minorities living in the riverbed areas of Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, and Medchal districts.

The financial support will consist of:

- Rs 1.40 lakh as a subsidized loan from the corporation.
- Rs 60,000 as a loan from the Women's Fund.

To date, 138 minority families have been identified for this support, which will be disbursed immediately.

Additionally, Kothwal introduced three new initiatives for minorities, including the Indiramma Minority Women's Scheme and the Indiramma Women's Empowerment Scheme, with a budget of Rs 31.64 crore. These programs aim to provide Rs 50,000 each to 5,000 impoverished individuals across the state.

The application process for these schemes will begin soon, targeting families living below the poverty line.

Man Arrested for Selling Adulterated and Expired Milk Powder



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Dec-11: A 46-year-old man was arrested for allegedly illegally procuring, storing, and selling adulterated and expired Nandini milk powder. During a raid, 780 kg of the adulterated milk powder was seized. The accused, identified as Chit-

taboina Damodar, a resident of Secunderabad, was found to be selling expired milk powder originally intended for the Karnataka state's Public Distribution Scheme (PDS) under the Ksheera Bhagya Scheme. Despite being unfit for consumption, Damodar was selling it to

customers at inflated prices. Acting on credible information, the central zone task force team, along with Musheerabad police, raided a godown in the Musheerabad area and apprehended the accused.

Further investigation revealed that Damodar had been previously arrested for similar offenses. He had been purchasing the adulterated milk powder from Ravi, a Karnataka native, at Rs 180 per kg and selling it for Rs 240 per kg, thus making a profit through illegal means. This raid follows an earlier investigation by the Task Force team at Konark Tea in Fatehnagar, Hyderabad, in October, where adulterated tea powder was discovered.

Further investigation into the milk powder case is ongoing.

How to Identify Adulterated Milk Powder

Here are some common methods to check for adulteration:

- Appearance:** Genuine milk powder is usually white or off-white. If the powder appears too white or has an unusual yellowish tint, it could indicate the presence of additives or adulterants.
- Solubility:** Dissolve a small amount of the powder in water. Pure milk powder should dissolve easily, leaving little to no residue. If it forms lumps or leaves a residue, it may contain starch or other adulterants.
- Clumping:** Mix a spoonful of the powder with cold water. If the milk powder contains non-dairy fats or chemicals, it may clump or separate unevenly.
- Packaging:** Check the packaging for any discrepancies. Ensure the packaging is intact and check the expiration date for signs of tampering.

Multi-Level Parking at Hyderabad's KBR Park: GHMC Invites Tenders

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad: The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has invited tenders for the construction of a multi-level mechanized parking complex at KBR Park, which will be Hyderabad's first such facility. This project is part of efforts to ease parking congestion in the area and improve traffic flow.

The new parking complex will use a rotary system with six units, each capable of accommodating 12 cars. It will also feature amenities such as coffee kiosks, electric vehicle (EV) charging points, and mini-marts, with 20% of the space dedicated to these services. The facility will offer advanced features, including real-time parking updates, smart cards, online payments, live slot tracking, and advance slot booking.



The construction of this 27-car multi-level parking complex is expected to be completed within six months once the agreement is finalized. The initiative aims to tackle parking issues in the area, which is frequently visited by both locals and tourists.

Telangana Govt Approves KBR Park Project to Ease Traffic

In a related development, the Telangana government has approved infrastructure projects around KBR Park to ease traffic congestion in the region. A total of Rs 826 crore has been allocated for improving six key junctions surrounding the park.

The project is split into two packages:

- Package 1 (Rs 421 crore): Includes flyovers and an underpass at critical locations such as Jubilee Hills Checkpost, KBR Park entrance, and Mugdha Junction.

- Package 2 (Rs 405 crore): Focuses on improving junctions at Filmnagar, Maharaaja Agrasen, and Cancer Hospital. These improvements are designed to ensure uninterrupted traffic flow and reduce congestion at key junctions, benefiting commuters traveling to areas like Madhapur, Hitech City, Gachibowli, and Kondapur.

Maoists Set Car on Fire on Telangana-AP Border



TPN Correspondent, Kothagudem: In a disturbing incident on the Telangana-Andhra Pradesh border, Maoists set a private car on fire after forcing the passengers to exit the vehicle. The attack occurred early Tuesday morning at Sirivella village, under the jurisdiction of Chintoor police station in Alluri Seetharamaraju district of Andhra Pradesh.

The CPI (Maoists) cadres reportedly stopped the vehicle on the Bhadrachalam-Chintoor highway, ordered the passengers to leave, and then set the car ablaze. Local police arrived at the scene promptly and have launched an investigation into the incident. Authorities are yet to provide further details about the motive behind the attack or the identities of those involved.

The incident has raised concerns over the ongoing Maoist activity in the region, with the police increasing vigilance in the area.

Kothagudem Collector Reviews Preparations for Bhadrachalam Mukkoti Ekadasi Celebrations



TPN Correspondent, Kothagudem: District Collector Jitesh V. Patil has instructed officials to ensure elaborate and efficient arrangements for the upcoming Mukkoti Ekadasi celebrations at Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Devasthanam in Bhadrachalam. Chairing a review meeting at the Bhadrachalam RDO office alongside SP B. Rohit Raju and ITDA PO B. Rahul, Patil emphasized the need for meticulous planning to ensure the festival proceeds smoothly and peacefully.

The Collector assigned specific responsibilities to the officials, urging them

to complete their tasks with dedication. He directed the Bhadrachalam RDO to oversee the arrangements and asked the sub-Collector to coordinate with lodge and hotel owners to regulate accommodation charges during the celebrations.

Patil outlined key preparations, including decorating temples in Bhadrachalam and Dummugudem with electric lights, installing LED screens at the Bhadrachalam temple for live viewing, and verifying the Hamsa Vahanam. He also stressed the importance of enhancing sanitation in Bhadrachalam

town, Parnasala, and Dummugudem. Charts detailing bus and train schedules, along with information on local sightseeing spots, should be prepared for the convenience of devotees, he added.

Expressing dissatisfaction with the slow progress on constructing toilets at Bhadrachalam Karakatta, Patil urged officials to prioritize these projects. To promote Bhadrachalam as a tourist destination, he suggested hosting cultural performances by state-level artists and setting up stalls showcasing tribal cuisine and crafts.

Patil proposed highlighting Bhadrachalam's significance through wall posters at airports nationwide and instructed officials to repair the pothole-ridden road at Ambedkar Centre in Bhadrachalam town within two days using a wet mixer. The Mukkoti Ekadasi festival holds great spiritual and cultural significance, drawing devotees from across the region. The Collector's directives aim to enhance the experience for visitors while promoting Bhadrachalam's heritage and tourism potential.

Telangana Govt School Students Fall Ill in Vikarabad Due to Food Poisoning

TPN Correspondent, Vikarabad: Around 30 students from a government school in Telangana's Vikarabad district were hospitalized on Tuesday due to suspected food poisoning. The incident occurred at the Tribal Girls Welfare Hostel in Saipur, Tandur mandal, where the students began experiencing symptoms of food poisoning. They were promptly taken to a government hospital in Tandoor for treatment.

Vikarabad Superintendent K. Narayana Reddy confirmed that the students were admitted to the hospital and after receiving medical attention, were discharged. He clarified that the case was not severe, and the hospital had not yet received any formal complaint regarding the incident.

This food poisoning case follows a similar incident in Nagarkurnool district, where a few students fell ill after consuming food served at their government school. The affected students were hospitalized at the Government Medical College and General Hospital, Nagarkurnool. How-



ever, doctors at the hospital denied the allegations of food poisoning linked to the school meal.

Central Team Assessing Flood Damage in Telangana: Union MoS in RS



TPN Correspondent, New Delhi: A central team has begun evaluating the flood damage in Telangana and assessing the needs of the affected areas, Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Rajbhushan Chaudhary, informed the Rajya Sabha on December 9. This update was provided in response to a query from Congress member Renuka Chowdhury. The central government has released Rs 416.80 crore to Telangana under the State Disaster Relief Fund for the financial year 2024-25. The funds are available until November 31, 2024.

The recent floods, triggered by heavy

rainfall starting on August 31, 2024, have caused significant devastation, especially in districts like Khammam, Mahabubabad, and Suryapet. Some areas received over 29 cm of rain in a single day, leading to severe flooding. More than 110 villages were submerged, leaving thousands stranded and prompting large-scale evacuations.

The floods, which affected 29 out of 33 districts, resulted in 29 fatalities, according to state officials. These areas have been declared flood-hit due to the extensive damage caused by overflowing rivers and dam discharges.

Singareni to Build Modern Shopping Complex in Godavarikhani

TPN Correspondent, Peddapalli: The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has announced plans to construct a state-of-the-art shopping complex in Godavarikhani, located in the Ramagundam Municipal Corporation limits. The proposed complex will replace the demolished residential quarters situated between Godavarikhani main chowrasta and Bhaskar Rao Bhavan.

As part of its diversification strategy, SCCL aims to expand beyond coal excavation into other ventures, including thermal power generation and commercial developments. The company plans to invest ₹15 crore in developing a G+1 commercial complex with 340 rooms, complete with a dedicated parking area and a service road.

The proposal will be tabled at the Board of Directors meeting for approval, after which construction is expected to commence. Earlier, SCCL faced backlash for demolishing 82 residential quarters in Shivajinagar and Hanuman Nagar for road widening, with residents protesting and submitting representations at Praja Bhavan, Hyderabad. The new shopping complex is planned for the same site, signaling a shift in the company's vision for the area.

Class 10 Student Dies by Suicide in Telangana's Khammam

TPN Correspondent, Khammam: A 14-year-old class 10 student, Mannuru Lakshmi Nakshatra, died by suicide in Khammam district on Monday, December 9.

Lakshmi, who studied at a private school in Khammam, was the daughter of M Naveen, a medical representative from Thorur village in Mahabubabad district, and Anuradha.

On the day of the incident, Lakshmi went out to buy some pens for her term exams but returned home late after encountering a pack of stray dogs on her usual route. Her parents scolded her for being late, which up-

set her. She then left the house, telling them she would be gone for good.

Despite initial disbelief, her parents, Naveen and Anuradha, began searching for her at nearby relatives' homes and the railway station. Tragically, they found out that Lakshmi had jumped before a train at Mondigate, near Khammam, leading to her death. The police have filed a case based on the complaint from the girl's relatives and launched an investigation.

The Mamillagudem area is in mourning, as Lakshmi was known for being a class topper and a state-level basketball player.

Need Clarity on Kazipet Coach Factory's Status: BRS



TPN Correspondent, Telangana, Dec 11: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra and former chief whip Dasu Vinay Bhaskar have called on Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for clarity regarding the establishment of a railway coach factory in Kazipet. The leaders submitted a memorandum to the minister on December 9 at Rail Bhavan, urging that the long-awaited project, which is a significant aspiration for the local community, should be brought to fruition.

In their memorandum, they stressed that the coach factory has been a longstanding dream for Kazipet residents and urged the central government to take immediate action, ensuring the project is not just a distant hope but an achievable reality. They criticized the previous Congress-led government for not establishing

the factory in Kazipet, opting instead for locations in Punjab, West Bengal, and Maharashtra, which they claim was an injustice to Telangana.

The BRS leaders also demanded that 60% of the jobs at the proposed factory be reserved for local residents and called for Kazipet to be designated as a division center. Additionally, they requested special zones for small traders and immediate funding for the construction of the Bodagutta foot-over bridge.

This issue has been a contentious one for several years, with the central government previously indicating that it would not establish a coach factory in Kazipet, despite earlier commitments made during the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.



The Hidden Toll of Air Pollution: A Personal Journey and National Crisis

Over a decade ago, my family made the bold decision to return to India, leaving behind the comfort of California. Despite the concerns of friends and family about the challenges of life back home—pollution, corruption, and the absence of amenities—I was resolute. I wanted my children to experience our rich culture, heritage, and be close to extended family. But what I did not foresee was how our return would expose us to a hidden crisis: the deadly levels of air pollution in India.

In the winter of 2012, I found myself in denial about the air quality in Delhi. What I once dismissed as fog was, in reality, a poisonous smog, filling our lungs with harmful toxins. As time passed, and after speaking to experts, I became acutely aware of the severity of the situation. Air pollution, I realized, was a silent killer affecting the health of every resident.

Over the past 12 years, I've learned more than I ever wanted to know about the devastating effects of pollution. My mother's death from lung cancer, triggered by air pollution, was a harsh reminder of the silent toll it takes on lives. I began advocating for clean air, urging others to take

action, but the issue is far from being addressed adequately. There are five critical things that people still fail to understand about this crisis.

First, there are no safe levels of air pollution. Whether it's the World Health Organization or other health bodies, experts agree that no exposure is without risk. Even lower pollution levels cause significant harm, contributing to diseases, disabilities, and premature deaths. Every year, 1.7 million people die due to air pollution, three times the number of deaths caused by COVID-19.

Second, air pollution is not a seasonal issue. While it may be more visible in winter, the air quality in India is consistently poor year-round. The pollution is often 10 times higher than WHO guidelines, and in the winter, it can reach 50 times the safe limit.

Third, over 90% of India breathes polluted air, not just the northern regions. Cities like Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Chennai are facing pollution levels comparable to Delhi. Even rural areas are not immune, with indoor pollution from biomass

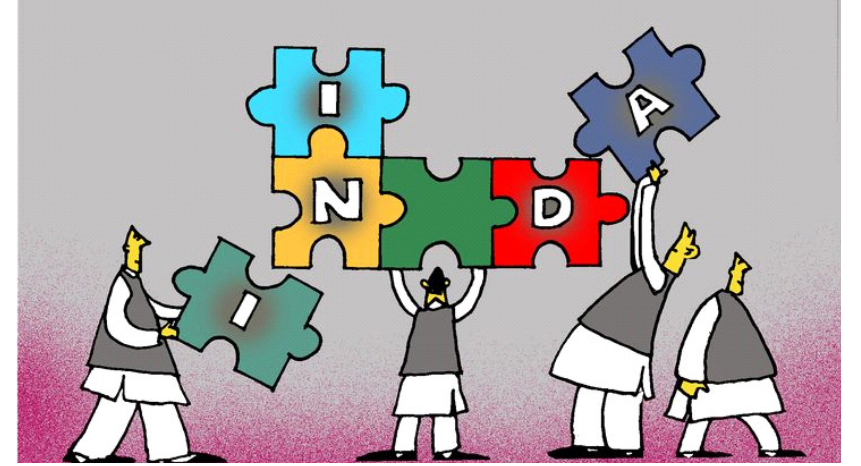
burning contributing to a significant portion of the overall pollution.

Fourth, the damage caused by air pollution goes beyond the respiratory system. It affects every organ, particularly the heart, and has been linked to an increase in heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular diseases, especially among younger populations.

Finally, the harm caused by pollution is irreversible. The tiny PM2.5 particles we inhale remain in our bodies for life. The University of Chicago's Air Quality of Life Index shows that residents of Delhi could live 12 years longer if they breathed clean air.

Air pollution is not just an environmental issue; it's a social inequity, disproportionately affecting the poor and marginalized who lack access to healthcare and live in the most polluted areas. As India continues to prioritize economic growth, it must also address the development of a healthier, sustainable future for its citizens. This is the growth I want to see—one that ensures the well-being of all its people, including those like me, who chose to return to their homeland.

Leadership Crisis Looms Over INDIA Alliance Amid Election Setbacks



Six months after a strong performance in the Lok Sabha elections, the Opposition's INDIA alliance is grappling with a leadership crisis. While the bloc registered victories in Jharkhand and Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections, its poor showings in Haryana and Maharashtra have exposed growing fractures within the coalition. The Congress-led Maha Vikas Aghadi's crushing defeat in Maharashtra at the hands of the BJP-led Mahayuti has brought underlying tensions to the surface, leading to a wave of criticism.

The Congress party's disappointing results have significantly weakened its dominant position within the INDIA alliance, paving the way for Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to step into the fray. Mamata, dissatisfied with the functioning of the alliance, has signaled her interest in taking a leading role if given the chance. She has found backing from Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Sharad Pawar, who described her as a "prominent leader" of the nation, adding to her growing influence.

As tensions rise, it's evident that Rahul Gandhi's grip as the face of the opposition is weakening. While the Gandhi family continues to hold significant sway in the Congress, with Mallikarjun Kharge serving as both party president and chairperson of the INDIA bloc, there is growing dissatisfaction among the alliance's partners. The presence of three Gandhis in Parliament, with Priyanka Gandhi now joining her brother Rahul and their mother Sonia, has not been enough to inspire confidence within the bloc, with several allies voicing concerns about dynastic control.

The Congress must now reconsider its approach and be more accommodating to its partners. Overconfidence in Haryana, where the party sidelined fellow INDIA members, cost it dearly. Additionally, Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena party has exacerbated tensions by praising the demolishers of the Babri Masjid, igniting a backlash from the Samajwadi Party, which holds significant influence over the Muslim vote bank in Uttar Pradesh. For the INDIA alliance to remain intact and effectively challenge the BJP in the upcoming elections, mutual respect and cooperation are essential. If internal divisions are not addressed, the alliance could risk imploding, inadvertently strengthening the position of the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The clock is ticking, and the opposition needs to quickly resolve its leadership issue to mount a united challenge.

Pakistan Military's Brutal Crackdown on PTI Protesters Amid Growing Authoritarianism

Pakistan's descent into an authoritarian hybrid regime has become more evident as protests intensify, signaling a grave threat to democratic governance and civil liberties in the country. The protests, sparked by Imran Khan's call for *Haqeeqi Azaadi* (True Freedom), began on November 24, 2024, with the aim of challenging the entrenched military-led political order. The movement, led by Khan and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), demands the release of

influence of the military in Pakistan's politics.

In response, the Pakistani military, under General Asim Muneer's leadership, has deployed harsh measures to quell the unrest. Reports of violent crackdowns have emerged, with numerous fatalities and many people still unaccounted for. The military, seeking to suppress public knowledge of its actions, has resorted to disinformation tactics, including branding demonstrators as "Afghan infiltrators" to delegitimize their cause. This rhetoric is a clear echo of Joseph Goebbels' propaganda strategy, which emphasized the importance of repeating false narratives to control public opinion.

The military's brutality in response to the protests highlights the increasing authoritarianism in Pakistan, where the hybrid regime—comprising both civilian and military elites—has consolidated power at the expense of democratic freedoms. The regime's efforts to distort the truth and suppress opposition are growing

more apparent, making it clear that the country's democratic future hangs in the balance. The PTI-led protests, despite being met with severe repression, signal the ongoing struggle for democratic rights and civil liberties in Pakistan. The government's use of force to stifle dissent only deepens the divide between the ruling establishment and the people. If these protests continue to be met with violent crackdowns, Pakistan risks further destabilization, with citizens increasingly alienated by a regime that seems unwilling to respect democratic principles or the will of the people.



political prisoners, the repeal of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, and the restoration of the "stolen mandate."

Thousands of demonstrators, defying a government ban, converged on Islamabad's D-Chowk, a politically significant site that lies within the Red Zone, home to key government institutions like the Parliament House, Supreme Court, and Prime Minister's Office. Despite the government's attempts to suppress the protest, the call for freedom resonated strongly with citizens, particularly those dissatisfied with the growing

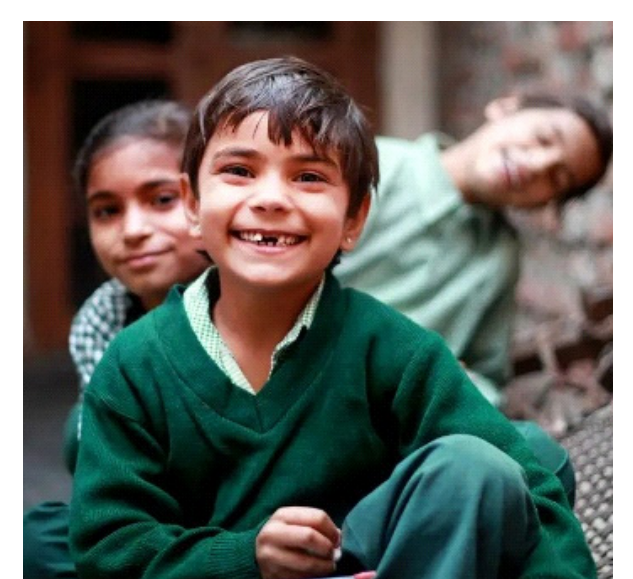
The Future of India: Doesn't Need More Babies Focus Should Be on Improving Quality of Life

In India, where over 51 million cases remain pending across all levels of the judiciary, the call for judicial reform has never been more urgent. The sheer backlog underscores the necessity for innovative solutions that can transform the system and deliver justice more swiftly. Among the most promising tools to address this crisis is Artificial Intelligence (AI), a technology that, when integrated thoughtfully, could revolutionize the judicial landscape.

AI has already demonstrated its potential across various sectors globally, and the judicial system is no exception. India's Supreme Court has taken notable steps towards technological advancement, yet there is a pressing need for more focused efforts in incorporating AI into the legal system. One key area where AI can be a game-changer is in court administration. AI can assist in categorizing cases, organizing files, and tracking case progress, thus streamlining workflows and improving efficiency. The cumbersome paperwork that currently burdens the system can also be digitized, allowing AI to help analyze and extract relevant information, reducing manual intervention.

Digitalization powered by AI is already transforming legal systems in countries like England, Wales, and Austria. By using AI for tasks such as case filing, defect detection, and real-time case monitoring, these countries have greatly improved the speed and transparency of their judicial processes. India could benefit from such innovations by adopting similar AI tools, which would make legal information more accessible to both courts and litigants.

Beyond administrative tasks, AI holds great promise in assisting judicial decision-making. Legal research, often time-consuming and resource-heavy, can be expedited by AI systems that gather relevant case laws and precedents quickly. Furthermore, AI could aid in tasks like translation, transcription, and providing legal knowledge to litigants, making the system more accessible to a wider range of people.



However, while AI offers significant advantages, it is important to recognize its limitations. AI cannot replace human judgment, especially when it comes to adjudicating complex legal matters that require understanding of human nuances and ethics. The role of judges and judicial officers remains irreplaceable, and AI should only serve as a tool to assist, not substitute, human decision-making. Thus, a balance must be struck between technological assistance and the essential human element in the justice system. The Supreme Court's initiative, such as the "Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency" (SUPACE AI), represents a positive step toward incorporating AI specifically tailored for the Indian judicial system. SUPACE, designed to assist judges by collecting relevant facts, is an example of how AI can be utilized to support judicial functions without overstepping its role.

In conclusion, AI has the potential to be a vital ally in the pursuit of speedy and accessible justice in India. With continued investment in AI technology tailored for legal purposes, India's judicial system could see a significant reduction in case backlogs and improved justice delivery for its citizens.

PM Modi Set to Visit Kuwait, Strengthening Bilateral Ties

TPN CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI DECEMBER.11

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is poised to visit Kuwait, marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the Gulf country in over 43 years. The visit aims to enhance the close cooperation and strong partnership between India and Kuwait, which currently holds the presidency of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Last week, during his visit to New Delhi, Kuwait's Foreign Minister, Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya, extended an invitation to PM Modi to visit Kuwait at the earliest opportunity, which Modi graciously accepted. This invitation came during a delegation-level meeting with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar at the Hyderabad House, where Al-Yahya described India as a "very important partner" and hailed PM Modi as "one of the wisest persons" globally. He expressed confidence in India's leadership under Modi, which he believes has elevated the country's global standing.

Kuwait remains the only GCC member country that PM Modi has not yet visited since assuming office in 2014, with a proposed trip in 2022 postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In September, PM Modi met with Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, the Crown Prince of Kuwait, on the side-



lines of the 79th UN General Assembly in New York. The two leaders discussed the historical ties and people-to-people connections between their countries, with Modi emphasizing India's commitment to strengthening bilateral relations with Kuwait.

During discussions with the Kuwait Foreign Minister, PM Modi reiterated the importance of India-Kuwait relations and expressed confidence that Kuwait's presidency of the GCC would further

strengthen cooperation in the region. Both countries highlighted their joint efforts in energy and food security, with PM Modi thanking Kuwait for its continued support of India's large diaspora, which is the largest foreign community in the country. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the two nations to establish a joint committee for bilateral cooperation, reflecting their shared commitment to deepening ties and promoting stability and security in the region.

"Ridiculous, BJP Scared": Priyanka Gandhi On Sonia Gandhi-George Soros Links

TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.11

The Congress party, facing sharp criticism from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over alleged connections between former party president Sonia Gandhi and businessman George Soros, hit back strongly on Tuesday. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, a key Congress leader, dismissed the accusations as "ridiculous" and claimed they were part of a strategy to divert attention from more pressing issues.

Speaking to reporters, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra refuted the claims linking her mother, Sonia Gandhi, to Soros, labeling them as baseless. "It is the most ridiculous thing they could come up with. They are talking about something from 1994... no one has any record of it. No one knows what they are talking about," she said. She accused the BJP of trying to distract voters with unfounded allegations to avoid discussing the real issues at hand, particularly the Adani controversy, which has been a point of major contention in the political debate.



Priyanka Gandhi also took aim at the BJP for stalling Parliament proceedings, citing the chaotic scenes in the legislature, where the session was adjourned after protests from both sides. She argued that the ruling party was deliberately preventing discussions on important matters. "They don't want to discuss the Adani issue because they are scared. They know they cannot debate this because the truth will be revealed," she added. Additionally, she criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his absence from Parliament, suggesting that his lack of participation was another attempt to evade accountability. This latest exchange underscores the intense political rivalry between the Congress and the BJP as both parties continue to target each other ahead of upcoming elections.

Lalu Yadav Supports Mamata Banerjee as Leader of Opposition INDIA Bloc



TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.10

The push for Mamata Banerjee to lead the Opposition INDIA bloc has gained momentum, with Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo Lalu Yadav throwing his support behind the West Bengal Chief Minister. On Tuesday, Lalu Yadav voiced his backing for Mamata Banerjee as the leader of the anti-BJP alliance, dismissing Congress' preference for Rahul Gandhi.

When questioned about Congress' stance, which favors Rahul Gandhi as the potential leader, Lalu remarked, "It does not matter what the Congress says, give it (the leadership) to Mamata," further solidifying his support for Banerjee's leadership. His comment came just days after Mamata Banerjee herself expressed her intention to take charge of the Opposition coalition. Lalu Yadav's endorsement of Mamata Banerjee as the leader of the INDIA bloc marks a significant boost to her position, as discussions around leadership within the alliance intensify. While Congress has reservations about Banerjee's leadership, particularly in favor of Rahul Gandhi, Lalu's statement underscores the growing momentum behind the Trinamool Congress leader's bid.

In addition to supporting Mamata's leadership, Lalu also exuded confidence in the INDIA alliance's chances in the 2025 Bihar elections. He expressed optimism about the RJD-led alliance's success, saying they would secure a victory. On the other hand, he made a pointed remark about Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's claim that the NDA would win 225 seats in the upcoming elections, suggesting Kumar first address his own issues before making such bold predictions.

I have never met Adani, says Tamil Nadu CM Stalin raising pitch for JPC probe

TPN CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI
DECEMBER.11

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin categorically denied allegations that he had met Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani, amid growing speculation about their alleged links. Responding to a query raised by G.K. Mani of the Paatali Makkal Katchi (PMK), a BJP ally, Stalin firmly stated, "Neither Adani met me, nor did I meet him. Do you need any more explanation on this?"

This statement put an end to rumors suggesting that Adani had met Stalin at his Chennai residence earlier this year to discuss power projects in the state. The controversy was further fueled by claims from opposition parties, particularly the PMK, alleging connections between the Tamil Nadu government and the Adani Group.

In response to these allegations, Electricity Minister V. Senthil Balaji had previously clarified in November that the Tamil Nadu government had no "business relationship" with the Adani Group, reinforcing Stalin's position. The Chief Minister further emphasized that the state electricity department had not entered into any agreements with Adani, asserting that no such meeting took place.



Turning the tables on the BJP and PMK, Stalin challenged them to address a more pressing issue. He questioned their stance on the demand by the Opposition bloc, I.N.D.I.A., for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the alleged irregularities surrounding the Adani Group. Stalin asked, "We have clarified the issue, but I want to ask PMK and BJP: MPs from the Opposition bloc are demanding a JPC probe into the allegations against Adani. Are they ready for such a probe? Will they answer?"

Stalin's remarks added pressure on the BJP and its allies, calling for transparency and accountability in light of ongoing concerns surrounding the Adani Group.

Insisting On Belagavi's Merger With Maharashtra "Foolishness": Siddaramaiah

TPN CORRESPONDENT BELAGAVI
DECEMBER.11

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has firmly rejected any claims for the merger of Belagavi with Maharashtra, calling such demands "sheer foolishness." Speaking to the media in Belagavi on Tuesday, Siddaramaiah reaffirmed that the Mahajan Commission Report on the issue was final and that any insistence on revisiting the matter was unnecessary.

Responding to Maharashtra politician Aaditya Thackeray's recent comments regarding the suppression of Marathi-speaking people in Belagavi, Siddaramaiah stated, "For us, the Mahajan Commission Report is final. Once the Mahajan Report has been accepted, the matter is settled." The Mahajan Commission, which settled the inter-state border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra, had already determined Belagavi's inclusion within Karnataka, and the matter should be considered resolved, according to the Chief Minister.



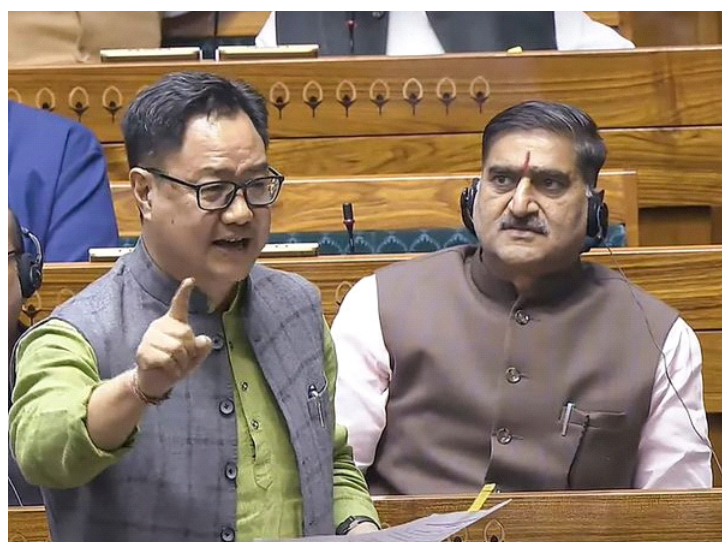
When asked about the possibility of violence from Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) members over the Belagavi issue, Siddaramaiah made it clear that the Karnataka government would not tolerate any such actions. He warned, "Whoever indulges in violence, we will not remain silent." The Belagavi border dispute has flared up periodically since the States Reorganisation Act of 1956, which set linguistic boundaries, but Karnataka has consistently maintained control over the region.

Siddaramaiah also addressed the ongoing reservation agitation by the Panchamasali Lingayat community, noting that while the government had invited community leaders for talks, they did not attend. He reiterated that while protests were a democratic right, the government did not oppose peaceful demonstrations.

In a separate statement, Siddaramaiah expressed his condolences over the passing of veteran leader S.M. Krishna, who served the state for over four decades in various political capacities. The Chief Minister praised Krishna as an efficient administrator and announced a three-day mourning period, with a state holiday on Wednesday.

Notice for moving resolution to remove V-P Dhankhar regrettable: Rijju

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.11



Union Minister Kiren Rijju on Tuesday expressed strong disapproval of the opposition INDIA bloc's move to submit a notice seeking the removal of Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, calling it "extremely regrettable." Rijju defended Dhankhar, who also serves as the chairperson of the Rajya Sabha, stating that the government is proud of his leadership and professionalism.

The INDIA bloc, consisting of several opposition parties, submitted a motion to bring a resolution in the Rajya Sabha for the removal of Dhankhar, accusing him of exhibiting

"partisan" behavior in his role as the Upper House chairperson. The opposition claimed that Dhankhar's conduct had been biased and aligned with the government's interests, undermining the impartiality expected of his office.

However, Rijju countered these allegations, asserting that Dhankhar has always maintained professionalism and impartiality while performing his duties. "He is extremely professional and impartial in his role," Rijju said, emphasizing that the vice-president has handled his responsibilities in a fair and unbiased manner.

The opposition parties, despite lacking the

requisite numbers to pass the motion in the 243-member Rajya Sabha, stated that the move was intended to send a strong message about their commitment to defending parliamentary democracy. A simple majority would be needed to remove Dhankhar if the motion were to be moved, but the opposition faces significant challenges in gathering enough support.

The ongoing dispute reflects the tension between the ruling government and opposition parties, especially regarding the conduct and leadership of the Rajya Sabha. While the government continues to stand by Dhankhar, the opposition is determined to hold him accountable, signaling further friction in the political landscape.



Trump Threatens 25% Tariff on Canada and Mexico, Jabs at Trudeau

WASHINGTON: US President-elect Donald Trump has reignited tensions with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, calling him "Governor Justin Trudeau of the Great State of Canada" in a post on his social media platform, Truth Social. The latest jibe comes after Trump had earlier suggested "making Canada the 51st state of the US" and follows a recent dinner with Trudeau at Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

Trump's remarks come on the heels of his threat to impose a 25% tax on all products entering the US from Canada and Mexico unless both nations take stronger action to stem the flow of migrants and drugs. This move, if executed, would have significant economic implications for both neighboring countries, as trade between the US, Canada, and Mexico is integral to the North American economy.

On Truth Social, Trump wrote, "It was a pleasure to have dinner the other night with Governor Justin Trudeau of the Great State of Canada. I look forward to seeing the Governor again soon so that we may continue our in-depth talks on Tariffs and Trade, the results of which will be truly spectacular for all! DJT." This playful yet pointed comment adds fuel to the ongoing rhetoric surrounding trade tensions between the countries.

Trudeau, who has been vocal in his criticism of Trump's trade policies, responded to the tariff threat earlier this week. He warned that tariffs on all Canadian goods would significantly raise costs for American consumers, stating that Americans were beginning to recognize the "real reality" of such an economic move. Trudeau also made it clear that Canada would retaliate if Trump proceeds with the tariff imposition, escalating the already tense trade relations between the two nations. As Trump prepares to take office, the rhetoric surrounding his stance on trade continues to dominate conversations with international leaders, particularly in Canada and Mexico. With Trump's presidency set to begin, these ongoing trade negotiations will likely remain a focal point of US foreign policy.

Biden Approves Limited Oil Lease Sale in Arctic Refuge, Stirring Environmental Concerns

WASHINGTON: In a controversial move, the Biden administration has approved a limited sale of oil and gas leases in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), sparking significant environmental concerns. The lease sale, scheduled for January 9, is set to take place just weeks before President Joe Biden's term concludes.

The decision opens the door for drilling in a portion of the pristine Arctic refuge, a move that has long been a point of contention between environmental advocates and energy interests. While the sale will include only a fraction of the land that was available for bidding in a 2017 lease sale under the Trump administration, it still marks a significant step toward potential oil exploration in one of America's most ecologically sensitive areas.



The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which President Donald Trump signed into law, mandated that two lease sales be held in ANWR by the end of 2024. While major oil companies bypassed the first sale, the Biden administration conducted a review of the leasing program before approving the second sale. As a result, seven leases from the initial sale were canceled, but the January auction will move forward, albeit on a smaller scale.

Environmental groups have expressed strong opposition to the lease sale, arguing that drilling in the Arctic refuge would pose irreversible damage to the delicate ecosystem and wildlife in the region. Critics contend that the oil industry's interest in the area is driven by short-term economic gains at the cost of long-term environmental degradation.

As Biden's presidency winds down, this decision has become a flashpoint in the ongoing debate over energy policy, climate change, and conservation. While the Biden administration had previously signaled its commitment to protecting public lands, this last-minute approval of the oil lease sale has left many questioning the administration's environmental legacy.

Will Not Hesitate: Syria Rebel Leader's Big Warning To Assad's Men

NEW DELHI: Nabu Mohammed al-Jolani, also known as Ahmed al-Sharaa, the Syrian rebel leader who spearheaded the offensive that ended Bashar al-Assad's regime, has vowed to hold accountable those responsible for the widespread torture and human rights abuses that occurred under the previous government. In a statement posted on the rebels' Telegram channels, al-Jolani emphasized that the new government would pursue justice for those involved in the regime's atrocities.

Al-Jolani met with outgoing prime minister Mohammed al-Jalali to facilitate a smooth transfer of power and ensure that essential services continue for Syria's population. The rebel leader reaffirmed the commitment to accountability, stating that those involved in torture, murder, and other crimes would face justice. This comes after years of brutal repression by Assad's forces, which led to the deaths of around 500,000 Syrians and the displacement of millions.

The fall of Assad's regime marks a monumental shift for Syria. After a decade of violent suppression, where international allies Russia and Iran helped Assad maintain power, the situation changed as the Assad regime became increasingly vulnerable due to the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza. As rebel forces advanced into Damascus, Assad fled, effectively ending a five-decade rule by his family.



For many, this moment represents a new beginning. Thousands of Syrians have gathered outside Saydnaya prison, notorious for its brutal treatment of detainees. An estimated 100,000 people are believed to have died in Syrian prisons during Assad's rule, with more than 30,000 of those deaths occurring in Saydnaya alone. Amnesty International described the prison as a "human slaughterhouse," where murder, torture, and enforced disappearances were widespread.

With Assad's departure, relatives of the missing prisoners, like Aida Taha, are des-

perately searching for their loved ones. Many former prisoners, who survived unimaginable suffering, now roam the streets of Damascus, marked by signs of torture and malnutrition.

As Syria moves forward, the international community is watching closely. While Germany and France have expressed willingness to cooperate with the new leadership, they emphasize the importance of human rights and protection for minorities. The UK and US have also outlined conditions, calling for a rejection of violence and terrorism.

Netanyahu to Testify in Corruption Trial Amid Ongoing Gaza Conflict

TEL AVIV: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is set to testify for the first time in his long-running corruption trial, despite the ongoing war with Hamas. Under a court order, Netanyahu will begin his court appearances on Tuesday, after judges ruled that he must start testifying, setting the stage for his trial to proceed while the conflict continues.

Netanyahu, who has been charged with bribery, fraud, and breach of trust, will testify three times a week. His trial, which had been delayed due to the war in Gaza, centers around allegations that Netanyahu received gifts from millionaire friends and sought regulatory favors from media moguls in exchange for favorable coverage. He denies all charges, calling the investigations a politically motivated "witch hunt" aimed at undermining his leadership.



The legal proceedings had been postponed during the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, which began in October 2023. This war, which has gripped the nation, temporarily overshadowed Netanyahu's legal battles, as Israel united in the face of the Hamas attack. However, as the war continues, Netanyahu faces growing tensions

within his cabinet, especially with clashes between his ministers and the judiciary.

Netanyahu's trial has divided Israelis for years, especially as his government's efforts to curb the powers of the judiciary sparked political polarization. The prime minister's legal troubles were further compounded when the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant last month for Netanyahu and former defense chief Yoav Gallant, along with a Hamas leader, over alleged war crimes related to the Gaza conflict.

At 75, Netanyahu is Israel's longest-serving prime minister and the first sitting prime minister to face criminal charges. As he prepares to juggle the demands of leading the country through a war while defending himself in court, Israel's political landscape remains highly volatile.

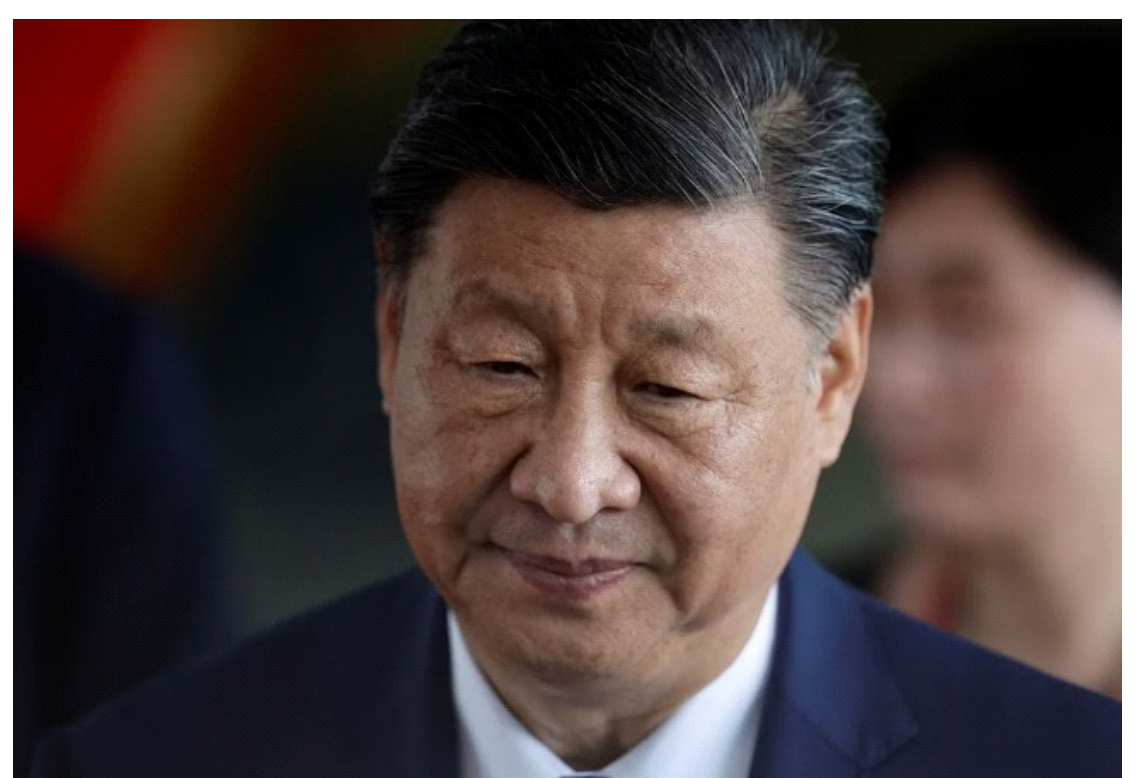
Xi Jinping Warns Against Tariff and Tech Wars with the US, Stresses China's Interests

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday cautioned that tariff wars, trade disputes, and technology battles between China and the United States would yield no winners. Xi's remarks came during a meeting with the heads of ten major international organizations, including the World Bank (WB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Trade Organization (WTO), in which he highlighted the detrimental effects of such conflicts on global stability and economic principles.

"Tariff wars, trade wars, and technology wars run counter to historical trends and economic laws, and there will be no winners," Xi stated. He emphasized that such disputes would only harm both sides and warned that China would firmly safeguard its interests in the face of mounting pressures.

Xi also reiterated China's approach to its relationship with the United States. "China will always insist on focusing on its own affairs and resolutely safeguard its sovereignty, security, and development interests," he asserted, signaling Beijing's unwavering stance on issues related to its national sovereignty. At the same time, Xi made it clear that China would continue to pursue high-level opening-up policies, aiming to further integrate itself into the global economy.

These comments come amid rising ten-



sions between China and the U.S. as President-elect Donald Trump prepares to take office. During his election campaign, Trump threatened to impose steep tariffs on Chinese goods, with proposals for up to a 60% tariff on Chinese exports to the U.S. if trade imbalances are not addressed. Additionally, Trump warned of additional tariffs on China if it fails to curb the flow of fentanyl, a potent drug responsible for thousands of deaths in the U.S. each year.

While the specifics of Xi's communication with Trump remain unclear, the Chinese leader's statement reflects a commitment to navigating potential trade conflicts with the U.S. without compromising China's core interests. As Trump's presidency approaches, the future of U.S.-China relations remains uncertain, with both countries preparing for a period of heightened economic competition.

Markets End Flat Amid Volatility

Sensex Closes at 81,510, Nifty at 24,610 as IT and Realty Gain

Domestic stock markets ended flat on Tuesday. The indices, which started off weak on mixed signals from international markets, plunged into heavy losses in the afternoon. Later, they rebounded on increased buying in heavyweights. The increase in investments in midcap shares is also a good sign. Shares in almost all sectors are gaining strength. IT and realty sectors gained the most. Pharma and energy, however, lost. Nifty settled at 24,610 and Sensex settled at 81,510.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,508 in the previous session, started at 81,575 today. It touched an intraday low of 81,182. It reached an intraday high of 81,726. It finally closed at 81,510, up 2 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,652 on Tuesday, touched a low of 24,510 and a high of 24,677. It closed at 24,610, down 8 points. The Bank Nifty rose 169 points to settle at 53,577.



MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM
Stock Market Analyst
+91 988 555 9709

In the Nifty50, 23 companies gained while 27 lost. Shriram Finance, Bajaj Finserv, HCL Tech, Wipro, and Infi were the top gainers. Bharti Airtel, Dr. Reddy's, Adani Ports, Adani Enterprises, and HDFC Life lost the most. Today, buying was seen in realty, IT, PSU bank, and finance sectors. Selling pressure was seen on shares of media, energy, infra, CPSE, tourism, defence, oil and gas sectors.

Market breadth on NSE was evenly balanced between buyers and sellers. Out of a total of 2885 stocks traded, 1438 ended in gains and 1367 ended in losses. Stocks of 124 companies hit 52-week highs and 17 stocks hit 52-week lows.

Rupee hits lifetime low against dollar. It weakened by 12 paise to settle at 84.85 against yesterday's 84.73. HSBC has given a buy rating to Emphasis. Triveni Engineering hits a 10-week high. Kansai Nerolac shares fell for the fifth consecutive day. Amber Enterprises shares lost for the seventh consecutive session. Ashoka Buildcon surged for the 9th consecutive session. This is the first time in five years that the index has risen for such a long time. IPOs worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore are expected to come in 2025. Gujarat Gas shares rose on news of increasing industrial gas prices. HDFC Bank hiked loan interest rates. IGL board approved one bonus share for each share. Torrent Power shares fell for the fifth consecutive session. Jefferies has given a buy rating to Godrej Properties with a target price of Rs 3850.

Recommended Stocks:

1. RBL Bank Limited (RBLBANK)
Improving asset quality and focus on retail



RBL BANK

loans.Strong CASA ratio growth (low-cost deposits). Digital banking initiatives offer growth potential in retail banking.No promoter holding, which can impact long-term investor confidence. Lower profitability ratios compared to leading private banks.Suitable for contrarian investors looking for undervalued banking stocks with turnaround potential. Requires monitoring of NPAs and business growth.

2. Shriram Finance Limited (SHRIRAMFIN)

Market leader in commercial vehicle financing with a diversified portfolio. Strong growth in AUM (+20% YoY) and robust profitability (18% net profit growth in Q2 FY24). Expanding rural reach supports growth in under-penetrated markets. Exposure to rural markets can make it vulnerable to economic cycles. Competition in the NBFC space may put pressure on margins. Moderate P/E ratio (~10-12) and attractive dividend policies make it a solid pick for income-oriented investors. A stable and promising pick for long-term growth in the NBFC space, especially for investors targeting commercial and rural lending growth.



3. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited (CHOLAFIN)

Diversified portfolio covering vehicle finance, home loans, and SME loans. Consistent performance with net profit and revenue growth (Q2 FY25 net profit grew 26% YoY). Strong ROE of ~15%, reflecting efficient use of capital.



High valuations (P/E ~30) may limit short-term upside. Sensitive to interest rate cycles and competition in housing finance. Premium valuation reflects its leadership and consistent performance. A strong candidate for long-term investors focused on vehicle and housing finance sectors.

4. Olectra Greentech Limited (OLECTRA)

Market leader in electric buses with contracts from state governments. Strong promoter holding (50%) and high ROCE (~34%). Positioned to benefit from EV adoption trends and government incentives. High valuation (P/E ~115) reflects significant growth expectations. Dependency on government contracts may limit revenue diversification. Overvalued based on current financials; suitable for high-risk, high-reward investors. Best suited for aggressive investors looking to capitalize on India's growing EV sector.



5. Pidilite Industries Limited (PIDILITIND)

Dominant market share with leading brands like Fevicol and Dr. Fixit. Resilient business model with strong rural and urban demand. Robust financials with consistent growth in net profit (18.8% YoY in Q2 FY24). High P/E ratio (~60) limits upside potential. Sensitive to raw material price volatility. Premium valuation reflects its strong brand equity and consistent growth. Ideal for conservative, long-term investors seeking steady returns from a well-established market leader.



Tata Motors Shares Rise as Company Announces Up to 3% Price Hike



Tata Motors' stock saw a rise of over 1% to Rs 810 in early trading on December 10, following the company's announcement of a price hike of up to 3% across its vehicle range. This price increase, set to take effect from January 2025, will also impact electric vehicle models.

The price hike marks the third such increase this year, driven by factors including rising global commodity prices, high import duties on raw materials, and ongoing supply chain disruptions. Among the models most affected by the increase are Tata's popular Nexon and Punch, with base variants seeing price increases. The Nexon, which is currently priced at Rs 8.00 lakh (ex-showroom) for its base variant, will now cost Rs 8.24 lakh, while the Punch will increase from Rs 6.13 lakh to Rs 6.31 lakh for the base variant.

Despite the price hike, Tata Motors is navigating a challenging landscape in the automotive sector. The overall auto market has been grappling with a slowdown, leading many automakers to adjust sales strategies and offer higher discounts. However, Tata Motors has struggled in recent months, with its stock performing poorly compared to other major four-wheeler manufacturers, showing a decline of over 22% in the last three months.

This drop in stock performance comes amid a broader trend of rising input costs and weakened demand in the auto industry, which had previously seen a period of strong growth. Tata Motors, however, remains committed to adjusting its pricing to mitigate these challenges while continuing to offer competitive vehicles in an increasingly challenging market.

S&P Global Projects Resilient Growth for Indian Economy in 2025

S&P Global Ratings has projected "resilient growth" for the Indian economy in 2025, highlighting strong urban consumption, steady service sector expansion, and ongoing infrastructure investment as key drivers. In its India outlook for 2025, the agency retained its growth forecast for the current fiscal year at 6.8%, followed by a growth rate of 6.9% in 2025-26.

According to Vishrut Rana, Economist at S&P Global Ratings, the Indian economy is expected to perform well in 2025, driven by the continued expansion of urban consumption and the service sector. Infrastructure investments are also expected to play a pivotal role in sustaining economic growth.

Rana also predicted a modest easing of monetary policy by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in 2025, as inflationary pressures begin to subside. This comes after the RBI's decision last week to keep the benchmark interest rate unchanged at 6.5% while reducing the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 50 basis points to infuse liquidity into the banking system.

Despite positive long-term growth projections, S&P noted that India's GDP growth for Q2 of fiscal year 2024 (June-September 2024)



was weaker than expected, registering only a 5.4% growth rate. This marks a slowdown compared to the 8.2% growth seen in fiscal year 2023-24.

In summary, S&P Global's outlook indicates a stable economic path for India in 2025, supported by key sectors like urban consumption and infrastructure development, while inflationary pressures are expected to ease, paving the way for potential monetary policy adjustments by the RBI.

India's Inflation likely to have eased to 5.5% in Nov, industrial growth up at 3.6%

India's inflation is expected to have eased to 5.5% in November, down from a 14-month high of 6.2% in the previous month, according to a poll conducted by Moneycontrol among 16 economists. The expected decline in inflation is attributed to a sequential moderation in prices, which is likely to have kept food inflation in check.

Economists suggest that the moderation in headline inflation is primarily driven by easing food prices, which benefitted from favorable base effects and a softening in prices compared to previous months. "Headline inflation is expected to start cooling off on the back of easing food inflation that benefits from a favorable base as well as sequential softening," said Abhishek Upadhyay, Senior Economist at ICICI Securities Primary Dealership, who projected inflation at 5.5% for November.

Despite the overall cooling of inflation, experts caution that prices for essential commodities may remain elevated, keeping inflation above the 5% mark for the third consecutive month. The persistence of high prices for everyday goods continues to be a concern, even as broader inflation



shows signs of easing.

This moderation in inflation is significant for policymakers, as it comes after several months of elevated inflationary pressures. A lower inflation rate could provide the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with more room to adjust monetary policy to support economic growth while keeping inflation within its target range.

Overall, while inflation is expected to moderate in November, the persistence of high prices for essential commodities means that inflation remains a key issue for India's economy in the near term.

Chinese Woman Wins Rs 1.2 Lakh for Staying Calm Without Her Phone for 8 Hours

A Chinese woman has won 10,000 yuan (approximately Rs 1.2 lakh) in a unique competition that tested participants' ability to resist digital distractions and stay calm for eight hours without using a mobile phone. The contest, held on November 29 at a shopping mall in Chongqing, required contestants not only to avoid gadgets but also to maintain composure and mental endurance throughout the challenge.



The competition, which attracted over 100 applicants, selected 10 contestants who were confined to beds for the entire duration of the challenge. Participants were required to forgo their smartphones, tablets, and laptops, with only calling devices allowed in case of an emergency. Wrist straps monitored sleep quality and anxiety levels, ensuring contestants stayed alert and did not fall into deep sleep or exhibit excessive stress.

Dong, a sales manager who was nicknamed "Pyjama Sister" by social media users for wearing pyjamas to the event, emerged as the winner with an impressive score of 88.99 out of 100. She not only stayed in bed the longest but also showed the least anxiety, successfully avoiding deep sleep during the competition. Contestants were also restricted to five-minute toilet breaks, and meals and fluids had to be consumed in bed.

Dong's victory was attributed to her lifestyle, as she revealed that she rarely wastes time aimlessly scrolling through her phone and instead focuses on tutoring her child in her free time. This disciplined approach to managing time and avoiding digital distractions contributed to her success in the competition.

The event is part of a broader initiative in China to encourage citizens to reduce screen time and embrace healthier digital habits. Earlier this year, a PhD student made headlines for traveling across 24 provinces without using any electronic gadgets, further promoting the idea of disconnecting from technology.

Google's Year in Search 2024: Top Trends and Most Searched Topics in India

Google has released its *Year in Search 2024* report, shedding light on the most notable search trends from users in India. The data reveals the topics that captured the attention of people across the country this year, ranging from sports and movies to memes and quirky language trends. Cricket dominated the search landscape, with major events such as the Indian Premier League (IPL) and the T20 World Cup topping the charts.



The Indian Premier League and T20 World Cup were the top two search terms this year, reflecting the immense popularity of cricket among Indian users. Fans eagerly followed both tournaments, and these events sparked widespread interest throughout the year. Additionally, the Indian Super League (ISL) also made its mark, securing the 10th spot among the most searched terms, showcasing the growing interest in football in India.

Movies were another major area of focus, with *Stree 2* and *Kalki 2898 AD* emerging as some of the most searched films. These movies generated significant buzz, and fans were actively looking up details, trailers, and updates. The search interest in these films highlights the strong connection between Indian audiences and the movie industry, particularly in the realm of popular franchises and anticipated releases.

In addition to sports and entertainment, political events also grabbed the attention of users.

The *Election Results 2024* was one of the most searched terms, reflecting the national interest in the political landscape of India this year. The *Olympics 2024* also ranked high, indicating the excitement and anticipation for the global sporting event.

The report also highlighted the rise of quirky and fun trends, such as memes and unique language terms, which gained popularity across social media platforms in India. These playful and humorous searches became an integral part of the online culture in 2024.

Google's *Year in Search 2024* gives a comprehensive look at the interests and priorities of Indian users, revealing how sports, entertainment, and cultural trends continue to shape the digital landscape in the country.

McDonald's-Themed Amusement Park Comes To Life In Viral AI Video

Artificial intelligence-generated videos are creating a buzz across the internet, offering everything from hilarious voice-overs to jaw-dropping visuals. One such video has taken viewers by surprise with an incredibly realistic portrayal of a McDonald's-themed amusement park. While it may seem like a dream come true for food lovers, there's a twist – it's all AI-generated.

The video showcases a whimsical McDonald's wonderland, complete with an array of themed attractions. The first scene features a train ride designed to resemble a giant sandwich, offering a fun and unique twist on typical amusement park rides. Next, viewers are taken to a ride inspired by McDonald's famous fries, making the fast-food lover's fantasy come alive in an even more creative way. But that's not all – the video also introduces a water slide where riders float in burger-shaped inflatables. The level of detail and imagination in these AI-generated scenes is nothing short of impressive.

Of course, no McDonald's park would be complete without its iconic mascot, Ronald McDonald, who makes a cheerful cameo in the video. The ever-present giant yellow 'M' logo adds the perfect finishing touch, underscoring the fast-food giant's unmistakable branding. The video feels like a food lover's ultimate theme park experience, offering a visually stunning and fun environment that blends fast food with amusement park excitement.

The post accompanying the video reads, "If only McDonald's Park Xperience could come to life," which perfectly captures the whimsical nature of the concept. Although the video is fictional, it has sparked a lot of imagination, leaving fans wondering what it would be like if such a place truly existed.



AI-generated content continues to impress with its ability to blur the lines between fantasy and reality, and this McDonald's-themed amusement park video is a perfect example of its potential to create immersive, dreamlike experiences for viewers.

Study Links Sweetened Beverages to Higher Risk of Cardiovascular Diseases

A large-scale Swedish study published on Monday revealed alarming findings about the health risks of consuming sweetened beverages, highlighting a significant link between sugary drinks and serious cardiovascular diseases, including stroke, heart failure, and atrial fibrillation. The study also suggested that excessive sugar intake could increase the risk of stroke or aneurysm, although moderate consumption of sugary treats might not pose the same threat. The research, published in *Frontiers in Public Health*, emphasized that drinking sweetened beverages is more harmful than consuming other forms of sugar.



Suzanne Janzi, a doctoral candidate at Lund University and lead author of the study, explained that sweetened beverages, which contain liquid sugars, often provide less satiety than solid foods. This means people are less likely to feel full after consuming sugary drinks, leading to potential overconsumption. Additionally, unlike treats that are typically consumed during special occasions or social events, sugary drinks are often consumed more frequently throughout the day, contributing to their health risks.

The study involved data from two major research projects, which tracked the health of 69,705 participants over 10 years. The team assessed the relationship between various sugar sources—such as honey, pastries, and sweetened beverages—and the risk of seven cardiovascular diseases, including two types

of stroke, heart attacks, heart failure, aortic aneurysms, atrial fibrillation, and aortic stenosis. During the follow-up period, 25,739 participants were diagnosed with cardiovascular diseases.

The findings revealed that high sugar intake raised the risk of ischemic stroke and abdominal aortic aneurysm, as well as heart failure in individuals with a normal BMI. Interestingly, the study found that the highest health risks were associated with the lowest intake of sugary treats, indicating that extremely low sugar intake may not necessarily benefit cardiovascular health.

However, Janzi cautioned that the study is observational and does not establish a direct cause-and-effect relationship. The research underlines the importance of moderating sugar consumption, particularly from sweetened beverages, to protect cardiovascular health.

AI-trained robotic rat created by Chinese institute to study rodent behaviour

A Chinese research institute has unveiled an innovative AI-powered robotic rat, designed to mimic real rats in both appearance and behavior, with the goal of studying the social interactions of live rodents. The breakthrough was developed at the Beijing Institute of Technology, where researchers have created a robotic rat capable of both playful and aggressive actions, which allows scientists to observe its impact on the behavior of real rats.



Qing Shi, a researcher at the institute, explained, "The robotic rats have similar appearances and movements to animals, and even the same odor. It has become an important tool for exploring individual or collective rats' behavioral responses." This unique AI-trained robot replicates the physical characteristics of a real rat, making it a valuable tool for studying social behaviors like play and aggression that occur in natural rat colonies.

The robotic rat features a bionic spine, eyes, and two front arms that allow it to perform a variety of movements, such as touching, eating, and interacting with objects, just like its biological counterparts. The researchers specifically designed the arms for flexible movement, which closely resembles the agility and dexterity of a real rat. In place of hind legs, the robotic rat is equipped with wheels, enabling faster mobility and smoother movement, making it more adapt-

able when interacting with live rodents.

This robot has been designed to encourage genuine interactions with real rats, providing scientists with a novel method to study their behavior in social environments. The aim is to better understand how rats engage with each other, from friendly play to more aggressive actions, and how these interactions influence group dynamics.

As the study progresses, the robotic rat could play a key role in advancing behavioral research, offering new insights into animal social behavior and even aiding in the development of better AI systems that mimic natural movement and responses.



Georgia Voll Joins Australia Squad for New Zealand Tour Following Impressive Debut

Georgia Voll has earned a spot in Australia's squad for their upcoming tour of New Zealand after an impressive start to her international career. The 21-year-old batswoman made an immediate impact in her debut series against India, scoring an unbeaten 46* and a solid 101 in her first two international innings.



Voll's remarkable performances in the recent series have caught the attention of selectors, prompting her inclusion in the Australian team for the upcoming tour. Her debut century, in particular, showcased her potential and left a lasting impression, further solidifying her place in the squad.

Cricket Australia also announced the appointment of Gavan Twining, the current head coach of the NSW Breakers, as the full-time Assistant Coach for fielding and wicket-keeping. Twining, who will take

up the newly created role for the next two years, is expected to bring his expertise to the national team as Australia continues its preparations for key international matches.

The addition of Voll and Twining's appointment further strengthens Australia's squad as they look to continue their dominance on the global cricketing stage. Voll's form, combined with the leadership of experienced players, makes Australia a formidable side as they prepare for their New Zealand tour.

Adam Gilchrist Reveals Motivation Behind Australia's Dominant 2nd Test Win Against India

Australia's legendary wicketkeeper-batter Adam Gilchrist believes that the criticism following their crushing 295-run loss in the first Test to India served as a major motivator for the team's emphatic 10-wicket win in the second Test. The victory, which leveled the five-match series at 1-1, showcased a remarkable turnaround in performance, with captain Pat Cummins leading the charge.

Gilchrist explained that the Australian team, especially Cummins, was visibly "stung" by the criticism they received after their lackluster showing in Perth. He noted that Cummins' aggressive celebrations after each wicket in the second Test reflected how much the win meant to the players. "You could see just through his celebrations that every wicket he took he was more aggressive. Not in a way that lost control, but clearly they'd been stung by a bit of criticism and were so disappointed with their performance in Perth," Gilchrist said on Fox Cricket.

The former Australian cricketer also likened Cummins' transformation to a "grease and oil change" after the team's poor performance in the first Test. "Cummins was outstanding. He looked like he needed a tune-up after Perth, and by the end of it, he was purring," Gilchrist added, praising the captain's leadership and determination.



In the pink-ball Test at Adelaide, Australia's pace trio of Cummins, Mitchell Starc, and Scott Boland dominated the Indian batting lineup, taking all 20 wickets. Remarkably, Nathan Lyon, Australia's leading spinner, bowled just one over in the match, highlighting the pace bowlers' superb coordination and teamwork. "The big three—Starc, Boland, Cummins—hunted as a pack and bowled as a unit. It was terrific to watch," Gilchrist said, emphasizing the excellent collective effort from the Australian bowlers.

With the series now tied, Australia heads into the next Test with renewed confidence, bolstered by their commanding win and the leadership of Pat Cummins.

Manchester City's Struggles Leave Champions League Qualification in Doubt

Manchester City's season has taken a concerning turn, leaving them in a precarious position ahead of their crucial Champions League match against Juventus. The English champions have won just once in their last nine games across all competitions, as injuries and poor form from key players have led to their worst run under Pep Guardiola's management. Despite suffering a 4-1 defeat to Sporting Lisbon and an embarrassing 3-3 draw after leading 3-0 against Feyenoord, City still find themselves in a position to qualify from the new league-phase format.

Currently sitting 17th in the 36-team table, City need to finish in the top-24 to secure a spot in the playoff round, but direct qualification to the last 16 seems increasingly unlikely. With difficult away games against Paris Saint-Germain and Club Brugge remaining, their path to the knockout stages looks challenging.

This year, the Champions League holds even more significance for City, as their Premier League title defense is faltering. The club, which has won the last four English top-flight titles, is currently in fourth place, trailing Liverpool by eight points, with Jurgen Klopp's side also having a game in hand.



Guardiola admitted the season is proving to be a difficult one, emphasizing that the team must focus on surviving each match and accumulating points. Injuries have taken a toll on an aging squad, with key players like Rodri, John Stones, Nathan Ake, Mateo Kovacic, and Oscar Bobb sidelined. The absence of key figures such as Kevin De Bruyne, Ruben Dias, and Phil Foden has further depleted their ranks.

Midfielder Bernardo Silva voiced concerns about the team's limited depth, stating that with only 13 players available from a 20-man squad, it's hard to maintain form and consistency.

Guardiola acknowledged the team's physical challenges but urged the players to accept the situation and keep fighting.

City's focus now is on their remaining Champions League fixtures, where securing just one win from their final three games will almost certainly guarantee qualification. With Juventus struggling and on a four-match winless run, City may find the inspiration they need to bounce back, remembering their triumphant comeback in the 2022/23 season, when they lifted the treble after a tough winter.

Gukesh and Ding Set for Thrilling Chess Championship Finish



The 2024 FIDE World Chess Championship is set for a thrilling conclusion as India's D. Gukesh and China's Ding Liren are tied at 6-6, with the first player to reach 7.5 points securing the prestigious crown. After a day of rest, the two will resume their battle on Wednesday, with the championship hanging in the balance.

Gukesh, at just 18 years old, is the youngest ever challenger for the World Chess Championship title. He had held a significant lead in the match but saw it slip away after a heartbreaking loss in the 12th round. This setback has added pressure, but the Indian Grandmaster is known for his composure and resilience, and he will be looking to bounce back in the final games.

The defending champion, Ding

Liren, 32, has also had his ups and downs throughout the match, with both players taking turns in the lead. Experts believe that Gukesh, having the white pieces in the 13th game, will adopt a more aggressive approach in a bid to regain the advantage. The match is poised for an exciting climax, with both players eager to claim the world title.

As the score stands at 6-6, nerves are expected to play a crucial role in the final stretch of this intense showdown. With the prestigious World Chess Championship on the line, both players will need to stay mentally strong and focused. The winner will be crowned champion, but the path to victory is far from clear, making every move in the remaining games a potential game-changer.

Indian Batters Focus on Red-Ball Preparations Ahead of Brisbane Test

After suffering a humiliating 10-wicket defeat in the pink-ball Test, India's batters, led by Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, are focusing on refining their red-ball skills as they prepare for the next challenge in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The team stayed back in Adelaide while Australia moved on to Brisbane for the third Test, dedicating their time to intense net sessions aimed at improving defensive techniques and judgment in leaving deliveries.

Rohit Sharma, struggling with poor form after scoring just 142 runs in his last 12 innings, worked hard to regain rhythm. Following the birth of his son, he faced both Indian spinners and pacers in an effort to bounce back. Rohit, who dropped to No. 6 in the order, faced two disappointing dismissals in Adelaide—one LBW to

a fuller delivery and the other bowled out by Pat Cummins.

Virat Kohli, who ended his 16-month century drought in Perth, was dismissed in the pink-ball Test after edging two deliveries—first to second slip, then to the wicketkeeper. However, he looked focused during the practice session, gradually finding his flow.

KL Rahul concentrated on improving his defensive technique, while Rishabh Pant played a few aggressive pick-up shots. Young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, who impressed with a brilliant 161

in India's dominant 295-run win in the opening Test, showcased his attacking style in the nets, displaying cheeky shots and stepping out to bowlers.

The bowling unit included Harshit Rana, Akash Deep, Yash Dayal, and spinners Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin, and Washington Sundar, while the pace attack, including Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj, had a quieter day.

India will head to Brisbane on Wednesday, aiming to bounce back and level the series.





Veera Dheera Soora 2 Teaser: Vikram's Intense Rural Action Saga Unveiled



The much-anticipated second part of **Veera Dheera Soora** is set to hit theaters on January 2, 2025. With a fresh face in the lead, **Part 2** stars the versatile Chiyaan Vikram, taking over from Vishnu Vishal, who starred in the first installment. Directed by SU Arun Kumar, the film promises to be a high-octane rural action drama that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

The teaser, recently unveiled by the makers, introduces Vikram as a family-oriented man with a mysterious past. Set against the picturesque rural backdrop of Tamil Nadu, the film explores the journey of Vikram's character, who leads a peaceful life as a loving husband and father. However, the serenity of his life is disrupted as we also learn about his involvement in a dangerous gangster network, adding a thrilling edge to the narrative. The teaser hints at intense action sequences, which are expected to be one of the major highlights of the film, catering to fans who enjoy mass-action cinema.

One of the most exciting elements of **Veera Dheera Soora Part 2** is the face-off between Vikram and the antagonist, portrayed by SJ Suryah. Known for his powerful performances, Suryah plays a corrupt police officer, making the clash between the two characters the central conflict of the story. This intense rivalry between Vikram and Suryah promises to deliver dramatic moments filled with tension and emotion.

The film also features a significant role for National Award-winning Malayalam actor Suraj Venjaramoodu, adding more depth and intrigue to the narrative. Dushara Vijayan stars as the female lead, bringing an additional layer of charm to the film.

The music for **Veera Dheera Soora Part 2** is composed by the talented GV Prakash Kumar, further enhancing the film's larger-than-life appeal. With a mix of gripping action, drama, and emotion, the film is shaping up to be a perfect treat for fans when it releases in January 2025.

Game Changer Trailer Set for Release on December 28, 2024



Megapower Star Ram Charan is currently busy filming his highly anticipated project, **RC16**, directed by Buchi Babu Sana. The movie's new schedule began recently and will continue for over a week. Following this, Charan is expected to head to the USA for the grand pre-release event of his upcoming film, **Game Changer**, which is generating significant buzz among fans.

Directed by Shankar, **Game Changer** is a political action drama made on a grand scale, promising an unforgettable cinematic experience. The film's massive scale and action-packed storyline have raised expectations, and fans are eagerly awaiting any updates. As part of the promotional efforts, the makers have planned a pre-release event on December 21, 2024, where they will unveil the fourth single, titled **Dhop**.

Following the release of the song, fans can expect the **Game Changer** theatrical trailer to be dropped a week later, on December 28, 2024. The trailer is

expected to provide a deeper look into the film's action-packed narrative, political intrigue, and high-octane sequences, which are set to be the film's highlights. The trailer launch is anticipated to be a grand affair, with an event likely to be held in Hyderabad.

Kiara Advani stars as the female lead, sharing the screen with Ram Charan in this high-profile film. The ensemble cast also includes talented actors such as Anjali, SJ Suryah, Srikanth, Jayaram, Sunil, and Naveen Chandra, who play crucial roles in the movie. The film is produced by the renowned producer Dil Raju, known for his successful productions in the industry.

As the release date for the trailer approaches, **Game Changer** is poised to be a major hit, offering action, drama, and a political narrative that promises to captivate audiences worldwide. Fans are eagerly awaiting the trailer to see what the team has in store.

Baby John Trailer: A Grand Reimagining of Theri with Varun Dhawan



Baby John the official re-make of Vijay's blockbuster film **Theri**, is set to hit theaters with a grand release on the 25th of this month. The film stars Bollywood heartthrob Varun Dhawan in the titular role, which has already sparked significant excitement among audiences. Today, the makers dropped the highly-anticipated trailer, giving fans a glimpse of the action-packed, emotionally-charged narrative that promises to deliver a full-fledged entertainer.

Directed by Kalees and presented by the renowned filmmaker Atlee, **Baby John** is designed to offer a balanced mix of action, drama, romance, and comedy. The trailer opens with Varun Dhawan portraying DCP Satya Verma IPS, a single father who is fiercely protective of his daughter. As the trailer unfolds, viewers are taken into a gripping flashback sequence where Satya is shown investigating rape cases, highlighting the film's dark and intense undertones.

The trailer also introduces

key characters, including Keerthy Suresh, Wamiqa Gabbi, and Sanya Malhotra, who are expected to play pivotal roles. A major highlight of the trailer is the cameo appearance by Salman Khan, which has already generated massive excitement. Even a brief glimpse of the superstar has fans buzzing with anticipation.

Jackie Shroff plays the film's antagonist, and his character is reportedly designed to be a strong, formidable villain. From the trailer, it's evident that the film stays true to the original storyline, while also adding new layers to make it suitable for the Bollywood audience. The intense action sequences and dramatic confrontations between Varun and Jackie's characters are expected to be key moments in the film.

With its gripping narrative, star-studded cast, and an exciting blend of various genres, **Baby John** is all set to be a major hit. Fans can expect an exhilarating cinematic experience when it releases on December 25, 2024.

Pushpa 2 Breaks Records with Jaw-Dropping Worldwide Collections

Allu Arjun and Sukumar's **Pushpa 2** is making waves at the box office, shattering records across South India, North India, and international markets. The film is setting new benchmarks for box office collections, with its overwhelming success becoming a topic of discussion in trade circles. The movie's impressive performance in the first four days has left fans and industry experts stunned, as it continues to break records on a global scale.

The makers of **Pushpa 2** have officially announced the staggering box office numbers for its opening days. On its opening day, the film grossed an incredible 294 crore worldwide. The momentum didn't slow down as it went on to collect 449 crores on the second day, and by the third day, it had crossed 621 crores. The weekend saw an even bigger surge, with **Pushpa 2** raking in an astounding 200 crores on Sunday alone. In total, the film grossed an eye-popping 829 crores worldwide in just four

days.

The film's massive success has exceeded expectations, and trade analysts predict that **Pushpa 2** will reach the coveted 1000 crore mark within its first week of release. The movie's widespread appeal and intense fan following, combined with its gripping storyline and Allu Arjun's stellar performance, have contributed to its record-breaking run at the box office.

As **Pushpa 2** continues to dominate theaters, the film's success is being hailed as a landmark achievement in Indian cinema, further cementing Allu Arjun's status as one of the biggest stars in the industry. With the momentum showing no signs of slowing down, **Pushpa 2** is poised to continue its box office dominance, rewriting records and setting new milestones in the coming days.



Akshay Kumar's Bhooth Bangla: Horror and Comedy Await in First Look Poster

Akshay Kumar has just dropped an exciting update for his fans with the first-look poster of his upcoming horror-comedy film, **Bhooth Bangla**. The actor shared the poster on Tuesday, giving fans a glimpse of his unique look for the movie. In the poster, Akshay is seen perched on a pillar near the gate of a bungalow, dressed in a white shirt, dhoti, and a blue vest. A red scarf adds a touch of flair to his outfit, and the lantern in his hand adds an intriguing element to the character.

Directed by the talented Priyadarshan, **Bhooth Bangla** marks the reunion of Akshay Kumar and Priyadarshan, who have previously worked together in hit films like **Hera Pheri**, **Garam Masala**, **Bhagam Bhag**, and **Bhool Bhulaiyaa**. The film is slated for release on April 2, 2026, and Akshay has confirmed that the shoot began on December 6, 2024.

In a note accompanying the poster, Akshay Kumar expressed his excitement about collaborating with Priyadarshan once again,



writing, "Beyond excited to be on set with my favourite Priyadarshan as we begin the shoot of our horror comedy **Bhooth Bangla** today. Yeh darr aur hasi ka double dose aapke liye ready hoga 2nd April, 2026 ko! Tab tak ke liye aapke best wishes chahiye [This double dose of fear and laughter will be ready for you on 2nd April, 2026! Until then, your best wishes are needed]."

In September, Priyadarshan spoke about reuniting with Akshay Kumar for **Bhooth Bangla** at the IIFA Awards in Abu Dhabi. The director acknowledged their past successes together, stating that every film they've made has been a hit. He also mentioned the challenge of meeting audience expectations after 14 years, but expressed his hope that their collaboration would be successful once again.

With the chemistry between Akshay and Priyadarshan and the promise of a thrilling horror-comedy, **Bhooth Bangla** is already generating significant anticipation.