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# **CM Outlines Vision for Amaravati and Economic Growth at Collector's Meeting**

**TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec 13

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu emphasized the rapid development of Amaravati as the public capital of Andhra Pradesh, which he described as a hub of employment opportunities for the youth. Speaking at a meeting with district collectors, the CM outlined the government's focus on creating jobs, promoting skill development, and transforming key cities like Visakhapatnam, Tirupati, and Amaravati.

government's ambitious goal of awada and Guntur will eventu-

years, with an emphasis on promoting entrepreneurship and skill training. He stressed the need for the "one family, one entrepreneur" initiative and shared plans to establish top-tier educational and healthcare facilities in the state. "We are working to bring the top 10 universities and hospitals in the world to Andhra Pradesh," he declared.

The CM also discussed the rapid development of Amaravati, which he described as an emerging knowledge economy city. He Chandrababu highlighted the pointed out that cities like Vijay-

creating 20 lakh jobs within five ally merge into Amaravati, and emphasized the importance of planning for this growth. As part of this vision, he instructed the municipal department to prepare a master plan for the areas outside the Outer Ring Road to accommodate the increasing urbanization.

Addressing the cleanliness initiative, CM Chandrababu emphasized the importance of promoting greenery and cleanliness in public spaces. He called for awareness campaigns and for people to adopt habits of keeping their surroundings clean, in line with local customs and traditions.

On the issue of waste management, the CM ordered the rapid removal of the 82 lakh metric tons of waste left behind by the previous government. He also proposed using waste-to-energy methods and creating systems for managing various types of waste, including crop, construction, electronics, metal, and plastic. Minister Nara Lokesh added that the Economic Development Board is focusing on recycling as part of the state's circular economy strategy.

A clear action plan will be prepared to ensure effective implementation of these initiatives.

## Nara Lokesh Stresses **Quality Over** Infrastructure in **Education System**



#### **TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec 13

In a recent meeting with district collectors at the Secretariat in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh State Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized the importance of improving the quality of education in government schools, stating that infrastructure alone does not correlate with academic results.

Minister Lokesh outlined the government's objectives for the next five years, which include increasing student enrollment, ensuring zero dropouts, and creating an education system that serves as a model for the state. He clarified that the focus should be on improving academic outcomes through transparent policies and measures.

"There is no correlation between infrastructure and academic results in government schools," Lokesh said, urging officials to prioritize academic performance alongside infrastructure development. He announced the introduction of district-wise progress report cards that will track both infrastructure and academic results. The Minister also stressed the need for improvements in the mid-day meal program, highlighting the importance of providing nutritious food to children. He directed district collectors to ensure that meals are locally sourced and offer nutritional value. Similarly, in higher education, the government will focus on improving hostel and dining facilities. Complaints regarding sanitation and inadequate infrastructure in hostels have been addressed, with plans to incorporate weekly feedback from students to improve these facilities. Additionally, Lokesh spoke about the launch of the "No Drugs Bro" campaign in schools and colleges to raise awareness about drug abuse. He also proposed the formation of Eagle teams and clubs in educational institutions to engage students in anti-drug initiatives. Addressing technical issues with the Apar ID system, which has caused inconvenience to parents, Lokesh urged authorities to resolve the challenges and ensure smooth implementation of the program moving forward. The Minister concluded by emphasizing that a comprehensive overhaul of the education system, from KG to PG, is underway to ensure quality education for all students in the state.

## **Double Set Back for YCP**



#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Visakhapatnam, Dec 13

In a significant development, former minister Avanti Srinivas has tendered his resignation from the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). Srinivas submitted his resignation letter to party president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and Uttarandhra YSRCP coordinator Vijayasai Reddy, expressing discontent with the party's functioning.

During a press meet, Avanti voiced his concerns about the state of affairs within the YSRCP and criticized Jagan's approach. He remarked that the government and the party leadership should introspect instead of blaming external

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factors.

#### Varra Ravindra Reddy Granted **Two-Day Police Custody** TPN CORRESPONDENT Kadapa, Dec 13

YCP social media activist Varra Ravindra Reddy has been granted two days of police custody in connection with his controversial social media posts targeting political leaders, including N. Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan Kalyan, Nara Lokesh, and Anitha. The Kadapa court issued the orders allowing his custody on December 13 and 14. Varra, who is currently in remand at Rajahmundry Central Jail, was arrested after objectionable posts were shared on social media, which sparked outrage. The Pulivendula police had filed a petition requesting a 10-day custody period to investigate the matter further. However, after reviewing the case, the Kadapa court allowed only a two-day custody period, instructing that the investigation be conducted in the presence of a lawyer.

The police will take Varra Ravindra Reddy into custody tomorrow at 9 a.m., as per the court's instructions. The case has drawn attention due to the nature of the posts and the political figures involved.

This development comes amid increasing scrutiny of social media activity and its potential impact on public figures, with authorities tightening enforcement in such cases.

# **Key Development in AP Capital Construction ADB Approval and Fund Release**

#### **TPN CORRESPONDENT** Amaravati, Dec - 13

A significant milestone has been achieved in the construction of Andhra Pradesh's capital, Amaravati, with the successful meeting held with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila. The ADB has agreed to provide a loan of ₹8,000 crore for the construction of the capital. This development has injected new enthusiasm among officials and is expected to kickstart the stalled projects, as it paves the way for the release of funds once the

central and state governments, along officials from the central and state with banks, approve the process.

In addition to ADB's approval, the World Bank is set to hold a board meeting on the 17th of this month, where it is expected to give its approval to the loan assistance agreement for Amaravati. Both the World Bank and ADB will contribute ₹8,000 crore each, totaling ₹16,000 crore in loan assistance for the capital's construction.

The agreement for the loan assistance has already been finalized after extensive discussions in Delhi, with

governments, the World Bank, and ADB participating. Once the World Bank board approval is obtained, the loan agreement will be signed by the respective parties, and the process of releasing the funds will begin. The CRDA (Capital Region Develop-

ment Authority) has already prepared a comprehensive plan for the works, with the tender process for various projects nearing completion. This development marks a crucial step forward in the long-awaited construction of Amaravati.







**Public Petitions Addressed** at Janavani Program at Jana **Sena Party Central Office** 



**TPN Correspondent** Vijayawada, Dec-13

A Janavani program was organized on Thursday at the Jana Sena Party central office, where numerous citizens from across the state presented their grievances and sought solutions to their issues. The event was attended by Rashtra Mala Sankshema Corporation Chairman Dr. Pedapudi Vijay Kumar and former MLA, as well as Jana Sena Party NTR district president, Samineni Udayabhanu, who received the petitions and assured the people of swift action.

During the program, Samineni Udayabhanu emphasized the party's commitment to addressing public concerns, stating, "The Jana Sena Party is dedicated to being the voice of the people and ensuring that their issues are resolved with urgency. We will take these grievances to the relevant authorities and follow up until appropriate action is taken."

Several individuals shared their difficulties related to government welfare schemes, land disputes, and unemployment. Party Nandigama POC Smt. Tamballapalli Ramadevi, Legal Cell representative Veera Raghavulu, and other prominent leaders were also present at the event, offering their support and guidance to the petitioners.

The Janavani program once again underscored Jana Sena Party's commitment to providing a platform for citizens to voice their concerns and ensure accountability from the administration.

#### Nara Lokesh on Six Months of Government, **Reality Over Publicity TPN CORRESPONDENT**

Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13

As the coalition government in Andhra Pradesh marks its six-month anniversary since coming to power on June 12, State Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh issued a statement reflecting on the government's achievements and future goals. Lokesh emphasized that the coalition government, under the leadership of Chandrababu Naidu, inherited a state burdened by debt, chaotic systems, and destruction. Despite these challenges, the government has been working relentlessly to rebuild Andhra Pradesh, transforming crises into opportunities for welfare and progress. In his statement, Lokesh made it clear that the government's priority is to focus on real achievements, not on flashy publicity or self-promotion. He stressed that the coalition's slogan, "State First... People Final," is the guiding principle behind all actions and policies. He also affirmed that with the cooperation of all, the government is committed to driving Andhra Pradesh towards a prosperous future, guided by the vision of Swarnandhra-2047.

# **CM Chandrababu Orders Pension for Children Who Have Lost Their Parents**



**TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13

In a humanitarian move, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has ordered the provision of pensions to children who have lost their parents. During a meeting with district collectors on Thursday, CM Chandrababu emphasized the need for immediate action to identify such children and ensure their well-being.

The CM directed officials to complete the process of identifying orphaned children within the next three months. Once identified, these children will be provided with a monthly pension to support their needs. Additionally, he suggested that the list of such children be updated every year to ensure that no child is left behind. This decision highlights the government's commitment to addressing the needs of vulnerable children and providing them with necessary support. It also reflects the state's focus on the welfare of orphans, ensuring they receive the care and attention they deserve in a time of loss.

Chandrababu's directive is expected to have a significant impact on the lives of children who have lost their parents, offering them financial support and stability.



## **Home Minister Anitha** Warns of Heavy Rains, **Urges Preparedness**

**TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13

In the wake of a severe low pressure system in the Bay of Bengal, which is causing rainfall in Rayalaseema and South Coast districts, State Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha has urged the public to remain vigilant. The minister emphasized the need for heightened awareness and readiness in the affected areas, as heavy rains continue to impact the region. Anitha instructed local officials to ensure that citizens in the rain-affected areas are not facing hardships. She stressed the importance of taking preventive measures in vulnerable areas, such as ghat roads and regions prone to landslides. Additionally, she recommended sending out timely warning messages to residents in these areas to help them prepare for the worsening conditions. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has reported that the severe low-pressure area currently located in the southwest Bay of Bengal, near the southeast Bay of Bengal, is expected to weaken within the next 24 hours. However, in the meantime, the risk of heavy rainfall remains

## high, particularly in the affected districts. 'Attempt To Murder' Charges Against Mohan Babu

#### **TPN Correspondent** Hyderabad, Dec-13

Veteran Tollywood actor and former MP Mohan Babu is facing attempt to murder charges after allegedly attacking a television journalist with a microphone at his residence in Jalpally. Rachakonda Police, which initially filed a case under Section 118 (1) of the Bharat Nyaya Sanhita (causing hurt with dangerous weapons or substances), later added Section 109 (attempt to murder) after seeking legal advice. The case was registered based on a complaint from M. Satyanarayana, a reporter with TV9.

The altercation occurred during a heated exchange between Mohan Babu and his actor son Journalists, present to cover the conflict, witnessed the veteran actor allegedly assault Satyanarayana, resulting in severe head injuries and three fractures to his cheekbone. Doctors indicated the reporter requires plastic surgery.



striking the reporter, who then collapsed. Manchu Vishnu, Mohan Babu's elder son, expressed regret over the incident, calling it "unfortunate" and assuring support to the injured journalist's family. Vishnu claimed the attack was impulsive, stating, "My father came before the media with respect, but the act wasn't deliberate."

Manchu Manoj apologized on his father's behalf, emphasizing the media was attacked while supporting him during the family dispute. The incident prompted protests from journalist groups demanding Mohan Babu's arrest under attempt to murder charges.

Mohan Babu, currently hospitalized for high blood pressure and anxiety, has sought legal re-Manchu Manoj over an ongoing family dispute. Manchu Manoj reportedly broke into the house lief from the Telangana High Court, which exempted him from appearing before the police until December 24. The Rachakonda Police Commissioner had earlier served notices to Mohan Babu and his sons. The situation remains tense, with further investigations underway.

with the help of his private security and accompanying journalists after being stopped by bouncers. Tensions escalated when Mohan Babu reacted angrily to questions about the family dispute, grabbing a microphone and

#### Returnable Plots to Farmers Who Gave Land for Amaravati

#### **TPN Correspondent** Amaravati, Dec 13

The Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) will conduct a lottery today to allocate returnable plots to the farmers who provided land for the construction of Amaravati. These farmers, from 14 villages, are receiving plots in place of the land they gave up between 2014 and

#### 2019.

The affected farmers hail from the following villages: Navuluru, Kuragallu, Nidamarru, Rayapudi, Lingayapalem, Malkapuram, Nekkallu, Sakhamuru, Tullur, Velagapudi, Mandam, Anantavaram, and Ainavolu.

The lottery process will be carried out via an online random capital's development.

system between 2 PM and 5 PM today. The CRDA has urged farmers from these villages to attend the event and participate in the plot allocation process.

This move follows the government's commitment to ensure fairness and transparency in the allocation of plots to the farmers who sacrificed their land for the

## **Double Set Back for YCP**

#### Continued from page 1

Avanti emphasized that Jagan must respect the public mandate and allow the newly formed government time to perform before criticizing it. He alleged that YSRCP lacked democratic principles, stating that grassroots workers were being disrespected and crushed under the party's leadership.

Avanti accused Jagan of operating from Tadepalli, issuing directives without understanding the challenges faced by field workers.

Avanti expressed his admiration for Chiranjeevi, citing it as the reason for entering politics. He affirmed that his resignation stemmed from personal reasons, including a desire to focus on his family and educational institutions. This resignation comes as a major setback to the YSRCP, which has already been facing political challenges. Avanti's exit has fueled speculation about internal dissatisfaction within the party, urging Jagan to reevaluate its organizational strategies.

In Similar Manner The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) is facing a significant blow as two key leaders, former minister Avanti Srinivas and former Bhimavaram MLA Grandhi Srinivas, resigned from the party on Thursday. Avanti Srinivas, who served as a minister in the previ-

ous government, sent his resignation to YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy, marking a major loss for the party. Shortly after Avanti's resignation, another setback followed as Grandhi Srinivas, known for his victory over Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan in the 2019 elections, also resigned from both the party's primary membership and his party posts. Grandhi sent his resignation letter directly to Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Grandhi Srinivas had been regarded as a prominent figure within the YSRCP, especially after his historic win against Pawan Kalyan in the 2019 elections, earning him the moniker of "giant killer." However, after being defeated in the last elections by Jana Sena candidate Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu, Grandhi distanced himself from party activities and appeared to disengage from the party's affairs. His resignation has left the ranks of the YSRCP concerned about further departures.

At present, there is no clarity on which political party Grandhi Srinivas will align with, but his departure from YSRCP has already stirred discussions within political circles. The resignations of these influential leaders come at a time when the party is already grappling with a loss of power, raising questions about its future stability.

## **YS Jagan Leads Semi-Christmas Celebrations at YCP Headquarters**



#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Tadepalli, Dec - 13

Ahead of Christmas on December 25, the YSR Congress Party (YCP) headquarters in Tadepalli witnessed lively semi-Christmas celebrations. Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, along with his aunt Y.S. Vimalamma, joined party leaders and Christian religious figures to celebrate the occasion. The event was marked by Jagan cutting a festive cake

with his aunt, symbolizing unity and joy. The celebrations also included the honoring of several individuals, with Jagan draping them in shawls as a gesture of appreciation. The YCP shared a video of the event on its social media, showcasing the warm atmosphere and spreading festive cheer across its followers. The celebrations at the YCP office were a prelude to the upcoming Christmas, one of the most sacred festivals for Christians, celebrated on December 25.







## Yanamala Ramakrishnudu Criticizes **Jagan Over Rice Mafia Allegations** TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13

Senior Telugu Desam Party leader Yanamala Ramakrishnudu has strongly criticized YS Jaganmohan Reddy, accusing him of supporting illegal activities tied to the rice mafia. Ramakrishnudu alleged that Jagan has a direct involvement in these irregularities, which explains his public defense of such actions.

The TDP leader described Jagan's statements regarding rice smuggling as not only baseless but also illegal. He emphasized the need for transparency and called for cases under the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against those involved in rice mafia activities. He urged the government to expose those behind the smuggling operations, making it clear to the public who is responsible for these misdeeds.

Ramakrishnudu further dismissed Jagan's claim that the coalition government is engaging in the politics of de-

fection. He argued that the current administration is diligently working to fulfill its manifesto promises and has already begun showing results. According to him, the government is laying the groundwork to transform Andhra Pradesh into a state free from poverty.



In his remarks, Ramakrishnudu reiterated the Telugu Desam Party's commitment to ensuring accountability and good governance while condemning what he termed as Jagan's attempts to defend illegal activities for personal gain.

# **YS Sharmila Reddy Criticizes Chandrababu Naidu's Alliance** Government

#### **TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13

YS Sharmila Reddy, Chief of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC), has launched a fierce critique of the six-month rule of Chandrababu Naidu's alliance government, describing it as "completely meaningless." She accused the government of failing to fulfill promises and imposing a heavy financial burden on the people.

Sharmila pointed out that six major promises and 60 manifesto commitments made by the alliance remain unfulfilled. She alleged that key welfare schemes, including ₹15,000 assistance per child for mothers, ₹1,500 monthly for girl children, and ₹20,000 assistance for farmers, have not materialized, leaving beneficiaries disappointed. She further criticized the government for failing to implement the DSC notification issued on June 12 and for delivering inadequate unemployment benefits while making exaggerated claims about creating 20 lakh jobs. She also targeted the government's handling of free RTC bus travel for women, accusing it of repeatedly delaying implementation under various pretexts. The "free sand" scheme, too, came under fire for not delivering its promised benefits.



## **MLC** Parvathareddy **Chandrasekhar Reddy Slams CM Chandrababu Over Job Policies**

#### **TPN CORRESPONDENT**

Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13 MLC Parvathareddy Chandrasekhar Reddy criticized NDA government for its handling of job opportunities and education reforms during a media conference. He accused Naidu of un- 📗 🔝 dermining job security and misleading the public with false promises. Reddy recalled how, as early as 2003, Chandrababu hailed the importance

of government jobs but instead introduced the contract and outsourcing system, replacing regular employment. "To what extent are employees held accountable in an outsourcing system? How will justice be served to students under such a framework?" Reddy questioned.

Praising YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's efforts, he emphasized the steps taken by the YSRCP government to provide job security to employees and implement significant reforms in the education sector. He accused the current coalition government of reversing these revolutionary changes, thereby weakening the progress made in the past.

Reddy also pointed out Chandrababu's earlier stance that education is not the government's responsibility, calling it contradictory for him to claim credit for signing the mega DSC. "All of this is a hoax. The DSC will not happen. It is shameful to promote this as



a good government that has provided jobs," he said.

Furthermore, he alleged that Chandrababu was responsible for the postponement of the DSC (District Selection Committee exams), terming it a "terrible fraud" against the unemployed. Reddy claimed that such actions only demonstrate Chandrababu's lack of commitment to solving unemployment and delivering on promises.

The MLC's remarks reflect the YSRCP's mounting criticism of Chandrababu Naidu's administration, particularly on issues affecting education and employment, as political parties prepare for the upcoming challenges in Andhra Pradesh.

## Merugu Nagarjuna Criticizes **NDA Govt on Six-Month Rule**

#### **TPN CORRESPONDENT**

Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13 Bapatla District YSRCP President Merugu Nagarjuna, in a media conference, launched a scathing attack on the coalition government led by Chandrababu Naidu. He criticized the government for failing to deliver on promises made to farmers and accused it of pursuing undemocratic and anarchic policies.

Nagarjuna alleged that Chandrababu gained votes by promising ₹20,000 as capital assistance to farmers, re- bu's claims of successful governance, the central government. However, he paints a different picture. been provided to farmers as capital assistance, leaving them struggling. He further criticized the government for its inability to ensure reasonable prices for crops, accusing Chandrababu of treating agriculture as a mere business racket. Nagarjuna vowed that his party would continue to fight for the welfare of farmers, with their support as the primary objective. Highlighting what he termed as the effective governance. as "a disaster." He accused Chandrababu of ruling like a dictator, relying practices. He ridiculed Chandraba-



placing the assistance provided by stating that the reality on the ground claimed that not a single rupee has Nagarjuna also criticized the government for cheating the unemployed with false promises, including a socalled mega DSC. He pointed to the inadequacies in the government's welfare schemes, such as the distribution of a single gas cylinder under the "lamp scheme" and the collection of contributions in canteens. He also condemned cuts in pensions, questioning whether such policies reflect failures of the six-month-old coalition The YSRCP leader's remarks undergovernment, Nagarjuna described it score the growing political tensions as opposition parties voice their concerns over the government's handling on violence, deceit, and fraudulent of key issues, particularly those affecting farmers and vulnerable groups.

Sharmila accused the government of burdening citizens with a financial impact of ₹17,500 crores within just six months, citing rising prices as evidence of its mismanagement. She claimed that the administration continues to blame the previous government for its own failures while ignoring its responsibilities.

Mocking the alliance's achievements, Sharmila described them as "three liquor shops per district and thirty belt shops," and criticized the focus on "graphic designs" instead of tangible development. She slammed the government's reliance on excuses, saying it is time to stop diverting attention from unfulfilled promises. Concluding her remarks, Sharmila stated that the honeymoon period of the government is over and called for immediate action to deliver on the promises made to the public. She emphasized that citizens are no longer willing to tolerate delays and excuses, urging the administration to prioritize meaningful governance.

## **Former MP Butta Renuka Criticizes TDP's Unfulfilled Promises to Farmers**

**TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13 Former Member of Parliament Butta Renuka, in a press conference, lashed out at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for failing to deliver on promises made to farmers.

Renuka reminded the public of the 2014 elections, when Chandrababu Naidu and the TDP came to power with the promise

of a complete farmer loan waiver. She tics to regain power. fully implemented, leaving farmers in distress.

"Once again, the TDP is resorting to deception, now by promising an increase in farmer insurance for 2024. This is yet another false assurance aimed at mis-



she remarked. Renuka criticized the TDP for its inability to fulfill the promises it made during its previous tenure. She called on the public to recognize the party's repeated failures and alleged that its current promises are nothing more than tac-

pointed out that this promise was never Her statements add to the growing criticism of the TDP, as opposition leaders continue to highlight unfulfilled commitments and question the credibility of the party's promises ahead of the upcoming elections.

## **BJP MLA Parthasarathi Criticized YSRCP Govt Over Farmer Issues and Ration Mafia**

**TPN CORRESPONDENT** Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 13 BJP MLA Parthasarathi has launched a fierce attack on the YSRCP government, accusing it of widespread corruption and negligence during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure as Chief Minister. Speaking at a media conference on Thursday, Parthasarathi alleged that the state witnessed unprecedented illegal activities, including the smuggling of rice, under the YSRCP's rule.

He claimed that during Jagan's leadership, rice worth crores of rupees was illegally transported through ports, a malpractice that he said never existed

before. The BJP MLA alleged that this "ration mafia" thrived unchecked, with the government failing to take action against blatant irregularities. He further accused YSRCP leaders of using threats and force to secure control over ports, thereby enabling smuggling operations. Parthasarathi criticized Jagan for turning a blind eye to these issues and for prioritizing personal image over addressing the concerns of the public. He questioned



Jagan's absence from the assembly and accused him of avoiding meaningful discussions about farmers' issues over the past five years. "Now that the public has rejected him, he suddenly remembers the farmers," Parthasarathi remarked.

The BJP MLA praised Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for taking decisive steps against the ration mafia and expressed confidence in the coalition government's commitment to solving farmers' problems. He assured that farmers would be prioritized, with grain purchases completed promptly and payments made within 48 hours.

Parthasarathi dismissed YSRCP's attempts to gain public sympathy as mere theatrics. He called on the party to stop its "new dramas" and support the coalition government's initiatives. "The people and farmers have seen enough of Jagan's crocodile tears and will no longer be deceived," he concluded, asserting that the coalition government is focused on delivering results for the people of Andhra Pradesh.





## Mylavaram MLA Calls for Landslide Victory for Alapati Raja in Graduate MLC Elections



TPN CORRESPONDENT Vijayawada, Dec - 13

Mylavaram MLA Vasantha Venkata Krishnaprasad has urged voters to ensure a decisive victory for Alapati Rajendra Prasad (Raja), the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) candidate contesting in the Graduate MLC elections for the joint Krishna and Guntur districts.

Speaking at an intimate meeting held at Datta Kalyana Mandapam in Gollapudi, Vasantha Krishna Prasad emphasized the need for all members of the TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP alliance to work together like "soldiers in a war" to achieve this goal. Graduate MLC candidate Alapati Raja, MLC Paruchuri Ashok Babu, former MLC A.S. Ramakrishna, and alliance leaders including Akkala Rammohan Rao (Jana Sena) and Nootulapati Bala Koteswara Rao (BJP) attended the event.

The MLA highlighted the significance of the Graduate MLC elections, noting that the Mylavaram constituency had achieved a milestone with 16,000 graduates registering to vote, securing top positions in the Krishna and Krish-

na-Guntur districts. He urged alliance members to campaign tirelessly and cast their first-priority votes for Alapati Raja, strengthening TDP leadership under Chandrababu Naidu.

Vasantha Krishna Prasad also applauded the record-breaking TDP membership registrations in the Mylavaram constituency, which surpassed 53,000 members. He encouraged further registrations, emphasizing benefits such as ₹5 lakh accident insurance, and appealed for united efforts to strengthen the party at the grassroots level.

Addressing the upcoming irrigation society elections starting December 14, he stressed the importance of electing representatives with a service mindset to ensure efficient water management. He reiterated Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's commitment to making Andhra Pradesh fertile and expanding agricultural land.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from voters, alliance leaders, and TDP members, all of whom pledged their support for Alapati Raja's victory.

## Sexual Harassment and Land Acquisition Complaints Highlighted at Grievance Meeting

#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Mangalagiri, Dec - 13

In a grievance meeting held at the TDP central office, several individuals came forward to report issues ranging from sexual harassment to land acquisition disputes. The meeting was attended by MLC and Legislative Council Chief Whip Panchumarthi Anuradha, along with Andhra Pradesh Trade Promotion Corporation Chairman Vajja Baburao, who received the petitions and worked to address the complaints.

Key complaints included:

• **Sexual Harassment:** Sri Lakshmi from Dharmavaram town, Sathya Sai district, filed a



gally seized by a man named Jampana Chinna Maddileti. The complaint is about the wrongful possession of his property.

**Harassment and Threats:** Saugandhi from Navuluru village, Mangalagiri mandal, Guntur district, reported harassment by Kakarlamudi Durga Rao, who is allegedly threatening the colony residents and using the threat of SC-ST atrocity cases against those who question him. She requested strict action to end the harassment.

## Swarnandhra 2047 Vision Document Unveiling: Historic Event at Indira Gandhi Municipal Ground



TPN CORRESPONDENT Vijayawada, Dec - 13

The grand unveiling of the Swarnandhra 2047 Vision Document will take place on Friday, at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Ground. This momentous event is aimed at shaping a prosperous, healthy, and happy future for Andhra Pradesh. Special teams, led by IAS officers, have worked tirelessly to ensure elaborate arrangements for the occasion.

The program will see the participation of guests from 26 districts, including those providing special services in various sectors like education, women empowerment, technology, health, agriculture, and volunteer work. Around 30,000 people are expected to attend the event, with attendees arriving from different parts of the state in 500 buses.

In preparation for the event, a special command control room has been established to coordinate with district officials. Parking facilities have been meticulously planned, with 24 areas designated for cars and seven for buses. Tight security measures have been implemented under the guidance of the police department, and multiple types of passes are being issued for VVIP, VIP, and public galleries.

To ensure smooth operations, teams have been assigned to manage each gallery, and large LED screens along with public addressing systems have been set up. The program will also feature exhibitions showcasing 10 key themes from the vision document.

Various arrangements have been made, including uninterrupted power and water supply, medical camps, sanitation facilities, transport, and breakfast services for attendees. On Thursday, state and district officials, including Chief Commissioner Babu.A, Chief Minister's Secretary PS Pradyumna, Principal Secretary Piyush Kumar, and others, reviewed the arrangements to ensure that the event proceeds flawlessly. The officials have emphasized the importance of coordination to make the historic unveiling a resounding success. Minister Satyakumar Yadav Inspects Arrangements for Swarnandhra 2047 Vision Document Launch



State Medical and Health Minister and NTR District In-charge Minister, Satyakumar Yadav, conducted an inspection of the arrangements for the Swarnandhra @ 2047 Vision Document launch, scheduled to take place on Friday, the 13th of this month, at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium in Vijayawada. The inspection, held on Thursday night, included the participation of high-ranking state officials and District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi.

During the visit, Minister Satyakumar Yadav emphasized the importance of taking all necessary precautions to ensure the smooth and successful execution of the event. He provided detailed instructions to the officials and staff involved, covering aspects such as security, logistics, and coordination, to guarantee a seamless experience for the attendees.

The vision document launch is set to be a significant event, and the minister's inspection highlights the government's commitment to making it a grand success, reflecting the state's vision for a prosperous and developed Andhra Pradesh by 2047.

Nara Lokesh Inspires Youth to Create Jobs with

complaint about a man named Kulayappa who allegedly sexually assaulted her while she was alone at home. He is said to have taken photos and videos of her, threatening to kill her if she reported the incident. The victim has requested legal action against him for the sexual harassment and threats.

- **Fraudulent Land Deal:** P. Haribabu Chowdary from Nallamekalapalli, Fapilipi mandal, Nandyal district, filed a complaint against a man named Sri Kumar, who took Rs. 7.5 lakh from him with the promise of a joint Anantapur Dish TV dealership contract. However, the contract was never provided, and the money was not refunded. Haribabu has asked for appropriate action.
- **Land Seizure:** Ambapuram Subbarayudu from Narjampalle village, Mylavaram mandal, Kadapa district, reported that his 12 cents of land, purchased in Morampudi village, Jammalamadugu mandal, was ille-
- **False Land Registration:** Neeli Chinna Venkata Ramana from Jammalamadugu Town, Kadapa district, complained about her land being seized by Neeli Ramakrishnaiah and Neeli Srinivas, who allegedly created false documents to register the land. She is being threatened with assault for questioning the false registration and has requested that her rightful land be returned and that she be protected from further threats.

During the meeting, the petitioners were encouraged to work with officials, and MLC Anuradha and Vajja Baburao instructed that the authorities should immediately act on these issues, ensuring swift resolutions and justice for the victims.

#### Mega Job Mela in Enikepadu - MLA Yarlagadda TPN CORRESPONDENT MLA Yarlagadda Venkatarao emphasized the im-

Vijayawada, Dec - 13

In a bid to create employment opportunities for the youth, Andhra Pradesh IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh, alongside Venkatarao, has announced a Mega Job Mela to be held on the 14th of this month at the TDP office premises in Enikepadu.

The job fair will feature over 50 leading companies, including Aurobindo Pharma, Paytm, HCL, Shriram Finance, Med Plus, Vijetha Supermarket, HDFC, Kotak, IndiGo, Varun, Reliance Capital, Airtel, and many others, offering a wide range of job opportunities across various sectors. The event aims to provide large-scale employment options for the youth aged 18 to 35, with qualifications ranging from a degree to B.Tech, MBA, and even those with education as low as the seventh standard. MLA Yarlagadda Venkatarao emphasized the importance of the job mela, stating that it fulfills a promise made during the elections to create significant employment opportunities for the youth of the constituency. He urged local youth to take advantage of this event, which is being organized to help them secure jobs.

Minister Nara Lokesh has played a pivotal role in facilitating the collaboration between the Andhra Pradesh government and major corporations, including a partnership with Google, to bring largescale job opportunities to the state's youth. The government has also been working on industrial development in areas like the Mallavalli industrial estate to further boost employment prospects. The Mega Job Mela is set to be a significant event for unemployed youth in the region, and local leaders are encouraging all eligible candidates to attend and seize the opportunity.

## Devineni Uma Condoles the Death of Minister Kollu Ravindra's Brother

**TPN CORRESPONDENT Machilipatnam, Dec - 13** A tragic incident has struck the family of Andhra Pradesh State Minister Kollu Ravindra. His brother, Kollu Venkataramana (64), passed away on Wednesday night due to a heart attack. The news has sent shockwaves through the community, and condolences have

poured in from various political leaders.

Former Minister and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) State General Secretary, Devineni Umamaheswara Rao, expressed his deep sorrow at Venkataramana's passing. On Thursday, TDP leaders including Konakalla Narayana Rao, Yenigandla Ramu, Kagita Krishna Prasad, Yarlagadda Venkatarao, Konakalla Bullaiah, Matamarri Baba



Prasad, Dasu, and others visited the family home in Machilipatnam to pay floral tributes. They offered prayers for peace for the departed soul and extended their heartfelt condolences to the grieving family.

Kollu Venkataramana, a businessman by profession, is survived by his wife and two children. The family has confirmed that his last rites will be conducted on Thursday.

## **Call for Extensive Research in Herbal Medicine** National Conference Concludes at Acharya Nagarjuna University

**Guntur:** Acharya Nagarjuna University's in-charge Rector, Acharya K. Ratna Sheela Mani, emphasized the pressing need for extensive research in herbal medicine to enhance public health. Speaking at the closing ceremony of a two-day national conference on Multidisciplinary Research in Drug Discovery and Development held at the university's College of Pharmacy, she highlighted the critical role of pharmacists in discovering non-toxic and effective medicines.

"Pharmacists play a pivotal role in ensuring public health through their dedication to drug discovery and development. Research in herbal medicine can lead to groundbreaking solutions for various health challenges," Acharya Sheela Mani stated.

The event witnessed insightful discussions, including a plenary session



where Acharya Guruvayurappan shared promising results from his research on cancer prevention and patient care. Acharya Ch. Krishnamohan, Dean of Nalla Narasimha Reddy Group of Institutions, Hyderabad, shared his experiences from running a free clinical lab, emphasizing the pharmacist's responsibility. "If a doctor errs, a few patients may suffer, but a pharmacist's mistake can affect hundreds," he remarked, urging the creation of medicines that address societal challenges. for poster presentations, where students demonstrated innovative ideas in drug discovery. First, second, and third prizes were given to the top-performing students.

Conference Director Dr. D. Ravi Shankar Reddy highlighted the success of the event, which saw participation from 137 poster presenters and over 800 students representing various universities and colleges. He extended gratitude to all contributors, including BOS Chairman and CHIPS College Principal Acharya S. Vidyadhara Rao, Pharmacy College Principal Acharya A. Prameel Rani, and other dignitaries who enriched the conference with their expertise.

This conference underscored the need for collaborative and multidisciplinary efforts in the field of pharmacy to develop innovative, non-toxic medicines and improve public health outcomes.

cussions, including a plenary session The conference concluded with awards

# REGIONAL



# Essential Commodities Distribution Organized in Narsipatnam Municipality

Speaker Chintakayala Ayyannapatrudu Attended As Chief Guest

#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Narsipatnam, Dec – 13

The distribution of essential commodities was organized in the 12th ward of Narsipatnam Municipality under the auspices of Samagra Rythu Sahayak Sanstha. Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker Chintakayala Ayyannapatrudu and his wife Padmavati attended the event as chief guests.

The program was inaugurated by Speaker Ayyannapatrudu, who cut the ribbon to open the IFFCO office. On this occasion, Samagra Rythu Sahayak Sanstha Project Director P. Srinivas presented a donation of Rs. 1 lakh to the Speaker for the state government's Anna Canteens.

Addressing the gathering, Speaker Ayyannapatrudu emphasized the importance of continuous efforts for the development of women and the need for complete transparency in the execution of any program. He also highlighted that the state government is implementing various schemes aimed at advancing women's welfare.



The event was attended by Municipal Commissioner Jampa Surendra, Anakapalle District Project Officer M. Venkat, Councilor Rajula Naidu, Jana Sena Constituency In-charge Rajanna Veera Suryachandra,

Mandal Executive Board members Shiva, Reddy Rajababu, and other local leaders. A large number of women from the area were present at the program and received the essential commodities distributed.



#### Revenue Meeting Held in Pinagadi Village, Gandi Babji Assures Support to Farmers

#### TPN Correspondent Visakhapatnam, Dec 13

A revenue meeting was conducted on thursday in Pinagadi village of Pendurthi mandal, Pendurthi constituency. TDP Visakhapatnam District President and Pendurthi Constituency In-charge, APOILFED Chairman Gandi Babji garu, actively participated in the meeting. He received petitions from people and farmers, thoroughly inquired about their concerns, and assured them that the TDP government would stand by every farmer and common man to address their issues.

## YSRCP Leader's Crimes Spark Outrage and Inaction



TPN CORRESPONDENT Guntur, Dec - 13

Shocking details have emerged about a series of alleged crimes committed by YSRCP leader Devarakonda Nageswara Rao, alias Omkar, from Vengalayapalem in Guntur Rural Mandal. These allegations include murder, blackmail, and encroachments. Despite complaints from victims, the accused remains free, leaving families in fear and turmoil.

According to a complaint filed with the Guntur District SC office and police stations, Nageswara Rao allegedly killed a beggar to coerce a woman into murdering her husband. The victim claims he threatened her with photos and videos taken under duress and used these to intimidate her into compliance. To demonstrate his ruthlessness, the leader allegedly poisoned a beggar with cyanide obtained from a goldsmith and showed her the recorded act, using it as leverage to force her to carry out his plans. The woman revealed that Nageswara Rao provided her with cyanide and, later, a lethal injection, pressuring her to use them on her husband.



Former YCP MLA's of Palnadu Dist Press Conference in Narasaraopet Criticized the Govt for Neglecting the Welfare of Farmers

TPN CORRESPONDENT Narasaraopet, Dec - 13

In a press conference held in Narasaraopet, former YSRCP MLAs voiced their strong dissatisfaction with the coalition government's failure to deliver on promises made to farmers. Former Minister Vidadala Rajini expressed that not a single promise made by the coalition government had been fulfilled. She accused the government of presenting one narrative before the elections and another after coming to power, stressing that the YSRCP government has always been supportive of farmers. Rajini highlighted that former Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy had consistently shown his commitment to the farmers, vowing to stand by them in every issue related to their welfare. Former MLA of Macherla, Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy, echoed similar sentiments, stating that the coalition government had deceived farmers. Despite six months in power, the government had not taken any concrete steps to address the promises made to the farming community. He revealed plans to submit a petition to the Collector in Narasaraopet the following day, outlining the ongoing problems faced by farmers.

Bolla Brahmanayudu, the former MLA of Vinukonda, joined the criticism, calling attention to the injustice being done to farmers. He mentioned how both CM Chandrababu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, who had once called for the support of farmers, had failed to honor their commitments, further fueling frustration among the farming community.

## Shocking Incident in Kadiri Town, Son Attacks Mother Over Mobile Phone

TPN CORRESPONDENT Sri Sathya Sai Dist, Dec - 13

In a shocking incident in Kadiri Town, a son attacked his mother with a knife after she refused to give him her mobile phone. The attack occurred when the mother, who was sleeping, denied her son's request for her phone, as he had run out of data while playing the popular game Free Fire.

The son, reportedly angered by his mother's refusal, assaulted her in a fit of rage. The incident has raised concerns about the impact of mobile phones and online gaming on children's behavior and mental health Experts have long warned that excessive screen time and exposure to violent games like Free Fire and PUBG can affect the mental condition of children, leading to aggression and poor decision-making. At a time when children should be engaging in physical activities and outdoor play, many are instead spending hours glued to their screens, which has a detrimental effect on their emotional and social development. This incident serves as a wake-up call for parents and society to reconsider the role of mobile phones and video games in children's lives. It highlights the importance of setting boundaries and encouraging healthier habits for children to foster better mental health and family relationships.

Gandi Babji emphasized that the welfare of farmers and the common people remains a top priority for the TDP. He assured the participants that their grievances, whether related to land, irrigation, or other revenue-related problems, would be taken up with urgency and resolved in a fair and just manner.

The program saw the active participation of revenue officials, village leaders, and party activists, who expressed their commitment to working collectively for the betterment of the region.

## Collector Flagged Off Buses for Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision Launching Program

#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Rayachoti, Annamayya Dist, Dec - 13

Joint Collector Adarsh Rajendran flagged off buses carrying 310 employees and exemplary farmers from Annamayya district to participate in the Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision Document Launching Program. The event, set to be held at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in Vijayawada on December 13, 2024, marks a significant step in the state's roadmap for progress. The program, scheduled for 10 am, will be attended by state Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and will unveil the Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision Document, which outlines the plans for a developed and prosperous Andhra Pradesh by the year 2047. The 310 participants, from various departments and the farming community, will travel in seven buses to attend the event.

During the flag-off ceremony, Joint Collector Adarsh Rajendran emphasized the importance of the Golden Andhra Plan in shaping the future of the state. He encouraged the employees, staff, and farmers to actively contribute to this revolutionary initiative. "This plan will serve as a guide for the long-term development and success of Andhra Pradesh. Every citizen must be a partner in realizing this crucial vision," said JC Rajendran. The Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision aims to provide a comprehensive blueprint for growth, with an emphasis on economic, social, and infrastructural advancements.



## Heavy Rain and Landslides Disrupt Tirumala Ghat Roads Due to Cyclonic Storm



#### TPN CORRESPONDENT Tirumala, Dec - 13

Tirumala has been experiencing continuous heavy rainfall since midnight, caused by a severe cyclonic storm that is affecting the region. The incessant downpour has resulted in watercourses flowing from the hills onto the Ghat Road, creating significant disruptions. The heavy rains have also triggered landslides on the Second Ghat Road, raising concerns about the safety of travelers and residents.

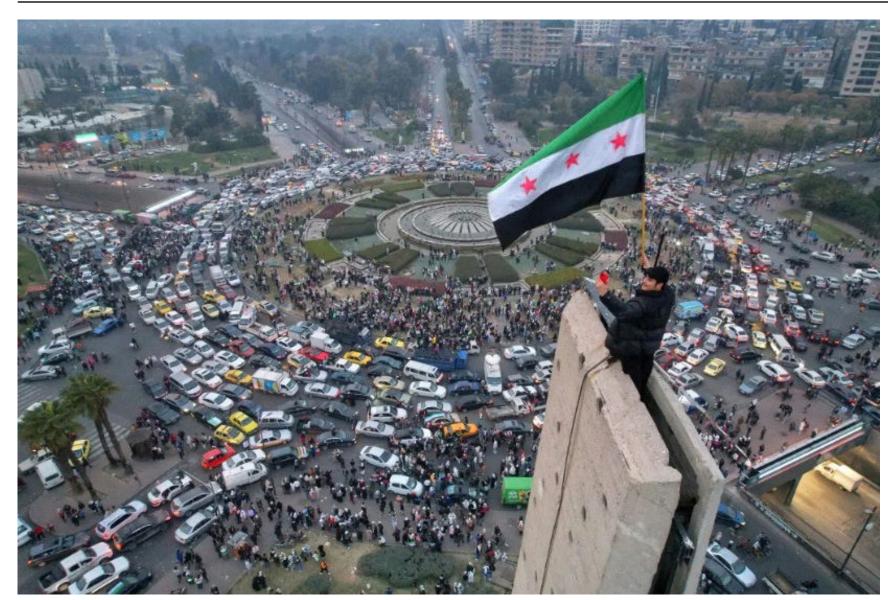
Fortunately, a major accident was narrowly avoided as no one was present at the time of the landslide. Authorities are actively monitoring the situation and have been working to clear the roads and prevent further incidents. Despite the landslides, there have been no reported injuries,

but the risk of more landslides remains high as the rain continues. Local officials have urged visitors and residents to exercise caution and avoid unnecessary travel in the affected areas. The road conditions are being evaluated, and alternative routes are being considered for safe passage. Tirumala, a popular pilgrimage site, faces frequent challenges due to weather-related disruptions, especially during the monsoon season. The current severe weather event, caused by the cyclonic storm, has made the roads treacherous, and authorities are prioritizing safety measures to prevent any potential harm.

As the rain continues, the focus remains on mitigating the effects of the storm and ensuring the safety of all those in the region. Emergency response teams are on standby, ready to assist if further complications arise.



# **OPINION**



# Syria's Unexpected Collapse: **A Parallel to Afghanistan's Fall**

has shocked the world, mirroring the events in Afghanistan where the Taliban quickly overtook Kabul in 2021. In Syria, rebel groups backed by Turkey, many with past ties to militant organizations, launched a surprise offensive from northwestern Syria and took control of Damascus. President Bashar al-Assad fled the country, and his regime crumbled without resistance. The Syrian Prime Minister handed power to the rebels, marking the end of over five decades of Assad rule.

Syria's descent is all the more striking due to the country's history as a progressive Arab nation. Under Assad, Syria had achieved 100% literacy, offered equal rights to women, and maintained secular governance despite

The sudden collapse of Syria's government its alliance with Iran. It was also a key player political miscalculation. The situation raisin the Palestinian cause and staunchly opposed peace with Israel, especially over the Afghanistan. The main rebel faction, HTS, Golan Heights. Despite the human cost of the civil war that began in 2011, Syria had been a bulwark against Sunni extremism, making the sudden collapse even more bewildering.

> Various factors contributed to Syria's downfall, including the weakening of the military due to years of war, economic sanctions, and lack of reform. While Russia and Iran had initially provided military support, their resources were stretched thin, and they could not prevent the final collapse. Iran's warning in June about a rebel offensive went ignored, as Assad's trust shifted toward Arab partners, leading to a disastrous once again.

es concerns about Syria becoming a new once linked to al-Qaeda, has taken control of Damascus. Though some suggest the group has moderated, it remains unclear whether these changes are genuine. With power vacuums in the country, international forces like Israel and Turkey may strengthen their positions, while the possibility of Kurdish independence or a resurgence of terrorist groups looms. Ultimately, Syria's future depends on its re-

silient population. The sacrifices of its people, who have endured immense hardship, are the last hope for preventing Syria from becoming a breeding ground for extremism



## **Bridging India's Healthcare Divide with Refurbished Medical Devices**

India, renowned for its advanced medical technology and world-class hospitals, still grapples with significant healthcare disparities, especially in rural areas. While rural regions make up 70% of the population and contribute 46% of the national income, their healthcare infrastructure remains inadequate. The doctor-to-patient ratio in rural India is a staggering 1:25,000, far from the World Health Organization's recommended 1:1,000. As a result, 63% of rural patients are forced to travel out of their states for major treatments, according to studies by Transform Rural India and Sambodhi Research.

A potential solution to this crisis lies in the adoption of refurbished medical devices. These cost-effective alternatives to new equipment can help make advanced healthcare technologies accessible in underserved regions. The Indian medical device market, valued at over USD 11 billion, continues to grow, but high costs for essential equipment like MRI machines and CT scanners remain a significant barrier. Refurbished devices, offering savings of 30-70%, can help bridge this gap, enabling rural healthcare facilities to provide essential diagnostics and invest in infrastructure and workforce training.

By incorporating refurbished devices, rural clinics can offer critical services such as X-rays, ECGs, and ultrasounds, which are often unavailable in these areas. This strategy also aligns with India's push toward a circular economy and sustainable practices. Refurbishing medical devices reduces e-waste and supports environmental goals, as outlined in Prime Minister Modi's LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) Mission. Quality and safety concerns regarding refurbished devices are addressed through strict reconditioning processes, ensuring compliance with international standards like those set by the WHO and NEMA. This ensures that refurbished equipment is reliable and meets safety benchmarks, gaining trust from healthcare providers and patients alike. Adopting refurbished devices not only enhances access to healthcare but also promotes local entrepreneurship and green jobs, reducing dependence on costly new imports. This approach supports the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, strengthening India's healthcare ecosystem and driving the nation closer to its vision of universal healthcare access by 2047.

## The Importance of Narrative **Sovereignty for Nations**



Narrative sovereignty refers to a nation's ereign ratings and global standing. ability to control its own narrative on the global stage. This is a crucial yet often neglected aspect of sovereignty. Historically, colonial powers manipulated narratives to justify exploitation by portraying colonized nations as uncivilized and unfit for self-rule. Today, international organizations, global media, and foreign governments continue to shape narratives that misrepresent countries like India. This pattern, rooted in Edward Said's concept of \*Orientalism\*, perpetuates biases that align with geopolitical and economic interests.

Studies on global media coverage show that over 70% of articles from leading Western outlets portray developing countries negatively, emphasizing issues like conflict, corruption, and poverty. This misrepresentation affects international perceptions, with countries labeled unstable or corrupt often receiving 20-25% less foreign direct investment than their peers, regardless of actual performance. Such skewed narratives also impact sov-

For nations, narrative sovereignty is essential to maintain their autonomy and legitimacy. It allows them to define their identity and shape their aspirations in a way that reflects the will of their people, rather than external actors. Hannah Arendt's view on power as relational highlights that controlling the narrative is central to a nation's influence. When foreign entities dominate this space, they erode domestic trust, destabilize public opinion, and shape policy discourse.

In the digital age, these challenges are amplified as information flows rapidly through digital platforms, often dominated by sensational or polarizing content. Algorithms on social media platforms, designed to maximize engagement, often prioritize provocative narratives that serve elite interests, distorting public perception. This asymmetry allows foreign actors to influence national discourse with minimal resistance, effectively "capturing" the national narrative for their own purposes.



## South Korea's Martial Law: A Reflection of **Political Turmoil and Civil-Military Tensions**

President Yoon Suk Yeol declared since the country transitioned to a liberal democracy in 1987. This unprecedented move highlighted deep-seated institutional flaws, particularly the consolidation of political power in the hands of the president. It also exposed the fragility of civil-military relations, evoking painful memories of the military dictatorship that dominated South Korea from 1961 to 1987.

The declaration of martial law set off a political crisis. Former Defense Minister Kim Yong-Hyun was charged with treason for his involvement, sparking further depolitical decision. The military's

servative faction of the governmartial law for the first time ment raised concerns about its partisan involvement in a politically motivated action. This raised questions about the independence and neutrality of the military in South Korea's democratic framework.

Following the lifting of martial law, the opposition Democratic Party launched an investigation into the reasoning behind the declaration, which had sent shock waves through the country's citizens and businesses. Lawmakers interrogated senior military and police officials who were linked to the episode to determine their role in the events. The investigabates on the military's role in this tion uncovered alarming revelations, such as testimony from

On December 3, South Korean apparent alignment with the con- Lt. Gen. Kwak Yong-geun, head of the Army Warfare Special Command, who revealed during a National Assembly hearing that the president had ordered special forces to prevent opposition lawmakers from entering the National Assembly. This action, which blocked their constitutional rights, pointed to a clear political motive behind the martial law declaration.

> This political crisis has deepened divisions in South Korea, casting doubt on the integrity of its democratic institutions. As the investigation continues, questions about the balance of power between the executive, military, and other branches of government remain at the forefront of South Korea's political discourse.





# Will Take Maharashtra To Next Level Of Development: Fadnavis meets PM Modi

TPN CORROSPONDENT NEW DELHI DECEMBER.13

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday to discuss key issues related to the state, including the upcoming cabinet expansion. Fadnavis, who assumed office on December 5, made his first visit to Delhi to have a one-on-one with Modi regarding the formation of the state cabinet.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Fadnavis expressed gratitude for the Prime Minister's support over the past decade, noting that under Modi's leadership, Maharashtra has emerged as a leader in multiple sectors. He emphasized that the state now aims to elevate its growth trajectory further under the guidance of the Prime Minister. "In the last 10 years, with your support, Maharashtra is number one in almost every sector, and now aims to take this journey of development to the next level," Fadnavis said.

Meanwhile, the Maharashtra Cabinet expansion is expected to take place on Saturday, with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) likely to hold over 20 of the 43 available Cabinet positions. The BJP is expected to distribute the remaining berths among its allies,



including the Shiv Sena and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

The BJP had previously informed its allies, including Sena and NCP, that the Home Ministry would remain with the Chief Minister, in line with the party's long-standing strategy in the state. Fadnavis' meeting with Modi comes as the political landscape in Maharashtra shifts with the cabinet reshuffle, which is closely watched as it may

define the future power dynamics within the coalition government.

Interestingly, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, also from the Shiv Sena, did not accompany Fadnavis for the meeting, fueling speculation about intra-party differences as the cabinet expansion looms. The developments signal an ongoing power struggle within the ruling coalition as alliances continue to evolve in the state.

#### I Try To Hide My Face In Meetings Abroad: Gadkari On Road Accidents TPN CORROSPONDENT NEW DELHI

DECEMBER.13

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday expressed his concern over the increasing number of road accidents in India, admitting that the target set to reduce accidents by 50% when he first took office has not been met. Speaking during a discussion on road accidents in the Lok Sabha, Gadkari said, "When I go to international conferences on road accidents, I try to hide my face," underscoring his frustration with the situation.

The minister candidly acknowledged that, instead of a reduction, road accidents have continued to rise. "Forget about reducing accidents, I admit they have increased," Gadkari stated, adding that the issue is not only about improving infrastructure but also about changing human behavior and societal attitudes. He emphasized that for road safety to improve, there needs to be a shift in how society views traffic laws, and individuals must respect the rule of law.

Drawing from his personal experience, Gadkari shared that he and his family had been involved in a major accident several years ago, which left him hospitalized for an extended period. "By the grace of God, my family and I were saved, and I understand the consequences of road

### Permanent solution to Manipur crisis will take time due to fragile situation: CM Biren

TPN CORROSPONDENT MANIPUR DECEMBER.13

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh expressed on Thursday that while both the central and state governments are working diligently to resolve the ongoing crisis in the state, achieving a permanent solution will take time due to the fragile nature of the situation. His remarks came during a program to commemorate Nupi Lan, which honors the significant role of Manipuri women in resisting British colonial rule.

Addressing the gathering, Singh acknowledged the challenges the state is facing, stating, "The state and central governments have been putting in all efforts to bring a permanent solution. However, bringing a solution would take time as the situation has become chronic and fragile." His comments reflect the ongoing struggle to restore peace and stability in the region, which has been grappling with communal tensions.

In relation to the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), which was recently re-imposed in six police station areas, Singh mentioned that the state government had formally requested the Centre to review and consider withdrawing the act from these areas. The CM emphasized the need for public cooperation in restoring peace and tranquility to Manipur, urging citizens to support the government's initiatives. The program also paid tribute to the role of women in the state's history, particularly during the Nupi Lan struggles of 1904 and 1939, when Manipuri women led revolts against British colonial injustices. Singh further highlighted the bravery of Manipuri women in various historical events, including their role in ousting the Burmese during the Seven Year Devastation period.



Jaishankar Assures CM Stalin on Efforts for Release of Detained Fishermen

TPN CORROSPONDENT CHENNAI DECEMBER.13

Union External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has assured Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin that his ministry will continue to make all necessary efforts to secure the early release and repatriation of 14 Indian fishermen detained by Pakistan. This assurance came in response to a letter from Stalin dated November 20, 2024, concerning the detention of these fishermen by Pakistani authorities on January 3, 2024.

The 14 fishermen, including seven from Tamil Nadu, were apprehended by the Pakistan Navy. Jaishankar highlighted in his response that the Indian High Commission in Islamabad had been actively seeking consular access for the fishermen. He urged Pakistan to ensure the safety and well-being of the detained individuals until their repatriation.

"The High Commission will continue to follow up on the matter and make all necessary efforts for their early release and repatriation," Jaishankar emphasized in his letter. He also mentioned that the Central government is fully aware of the situation and that consular access had been requested, but not yet granted.

The detained fishermen had set out from Porbandar, Gujarat, for a fishing expedition when they were captured by the Pakistan Navy along with their two mechanised fishing boats, Shri Vraj Bhumi and Mandeep. CM Stalin had raised concerns regarding the prolonged detention and the humanitarian impact on the fishermen. In his letter, he requested Jaishankar to take effective diplomatic action to ensure the immediate release of the fishermen.

The issue of Indian fishermen being detained by foreign navies has been a recurring problem. In recent months, Tamil Nadu fishermen have also faced arrests by the Sri Lankan Navy, with over 400 fishermen detained and dozens of boats seized since June 2024. These arrests have sparked protests in Tamil Nadu's coastal districts, calling for swift action by the Indian government to address the ongoing issue.

During a recent visit to Sri Lanka, EAM Jaishankar raised the issue with the Sri Lankan government, urging measures to prevent further detentions and boat seizures. However, the situation remains a challenge for both the Indian gov-

accidents firsthand," he remarked.

Gadkari also identified truck parking on roads and the lack of lane discipline as key contributors to road accidents in India. He said that the absence of proper enforcement regarding these issues poses significant challenges to road safety.

To improve the safety standards of vehicles, Gadkari mentioned that he has ordered the implementation of international standards for bus body construction in India. As part of these measures, he stated that buses would now be equipped with hammers near windows, making it easier to break the glass in the event of an accident.

# Cabinet Clears 'One Nation One Election' Bill In Big Step Towards Simultaneous Polls

#### TPN CORROSPONDENT NEW DELHI DECEMBER.13

The Union Cabinet has approved crucial bills aimed at implementing the "One Nation, One Election" proposal, which envisions simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, and eventually municipal polls. These bills, expected to amend at least five Articles of the Constitution, will likely be introduced during the ongoing Winter Session of Parliament.

The bills were cleared during a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Among the significant amendments is a change to Article 82, which governs the state-wise allocation of Lok Sabha seats and the division of states into constituencies following each national census. Additionally, two bills will modify the tenure and dissolution process for the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies.

Another amendment will link the tenures of the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, ensuring that elections occur together. Furthermore, three laws will be amended to align the legislative assemblies of union territories, such as Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, and Puducherry, with state assemblies



and the Lok Sabha. These amendments, however, will not require the ratification of at least 50% of states.

However, any proposal to include local body elections in the simultaneous process will require the approval of at least 50% of the states, as it pertains to matters of state jurisdiction. Legal experts have cautioned that not securing such approval could lead to challenges over India's federal structure. The move follows the recommendation of the Kovind Panel, which was tasked with creating a framework for "One Nation, One Election." The panel, led by former President Ram Nath Kovind, has garnered support from 32 political parties and several judicial figures. It claims that simultaneous elections would simplify the electoral process, reduce costs, and foster economic growth by creating a stable policy environment. ernment and the fishing community.



Mayawati, Akhilesh Yadav Criticize Parbhani Incident, Call for Strict Action TPN CORROSPONDENT LUCKNOW

DECEMBER.13

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) president Mayawati strongly condemned the recent damage to a replica of the Constitution near the statue of Dr. B R Ambedkar in Parbhani, Maharashtra, and called for calm amidst rising tensions. The replica, located outside the Parbhani railway station, was discovered damaged on Tuesday, sparking protests in the region."The disrespect shown to the statue of Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and the Constitution is highly condemnable and shameful. The party is deeply saddened and concerned by this incident," Mayawati stated. She further urged the Maharashtra state government to take immediate and stringent legal action against the individuals responsible for the act, which she described as casteist and anti-social in nature. "If no action is taken, the situation could escalate further," she warned, appealing to the public to maintain peace and order.

The incident led to unrest in Parbhani, with Ambedkarite activists calling for a bandh on Wednesday. The protests turned violent as a mob engaged in arson, damaging shops, vehicles, and even the district collector's office.

Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav also criticized the Maharashtra government's handling of the situation, pointing fingers at the BJP-led coalition. He demanded a thorough investigation into the incident, questioning the authorities on who gave the orders to damage the Constitution replica.







## **Malaysia PM Launches National AI Office to Foster Development and Regulation**

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has officially launched a national artificial intelligence (AI) office, marking a significant step in the country's digital transformation and its goal to become a regional hub for AI development. The office will focus on shaping policies, addressing regulatory challenges, and ensuring strategic planning for the AI sector. This initiative comes as Malaysia has attracted billions of dollars in investments from global tech giants seeking to build critical infrastructure for cloud and AI services in the region.

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who unveiled the office on Thursday, described the event as a "historical moment" in Malaysia's digital journey. The new AI office will serve as a centralized agency responsible for overseeing AI development, research, and regulation. Among its key functions, it will focus on developing a comprehensive AI regulatory framework, creating a code of ethics, and formulating a five-year action plan for AI technology development that extends through to 2030.

In its first year, the office aims to achieve several critical deliverables, including the establishment of AI governance standards and policies to ensure ethical and responsible development of AI technologies in the country. The office will also prioritize fostering innovation in AI, working closely with industry leaders, academic institutions, and regulatory bodies to create a conducive environment for AI breakthroughs.

Additionally, Malaysia announced strategic partnerships with major global companies such as Amazon, Google, and Microsoft, all of which have pledged investments in data centers, cloud computing, and AI projects within the country. These collaborations underscore Malaysia's growing position as a key player in the digital economy, with international firms seeing the nation as a vital location for expanding AI and cloud infrastructure to meet the increasing demand in Southeast Asia.

With these efforts, Malaysia is positioning itself to lead AI development in the region while ensuring that the benefits of these technologies are aligned with ethical guidelines and sustainable growth.



# **Israel Destroys 80% Of Syrian Strategic Military Assets After Assad's Ouster**



**DAMASCUS:** Following the abrupt ouster of the capital, Damascus, and other strategic lo-Syrian President Bashar al-Assad after 24 years in power, Israel has launched an extensive military campaign targeting Syria's strategic military infrastructure. In the wake of Assad's removal on Sunday, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) have conducted more than 400 airstrikes over a span of 48 hours, successfully destroying an estimated 70-80% of Syria's critical military assets.

According to the Israeli military, the strikes focused on key "strategic weapons stockpiles" across Syria, aiming to prevent these resources from falling into the hands of insurgent and terrorist groups. Israel's operations were carried out in several Syrian cities, including

Khamenei Accuses U.S. and Israel of **Orchestrating Assad's Downfall in Syria** 



cations.

The Israeli strikes targeted a range of military assets, including naval vessels and anti-aircraft systems. Among the high-value targets were 15 naval ships stationed at Syria's Al-Bayda and Latakia ports, which Israel claims were capable of launching sea-to-sea missiles with ranges between 80-190 kilometers. These missiles, which Israel deemed a serious threat to both civilian and military maritime vessels, were destroyed in the strikes.

Additionally, the attacks hit weapons production sites and anti-aircraft batteries, further crippling Syria's defense capabilities. The offensive occurred in the buffer zone east of the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, where Israeli troops have also been stationed to secure the region. The strikes are seen as part of Israel's broader strategy to weaken Syria's military power and prevent hostile forces from gaining access to advanced weaponry.

Israel has long been concerned about the potential for Syria to become a launchpad for attacks against Israeli territory, particularly with Iran-backed groups operating in the region. The destruction of Syria's military assets is viewed as a significant blow to those forces and a demonstration of Israel's readiness to act decisively to protect its security interests.

**Trump Invites Xi Jinping To Inauguration After His 'Tariff' Threat Towards China** 



### South Korea's President Yoon **Defends Martial Law Decree, Vows To Fight "Till The End"**

SEOUL: South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol has defended his controversial decision to declare martial law last week, describing it as a necessary action to protect democracy. In a televised address on Thursday, Yoon lashed out at his political opponents, labeling them as "anti-state forces" and justifying his temporary suspension of civilian rule as essential for investigating the National Election Commission (NEC), which he claimed had been hacked by North Korea. Yoon emphasized that the martial law declaration was made to prevent "criminal groups" from undermining the government and disrupting state affairs. He argued that the refusal of the NEC to cooperate in an investigation into the 2024 election's integrity was a major factor in his decision to declare emergency rule. The NEC's alleged lack of cooperation following the hacking incident, which Yoon attributed to North Korea, raised questions about the legitimacy of the upcoming April elections.

The President's comments come amid growing political turmoil. His ruling party, the People Power Party (PPP), suffered a significant defeat in the April election, leading to the Democratic Party gaining overwhelming control of the National Assembly. This shift in power has fueled Yoon's accusations that the legislature has become a threat to South Korea's democratic order. Despite facing mounting pressure, including a criminal investigation for insurrection and a second impeachment vote scheduled for Saturday, Yoon vowed to fight against the opposition's attempts to remove him from office. In his address, Yoon expressed regret for causing anxiety among the public but insisted that his actions were driven by a deep commitment to the people. Meanwhile, the investigation into his declaration of martial law has intensified. Police attempted to raid the President's office, and several key figures, including former Defence Minister Kim Yong-hyun, have been arrested as part of the ongoing probe into the emergency decree.

DAMASCUS: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has accused the United States and Israel of masterminding the fall of Syria's former president, Bashar al-Assad, and pushing Iran out of the country. In his first public comments since a crucial component of Iran's "axis of resistance" was weakened, Khamenei claimed that the collapse was part of a joint plan orchestrated by the U.S. and Israel.

Speaking in Tehran, Khamenei emphasized, "There should be no doubt that what happened in Syria is the result of a joint American and Zionist scheme. While a neighboring government in Syria has played a role in this, the main conspirators, the masterminds, and the command center are in America and the Zionist regime."

This statement reflects Iran's frustration and growing concern over its diminishing influence in Syria. Khamenei's comments highlight the broader geopolitical struggle, with the U.S. and Israel working to undermine Iran's alliances in the region, particularly its relationship with Assad's regime. Syria has been a battleground for competing regional and global powers since the outbreak of the civil war in 2011, with Iran backing Assad's government while the U.S. and Israel have supported rebel forces and sought to limit Iran's military presence in the country. Khamenei's remarks suggest that Tehran views the loss of Assad's influence and the weakening of its position in Syria as a strategic setback.

Khamenei's criticism of the U.S. and Israel underscores Iran's broader regional ambitions and its long-standing adversarial relationship with both countries. The collapse of Assad's hold on key parts of Syria represents a significant shift in the balance of power in the region, and Iran's leadership appears determined to challenge what it sees as foreign interference in the sovereignty of Syria and its own regional interests.

WASHINGTON DC: US President-elect Donald Trump has extended an invitation to Chinese President Xi Jinping to attend his inauguration on January 20, 2025, despite Trump's tough stance on China. The invitation, made in early November after Trump's election victory, marks an unprecedented move, as foreign leaders have not traditionally attended US presidential inaugurations. Official records indicate that no foreign leader has ever participated in a US transfer-of-power ceremony, which has generally been limited to diplomats and ambassadors.

While it remains unclear whether Xi will attend, the invitation signifies a bold diplomatic gesture by the incoming US president. Trump's team has suggested that other global leaders may also be invited to the swearing-in ceremony at the Capitol, with inauguration officials currently making plans. "World leaders are lining up to meet with President Trump because they know he will soon return to power and restore peace through American strength around the globe," said Karoline Leavitt, a spokesperson for Trump's transition team.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, a far-right leader with close ties to Trump, is also reportedly considering attending the event, having recently visited Trump at his Mar-a-Lago estate.

Despite this invitation, US-China relations remain fraught, with Trump previously threatening to impose tariffs of up to 100% on BRICS countries, including China, if they create a rival currency to the US dollar. His administration has also set a January 19 deadline for TikTok's Chinese parent company, ByteDance, to sell the app or face a ban in the US. These moves are part of Trump's broader approach to counter China's growing influence on the global stage.

Trump's approach to foreign policy has long been focused on cultivating strong relationships with world leaders, which he views as key to securing international deals. In a recent interview, Trump revealed that he and Xi "got along very well," signaling the potential for a complex but cooperative relationship between the two leaders moving forward.



# **Markets Slip Amid Broad-Based Selling**



 $\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{Although}}$  it initially moved in a rangebound manner, it fell into losses as time passed. Despite an attempt to recover in the afternoon, it fell due to selling in heavyweights. The Nifty, which fell by 93 points, ended above 24,500, which is a good sign. The highest buildup in the weekly derivatives ending on December 19 is at 23000 call and 26000 put. The index is sure to move between these two points until a decisive move is made. Today, all sectoral shares, except IT and metal, were hit by a selling wave.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,526 in the previous session, opened at 81,476 today. It touched an intraday low at 81,211. It reached an intraday high MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM at 81,680. It ended down 236 points at 81,289. The NSE



Nifty, which opened at 24,604 on Thursday, touched a low of 24,527 and a high of 24,675. It closed down 93 points at 24,548. The Bank **1. Bharti Airtel Limited (BHARTIARTL)** Nifty fell 174 points to settle at 53,216.

Of the Nifty50, 14 companies gained while 35 lost. Adani Enterprises, Bharti Airtel, IndusInd Bank, Tech Mahindra and Adani Ports were the top gainers. NTPC, Hindustan Unilever, Coal India, Hero Moto and BPCL lost the most. Buying was seen only in the IT and metal sectors today. Selling pressure was on shares of media, FMCG, PSE, CPSE, auto, PSU bank, energy, infra and tourism sectors.

The breadth of the NSE turned in favor of sellers. Of the 2893 stocks traded, 1914 lost. Only 906 gained. Shares of 101 companies reached 52-week highs while 19 touched 52week lows.

The rupee weakened by 2 paise to settle at 84.86 against the dollar. Shakti Pumps re- 2. Tech Mahindra Limited (TECHM) ceived an order worth Rs 754 crore. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Power Grid. Green energy and power sector shares performed strongly today. Almost all shares rose by 7% with the start of Adani's new green project in Rajasthan. By the evening of the second day, MobiKwik IPO received a response of 15.58 times. Vishal Megamart was subscribed 1.15 times. Antique gave a sell rating to Rally India. Sai Life Sciences IPO received a response of 1.03 times on the second day. Muthoot Finance shares reached a record high. 17 lakh shares changed hands in a block deal in Bharti Airtel. 16 lakh shares changed hands in ITC. Anand Rathi maintained a buy rating on CEAT with a target price of Rs. 3800. Hitachi India shares rose for the fifth consecutive day. RVNL received LOA for a project worth Rs. 110 crore in Southern Railway. 3. ICICI Lombard General Insurance Com-40 lakh shares changed hands in Reliance pany Limited (ICICIGI) Industries. Motilal Oswal has given a buy rating to ICICI Bank with a target price of



Rs 1550. SEBI has issued an administrative warning letter to HDFC Bank. Grasim Industries will issue non-convertible debentures worth Rs 2000 crore.

# Bharti Air-

tel is a **? airtel** global tele-

communications company with operations in 18 countries across Asia and Africa. It offers services such as mobile voice and data, broadband, and digital TV. Net profit more than doubled to ₹35.93 billion, driven by the first tariff hike in over two years, which increased 10% to ₹233. The company is expected to continue raising mobile plan prices in the coming years to enhance profitability. Strong market position, increasing ARPU, and strategic tariff hikes. Potential customer churn due to price increases and competitive pressures.

#### Tech Ma-h i n d r a **Tech** provides Mahindra IT services

and solutions to various industries, including telecommunications, manufacturing, and financial services. The company has shown consistent reve- 5. Tata Steel Limited (TATA STEEL) nue growth, supported by its diversified service offerings and global client base. Shares reached a 52-week high recently, indicating positive investor sentiment. Diversified portfolio, strong client relationships, and a focus on digital transformation services. Exposure to global economic conditions and currency fluctuations.

of-*Dicici* CLombard fering a wide range of insurance products, includ-

ing motor, health, and travel insurance. The company has maintained steady growth in gross written premiums and profitability, supported by a diversified product portfolio.Shares have reached a 52-week high, reflecting strong market confidence. Robust distribution network, strong brand recognition, and a diversified product range. Regulatory changes and competition from both private and public sector insurers.

#### the average revenue per user (ARPU) by **4. Torrent Power Limited (TORNTPOWER)**

Torrent torrent Power is involved the in POWER genera-

tion, transmission, and distribution of electricity, serving customers in Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh. The company continues to expand its renewable energy portfolio, aligning with global sustainability trends. Integrated operations, strong financial performance, and a focus on renewable energy. Regulatory challenges and exposure to fluctuations in fuel prices.

Tata Steel is one of the world's largest steel producers, with operations span-

**SEBI Launches Nationwide Survey** to Boost Retail **Participation and Risk Awareness** 



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) L is set to conduct a nationwide survey aimed at increasing retail participation in the capital markets, raising risk awareness, and addressing gaps within the market ecosystem. This initiative is part of SEBI's broader strategy to foster a more inclusive and informed investor base.

Ananth Narayan, a whole-time member of SEBI, highlighted the regulator's focus on expanding access to capital markets across India. The survey will provide valuable insights into investor behavior and the existing barriers to market participation, especially among retail investors. SEBI aims to bridge these gaps by improving investor education and ensuring that more people understand the risks and opportunities in the capital markets.

Narayan also noted that despite the volatility in global markets, Indian markets have remained relatively stable. This stability was evident during the outflow of foreign portfolio investments (FPIs) in October and November, which amounted to \$14 billion. However, domestic investors, including mutual funds, balanced this out by contributing an equivalent amount of capital, demonstrating the resilience of India's retail investment base.

He emphasized that while the growth of domestic investors is encouraging, complacency should be avoided. Narayan pointed out that India still needs foreign investment to maintain its status as an attractive global investment destination. Foreign capital plays a critical role in funding the country's economic growth, and efforts must be made to ensure that India remains appealing to international investors.



ICICI Lombard is one of India's leading private sector general insurance comning India, Europe, and Southeast Asia. The company is focusing on cost optimization and increasing the share of high-value products to improve margins. Diversified operations and a strong domestic market presence. Cyclical nature of the steel industry and exposure to global economic conditions.

At the CII Global Economic Policy Forum 2024, Narayan reinforced the need for a balanced approach that encourages both domestic and foreign investment to support India's future growth and development. By empowering retail investors and improving market accessibility, SEBI hopes to build a stronger, more resilient capital market ecosystem in India.

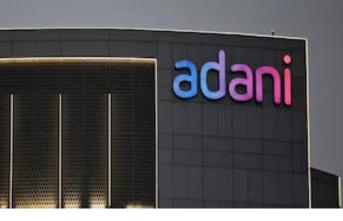
## Adani Group Stocks Surge, Adding **Rs 27,000 Crore to Market Cap**

Adani Group stocks saw a sig-nificant surge on December 12, with Adani Green Energy leading the charge. The rally in the shares of various group companies added nearly Rs 27,000 crore to investors' wealth, boosting the conglomerate's total market capitalization to approximately Rs 13.6 lakh crore.

Adani Green Energy, the flagship company of the group, posted an impressive 8.78% increase in its share price, reaching Rs 1,249

on the National Stock Exchange (NSE). This surge was fueled by the announcement that its subsidiary had successfully commissioned a 250 MW solar power project in Rajasthan. This move brought the company's total renewable energy capacity to 11,434 MW, marking a significant milestone in Adani Green's expansion and positioning it as a key player in the country's renewable energy sector.

Other companies in the Adani Group also benefited from the rally, with stocks such as Adani Power, Adani Transmission, and Adani Ports seeing notable gains. The upward movement in these stocks was a result of positive investor sentiment surrounding the group's overall growth prospects, particularly in the renewable energy and infrastructure sectors.



The sharp gains on December 12 reflect the confidence investors have in the long-term growth potential of the Adani Group, despite the challenges it faced earlier in the year. The company's focus on expanding its renewable energy capacity, along with its diversified portfolio in sectors like power, ports, and infrastructure, continues to draw investor interest.

As a result of the gains, the market capitalization of the Adani Group surged to Rs 13.6 lakh crore, cementing its position among the top conglomerates in India. The significant increase in value also highlighted the strong recovery of the group's stocks, which had faced volatility in recent months. With its focus on sustainable energy and infrastructure development, the Adani Group appears to be on track to further enhance its market position in the coming years.

## India Needs \$2.2 Trillion in **Infrastructure to Reach \$7 Trillion** Economy by 2030

Tndia's aspiration to be-Lcome a \$7 trillion economy by 2030 hinges on a massive \$2.2 trillion investment in infrastructure, according to a new report by Knight Frank, a leading real estate consultancy. The report, titled \*India Infrastructure: Reviving Private Investments\*, emphasizes the urgent need for this investment to maintain the country's projected compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.1% between 2024 and 2030.

country must focus on a comprehensive overhaul and expansion of its infrastructure across sectors such as transportation, energy, and urban development. However, the report raises concerns over the diminishing role of private sector participation in funding infrastructure projects, which has seen a significant decline in recent years.

Between 2009 and 2013, private investments accounted for \$160 billion, or 46.4% of total infrastructure investments in India. However, this contribution has fallen sharply, with private sector investments plummeting to just \$39.2 billion,

or 7.2%, between 2019 and 2023. This steep decline has put increased pressure on both the central and state governments to meet the financing needs, thereby raising concerns about the sustainability of such investments, especially in a fiscal context where controlling deficits remains crucial for long-term economic stability.

The report highlights that reviving private investment is critical for sustaining India's infrastructure growth.

To achieve this ambitious economic target, the It suggests that a robust policy framework and incentives for private players will be necessary to encourage greater participation and alleviate the financial burden on the public sector.

> In addition to government efforts, the report calls for innovative financing models, including public-private partnerships (PPP), to bridge the investment gap and ensure the country's infrastructure can support its economic aspirations. Achieving these goals will be pivotal not only for economic growth but also for improving the quality of life and overall competitiveness of India on the global stage.





# Apple Names Kino as iPhone App of the Year and Highlights Cultural Impact Winners



▶ pple has revealed its prestigious App Store Award winners for 2024, celebrating the year's top apps and games. In a press release issued on December 11, the tech giant named \*Kino\* as the iPhone App of the Year, a highly innovative app designed to help videographers unlock the full potential of their smartphone cameras. The app stood out for its exceptional user experience and design, making it a top choice for mobile filmmakers.

Alongside \*Kino\*, Apple also awarded \*AFK Journey\* as the iPhone Game of the Year. This game, praised for its engaging mechanics and immersive gameplay, impressed App Store Editors for its creativity and overall design. These awards, along with others across various categories, were selected from 45 finalists, showcasing the best apps and games available on the App Store in 2024.

Apple emphasized that these winners represent the pinnacle of innovation, user experience, and design, celebrating a diverse range of creators

from solo entrepreneurs to large teams. The company noted that the App Store Awards are a recognition of how apps have impacted users' lives, whether through productivity, creativity, entertainment, or innovation.

In addition to the main awards, Apple also highlighted six apps as cultural impact winners. These apps, chosen for their significant influence on society and culture, reflect the changing role of technology in daily life. While the names of these six apps were not disclosed in the press release, they are recognized for shaping trends and making a meaningful impact on their users.

The announcement of the 2024 App Store Award winners comes as Apple continues to support and celebrate the incredible talent within the global app developer community. The company's commitment to innovation is clear as it recognizes those who continue to push boundaries and create apps that make a real difference in the world.

# **Google unveils AI agent that** can use websites on its own

hatbots have come a Llong way in recent years, evolving from basic programs that answer simple questions to advanced systems capable of performing a wide range of tasks. Today, these AI-driven tools can answer inquiries, compose poems, and even generate images, showcasing their growing versatility. However, as technology continues to evolve, the capabilities of

chatbots are expected to expand even further, industries that rely heavily on data manageenabling them to autonomously carry out complex tasks.

In the near future, chatbots could take on responsibilities beyond traditional conversational roles, such as managing online shopping or interacting with productivity tools like spreadsheets. Imagine a chatbot that could automatically research products, make purchasing decisions based on your preferences, and even compare prices across multiple websites—essentially acting as your personal shopping assistant. This would mark a significant shift from chatbots being reactive tools to becoming proactive agents, anticipating user needs and carrying out tasks without constant input.

advanced tools like spreadsheets, allowing them to automate data entry, analyze trends, and even generate reports based on user-defined parameters. This could revolutionize

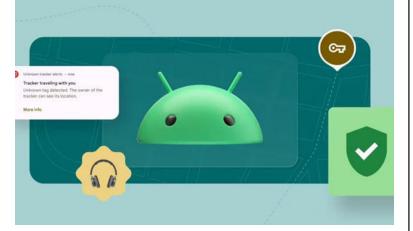


ment, streamlining workflows and improving efficiency. For example, a chatbot could analyze a company's financial data and offer insights or predictions, allowing employees to make more informed decisions without needing to manually input and analyze the data themselves.

As these AI tools become more sophisticated, the line between human and machine tasks will blur, creating a future where chatbots are not just assistants, but integral parts of everyday tasks. This evolution of chatbots could change how we interact with technology, offering new opportunities for automation and efficiency in both personal and professional spheres.

Moreover, chatbots could be integrated with The journey of chatbots is far from over, and their future promises to be filled with even greater possibilities that will shape the way we live and work.

# **Google Enhances Android Safety Features with Tracker Location Alerts and Privacy Controls**



# WhatsApp and Instagram Experience Widespread Outages Across India

WhatsApp and Instagram, two of the most popular apps in India, are experiencing significant outages, leaving many users unable to send messages or access content. The disruption, which appears to be widespread, has left users frustrated as they encounter issues with basic functions on both platforms.

WhatsApp, the widely used messaging app, has been facing difficulties for several hours, with users reporting an inability to send or receive messages. Notifications are delayed, and conversations are unable to load for many, causing major inconvenience. Instagram, Meta's popular photo-sharing platform, is also seeing similar issues, with users unable to refresh their feeds or upload content. Complaints about both apps' functionality have plaints, Meta, the parent company of both been surfacing on social media platforms, with users voicing their frustration over the ongoing disruptions.



vice will be restored. This lack of communication has led to increased speculation among users, some of whom have turned to other social media platforms to share their experiences.

The outages are affecting millions of users across India, where both WhatsApp and Instagram are essential for daily communication and entertainment. The disruption has sparked concern about the reliability of these platforms, especially considering their widespread use for personal, professional, and business-related activities.

oogle has rolled out an important update to its safety fea-Utures for Android smartphones, offering enhanced capabilities to protect users from unknown Bluetooth trackers. This new update introduces the option to "pause" location updates temporarily, allowing users to safeguard their privacy when an unknown tracker is detected nearby. Additionally, users will now be able to locate and disable hidden trackers that are compatible with Google's Find My Device network, helping to prevent potential misuse of Bluetooth tags.

The updated feature, called "Temporarily Pause Location," empowers Android users to stop their devices from sharing location updates for up to 24 hours when an unwanted Bluetooth tracker is detected. This is particularly useful for safeguarding privacy, as it ensures that a hidden tracker cannot access or share the device's location during this time. By pausing location updates, users gain a layer of protection against unwanted surveillance and tracking attempts.

In addition to the ability to pause location updates, the update also makes it easier for users to locate and disable unknown Bluetooth trackers. Once detected, users can find the hidden tracker using the Find My Device network and take action. This may involve disabling the tracker, often by removing its battery, effectively rendering it useless. In more extreme cases, users can discard the tracker to eliminate any further threat.

This update comes as a significant step in addressing growing concerns over privacy and security, especially with the increasing use of Bluetooth trackers that can be used for malicious purposes, such as stalking or unauthorized monitoring. Google's new feature is designed to help users take proactive steps in preventing such activities, giving them more control over their personal information and whereabouts.

By providing tools to detect, locate, and disable unwanted Bluetooth tags, Google is enhancing Android's security and empowering users to protect their privacy in an increasingly connected world.

Despite the growing number of com-WhatsApp and Instagram, has not yet issued an official statement addressing the outages. There has been no confirmation on the cause of the problem or when ser-

While such outages are not uncommon for large-scale services, this incident highlights the growing dependence on

these platforms for communication. Users are hoping for a swift resolution, and many are eagerly awaiting an update from Meta regarding the issue. As of now, there is no clear timeline for when the apps will be fully functional again.

# **Instagram Launches Trial Reels Feature** for Creators to Test New Content

Meta-owned Instagram has unveiled a new feature called "Trial Reels," offering creators a unique way to share content with users who don't follow them and gauge its performance. This feature is designed to help creators experiment with content beyond their usual niche and expand their reach on the platform.

Instagram explains that Trial Reels provide an opportunity for creators to step outside of their typical content boundaries and see how new types of posts resonate with a wider audience. By sharing these trial pieces of content with users who may not follow them, creators can test new ideas, themes, or styles to see if they attract more engagement and reach. This could be especially valuable for creators looking to grow their following or break into new content areas.

Currently, Trial Reels are available exclusively to professional accounts, a move that aligns with Instagram's focus on sup-



porting content creators who use the platform for business or monetization purposes. However, the feature is still in its early

stages, with Instagram rolling it out to a select group of creators. While this restriction limits its availability for now, the platform may expand the feature in the future based on feedback from users and creators.

With this new tool, Instagram aims to provide creators with more flexibility and insights into their content strategies. The ability to test different types of content in a low-risk manner could help creators refine their approach and make more informed decisions about what resonates with their audience. The Trial Reels feature is expected to be an exciting addition to Instagram's suite of tools for creators, helping them boost engagement and potentially reach new followers.

As Instagram continues to evolve its offerings for professional users, it will be interesting to see how creators use Trial Reels and what impact it has on content trends and audience interaction on the platform.





# **Smriti Mandhana Makes History with Fourth ODI Century in a Calendar Year**

ndian cricketer Smriti Mandhana etched her name in history on December 11, becoming the first player in the world to score four centuries in a calendar year in women's One Day Internationals (ODIs). Mandhana achieved this remarkable feat during the third ODI between India and Australia at WACA Ground in Perth.

Opening the innings for India in a challenging 299-run chase, Smriti played a brilliant knock, scoring 105 runs from 109 balls. Her innings included 14 boundaries

and one six, showcasing her aggressive yet single calendar year in ODIs. calculated approach. Mandhana's century was a crucial contribution in keeping India's hopes alive in the game. She formed a strong partnership with Harleen Deol, adding 118 runs for the second wicket. Deol's knock of 39 runs also helped in stabilizing India's innings.

However, after Deol's dismissal, India's momentum faltered. The team was eventually bowled out for 215 runs in 45.1 overs, falling short of the target by 83 runs. Despite the loss, Smriti's century was a historic achievement, marking her as the first female cricketer to score four centuries in a



This achievement further cements Mandhana's reputation as one of the best women cricketers in the world. Her consistency and ability to perform in high-pressure situations have made her a key player for India. As a left-handed batter, she has consistently delivered outstanding performances, making her a role model for aspiring cricketers globally.

Mandhana's incredible feat highlights not only her individual brilliance but also the growing recognition and success of women's cricket on the international stage.

# India Suffer 0-3 Series Whitewash After 83-Run Defeat to Australia in Third ODI

ndia suffered Lcrushing 83-run defeat to Australia in the third Women's ODI on Wednesday, completing a 0-3 series whitewash. Despite Mandhana's stellar knock, India's pursuit of a challenging target of 299 ended in disappointment as they were bowled out for 215 in 45.1 overs.

Australia, after winning the toss and opting to bat first, were initially on the back foot, finding themselves at 78 for four. However, middle-order batter Annabel Sutherland turned

the game around with a stunning 110 off 95 balls, supported by half-centuries from Ashleigh Gardner (50) and captain Tahlia McGrath (56 not out). Their collective efforts propelled Australia to a competitive total of 298 for six in their allotted 50 overs at the WACA Ground in Perth.

In response, India's chase was anchored by the elegant Mandhana, who played a sublime knock of 105 runs off 109 balls. With 14 boundaries and a six, the left-handed opener provided hope for the visitors. Her partnership with Harleen Deol (39) added 118 runs for the second wicket, keeping India in the hunt. As long as Mandhana was at the crease, India remained in with a chance.



However, her dismissal at a crucial moment turned the tide in Australia's favor. Once Mandhana was out, India's hopes of a consolation victory faded. Despite late contributions from other batters, India fell short, bowled out for 215, leaving Australia with a comprehensive victory.

This defeat handed India a whitewash in the threematch series, as they failed to chase down Australia's challenging total. Smriti Mandhana's outstanding century, however, remained the highlight of the match, further solidifying her status as one of the finest players in women's cricket.

# **Zimbabwe Clinches Last-Ball Victory Over Afghanistan in First T20**

match of their three-match Twenty20 series at Harare Sports Club on Wednesday. With just 11 runs needed off the final over, Tashinga Musekiwa played a match-winning knock, scoring the required runs to secure Zimbabwe's victory and reach their target of 145 with six wickets down.

Afghanistan, after winning the toss and opt- ed him with 32 runs. Their 75-run stand laid with the second match ing to bat, posted a total of 144/6. Their innings a strong foundation for Zimbabwe's pursuit of scheduled for Friday at Harare Sports Club. was bolstered by a solid 79-run partnership the target. Despite a few wickets falling in the en on 54, and veteran all-rounder Mohammed and stayed in contention throughout the in- of Zimbabwe's batting, while Afghanistan's series continues.

Zimbabwe triumphed over Afghanistan by Nabi, who contributed with a valuable 28 runs. nings. Zimbabwe's Richard Ngarava was the standout bowler, claiming impressive figures of 3/28 in As the game came down his four overs to keep Afghanistan's total in check.

> In response, Zimbabwe's chase got off to a target with one ball to steady start thanks to a solid partnership between Brian Bennett and Dion Myers. Bennett tory handed Zimbabwe top-scored with 49 runs, while Myers support- a 1-0 lead in the series,

to the wire, Musekiwa kept his cool, ensuring Zimbabwe reached the spare. The dramatic vic-



fightback through their middle-order partner-

between Karim Janat, who remained unbeat- middle, Zimbabwe maintained the pressure The thrilling finish highlighted the resilience looking to build on their performances as the

ship kept them in the game. Both teams will be

# **D** Gukesh Becomes Youngest **Ever World Chess Champion**, **Defeats Ding Liren**

Tn a historic moment for Indian chess, 18-year-old D Gukesh has become the youngest-ever World Chess Champion, defeating China's Ding Liren in the 14th and final game of the 2024 FIDE World Chess Championship. With this victory, Gukesh has etched his name in the annals of chess history, becoming the first Indian to claim the prestigious title since Viswanathan Anand's triumph in 2012.

The final game began with both players tied

at 6.5 points each, setting the stage for a thrilling conclusion. Despite the match looking destined for a draw, a late blunder by Ding Liren opened the door for Gukesh to seal his victory. The young Indian grandmaster seized the opportunity, demonstrating remarkable composure and skill in securing the win.

This victory caps off a remarkable year for Gukesh, who has been in scintillating form throughout 2024. In addition to his World Chess Championship title, Gukesh also won the Candidates Tournament earlier in the year and helped lead India to gold in the



icant milestone for Indian chess, following in the footsteps of Anand, who was the last Indian to hold the World Chess Championship title.

With this win, Gukesh becomes not only the youngest World Chess Champion in history but also the first teenager to ever achieve the feat, showcasing the future of chess in the country and the world. His exceptional talent and determination have earned him global recognition, and he now stands as a beacon of inspiration for aspiring chess players worldwide.

# **Gujarat Giants Appoint Pravin Tambe and Daniel Marsh Ahead** of WPL 2025

**¬** ujarat Giants have **U**announced key appointcoaching ments ahead of the 2025 Women's Premier League season. Former Indian leg-spinner Pravin Tambe has been appointed as the team's new bowling coach, while Australian Daniel Marsh will join as the batting coach. Michael Klinger, who was the head coach last season, will continue in his role for the upcoming season.

Tambe, who made his IPL debut for Rajasthan Royals at the age of 41 in 2013, brings a wealth of experience as a player and coach. He has previously worked with Kolkata Knight Riders and Lucknow Super Giants, honing his skills in shaping young bowlers. Expressing his excitement, Tambe said, "I'm eager to work with this talented group of players to sharpen their skills and help them excel."

Daniel Marsh, known for his extensive coaching experience, will take on the role of batting coach. Having served as head coach of Tasmania's men's team from 2013 to 2017, and as assistant coach of the Australian women's cricket team since 2022, Marsh is ready to bring his expertise to the Giants. "I look forward to developing a fearless approach to



our batting with the aim of making our team one of the strongest batting units of the WPL," Marsh said.

The Gujarat Giants have also finalized their retained players ahead of the WPL 2025 auction, keeping key players like Ashleigh Gardner, Beth Mooney, and Laura Wolvaardt. Other retained players include Dayalan Hemalatha, Harleen Deol, Phoebe Litchfield, Meghna Singh, and Priya Mishra, among others. The team has released several players, including Sneh Rana, Kathryn Bryce, and Lea Tahuhu.

With a strong coaching staff and a solid team foundation, the Gujarat Giants are preparing to make a significant impact in the upcoming season of the Women's Premier League.





# **Keerthy Suresh and Anthony Thattil Tie the Knot: A Beautiful Beginning**

 $\mathbf{N}^{\mathrm{ational}}_{\mathrm{Keerthy}}$  Award-winning actress Keerthy Suresh has officially entered a new chapter of her life as she marries Anthony Thattil. The couple's wedding has captured widespread attention, with their photos going viral across social media platforms. The marriage was celebrated by family, friends, and well-wishers from the entertainment industry, all congratulating the newlywed couple as they begin their journey together.

The ceremony was a traditional South Indian affair, with Anthony Thattil following the custom of placing three thorns around Keerthy's neck, a significant ritual symbolizing their union. The couple looked stunning in their traditional wedding attire. Keerthy Suresh, known for her grace and elegance, shared moments from the celebration on Instagram, captioning them with the hashtag #ForTheLoveOfNyke, expressing her joy and excitement as she embarked on this new journey.

Keerthy's fans and well-wishers from all over the world flooded her social media with congratulatory messages, marking a joyous moment in her personal life. The wedding also marks a milestone in her career, as she continues to shine in the film industry.

Keerthy Suresh, who gained national fame for her performances in various successful films, is all set to make her Bollywood debut with the



movie \*Babyjaan\*, alongside actor Varun Dhawan. The movie is scheduled to hit the screens on December 25, 2024. This exciting new venture into Hindi cinema adds to Keerthy's growing list of accomplishments.

As the couple steps into this new phase of life, fans eagerly await both Keerthy's upcoming film and her future endeavors.

# **Aamir Khan Promotes 'UI** The Movie' Ahead of Its **December 20 Release**

The much-anticipated Pan-India film \*UI The Movie\*, directed by and starring Kannada superstar Upendra, is all set to hit theaters worldwide on December 20, 2024. The film will be released in multiple languages, including Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi, catering to a wide audience. As the release date approaches, Upendra is actively engaged in promoting the film, and the trailer has already caught



significant attention for its impressive visuals film's promotional efforts, especially as the and storyline.

The film has generated buzz not only due to Upendra's involvement but also because of a special promotional event that brought in Bollywood megastar Aamir Khan. Upendra, who is also the film's narrator and director, recently shot scenes in Jaipur with Aamir Khan, and during this schedule, Khan took the opportunity to promote the movie.

In a heartfelt message, Aamir Khan expressed his admiration for the trailer, calling it "mind-blowing" and praising the efforts behind its creation. He further added, "I am a big fan of Upendra. The trailer is unbelievable, and I am sure it will captivate audiences, especially the Hindi-speaking viewers. I want this movie to be a huge success." Aamir Khan's support has added a significant boost to the

movie gears up for its multi-lingual release.

Upendra, humbled by the praise, thanked Aamir Khan for his kind words, and the video of this interaction is now going viral on social media, further building excitement for the film.

\*UI The Movie\* also features Reeshma Nanaiah in the lead female role. The music and background score for the film are composed by Ajanish Loknath, who gained fame for his work in \*Kantara\*. The film is jointly directed by Manoharan and Srikanth KP, and produced by Lahari Films and Venus Entertainers. As the countdown to its release begins, anticipation continues to build, with fans from all over eagerly waiting to witness this high-budget, multilingual film in theaters.

## Satyadev's 'Zebra' Gains Success, Set for **OTT Release on Aaha**

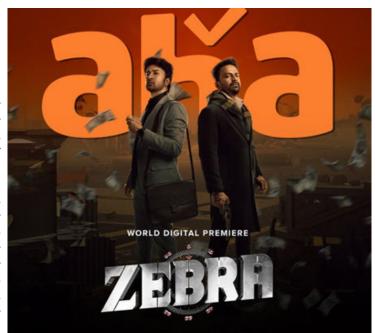
**C** atyadev, the young actor who made a re-**J**markable impact with his film \*Zebra\*, continues to enjoy success after the movie's hit release. Directed by Eswar Karthik, the film has been well-received by audiences, marking a significant milestone for the actor's career. Produced jointly by SN Reddy, Balasundaram, and Dinesh Sundaram under the banners of Old Town Pictures and Padma Films, \*Zebra\* was released in multiple languages including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Hindi on November 22.

audience. Building on this success, the film is now ready to reach an even broader audience. In a recent announcement, the popular OTT platform Aaha revealed that \*Zebra\* will soon be available for streaming. Along with the announcement, the platform shared an exciting new poster, generating buzz among fans eager to watch the movie from the comfort of their homes.

This digital release marks an important step

es, making a notable impact on the theater appeal and the strong performances of Satyadev and the rest of the cast, \*Zebra\* has already captured the attention of viewers, and its OTT release is expected to further amplify its popularity.

> The film's success in theaters, combined with its upcoming availability on Aaha, underscores the growing trend of regional films gaining widespread recognition across various platforms, showcasing the diverse talents and stories from Indian cinema. Fans are now eagerly awaiting the chance to watch \*Zebra\* on Aaha and experience the cinematic magic from their homes.



engaging storyline and strong performanc-

in expanding the film's reach, offering fans The movie garnered positive attention for its who may have missed the theatrical release a chance to enjoy it. With its multi-language

## Kiara Advani Dazzles in Harper's **Bazaar Cover Shoot, Blending** Fashion and Elegance

Kiara Advani shines brightly in her latest Harp-er's Bazaar cover shoot, captivating with every frame. Much like a diamond that reflects light into a burst of brilliance, the actress's style steals the spotlight in this stunning spread. Known for her powerhouse performances in Telugu blockbusters like \*Naa Naa Hyraanaa\* alongside Ram Charan, Kiara is now taking the fashion world by storm. From a sultry red gown to a sleek black ensemble and a regal velvet masterpiece, she brings bold elegance to the fore, blending thigh-high slits, high boots, and daring one-shoulder designs.

Styled by the renowned Anaita Shroff Adajania, Kiara's versatile charm is on full display, seamlessly transitioning from fierce and glamorous to unapologetically chic. Each look is crafted to highlight her impeccable ability to balance sensuality with sophistication—whether it's her smoldering gaze in a crimson silhouette or the powerful stance in luxurious velvet paired with towering boots. The shoot goes beyond just fashion, feeling more like a haute couture masterclass that showcases the star's commanding presence.

While Kiara continues to set the fashion world ablaze, her film career remains equally on fire. With her much-awaited film \*Game Changer\* set for release on January 10, followed by high-profile projects like \*Toxic\* and \*War 2\*, the actress is on a roll. As one fan cheekily commented after seeing her Harper's Bazaar cover, "If Kiara's this dangerous in velvet and slits, imagine what she's cooking up in \*Toxic\*!" With her stunning blend of talent, charisma, and undeniable style, Kiara Advani is truly the gift that keeps on giving—both on and off screen.



## **Rajinikanth's Birthday** Surprise: 'Coolie' Delivers a Mass Treat for Fans

Kollywood super-star Rajinikanth, fondly referred to as Thalaivar by his loyal fans, received a special birthday gift this year in the form of a thrilling treat from much-awaited the film \*Coolie\*. Directed



by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the movie has been one of the most talked-about projects, and the filmmakers promised fans a memorable birthday surprise. True to their word, this evening, the first glimpse of \*Coolie\* gave fans exactly what they were hoping for.

Rather than a simple teaser or glimpse, director Lokesh Kanagaraj surprised fans with a high-energy treat that left them buzzing with excitement. The preview not only featured Rajinikanth's trademark stylish and energetic dance steps but was also accompanied by Anirudh's catchy tunes, which gave the mass number an extra kick. It was a perfect blend of Rajinikanth's iconic style and the high-octane music, making it clear that \*Coolie\* is set to be an action-packed, mass entertainer. For Rajinikanth's fans, this birthday treat could not have been better.

Produced by Sun Pictures, \*Coolie\* has generated a lot of anticipation with Rajinikanth leading the cast. Adding even more excitement to the project is the presence of Tollywood star Nagarjuna, who is also part of the film. The star-studded cast and the promise of an action-packed storyline have made \*Coolie\* one of the most highly anticipated films of the vear.

With this stunning birthday surprise, the makers of \*Coolie\* have ensured that Rajinikanth's fans are in for an unforgettable cinematic experience. The special glimpse, filled with the superstar's charisma and energy, is a perfect way to celebrate the legend's birthday and set the stage for the movie's upcoming release. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the full film, which is expected to offer even more of the mass appeal that Rajinikanth is known for.