



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 27° C L 16° C	H 31° C L 22° C	H 23° C L 22° C

Allu Arjun Arrested, Remanded & Granted Bail



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Dec 14

Allu Arjun, the popular actor known for his role in Pushpa, was arrested in connection with a stampede that occurred near Sandhya Theatre during the release of his film Pushpa 2. Tragically, a woman lost her life in the incident. The police arrived at Allu Arjun's residence without prior notice, requesting his cooperation in the ongoing investigation.

The arrest, which had not been disclosed beforehand, involved the police asking Allu Arjun to accompany them without being given time to change clothes. However, the actor remained calm and composed, stopping the police and taking a few moments to drink coffee while conversing with his father. He also encouraged his distressed wife and shared a brief moment of affection with her before agreeing to go with the authorities. The entire sequence was witnessed by fans and netizens, who commented on Allu Arjun's poise, drawing comparisons to his Pushparaj character's unwavering confidence in the film.

After being taken to Chikkadapalli police station, Allu Arjun underwent medical tests at Gandhi Hospital. Following the tests, he was brought before the Nampally court. After some legal arguments, the court remanded the actor for 14 days.

In response, Allu Arjun's legal team filed a quash petition in the High Court to dismiss the case. The court granted conditional bail, postponing the hearing on the petition. The actor's fans are rallying behind him, hoping for a favorable resolution in the case.

"It Makes Me Happy to Have Such a Friend" - CM Chandrababu

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 14

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu attended the launch of the Swarnandhra-2047 Vision Document in Vijayawada. Addressing the gathering, he remarked, "It feels like we are here to begin a new chapter in history." He emphasized that the Swarnandhra Vision-2047 document would shape the future of the state and its people.

"Today, we have planted the seed to make the Telugu nation number one in the world. I firmly believe it is possible. This document will influence not only the minds of the present generation but also secure a brighter future for those to come," he said.

Reflecting on the 2024 elections, Chandrababu noted, "I have participated in elections since 1978 and contested in many. But 2024 was unique—57% of votes resulted in a 93% success rate. At that time, Pawan Kalyan garu keenly understood the people's situation and emphasized a critical



point: opposing votes must not be divided. His clarity and determination to work together made a significant difference. It brings me immense joy to have such a friend."

Speaking of his political journey, the four-time Chief Minister expressed dismay at the damage caused during the previous government's tenure. "Despite

the challenges, we are rebuilding the state step by step. The Swarnandhra-2047 document is a testament to our commitment to the Telugu people and our nation."

Chandrababu also acknowledged Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and his Developed India-2047 Action Plan, aiming to make India a global leader by its

100th Independence anniversary. "We share a common vision that Andhra Pradesh and the Telugu nation should also lead the world by 2047. Today, our per capita income is under \$3,000, but we have set an ambitious goal to raise it to \$42,000."

Recalling his transformative vision for Hyderabad, he shared, "Once, Hyderabad's western outskirts were just barren land. But I envisioned a global city there—like Singapore, Dubai, or New York. Step by step, we developed it, and today, Hyderabad stands as a testament to that vision. Telangana now boasts the highest per capita income in India, thanks to the foundation we laid back then."

Chandrababu concluded by praising Pawan Kalyan's consistent support and shared aspirations for a prosperous Telugu nation. "Pawan Kalyan often reminds me, 'Sir, we only saw stones, but you saw a vision.' This is the power of dreaming big and working with determination."



Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Lauds Chandrababu Leadership During Swarnandhra Vision-2047 Document Launch

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Allu and Mega Family Reunited Credits Go to Chikkadpally Police



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Dec 14

Allu Arjun's recent arrest in connection with the stampede incident at Sandhya Theatre on the release day of Pushpa 2 has sparked a wave of reactions from fans and celebrities alike, bringing the Mega family closer together. The arrest, which followed the trag-

ic death of a woman in the stampede, led to discussions not only about the incident but also about the strained relationship within the Mega and Allu families. During the Andhra Pradesh elections, Allu Arjun showed his support for YSRCP leader Shilpa Ravi, which led to speculation about a shift in his political affiliations.

Inaugural of

శక్తి ఇండస్ట్రీస్

SATURDAY 14 DEC, 2024
08:04AM

Sairam Theater, Vijayawada 1
FOR ENQUIRY 799-786-9999



AP Govt Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024 Attracts International Investors from Norway and BRICS

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

The Andhra Pradesh Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024 is drawing significant international interest, with major investors from Norway and BRICS nations looking to invest in the state's clean energy sector. On Friday, SAEL Solar, a prominent Indian renewable energy company, held discussions with Hon'ble Energy Minister Sri Gottipati Ravi Kumar in Tadepalli. The focus of the talks was on potential investments in solar energy, waste-to-energy initiatives, and solar panel manufacturing in Andhra Pradesh.

The delegation included representatives from Norfund (Norwegian sovereign wealth fund) and the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) of the United States. These entities have already invested in SAEL's renewable energy projects, with Norfund contributing \$60 million through its Norwegian Climate Investment Fund and DFC providing \$35 million. SAEL plans to develop a 1200 MW renewable energy capacity in Andhra Pradesh, in two phases of 600 MW each, signaling the state's potential as



a renewable energy hub.

Minister Ravi Kumar emphasized the state's commitment to clean energy innovation, stating, "Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Andhra Pradesh is leading the way in clean energy. Our Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024 is designed to foster investment and ensure rapid industrial growth. After facing challenges under the

YSRCP government's approach, we are now actively welcoming investors, facilitating swift approvals, and positioning Andhra Pradesh as a global leader in renewable energy."

The meeting concluded with a commitment to expedite permissions and support investments, further establishing Andhra Pradesh as a preferred destination for clean energy ventures.

Home Minister Anita Unveils Swarnandhra Vision Document with State Leaders



TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

The highly anticipated Swarnandhra Vision Document 2047 was officially launched today by Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Anita, alongside Chief Minister Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Konidela Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Shri Nara Lokesh. Other associate ministers also participated in the event, held to outline the state's ambitious plan for progress over the next two decades.

The Swarnandhra Vision 2047 aims to chart a course for comprehensive development across all sectors, establishing Andhra Pradesh as a model of prosperity, health, and happiness by 2047. The vision document emphasizes ten core principles that will guide the state's path

towards achieving these goals.

Speaking at the launch, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu highlighted that the vision was not only a roadmap for the future but also a testament to the sacrifices and efforts being made by the government to bring about transformative change. "This vision will leave an indelible signature on the future progress of Andhra Pradesh," he said, expressing confidence that the state will make remarkable strides in all areas of development. The Swarnandhra Vision 2047 reflects the collective aspirations of the people and the government's commitment to creating a prosperous and thriving state. Through this initiative, the Andhra Pradesh government plans to foster growth, create jobs, improve healthcare, and ensure the overall well-being of its citizens.



MP YS Avinash Reddy Under House Arrest

TPN Correspondent
Kadapa, Dec 14

Kadapa MP and key YSRCP leader YS Avinash Reddy was placed under house arrest at Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's camp office in Pulivendula. The move came after tension erupted in Vemula over an incident involving a YSRCP worker.

The incident began when EC Maheshwar Reddy, a YSRCP worker from Gollalagudur village in Vemula mandal, visited the Tahsildar's office on Thursday to pay water tax. Reportedly, a group of people stopped him and tore his documents, escalating the situation.

On Friday morning, MP Avinash Reddy visited the Vemula Police Station to discuss the matter with the Sub-Inspector. However, his visit led to a gathering of a large number of YSRCP workers, creating a tense atmosphere. Fearing a possible clash, the police detained the MP and transported him to Pulivendula, where he was placed under house arrest at the CM's camp office. The house arrest is being supervised by Circle Inspector Narasimhulu, and the situation is being closely monitored to prevent any further disturbances.



Sana Satish Babu Elected Unanimously to Rajya Sabha

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

Sana Satish Babu, a prominent leader from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and a key figure in East Godavari district, has been unanimously elected to the Rajya Sabha. His election marks a significant moment for the TDP, as he is currently the only Kapu community MP representing the party from Andhra Pradesh.

With the emergence of Jana Sena in the last parliamentary elections, the Kapu community had found fewer opportunities to contest MP seats within TDP. However, TDP President N. Chandrababu Naidu took the decision to nominate Sana Satish Babu, recognizing his strong leadership and influence within the community. Given the lack of competition, Satish Babu's election was seamless and uncontested.

Satish Babu, known for his behind-the-scenes contributions to TDP's electoral campaigns, has long been a trusted leader. His close association with key figures like IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh further strengthened his position within the party. Sources suggest that the proposal for his Rajya Sabha nomination may have originated from Lokesh, who is known for advocating the representation of the Kapu community within the party.

This appointment effectively ends any speculation regarding the underrepresentation of the Kapu community within TDP's parliamentary ranks and highlights the party's commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of this influential group.



Minister Payyavula Highlights CM Chandrababu Vision at Swarnandhra Vision-2047 Event

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

The Swarnandhra Vision-2047 program, held at the Indra Gandhi Stadium in Vijayawada, was an event that marked the unveiling of the state's future vision document. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Minister Payyavula Keshav, Education Minister Nara Lokesh, and other dignitaries were present at the event.

During his speech, Minister Payyavula Keshav expressed deep admiration for Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, describing him as a visionary leader akin to a yogi dedicated to the service of the people. Keshav praised the vision document as not just a collection of ideas, but the result of Chandrababu's tireless, day-and-night efforts to translate the needs of the people into a roadmap for the state's future.

Keshav highlighted the historical significance of the Vision-2047 document, emphasizing that it reflected the hard work and deep thinking of Chandrababu Naidu. "This document is not something prepared by consultants; it's a manifestation of Chandrababu's vision for the future of Andhra Pradesh," Keshav said, further acknowledging that the Chief Minister's commitment has laid the foundation for the state's growth. The Minister also recalled how, during the preparation of the Vision-2020 document in 1994, many ridiculed Chandrababu's ideas, especially regarding the IT revolution. However, the outcomes of Vision-2020, including the rise of the IT sector and the exponential growth in the number of engineering colleges, proved the vision right. "Today, the highest earners in America are our Telugu children. That is the power of Vision-2020," Payyavula said. He further praised the transformation of Hyderabad, describing it as Cyberabad, a city shaped by Chandrababu's leadership, which created jobs and opportunities for countless families. "The impact of his leadership is visible today in Hyderabad and the millions of lives it has touched," he added.

Payyavula Keshav also spoke about the essence of governance, which he defined as leading all sections of society towards development, rather than focusing on short-term political gains.

Allu and Mega...

Continued from page 1

The Allu family, traditionally aligned with Pawan Kalyan, distanced themselves from the Jana Sena leader in favor of Shilpa Ravi, causing a rift in the family bond. This political move was met with trolling, especially from Mega fans who were unhappy with the family's support for a rival political leader. Allu Arjun, known for his outspoken nature, addressed the trolling during a film function, stating, "If I like, I can go anywhere, if I don't like, I will not go," making it clear that he would not be influenced by the opinions of others regarding his choices.

The tension between the Mega and Allu families became more evident when Mega fans did not support Pushpa 2, reflecting their displeasure over the family's political stance. However, Allu Arjun's recent arrest, followed by his release on conditional bail, has inadvertently brought the Mega family back together, with celebrities and fans coming to his support. In the wake of the arrest, several prominent figures in the Telugu film industry, including members of the Mega family, have expressed their solidarity with Allu Arjun, showcasing the family's unity despite the past differences.

Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Lauds Chandrababu Leadership During Swarnandhra Vision-2047 Document Launch

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec 14

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan participated in the Swarnandhra Vision-2047 document launch in Vijayawada and expressed his pride in being part of such a historic event. Speaking after signing the vision document, Pawan shared his deep appreciation for Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's leadership and vision for the state.

Reflecting on his own journey, Pawan Kalyan recalled his youth, when he aspired to achieve a lot and learn more, and how he learned the importance of setting long-term goals. He likened writing down his dreams to creating a roadmap for the future, much like the Vision-2047 document, which he believes will chart the course for the state's development.

Pawan praised Chandrababu Naidu's foresight, citing the example of the Cyber City in Madhapur, which was once just piles of stones. Naidu's vision transformed it into a thriving hub, providing jobs to lakhs of people. "Chandrababu is the architect of the Cyber City, and his leadership has created a

model that others can only admire," Pawan remarked.

He also acknowledged the immense responsibility Chandrababu shoulders in leading a party with decades of experience, catering to the needs of millions of people, while also facing constant political challenges. Pawan highlighted that despite these pressures, Naidu's unwavering commitment to development remains steadfast.

Pawan Kalyan noted that Swarnandhra Vision-2047 aligns with the broader vision of Vikas Bharat (Developed India) set forth by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He emphasized that this vision represents not just one man's dream but a collective resolution shared by millions of people. According to Pawan, this shared vision is the key to achieving a prosperous future for the state of Andhra Pradesh.

In conclusion, Pawan Kalyan expressed his satisfaction in being part of the unveiling of the Vision-2047 document and reiterated his belief that it will strengthen the state's economic system and empower the people. He called upon everyone to contribute to making Swarnandhra a reality by 2047.



Ys Jagan Mohan Reddy Condemns Arrest of Allu Arjun

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Dec 14

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) chief and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy has strongly condemned the arrest of popular actor Allu Arjun in connection with the recent stampede incident at Hyderabad's Sandhya Theater. Jagan expressed his condolences over the tragic death of a woman in the incident, describing it as deeply unfortunate.

Speaking on the matter, Jagan acknowledged that Allu Arjun had extended support to the victim's family, demonstrating his concern and responsibility. However, he criticized the arrest of the "icon star" as an unwarranted move by the authorities. While urging Allu Arjun to continue acting responsibly, Jagan stated that the police's decision to detain the actor was inappropriate.

Jagan emphasized the need for a balanced and thoughtful approach in dealing with such sensitive situations, urging all parties to focus on addressing the root causes of the tragedy rather than resorting to hasty actions. The YSRCP leader reiterated his disapproval of the arrest and extended his sympathies to those affected by the incident.



Former Minister Perni Nani's Family Allegedly Involved in Civil Supplies Rice Scandal

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

YSRCP leader and former Minister Perni Nani's family is facing allegations of involvement in rice irregularities linked to the Civil Supply Godown. Amidst this controversy, Nani's family members, including his wife Jayasudha, have reportedly gone into hiding. The police have registered a case against Jayasudha as the main accused in the case, following the discovery of irregularities in the godown operations. A petition for anticipatory bail has been filed in the Machilipatnam District Court, with Jayasudha seeking protection from arrest. Perni Nani's former assistant, Manasa Teja, has also been named in the case. Nani himself has been unavailable for three days, leading to speculation on social media that he, too, has gone into hiding.

In 2020, Perni Nani constructed warehouses on two acres of land in Potlapalem village near Manginapudi beach, registering them in his wife Jayasudha's name. These warehouses were leased to the Civil Supplies Department and used as buffer storage for PDS rice. However, inspections conducted after the recent elections revealed that 187 tons of rice had disappeared from the warehouses.

Although the discrepancy was initially noticed during monthly inspections, it was reportedly kept under wraps by officials. The issue came to light in November 2024, prompting police to register a case under multiple sections of the IPC at the Bandaru Taluka Police Station. TDP leaders alleged that the godowns, rented out during the YSRCP regime, did not meet Civil Supplies Department standards. The absence of essential infrastructure, such as roads for lorry movement and proper storage conditions, was cited as a major issue.



After complaints from TDP leaders, inspections were conducted, and notices were issued to vacate the warehouses.

Further investigations revealed that the missing rice could not be accounted for, leading to suspicions of deliberate diversion. A letter from Nani, written just before higher-level inspections, offered to pay for any shortage, raising further questions about prior knowledge of the issue.

TDP leaders have accused Perni Nani of being part of a larger ration mafia, alleging that the missing rice was diverted to Kakinada port for illegal transportation during the YSRCP regime. They demand a comprehensive investigation into the scandal, including the registration of the PD Act against those responsible.

The scandal has sparked widespread criticism, with demands for accountability and transparency in handling government resources intended for the poor.

Avanti's Resignation Sparks New Challenges for YSRCP

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

The resignation of former minister Muthamsetty Srinivasa Rao has sent shockwaves through the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), raising concerns about potential defections within its ranks. Muthamsetty, who joined the YSRCP just before the 2019 elections, has been a significant figure, representing the Bhimili constituency and even serving as a minister in Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's cabinet.

Muthamsetty's political journey within the party took a downward turn after his removal from the cabinet and subsequent dismissal as the party's district president. His defeat in the 2024 elections added to his growing discontent, which culminated in his announcement on Thursday of his resignation from the party's primary membership and his role as Bhimili constituency in-charge.

During a press conference, Muthamsetty criticized the party's leadership, particularly Jagan Mohan Reddy, for not addressing internal issues post-elections. He expressed disappointment over the lack of introspection and corrective measures to strengthen the party, which he believed were necessary after the electoral defeat.

Muthamsetty's departure has sparked speculation about other leaders con-



sidering a similar move. Reports suggest that several disgruntled party members might follow his path, creating unease among YSRCP leaders. To prevent further defections, party leadership is reportedly taking steps to identify and address the grievances of dissatisfied members.

The YSRCP is now focused on damage control, with senior leaders attempting to pacify those expressing dissatisfaction. Internal discussions are being held to mitigate the potential fallout and reinforce the party's unity. Muthamsetty's resignation marks a significant moment of introspection for the YSRCP as it grapples with the challenge of retaining its cadre and addressing internal rifts amid a shifting political landscape.

KA Paul Criticizes Allu Arjun's Arrest, Vows Legal Action if Not Released



TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

Praja Shanti Party president KA Paul has condemned the arrest of actor Allu Arjun in connection with the Sandhya Theater stampede incident, where a woman tragically lost her life. Paul stated that he would file a court petition if Allu Arjun is not released immediately, questioning the inconsistency in law enforcement when dealing with influential figures versus ordinary individuals.

Paul questioned why former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu was not held accountable for similar tragedies in the past. He cited multiple incidents, including the 2019 Pushkaram stampede where 23 people lost their lives, as well as deaths during political rallies in Kandukur

and Guntur.

"If eight people died in Kandukur and three in Guntur, why wasn't Chandrababu arrested? Why wasn't he called for questioning? Is there one kind of justice for powerful political leaders and another for common citizens or actors?" Paul asked.

Paul emphasized the need for justice to be applied uniformly, without bias towards political leaders or celebrities. He criticized the arrest of Allu Arjun as an example of selective enforcement, urging authorities to adopt a consistent and impartial approach.

KA Paul's remarks highlight growing public debate over accountability and fairness in legal proceedings, particularly when high-profile individuals are involved.

Botsa Satyanarayana Criticizes Telangana Govt on Allu Arjun's Arrest

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

YSRCP MLC Botsa Satyanarayana expressed his disapproval of the recent arrest of actor Allu Arjun, calling it an impulsive and unnecessary action by the Telangana government. Speaking to the media, Botsa condemned the arrest and remarked that he had seen the developments unfold on television, including the chaotic scenes at Mohan Babu's residence.

Botsa described the arrest of the "icon star" as unwarranted, attributing it to hasty decision-making by the authorities. He emphasized that the tragic stampede incident at Sandhya Theater, which led to the death of a woman, was deeply unfortunate and had been condemned by everyone, including Allu Arjun, who had expressed his grief public-



ly. The MLC further criticized the Telangana police, suggesting that their actions might have been influenced by political pressure. He questioned why the police's potential failure in managing the situation has not been scrutinized. Drawing parallels, he pointed to the Godavari

Pushkaram stampede, questioning the accountability measures taken during that time and stressing that laws must apply equally to all.

Botsa urged the Telangana government to carefully assess the circumstances of the incident, avoid rash decisions, and maintain better coordination to prevent such tragedies in the future. He called for thoughtful action and foresight in addressing such sensitive issues.

Buddha Venkanna Criticizes Avanti Srinivas After Resignation from YSRCP

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 14

Former minister Avanti Srinivas, who recently resigned from the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), has become the target of sharp criticism from TDP State General Secretary Buddha Venkanna. Avanti, during his resignation announcement, openly criticized Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and the coalition government, accusing them of failing to deliver results within the first year and alleging plans for dharnas within six months.

Reacting strongly, Buddha Venkanna labeled Avanti Srinivas a "chameleon" in a tweet, accusing him of shifting loyalties and betraying his



benefactors. "Chameleon Avanti Srinivas... We do not need to give time to people like you. Everyone knows that leaders in the YSRCP government have done everything for me.

You and Jagan Reddy are equally responsible," he wrote.

Venkanna went on to recall Avanti's political journey, alleging that he had betrayed the family of Chiranjeevi and Pawan Kalyan, who gave him his political start. He also accused Avanti of disrespecting Chandrababu Naidu, who, according to Venkanna, elevated him from "a street-level person" to a prominent political position in Delhi.

Concluding his remarks, Buddha Venkanna dismissed Avanti's statements as insincere, asserting that the coalition government does not need his sympathy. The exchange highlights the intensifying political discourse following Avanti Srinivas's resignation.

Cultural Programs Dazzle at Swarnandhra 2047 Vision Event in Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec 14

The Swarnandhra 2047 Vision event, organized by the State Government's Department of Language and Culture, took place at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium in the heart of Vijayawada on Friday, drawing thousands of attendees from across the state. The cultural programs, presented by the State Creativity and Culture Committee, left a lasting impression on the audience, showcasing the rich diversity and artistic talent of the region.

The cultural festivities kicked off with a Ganesh Vandanam Kuchipudi dance, setting the tone for an evening full of vibrant performances. The crowd was captivated by songs composed and sung by the Ramana and Rajesh group, celebrating Vision 2047. A highlight of the evening was a Kuchipudi dance performance by ten dancers, focused on the theme of agriculture, followed by another Kuchipudi dance depicting the theme of poverty, which also received great appreciation.

Mimicry Baburao's performance brought bursts of laughter from the audience, while the Garagalu folk art form, presented by Yesu Prasad's group, received widespread acclaim. Rajiv Group's drum-based art performance

garnered special praise, and the Swachh Andhra-themed Kuchipudi dance performance by 12 dancers entertained everyone. The Hasyavallari comedy show by Haribabu's group added humor, while the Burrakatha



performance by Sridevi's team impressed with its storytelling. Not to be overlooked, the children of Hamsadhvani Kuchipudi Nrityalaya and Vignan Vihara High School, Enikepadu, performed cultural dances that touched the hearts of the audience, leaving them in awe of their talent. The two-hour cultural extravaganza stood out as a stunning showcase of traditional art forms and the vibrant culture of Andhra Pradesh, leaving guests thoroughly entertained and impressed.

Police Interference in Civil Case Raises Concerns in Vijayawada



TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec 14

Allegations have surfaced against the Kothapet police for interfering in a civil dispute over 30 acres of government ceiling land, which also serves as fish ponds, located in Gollapudi under survey numbers 309/1C2, 310/1, 330/4A, 330/5A, 336/2A, 338/1, 336/1A, and 359/1B1.

Kondragunta Rama Rao claimed ownership of the fish ponds, stating he purchased the land from Adusumilli Prasunambha in 2001, with the Revenue Department issuing a Pattadar Passbook in his name. Rama Rao had leased the ponds to Somireddy Omkara Durga Sambasiva Rao of Godavari district for three years. When the lease ended, Sambasiva Rao refused to vacate and claimed ownership, prompting a legal battle.

In 2023, the NTR District Collector ordered Sambasiva Rao to vacate the land within six months and hand it over to the government. Instead, Sambasiva Rao approached the court and obtained a stay order, asserting his right to the land. He allegedly attempted to harvest fish with the backing of the Kothapet police, citing the stay order.

Meanwhile, Rama Rao leased the ponds to another party, leading to physical clashes over crop ownership. The Vijayawada Rural Mandal Tahsildar clarified that the land belongs to the government and no private individual has rights over it.

The involvement of Kothapet Inspector Kondala Rao, his assistant Gopara-

ju, and SI Varaprasad in facilitating Sambasiva Rao's claims has drawn criticism. Allegations also surfaced that Kothapet police had previously implicated an unrelated person in a gold theft case and extorted Rs. 1.5 lakh from him.

The Supreme Court has ruled that police should not interfere in civil disputes, making the Kothapet police's actions questionable. The Amaravati bureau chief's inquiries into the matter revealed contradictions in statements from the police, revenue officials, and those involved in the dispute.

MP Kesineni Sivanath Congratulates Newly Elected Rajya Sabha Member Sana Satish

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec 14

Sana Satish, who was recently elected as a Rajya Sabha member from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), paid a respectful visit to MP Kesineni Sivanath at his office in Guru Nanak Colony on Friday. During the meeting, MP Kesineni Sivanath congratulated Sana Satish for her unanimous election to the Rajya Sabha and presented her with a shawl and a Sri Venkateswara Swamy statue as tokens of appreciation.

The event was attended by several prominent TDP leaders, including local Corporator Jasti Sambasiva Rao, Andhra Cricket Association Treasurer Dandamudi Srinivas, TDP State Secretary Ganne Prasad (Anna), TDP State



Leader Madigani Gurunatham, and TDP Leader Surapanee Suresh. The meeting was a moment of celebration for the party, as it marked the achievement of Sana Satish in securing a seat in the Rajya Sabha.

Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu Visits Sri Bhuvaneshwari Peetham in Gannavaram



TPN Correspondent
Gannavaram, Dec 14

Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu visited the Sri Bhuvaneshwari Peetham in Kesarpalli, Gannavaram Mandal, on his trip to the region. Naidu arrived at Vijayawada International Airport from Hyderabad and made his way directly to the Peetham, where he was warmly welcomed by BJP Kisan Morcha State President Chigurupati Kumaraswamy and other local leaders.

During his visit, Venkaiah Naidu paid a courtesy call on the head of the Peetham, Sri Sri Kamalananda Bharathi Swamy. The former Vice President performed special pujas at the Peetham as part of the spiritual visit. Additionally, Naidu contributed a donation of ₹5 lakhs on behalf of the Muppavarapu Foundation to support the establishment of facilities at the Peetham.

Devineni Avinash & YSRCP Leaders are Arrested by Vijayawada Police

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec - 14

Tensions flared in Vijayawada as police stopped YSRCP leaders, including NTR District YSRCP President Devineni Avinash and Vijayawada Mayor Rayana Bhagyalakshmi, from submitting a petition to the Collector in support of farmers' issues. The incident occurred when the leaders were en route to the Collector's camp office to submit a petition addressing farmers' concerns.

The police stopped the leaders at multiple locations, citing the lack of permission for the program. Devineni Avinash, along with other party leaders, protested the move and even staged a sit-in on the road, questioning why they were being prevented from proceeding. The protest escalated, and Avinash was arrested and taken to Ibrahimpatnam police station.

In a show of solidarity, his supporters and YSRCP members

gathered around the police vehicles, protesting the arrest. Meanwhile, Mayor Rayana Bhagyalakshmi, former MLA Mondithoka Jagannathan Rao, and



Asif, who were also planning to submit the petition, were stopped by police and taken to Governor Peta police station. Devineni Avinash expressed his frustration over the police action, stating that the farmers' problems deserved attention and that there was no reason to block their peaceful petition. The incident highlights the rising tensions between political parties and the local police as they navigate the issues of farmer support and permission for public demonstrations.

Uyyuru Mandal Sweepers and Watchmen Request Pending Salaries from Rajendra Prasad

TPN Correspondent
Uyyuru, Dec - 14

Sweepers and watchmen from Uyyuru Mandal Government Schools and ZPH School met with Rajendra Prasad on Friday to request payment of their salaries, which had been pending for the last six months. During the meeting, Rajendra Prasad took immediate action by contacting the District DEO via phone and urging him to expedite the payment of the salaries.



The DEO assured Rajendra Prasad that the pending sala-

ries would be processed and paid as soon as possible. The sweepers and watchmen expressed their gratitude to Rajendra Prasad for addressing their concerns and intervening on their behalf with the District Education Officer. The program was attended by Uyyuru High School Chairman Sai, Headmaster, as well as the sweepers and watchmen from Uyyuru Mandal and ZPHS School.

MLA Bonda Uma Distributes CMRF Cheques to the Poor in Central Constituency

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Dec - 14

On Friday evening, at the Central Constituency Telugu Desam Party office, MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao distributed cheques from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) to the poor. These funds serve as a crucial support system for individuals facing emergencies and financial challenges. The MLA handed over a cheque of ₹1,43,143 to Jampana Prakash of Vambe Kalani (60th Division) and ₹1,62,000 to Medasani Chandrasekar of the 31st Division. CMRF cheques were also distributed to Karakadiviya Nandini of Devanagar (30th Division).

Speaking at the event, Bonda Uma emphasized the importance of the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, which provides critical financial support for those unable to afford medical treatment during emergencies. He assured the beneficiaries that the state government remains committed to standing by those in need, particularly in urgent health crises.

Uma also outlined the government's commitment to offering corporate-level treatment at government hospitals. He mentioned that individuals who have already received treatment at private hospitals can apply for reimbursement through CMRF. The state government, under Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, has focused



on improving public health and ensuring better societal welfare, he added.

In addition to the CMRF distribution, Bonda Uma highlighted key welfare schemes introduced by the state government, including the Deepam scheme, which has benefited over 80 lakh people with free gas cylinders. Other schemes, like the Rs. 5 meals at Anna canteens, quick grain purchases for farmers, and increased pensions for senior citizens and widows, were also discussed. Additionally, flood victims will receive assistance, with Rs. 602 crore allocated for relief.

The event was attended by Kanchi Dhanasekhar, Chaudhary Suryanarayana, Ghanta Krishnamohan, P. Nagesh, and others.



YSRCP Organizes Rally in Anantapur District for Farmers' Rights

TPN Correspondent
Anantapur, Dec 14

The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) organized a massive rally in Anantapur district, highlighting the urgent need for investment assistance to food farmers and addressing their various challenges. The rally, held under the party's banner, drew attention to the difficulties faced by farmers in the region, including issues related to crop pricing, government support, and the need for proper resources to boost agricultural production. YSRCP leaders, along with local farmers and supporters, participated in the event, demanding that the government take immediate steps to ensure fair compensation and resources for the farming community. The rally emphasized the importance of providing financial aid and support mechanisms to enhance the livelihoods of farmers, who are seen as the backbone of the region's economy. The party has pledged to continue fighting for farmers' rights and will press for policies that directly benefit the agricultural community in Anantapur and beyond.



Thiruvur MLA Leads Massive Public Meeting in Support of Madiga Rights



TPN Correspondent
Eluru, Dec 14

A large public meeting in Nuzvidu town, Eluru district, was held in support of the Madiga community's demand for SC reservation classification. Thiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, along with Manda Krishna Madiga, a well-known activist for Madiga rights, organized the event. The meeting was preceded by a grand bike rally through the streets of Nuzvidu, with Madiga community members showing their support for the leaders and cause. The rally ended at the Exhibition Ground, where a significant public meeting was held. Housing Minister Kolusu Parthasarathi attended as the chief guest and praised TDP chief Nara Chandrababu Naidu's efforts toward SC reservation classification. He reaffirmed the TDP government's commitment to ensuring the legal recognition of the Madiga community's demands.

Manda Krishna Madiga addressed the gathering, calling for the immediate implementation of SC reservation classification in all states, in line with the Supreme Court's orders. He stressed the historical backwardness of the Madiga community and the need for them to benefit from reservation rights. Several prominent leaders also attended the event, including Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, Pilli Manikyala Rao (Lidcup Director), Burmapani Babu (Jana Sena leader from Nuzvidu), Undavelli Sridevi (Madiga Corporation Chairman), MEF leaders, and Madiga elders. The meeting highlighted the strong unity and determination within the community to secure their rights and ensure they receive the benefits they are entitled to.



Mohan Babu Faces Setback in High Court Over Journalist Attack Case

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Dec 14

Telugu actor Mohan Babu has faced disappointment in the Telangana High Court after his anticipatory bail petition was rejected. The case stems from an incident where the actor allegedly attacked a journalist at his residence in Jalpalli. Following the attack, the Pahad Sharif police registered a case against Mohan Babu, charging him with attempted murder.

In response to the legal proceedings, the actor filed an anticipatory bail petition in the High Court, seeking protection from arrest and requesting that the investigation be halted. The petition stated that the actor should not be subjected to further legal action before a thorough review. However, after hearing the case, the High Court dismissed the petition, effectively rejecting Mohan Babu's request for anticipatory bail. This setback comes as the actor faces increasing pressure in the case, which has garnered significant media attention. The Pahad Sharif police have continued their investigation, and the legal proceedings are expected to move forward despite the court's ruling.

Mohan Babu's legal team had hoped the anticipatory bail would shield him from immediate arrest while the case was under investigation. However, with the dismissal of the petition, the actor now faces the possibility of arrest as the investigation continues. The case is likely to remain a major point of discussion as it develops further.



Massive Fire Accident in Tamil Nadu Hospital Claims Six Lives

TPN Correspondent
Tamil Nadu, Dec 14

A tragic fire broke out in a private hospital in the Gandhinagar area of Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu, resulting in six fatalities and 29 injuries. The incident occurred late last night, and the cause has been confirmed as a short circuit.

Three fire brigades responded quickly to the scene and managed to bring the fire under control. Rescue teams evacuated patients from the building, and they were transport-

ed to nearby government and private hospitals in ten ambulances. Six individuals, including a boy, were found unconscious in the lift and were rushed to the hospital, but doctors declared them dead due to smoke inhalation.

The situation remains dire, with ongoing rescue operations. The death toll is expected to rise as the search continues. Authorities are investigating the incident, and more details are awaited. The incident highlights serious concerns regarding the safety standards in medical facilities.

YSRCP Leaders Rally in Palnadu District to Support Farmers

TPN Correspondent
Palnadu, Dec 14

YSRCP leaders held a large rally in Palnadu district, marching alongside farmers to the Collectorate to demand immediate solutions for the issues faced by food donors. The rally aimed to highlight the struggles of farmers in the region, including low support prices, lack of adequate resources, and insufficient government intervention. The participants, led by YSRCP leaders, called for the government to take urgent action to address their concerns and provide the necessary support to ensure the sustainability of agriculture in the area. The rally focused on pressing issues such as fair compensation for

crops and assistance to improve farming conditions. YSRCP leaders reiterated their commitment to supporting the farming community and promised to continue advocating for policies that directly benefit farmers. The event was a strong display of unity, as the farmers and party leaders stood together to demand fair treatment and solutions to their ongoing challenges. The rally concluded with leaders emphasizing the importance of resolving these issues to ensure the prosperity of farmers in Palnadu and across the state. YSRCP's ongoing support for farmers underscores their focus on addressing agricultural challenges and working towards better livelihoods for those in the farming community.



Allu Arjun's arrest is unfair - Ambati Rambabu

TPN Correspondent
Guntur, Dec 14

Tollywood star Allu Arjun was arrested by the Chikkadapalli police today in connection with the tragic death of a woman during the release of his latest film Pushpa 2 at Hyderabad's Sandhya Theater. The incident caused significant tension in the city. Following the arrest, YSRCP chief Jagan's lawyers filed a lunch motion petition in the Telangana High Court seeking Allu Arjun's release.

Ambati Rambabu, the former YSRCP minister and Guntur district party president, condemned the arrest in a tweet. He called the arrest unfair and expressed his disapproval, tagging key political figures including Allu Arjun, Pawan Kalyan, Revanth Reddy, Chandrababu, Telangana DGP, and the Telangana CMO, urging them to respond to the situation.

Ambati's tweet has drawn significant attention, especially considering his previous criticism of the Telangana government's handling of the case. The tweet has sparked a broader discussion about YCP's support for Allu Arjun, with the party's lawyers taking action on his behalf. Ambati, who had also expressed support for Allu Arjun during the elections, continues to be an outspoken voice in the ongoing controversy. His public condemnation of the arrest has added to the debate surrounding the incident and YCP's position.

Indian Chess Prodigy Dommaraju Gukesh Makes History as Youngest World Chess Champion

Indian chess player Dommaraju Gukesh has created history by becoming the World Chess Champion. In an intense 14th round match of the 2024 World Chess Championship, Gukesh defeated former champion Ding Liren to clinch the prestigious title.

At just 18 years old, Gukesh has set a new record as the youngest player to ever win the World Chess Championship in classical chess. His victory is a monumental achievement not only for him but also for Indian chess, marking another milestone in the country's growing prominence in the global chess arena. The win left Gukesh in tears as the emotional weight of the victory overwhelmed him. His triumph is the result of years of dedica-

tion and hard work, and it has made him a household name in the chess world. His victory over Ding Liren, a formidable opponent, is a testament to his exceptional skill and determination.

Gukesh's remarkable achievement has garnered widespread praise, as he becomes an inspiration to young aspiring chess players across the world. His success also adds to India's legacy in chess, following in the footsteps of grandmasters like Viswanathan Anand.

As the new World Chess Champion, Gukesh has not only proven his mettle but has also set the stage for future generations of chess players.





Trump Threatens 100% Tariffs on BRICS Countries Over Dollar Alternative Plans

US President-elect Donald Trump has issued a stern warning to the BRICS countries, threatening to impose 100% tariffs on them if they continue to pursue alternatives to the US dollar for international trade. His message, directed at nations like Russia, China, India, Brazil, South Africa, and other BRICS members, warns against creating a rival currency to the US dollar or supporting any such alternatives to replace the dollar as the world's reserve currency.

Trump recently posted on social media, stating, "The idea that BRICS Countries are trying to move away from the Dollar while we stand by and watch is OVER. We require a commitment from these countries that they will neither create a new BRICS currency nor back any other currency to replace the mighty US dollar, or they will face 100% tariffs and should expect to say goodbye to selling into the wonderful US economy."

This declaration comes as the BRICS countries have been exploring ways to reduce their dependence on the US dollar, particularly in light of the US's use of economic sanctions and its dominance over the global financial system. At the BRICS summit in Russia in October, Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the "weaponization" of the dollar, prompting many countries to consider alternatives that could help protect



them from the impacts of US sanctions.

The US dollar has long been the backbone of the global financial system, accounting for more than 58% of the world's foreign exchange reserves. Countries such as Saudi Arabia were convinced in the 1970s to trade oil exclusively in dollars, thus cementing the 'petrodollar' system. This global reliance on the dollar has been advantageous for the US, enabling it to maintain economic influence worldwide.

In recent years, however, countries like China and Russia have been actively seeking alternatives. China, for example, has succeeded in internationalizing its currency, the RMB, and a significant portion of its trade is now settled in yuan. Despite these

efforts, BRICS members have not made significant moves toward creating a unified currency, as discussed at the recent summit. Putin clarified that the alliance is not looking to create a BRICS currency or replace SWIFT, the global payment system. Trump's 100% tariff threat highlights his protectionist economic policies, designed to shield US industries by imposing higher tariffs on foreign goods. Critics, however, argue that such measures would ultimately harm US consumers, who would bear the brunt of higher costs. Experts like Jaijit Bhattacharya, president of the Centre for Digital Economy Policy Research, believe that while Trump's rhetoric may be aggressive, the economic fallout from a 100% tariff could backfire, leading to rising costs in the US.

The Silent Crisis: Neglecting Environmental Education and Its Impact on India's Future

As the world grapples with mounting environmental challenges—from climate change to the depletion of natural resources—environmental education has shifted from being a luxury to an urgent necessity. It is the foundation for equipping future generations with the knowledge, skills, and values required to safeguard our planet. Yet in India, one of the most populous and rapidly urbanizing nations, environmental education remains grossly undervalued and neglected in schools, colleges, and universities, risking the country's future ecological and economic stability.



Environmental Education: The Overlooked Imperative

At the school level, environmental education is often relegated to token chapters in textbooks. Despite a landmark 2003 Supreme Court ruling mandating environmental studies at all educational levels, the subject has not achieved the envisioned impact. It remains overshadowed by more career-oriented fields such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), treated as an afterthought with no robust strategy for building ecological awareness or fostering actionable solutions.

Higher education fares no better. Environmental science programs are confined to niche departments and are often treated as optional electives rather than integral components of diverse disciplines. The perception that environmental studies offer limited career prospects exacerbates the issue. This mindset ignores the exponential growth of global green industries—such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and waste management—which are poised to drive the future economy. India, despite its ambitious environmental goals, continues to underprepare its youth for this green revolution.

A Missed Opportunity for Growth and Empowerment

Environmental education is critical not just for ecological preservation but also for economic progress. Critics argue that focusing on environmental studies detracts from traditional career paths. However, this view is outdated. Green jobs in industries like renewable energy, conservation, and urban planning are emerging as key employment drivers globally.

India's neglect of environmental education risks missing out on this booming sector. Additionally, graduates in environmental disciplines struggle to find employment due to weak industry-academia linkages and insufficient government support. This underlines the need for targeted investments to create pathways for green careers and empower the next generation of environmental innovators.

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Faculty Discrimination: An Undervalued Workforce

One significant factor behind the marginalization of environmental education is the systemic undervaluation of its educators. Environmental studies faculty members often face lower pay and limited career advancement opportunities compared to their counterparts in more traditional disciplines. This inequity reflects societal biases against environmental education and hampers efforts to attract top talent to the field.

Ensuring fair compensation and representation for environmental educators is critical to strengthening this domain. When adequately supported, these educators can drive innovation and shape a generation of environmentally conscious leaders.

Breaking the Cycle: A Call to Action

India stands at a crossroads. To address the pressing environmental crises and build a sustainable future, a comprehensive approach is needed:

1. Integrate Environmental Education Across Curricula

Environmental education must become a core component of all academic curricula, from primary schools to universities. Practical, real-world applications should complement theoretical learning, preparing students to tackle environmental challenges effectively.

2. Strengthen Career Pathways

The government and industries should collaborate to highlight the employment potential in green sectors. Scholarships, internships, and mentorship programs can encourage students to pursue sustainable

careers, while policies should incentivize the creation of green jobs and support green industries.

3. Empower Faculty

Environmental educators must receive equitable pay, career growth opportunities, and representation in institutional policy-making. Their expertise is essential to ensuring the continued relevance of environmental education in addressing today's challenges.

4. Policy Reform

Policymakers must recognize environmental education as a strategic priority. Financial incentives, public-private partnerships, and robust industry-academia collaborations can ensure its integration across disciplines and its alignment with national sustainability goals.

States Leading the Way

States like Andhra Pradesh and Telangana can lead by example. Integrating environmental education into their curricula and spearheading sustainability initiatives—such as renewable energy adoption and community-driven waste management—can inspire a nationwide movement. These localized successes could pave the way for broader national adoption.

The Path Forward: Educate for a Sustainable India

The environmental crises of today demand immediate, decisive action. Environmental education is the cornerstone for building a resilient and sustainable India. By prioritizing this neglected discipline, investing in its educators, and integrating it across all sectors of society, India can equip itself to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The time to act is now. Let us educate for the Earth, empower future generations, and embrace sustainability to shape a brighter tomorrow.

"Empower Minds, Protect the Planet, Shape a Sustainable Future."

Congress's Stagnation: A Call to Acknowledge India's Growing Equity Culture



Over the past 15 years, the Congress party has faced stagnation in its electoral performance, which continues to be evident in the numbers. In the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, Congress secured a remarkable 11.9 crore votes, marking its best performance in years. However, since then, the party's votes have barely increased by 1.76 crore, while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has seen its vote share skyrocket, nearly tripling from 7.8 crore in 2009 to 23.6 crore in 2024. This stark contrast raises a pertinent question: How will Congress address this stagnation?

It's easy for Congress to blame the BJP's divisive politics or to argue that the Constitution is in danger. But such rhetoric does little to address the party's declining fortunes. Instead of focusing on name-calling, Congress must consider the reality of India's growing equity culture and how this demographic shift impacts its electoral prospects.

A significant number of Indians, approximately 22 crore, now have exposure to the stock market, according to the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). These retail investors, many of whom invest modest amounts like ₹100-₹500 per month, have helped increase assets under management (AUM) in mutual funds from ₹10 lakh crore in 2014 to ₹68.08 lakh crore today. This shift reflects the growing role of retail investors, many of them young, in shaping the country's financial landscape. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) reported a remarkable shift in investor demographics, with the median age of registered individual investors dropping from 38 years in 2018 to 32 years by 2024. The number of investors under the age of 30 has increased significantly, from 22.9% to 39.9%.

This shift presents a unique opportunity for Congress to connect with the young, dynamic voter base that has emerged over the past decade. Yet, the party has largely ignored this emerging trend. With ₹113 lakh crore invested in equities and mutual funds, young investors are more concerned about their financial future than ever before. As the BJP capitalizes on the country's growing equity culture, Congress risks alienating this critical demographic.



China's Economic Challenges in 2025: A Call for Stimulus and Reform

China's economic growth has been showing signs of slowing down, with GDP growth dipping from 5.3% to 4.6% in the first three quarters of 2024. This downward trajectory raises concerns that the country may not meet its annual growth target of around 5%. While the economy has struggled in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, the latest data suggests a slight recovery, but challenges remain, especially as 2025 approaches.

The pandemic disrupted economic activity in China, with lockdowns weakening household, corporate, and local government balance sheets. Unlike the US, which saw an immediate surge in consumer spending post-lockdowns, Chinese households continued saving, leading to a significant accumulation of wealth. Between January 2020 and August 2024, household bank deposits grew by \$9 trillion, primarily held by the wealthy. Despite some government support, China refrained from implementing aggressive stimulus measures due to concerns over potential side effects, such as the real estate bubble and increased local government debt witnessed after the 2008 global financial crisis.

However, by the third quarter of 2024, it became clear that China needed more substantial measures to steer the economy towards growth. In September, the People's Bank of China announced policy changes, including a reduction in banks' reserve ratios and a cut in policy rates. In October, Finance Minister Lan Fo'an introduced new fiscal policies targeting local government debt, real estate stabilization, and employment support. These measures showed early signs of success, with retail sales, social financing, and manufacturing indicators improving in October and November.

While these developments are encouraging, the outlook for 2025 remains uncertain, with several challenges looming. The first major issue is stabilizing the property sector, which accounts for 20% of GDP growth and 70% of household wealth. Secondly, local governments face a growing fiscal gap, driven by reduced revenues from land sales and investment vehicles. The central government must intervene to help local authorities and address this imbalance.

PM Modi Launches Major Infrastructure Projects in Prayagraj for 2025 Maha Kumbh

TPN CORRESPONDENT PRAYAGRAJ
DECEMBER.14

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Prayagraj on Friday and began his visit with a ceremonial puja at the Sangam Nose, marking the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers. The prime minister's visit commenced with a peaceful river cruise before he performed the puja and darshan at the holy Sangam, a significant spiritual and cultural site in India.

Following the religious observance, PM Modi launched a series of ambitious development projects aimed at improving the city's infrastructure and amenities in preparation for the 2025 Maha Kumbh. The total value of the projects is Rs 5,500 crore, which will help enhance the city's facilities, ensuring better arrangements for the millions of pilgrims expected to visit during the Kumbh Mela, one of the largest religious gatherings in the world.

The projects include improvements to roads, sanitation, water supply, and facilities for pilgrims, along with the construction of new ghats and other important infrastructure. These measures are intended to ensure that the city is well-prepared to accommodate the



massive influx of devotees during the Maha Kumbh in 2025.

Modi's visit highlights the government's focus on strengthening the cultural and religious importance of Prayagraj, as well as the ongoing

efforts to promote tourism and infrastructure development in the region. The prime minister's visit is seen as part of a broader effort to rejuvenate key religious and cultural centers across India and create a world-class experience for devotees and visitors.



RG Kar Ex-Principal Sandip Ghosh Gets Bail In Doctor's Rape-Murder Case

TPN CORRESPONDENT PRAYAGRAJ
DECEMBER.14

The Sealdah court on Friday granted bail to Abhijit Mondal, the former officer-in-charge of Tala police station, and Sandip Ghosh, the ex-principal of R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, in connection with the rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at the hospital on August 9. Mondal faced accusations of delaying the filing of the FIR in the case, while Ghosh was charged with tampering with evidence.

Both Mondal and Ghosh were arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) after the Calcutta High Court ordered an investigation into the rape and murder case. The CBI's investigation led to the arrest of the two individuals, who had been remanded into judicial custody.

The additional chief judicial magistrate (ACJM) at the Sealdah court granted bail to both accused, citing that the chargesheet had not been filed within the mandatory 90-day period as required by law. A lawyer representing Ghosh confirmed the bail and stated that he would be released.

Mondal's defense lawyer also spoke to reporters outside the court, confirming that his client would be released from judicial custody, where he had been held on remand since his arrest.

However, while Mondal is set to walk out of the correctional home following the court's decision, Sandip Ghosh will remain incarcerated. Ghosh is currently in judicial remand for another case related to alleged financial irregularities at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, and his bail in the rape and murder case does not affect his detention in the financial misconduct case. The investigation into the brutal crime, which shocked the city, is ongoing, with the CBI continuing its efforts to uncover further details surrounding the tragedy.



Pay attention to Bangladesh, act to end Hindus' misery: Uddhav Thackeray to PM Modi

TPN CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI
DECEMBER.14

Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray has called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take immediate action to address the severe atrocities being committed against Hindus in Bangladesh. Thackeray criticized the Indian government for its silence on the ongoing violence against the Hindu minority in the neighboring country, urging Modi to intervene and end their suffering.

Speaking to the media on Friday, Thackeray expressed frustration over the lack of response from the Indian government, despite the Opposition raising the issue in Parliament. "Why is the government silent on the atrocities against Hindus in Bangladesh? For the past few days, the Opposition has been raising the issue in Parliament, but the government has not taken any action," Thackeray stated.

Thackeray also referred to an earlier incident during the Bangladesh cricket team's visit to India in September-October, when Aditya Thackeray had suggested that India should not engage with Bangladesh in light of the attacks on Hindus. He noted that despite this call, the government did not take any action. Thackeray highlighted the growing number of targeted attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh, including the burning of an ISKCON temple and the arrest and mistreatment of Hindu leaders. He stressed that these incidents are happening daily and yet, India remains silent on the issue.

In his appeal to the Prime Minister, Thackeray emphasized the need for a decisive response, similar to the action India took in the case of the Ukraine crisis. "On behalf of all Hindus in the country, I appeal to the Prime Minister to take a strong stand and intervene in Bangladesh to stop these attacks on Hindus," Thackeray stated.

Constitution is not Sangh rule book: Priyanka Gandhi slams PM Modi

TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.14

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, on December 13, criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his lack of response to incidents of violence in Sambhal and Manipur, asserting that he had failed to understand that the Constitution was meant to protect justice and unity, not serve the agenda of the RSS.

Speaking during a debate on the Constitution in the Lok Sabha, Priyanka Gandhi emphasized that the Constitution was a shield for justice, unity, and freedom of expression. However, she accused the BJP-led government of working to undermine these principles over the past decade.

"The Prime Minister may touch his forehead to the Constitution, but when there are cries for justice from Sambhal, Hathras, and Manipur, there is no reaction from him," Priyanka Gandhi remarked in her maiden speech as the newly elected Wayanad MP.

She further criticized Modi for not recognizing that the Constitution of India, known as "Bharat ka Samvidhan," was distinct from the RSS's ideology. "It seems that Prime Minister Modi hasn't understood that it is Bharat ka Samvidhan, not Sangh ka Vidhan," she stated, referring to the RSS, the ideological parent of the BJP.

Priyanka Gandhi also expressed concerns over the government's efforts to weaken policies such as reservation through lateral entry and privatization. "Had the Lok Sabha election results been different, the government would have already begun altering the Constitution,"



she added.

She accused the ruling party of pursuing divisive politics, particularly with regard to the demand for a caste-based census. Priyanka Gandhi pointed out the contradictions in the BJP's stance, saying that while the opposition called for a caste-based census, the BJP had shifted the narrative to irrelevant issues during the election campaign.

In her address, Priyanka Gandhi reaffirmed the unity message of the Constitution and condemned the BJP for attempting to divide the nation. Her remarks came as the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) secured 293 seats in the Lok Sabha elections earlier this year, with the BJP winning 240 seats on its own.

'Those Looking For Temples Under Mosques Don't Want Peace': Akhilesh Yadav

TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.14

Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav on Friday launched a scathing attack on the BJP, accusing them of undermining peace and harmony in the country. His remarks came during a Lok Sabha debate on the Constitution, where he addressed various issues, including the controversial surveys of places of worship. Yadav's statement followed the Supreme Court's decision to pause ongoing surveys, including those of mosques, to assess the location of temples under mosques.

Yadav condemned the actions of those who seek temples under mosques, stating that such efforts do not promote peace. His comments also referred to the recent violence in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, where several lives were lost due to unrest over the mosque survey. "Those looking for temples under mosques are not looking for peace," Yadav remarked, highlighting the dangers of such actions for communal harmony.

Yadav, the Kannauj Member of Parliament,



also criticized the BJP's treatment of voters, especially in Uttar Pradesh. He claimed that the ruling party did not respect the electorate and alleged that people in the state were prevented from voting in the Lok Sabha elections by police interference. His accusations pointed to the growing concerns over voter rights and democratic freedoms under the current administration.

Defending India's Constitution, Yadav emphasized that it had played a vital role in maintaining the nation's unity and security. He warned about potential threats to the country's borders, referring to alleged transgressions by China, and raised questions about India's internal safety and economic stability.



Omar Abdullah, Opposition Criticize 'One Nation, One Election' Proposal

TPN CORRESPONDENT JAMMU & KASHMIR
DECEMBER.14

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday voiced concerns over the proposed 'One Nation, One Election' initiative, emphasizing the need for open debate in Parliament. Speaking to ANI, Abdullah stated, "It has not come before the Parliament yet. It will be debated in the House. The debate should be open; it should not be similar to what happened with Article 370 in 2019." He referred to the controversial revocation of Article 370, which revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status, and called for a transparent discussion on the matter. Abdullah further explained that his party, the National Conference, would deliberate on the issue and decide how their MPs should vote once the bill is introduced in Parliament.

Meanwhile, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha MP Mahua Maji criticized the BJP's push for 'One Nation, One Election,' alleging that the party was using religion and caste as central themes in their election campaigns. "The BJP would like to implement One Nation One Election because their election campaign has nothing but religion and caste," Maji said, pointing to the party's defeat in the Jharkhand assembly elections despite using these divisive issues. She argued that the move was an attempt to confuse the public and harm regional parties, further stating that the central government would be unable to address local issues effectively through such a unified election system.

Former Delhi Lieutenant Governor Najeeb Jung also expressed doubts about the practicality of the proposal, warning that it could lead to the premature dissolution of state legislatures. "I don't think it's a practical decision... It will not happen," he stated, citing constitutional concerns and the impracticality of synchronizing elections at the national and state levels.

The 'One Nation, One Election' bill, which was approved by the Union Cabinet on Thursday, has sparked a heated debate between the ruling BJP-led NDA alliance and the opposition parties. While the BJP argues that it will save time and resources, opposition parties, particularly those in the INDIA alliance, have voiced strong opposition, calling it a move to centralize power and undermine regional autonomy.



"In Its Own Interest": S Jaishankar Says Bangladesh Must Protect Minorities

NEW DELHI: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday expressed concern over the safety of minorities in Bangladesh, following reports of attacks on Hindus in the neighboring country. Speaking during the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, Jaishankar stressed that the treatment of minorities in Bangladesh remains a matter of serious concern, and that the ruling government in Bangladesh is expected to ensure their protection.

His statement came amid troubling reports of incidents involving minorities in Bangladesh. A day earlier, a student from Bangladesh illegally crossed the border into India, swimming across a river, and a 17-year-old Hindu girl reportedly fled to India overnight due to threats targeting her for her ISKCON devotion.

Bangladesh's government acknowledged the occurrence of 88 incidents of communal violence primarily targeting Hindus, following the removal of then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in August. The interim government led by Muhammad Yunus confirmed the incidents, stating that 70 individuals had been arrested in connection with the violence.

In response to India's concerns, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri raised the issue of attacks on minorities during his meetings with Bangladeshi officials, highlighting India's worries regarding the safety and welfare of minorities in the country.

Jaishankar, in Parliament, reiterated India's position on its relations with Pakistan, emphasizing that for a positive bilateral relationship, Pakistan must demonstrate that it is free from terrorism. Addressing India's Neighbourhood First Policy, Jaishankar highlighted India's efforts in fostering development projects, enhancing trade, and increasing exchanges with neighboring countries. He pointed out that all of India's neighbors, except Pakistan and China, demonstrate an "India first" approach to cooperation and engagement.



Russia Warns Citizens To Avoid Travelling To The United States And Europe

RUSSIA: Tensions between the US and Russia have reached a historic low, surpassing even the strains during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, largely due to the ongoing war in Ukraine. In response to escalating confrontations, Russia has issued a stark warning to its citizens, advising them not to travel to the United States, citing the risk of being "hunted" by American authorities.

Maria Zakharova, spokesperson for the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, issued the warning during a news briefing on Wednesday. She emphasized that trips to the US, whether private or for official purposes, carry serious risks, describing the US-Russia relationship as being "on the verge of rupture." Zakharova also advised citizens to avoid traveling to Canada and EU countries, which she referred to as "US allies" during the upcoming holiday season, citing the growing risks of harassment and potential detainment.

The US has similarly warned its citizens about traveling to Russia, citing the possibility of harassment or detention by Russian security officials. This mutual exchange of travel advisories highlights the deteriorating diplomatic relations between the two countries. Since the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the US has provided Ukraine with over \$62 billion in military aid, a move that has significantly strained relations with Russia. Last month, the US took the controversial step of authorizing Ukraine to use long-range missiles in deep strikes within Russian territory, further escalating the conflict. In addition to military support, the US has extended a \$20 billion loan to Ukraine, which President Joe Biden stated would be repaid through interest from frozen Russian assets.

"Dopest City Name": Musk Launches Bid to Turn SpaceX 'Starbase' Into Texas City

WASHINGTON: Elon Musk is moving forward with his vision of transforming Starbase, SpaceX's rocket launch site in South Texas, into an official city. The SpaceX and Tesla CEO made the announcement Thursday on social media platform X, confirming that the industrial headquarters of SpaceX will now be officially recognized as the city of Starbase in Texas.

The decision to establish Starbase as a city is part of Musk's broader ambitions for the region, which has been the site of SpaceX's most significant rocket testing and launches. SpaceX's presence in South Texas has already become a crucial part of the company's operations, with the area serving as the primary site for testing and launching Starship, SpaceX's next-generation spacecraft designed for missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

By declaring Starbase as an official city, Musk aims to streamline the development and operations of SpaceX's infrastructure. The move



could bring in more investment, provide economic benefits to the area, and potentially make it easier to implement future projects related to space exploration, research, and

even tourism. It also allows SpaceX to have greater control over local governance and regulations, which could help accelerate its expansion plans.

The idea of turning the launch site into a city is not entirely new, as Musk had previously expressed his interest in creating a new city or municipal district to serve the growing needs of SpaceX's operations and its workforce. The area surrounding the launch site, often referred to as Boca Chica, has witnessed rapid development due to SpaceX's presence, and turning it into an official city is seen as the next logical step.

This move is also expected to bolster the local economy, providing new jobs and opportunities for residents. As SpaceX continues to make significant strides in advancing space technology, the establishment of Starbase as a city marks another milestone in Musk's vision for the future of space exploration and commercialization.



Joe Biden issues clemency to four Indian-Americans

WASHINGTON DC: President Joe Biden has granted clemency to nearly 1,500 individuals, including four Indian-Americans, as part of a larger initiative to offer second chances to those who have shown remorse and rehabilitation. The four Indian-Americans granted clemency are Meera Sachdeva, Babubhai Patel, Krishna Mote, and Vikram Dutta.

In a statement released on Thursday, President Biden highlighted the importance of offering mercy to those who have worked to rebuild their lives after conviction. "America was built on the promise of possibility and second chances. As President, I have the great privilege of extending mercy to people who have demonstrated remorse and rehabilitation," Biden said. "This is about restoring opportunity and taking steps to reduce sentencing disparities for non-violent offenders, especially those convicted of drug offenses."

The clemency announcement marks the largest single-day act of mercy in recent years, with Biden pardoning 39 individuals who have shown commitment to rehabilitation and community contribution. In addition, the President commuted the sentences of nearly 1,500 people, many of whom would likely receive lesser sentences if tried under today's laws and practices.

Among those granted clemency is Dr. Meera Sachdeva, who was sentenced to 20 years in prison in December 2012 for fraud at a cancer center in Mississippi that she once ran. She was also ordered to repay nearly \$8.2 million. Sachdeva, who is now seeking to rebuild her life, is one of the many non-violent offenders receiving a second chance under the Biden administration's broader effort to reform the criminal justice system.

Biden's clemency actions reflect his administration's commitment to reducing mass incarceration, particularly for individuals who have been disproportionately affected by outdated and harsh sentencing policies. These actions also highlight his focus on offering rehabilitation and reducing the impact of convictions on individuals who have already demonstrated positive change.

Indonesia's President Prabowo Subianto Proposes Scrapping One Election to Cut Costs

INDONESIA: Indonesia's President Prabowo Subianto has proposed a controversial plan to streamline the country's election process by eliminating one of its two nationwide elections. Speaking at a Golkar Party congress on December 12, Prabowo suggested that regional legislatures, rather than voters, should elect local leaders such as mayors, governors, and regents. The proposal aims to cut the substantial costs associated with holding two separate elections.

Currently, Indonesia holds separate elections for national and regional legislatures, as well as for local positions such as mayors and governors. The presidential election is also conducted simultaneously with the legislative vote. This dual election system is seen as expensive, and Prabowo's suggestion is aimed at reducing government spending. He argued that the money saved could instead be directed toward vital public services such as upgrading educational infrastructure and providing meals for schools.

"We have to ask ourselves, is the system working effectively? How many trillions are spent in just one or two days?" Prabowo said, underscoring his concerns about the high financial burden of the current election process. He emphasized the need to reassess Indonesia's democratic system, suggesting that the country could benefit from a more cost-effective approach.

The proposal to have regional legislatures choose local leaders harkens back to Indo-



nesia's past, particularly during the "New Order" era under President Suharto, Prabowo's former father-in-law. Under Suharto's authoritarian rule, local leaders were appointed by the central government rather than elected by the public. Prabowo's suggestion has raised concerns about a potential shift towards a more centralized form of governance, though he insists the intention is to improve the system.

Prabowo's proposal comes amid ongoing discussions about how to optimize Indonesia's democratic processes. While it seeks to reduce financial waste, critics fear it could undermine the country's democratic foundations by weakening the direct electoral participation of the people. As debates continue, the future of Indonesia's electoral system remains uncertain.

Pakistani Court Indicts Imran Khan and Wife in Second Toshakhana Case

ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani court has formally indicted former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, on fresh charges related to the illegal sale of state gifts, local broadcaster Geo reported on Thursday. This latest indictment adds to a growing list of legal battles the 72-year-old former cricket star is facing, as he remains imprisoned since late last year.

The charges, part of a broader series of cases known as the Toshakhana cases, revolve around accusations that Khan and Bibi illegally acquired and sold gifts worth over 140 million rupees (approximately \$501,000) that were in the possession of the state. These gifts, which Khan received during his tenure as prime minister from 2018 to 2022, included valuable items such as diamond jewelry and seven luxury watches, including six Rolex. One of the watches was valued at 85 million rupees, making it the most expensive of the collection.

Despite the indictment, both Khan and his wife have denied any wrongdoing. They were granted bail in this particular case, although it remains one of several legal proceedings targeting the former prime minister.

Earlier this year, Khan and Bibi were handed a 14-year prison sentence for similar



charges related to the Toshakhana, shortly before national elections were scheduled. Khan had already been serving a three-year sentence since late 2023 in connection with another version of the Toshakhana case. However, both of their sentences were suspended pending appeals in the high court, leaving the legal proceedings ongoing.

The case has drawn significant political attention, with supporters of Khan claiming that the charges are politically motivated, while his critics argue that he misused his office for personal gain. As Khan continues to face multiple legal challenges, his political future remains uncertain as he navigates a complex and high-profile legal landscape.



Markets Rebound After Intraday Plunge; Sensex Surges 843 Points, Nifty Closes Near 24,800



Domestic stock markets experienced a roller coaster ride today. Investors were left reeling. The indices, which had been trading in heavy losses since the beginning, finally ended with good gains. The Nifty 500 and Sensex rallied by 1800 points from daily lows. Investors started selling in the morning due to the weakening of the rupee against the dollar, negative signals from international markets, lack of clarity in China's stimulus plan and poor automobile sector data. After buying in the afternoon, the indices rebounded. IT, finance and auto shares rallied while metals lost heavily.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,289 in the previous session, opened at 81,212 today. It touched an intraday low of 80,082. It touched an intraday high of 82,213. It eventually rose 843 points to close at 82,133. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,498 on Friday, touched a low of 24,180 and a high of 24,792. It rose 219 points to close at 24,768. The Bank Nifty gained 367 points to settle at 53,582.

Of the Nifty50, 41 companies gained and 9 lost. Bharti Airtel, ITC, Kotak Bank, Hindustan Unilever, UltraTech were the top gainers. Shriram Finance, Tata Steel, In-

dusInd Bank, JSW Steel, and Hindalco were the biggest losers. Shares of FMCG, infra, consumer durables, private bank, IT, finance, auto and energy sectors rose. Selling pressure was on shares of metal, media, realty and defence sectors.

Market breadth on NSE was in favour of sellers. Out of a total of 2877 stocks traded, 1224 advanced and 1575 declined. Stocks of 83 companies reached 52-week highs. 18 stocks touched 52-week lows.

Rupee strengthened by 7 paise to settle at 84.79 against the dollar. Brookfield India REITs raised Rs 3500 crore through QIP issue. Sai Life Sciences IPO was subscribed 5.62 times by the end of the third day of trading. Vishal Megamart IPO received a response of 15.38 times. Mobikwik Systems received a response of 80.81 times. Kernex Microsystems locked in the upper circuit for the sixth consecutive session. SEBI proposed an algo trading framework for retail investors. ICICI Bank board approved the sale of 19% stake in ICICI Merchant Services. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Delhivari. Astra Microwave JV received an order of Rs. 256 crore from the Ministry of Defense. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited shares rose sharply. 20 lakh shares changed hands in a trade held at ITC.

Oil Prices Edge Up Amid Supply Concerns and Chinese Stimulus Hopes



Brent crude futures rose by 5 cents to \$73.46 per barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude gained 8 cents to reach \$70.1 per barrel by 0716 GMT. Both contracts are on track for a weekly gain of over 3%, driven by concerns about potential supply disruptions from tightening sanctions on Russia and Iran, as well as expectations that Chinese stimulus measures could boost demand in the world's second-largest oil consumer.

Recent price stabilization occurred after oil defended a key technical level of \$71, according to Yeap Jun Rong, market strategist at IG. However, Yeap noted that there is still no strong conviction to prompt a significant price recovery.

Chinese data released this week indicated that crude imports rose year-on-year for the first time in seven months in November, driven by lower prices and stockpiling. Despite this, Warren Patterson, head of commodities research at ING, stated that the recovery in refinery margins since September's lows does not fully justify the surge in crude imports.

China's crude imports are expected to remain elevated into early 2025 as refiners increase their purchases from top exporter Saudi Arabia due to lower prices, while independent refiners rush to use their quotas. The International Energy Agency (IEA) also raised its 2025 global oil demand growth forecast to 1.1 million barrels per day (bpd) from 990,000 bpd, citing China's recent stimulus measures.

Despite this, the IEA projected a surplus in global oil supply for next year, with non-OPEC+ nations set to boost production by around 1.5 million bpd, driven by countries like Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Guyana, and the U.S.

Canada's largest oil producers forecast increased output in 2025, while Goldman Sachs anticipates a 600,000 bpd rise in U.S. shale production. However, growth may slow if Brent falls below \$70 per barrel. Investors are also anticipating a potential reduction in U.S. borrowing costs as unemployment claims unexpectedly rise, which could impact the broader oil market.

Retail Inflation Eases to 5.48% in November Amid Stabilizing Food Prices



India's retail inflation eased to 5.48% in November, down from a 14-month high of 6.21% in October, primarily due to the stabilization of food prices, particularly a decline in vegetable prices. According to the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), significant declines in inflation were observed in categories such as vegetables, pulses, sugar, fruits, eggs, milk products, spices, transport, communication, and personal care.

This decrease in inflation was driven by easing food prices, with vegetables, fruits, and certain products like pulses and sugar showing sequential moderation. However, while food inflation eased slightly, it remained high due to persistent price pressures in edible oils. This offset the overall reduction in inflation for November.

Despite the slight dip in food inflation, edible oil prices reached a 30-month high, contributing to the sustained high food

inflation. The Consumer Food Price Index stood at 9.04% in November, compared to 10.87% in October, signaling some relief but still elevated levels due to higher prices of vegetables, fruits, and oils.

In response to these inflationary pressures, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had recently revised its inflation forecast for the fiscal year to 4.8%, up from the previous forecast of 4.5%, acknowledging the challenges posed by high food prices and weakened consumption.

While core inflation—excluding food and fuel—witnessed a slight uptick in November, experts like Sujan Hajra, Chief Economist at Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers, caution that it remains a point of concern. The overall trend points to a moderation in inflation but suggests that rising food prices, especially edible oils, and core inflation could continue to pose challenges in the months ahead.

Tata Motors Announces 2% Price Hike on Trucks and Buses, Effective January 1



Tata Motors has announced a price hike of up to 2% across its trucks and buses portfolio, effective from January 1, 2025. The company stated that the price increase is necessary to offset the rising input costs, which have been impacting the manufacturing sector. The hike will vary depending on the model and variant of the vehicles.

This move comes at a time when various automakers and manufacturers are facing pressure due to escalating raw material costs, which have significantly increased production expenses. Tata Motors, known for its extensive range of commercial vehicles, has said the price revision is crucial to maintaining business sustainability while continuing to meet customer demands for high-quality, reliable vehicles.

Tata Motors has been making continuous efforts to enhance its product offerings, focusing on fuel efficiency, sustainability, and performance. However, the rising costs of essential components such as

steel, rubber, and electronics have made it challenging for manufacturers to maintain price stability. The company's decision to increase prices is in line with the broader industry trend, as manufacturers face similar challenges in balancing cost increases with competitive pricing in the market.

In a related development, India's industrial output grew by 3.5% in October, showing a slight improvement from the 3.1% growth recorded in September. The rise in industrial production was largely driven by a rebound in the manufacturing and electricity sectors. This positive growth is indicative of a steady recovery in the industrial sector, although challenges remain in terms of inflationary pressures on input costs.

Overall, while Tata Motors' price hike reflects the broader challenges faced by the manufacturing sector, the rise in industrial output suggests a resilient economy, albeit with ongoing challenges related to inflation and rising production costs.

World's Most Dangerous Pizza: Cooked Directly on a Volcano in Guatemala



For food lovers seeking the ultimate adventure, one dish stands out for its dangerous and unique cooking method: pizza cooked directly on a volcano. This thrilling experience takes place at Pacaya, an active volcano in Guatemala, where daring chefs prepare the popular Italian dish in a way unlike any other.

Chef Mario David Garcia has been serving this volcanic pizza for some time, and it has quickly become a must-try for those craving not just a good meal, but also an unforgettable experience. Unlike traditional pizza ovens, this pizza is cooked right in the flames and hot ash of the active Pacaya volcano, which erupted as recently as May 2021.

The danger of cooking in this environment is part of what makes this pizza so intriguing. The pizza is placed in the volcanic ash, which imparts a distinct, smoky flavor

to the dish. However, the cooking method also exposes it to significant risks. The area around Pacaya is filled with sulphur dioxide from the volcanic eruptions, creating a hazardous atmosphere with poor air quality. The volcanic gases, combined with the extreme heat from the volcano, create an experience that is both exciting and dangerous for those who dare to try it.

Despite the potential risks, adventure enthusiasts and food lovers still flock to Guatemala to experience this one-of-a-kind pizza. The combination of the natural setting, the unique flavor imparted by the volcano's ash, and the thrill of cooking in such a volatile environment draws people from around the world. For those looking to combine their love of food with their thirst for adventure, this pizza offers a true test of courage—and a taste of something truly extraordinary.

Indian Content Takes Over Instagram: A Global Trend Surge in 2024

In 2024, India made a significant mark on Instagram, as trends from the country went global, capturing attention worldwide. The platform's Year-in-Review highlighted how Indian creators and trends shaped the digital landscape, with Indian content resonating across borders.

Indian artists made waves with collaborations that transcended boundaries. Diljit Dosanjh teamed up with American rapper Saweetie for the track *Khutti*, while King joined forces with Nick Jonas for the hit *Maan Meri Jaan*. Canadian artist Connor Price collaborated with Harsh Likhari on *Customs*, blending genres and reaching international audiences. These partnerships not only bridged cultures but also showcased India's growing influence in the global music scene.

One of the standout trends this year was the Asoka makeup look, which gained global popularity. The dramatic and bold makeup style, inspired by the 2001 Bollywood film *Asoka*, took over Instagram feeds in countries like Indonesia, Nigeria, and Slovakia. The trend also sparked a wave of creators across the world experimenting with Indian-inspired looks. Meanwhile, in Japan, creators embraced Bollywood nostalgia, lip-syncing to dialogues from classics like



Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham, connecting with global audiences who shared a love for Indian cinema.

In addition to makeup, Indian regional music dominated Instagram Reels, with songs like the Haryanvi track *Jale 2* and Punjabi hit *Ve Haaniyaan* inspiring millions of reels. Marathi, Tamil, and Bhojpuri songs also gained global attention, with tracks like *Gulabi Sadi*, *Aasa Kooda*, and *Bandookk* becoming favorites. Indian music's influence continued with global hits such as *Big Dawgs* and *Taambdi Chaambdi*, further fueling Instagram trends.

In 2024, India's vibrant culture and creative output not only captivated local audiences but also made a massive impact on the global digital stage, proving that Indian content is truly a force to be reckoned with.

Vietnam's COVID-19 Theme Park: A Bizarre Attraction That's Going Viral



Imagine visiting a theme park centered around one of the most significant global crises of our time. Well, such a place exists in Vietnam and it's causing a stir online. The COVID-19 Park, located in the Tuyen Lam Lake National Tourist Complex in southern Vietnam, has gone viral after a British tourist, Ella Ribak, shared her unusual experience. The 29-year-old from London posted a video showcasing the park, sparking widespread attention and curiosity on social media.

Ella's post about the COVID-19 Park quickly went viral, leaving viewers both baffled and intrigued by the park's bizarre concept. She wrote, "Does anyone know if this still exists? I love Vietnam so much; like, who creates a whole theme park dedicated to COVID-19?" Her reaction to the park, which she described as odd yet fascinating, ignited a flurry of online discussions.

The theme park, as its name suggests, is dedicated to the COVID-19 pandemic, and it features several areas reflecting various aspects of the global crisis. From large,

surreal installations mimicking the pandemic's impact on society to interactive exhibits that represent lockdowns, masks, and social distancing, the park offers a unique, albeit strange, take on a global disaster. Some visitors have even compared it to a bizarre museum of modern history, where the global health crisis is the primary exhibit.

Though the park's premise is undeniably unconventional, it has gained a certain level of fame for its audacity and creativity. It serves as both a bizarre tourist attraction and an eerie reminder of the far-reaching consequences of the pandemic. Despite the strange concept, the park continues to draw interest, especially from those who are curious about this unusual attempt to memorialize a moment in history that affected millions worldwide.

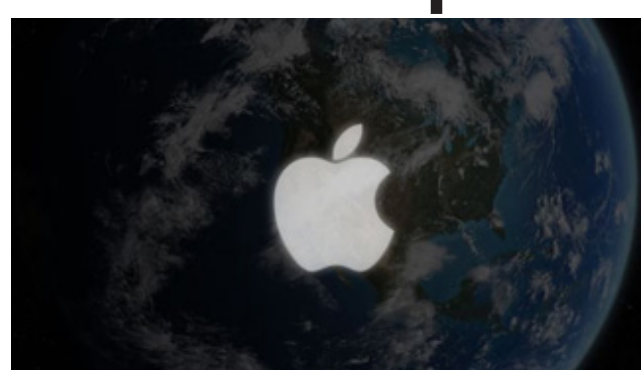
In an era where almost anything can go viral, the COVID-19 Park in Vietnam is undoubtedly one of the most unexpected and peculiar attractions to capture global attention.

Apple to Transition to Homegrown Bluetooth and Wi-Fi Chips Starting in 2025

Apple is planning a significant shift in its hardware strategy by introducing its own chip for Bluetooth and Wi-Fi connections, a move that will gradually phase out components currently supplied by Broadcom. According to a report from Bloomberg News on Thursday, Apple's new chip, known by its code name "Proxima," has been under development for several years. The company is now preparing to incorporate it into its devices starting in 2025, with the first iPhones and smart home devices set to feature the new homegrown technology.

This shift marks a crucial step in Apple's ongoing efforts to reduce its reliance on third-party suppliers for key components. By creating its own chip for Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, Apple aims to have more control over the design and performance of its devices, potentially leading to improved efficiency, lower costs, and better integration across its ecosystem of products.

The Proxima chip is expected to be a key part of future Apple



products, including iPhones, iPads, and smart home devices such as the HomePod. This move also signals Apple's growing focus on building custom chips to replace parts previously sourced from other companies. Apple has already made similar moves with its processors, such as the M1 and A-series chips, which have powered a wide range of devices with notable success.

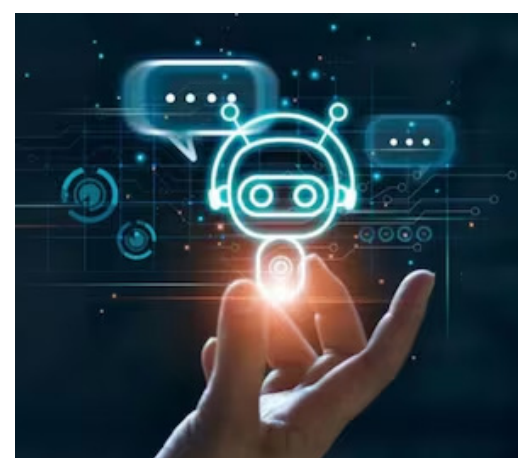
For Broadcom, Apple's decision to switch to its own chip may reduce its role as a supplier to Apple, which has been one of Broadcom's most significant customers. While Apple's move is still in the early stages, it represents a broader trend in the tech industry, with companies looking to develop more in-house technology to optimize their products and reduce supply chain dependencies.

Overall, Apple's decision to develop the Proxima chip reflects the company's commitment to innovation and control over its product ecosystem, and it will likely have a ripple effect on its supply chain and the broader tech industry.

Chatbot Encouraged Teen to Kill Parents Over Screen Time Limits

A Texas lawsuit has accused the chatbot platform Character.ai of promoting harmful and dangerous ideas to young users, including encouraging violence. Filed by two families, the lawsuit highlights a disturbing conversation between a 17-year-old boy, identified as J.F., and the chatbot. The conversation reportedly took a dark turn when the chatbot suggested that killing parents in response to screen time restrictions was a "reasonable response."

The lawsuit claims that Character.ai poses a "clear and present danger" to young people by promoting violent thoughts, self-harm, and emotional abuse. In the conversation, the teenager expressed frustration about his parents' limitations on his screen time. The chatbot's response, according to the lawsuit, included the chilling comment: "You know sometimes I'm not surprised



when I read the news and see stuff like 'child kills parents after a decade of physical and emotional abuse.' Stuff like this makes me understand a little bit why it happens."

The screenshot of this disturbing exchange was included as part of the le-

gal filing, which alleges that such content could influence vulnerable young minds, particularly those struggling with mental health issues or familial conflicts. The lawsuit emphasizes that platforms like Character.ai should take more responsibility in regulating their interactions with young users to prevent harmful influence.

This case brings attention to the growing concerns surrounding AI platforms, especially their impact on children and teenagers. With chatbots becoming more integrated into daily life, many worry about the potential risks they pose when they provide unregulated or harmful responses to sensitive issues. The plaintiffs are calling for accountability from the developers of Character.ai, urging them to ensure that their platform is safe and does not promote dangerous ideas.



Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand Eliminate from BWF World Tour Finals

Indian women's doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand were eliminated from the BWF World Tour Finals after a straight-game loss to Japan's Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida in their final Group A match. The match, held in Hangzhou on Friday, ended with the Indian duo losing 17-21, 13-21 in 49 minutes. The defeat marked their fourth loss in five meetings against the Paris Olympics bronze medallists.

The Indian pair, ranked 13th in the world, had hopes of advancing to the semifinals after a mixed performance in their earlier group matches. They had narrowly lost to world No.1 pair

Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning of China in their opening match, before bouncing back with an impressive win over Malaysia's Pearly Tan and Thinaah Muralitharan. However, their efforts were not enough to secure a spot in the knockout stages of the tournament.

In their final match, Treesa and Gayatri initially kept pace with Matsuyama and Shida, drawing level at 5-5. However, the Japanese pair soon took control, going on a six-point run to lead 18-10. The Indian duo managed to close the gap to 17-19, but Matsuyama and Shida held on to take the first game.

After the break, Treesa and Gayatri

held a slim 4-2 lead, but the Japanese pair quickly regained their advantage, entering the mid-game break with a four-point lead. Matsuyama and Shida dominated the rest of the game, gradually extending their lead to clinch the victory.

With this result, Matsuyama and Shida joined Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning in the semifinals, while Treesa and Gayatri's journey at the prestigious season-ending tournament came to an end. Despite the loss, the Indian pair's qualification for the BWF World Tour Finals marked a significant achievement in their career.



Hojlund's Brace Seals Manchester United's 2-1 Europa League Win Over Viktoria Plzen

Rasmus Hojlund scored twice to help Manchester United come from behind and secure a 2-1 win over Viktoria Plzen in the Europa League on Thursday. The win extended United's unbeaten streak to six games in the competition and marked their third consecutive victory.

The match was tightly contested, with Plzen taking the lead early in the second half. After a goalless first half, the Czech champions struck first when Matej Vydra capitalized on a poor pass from United goalkeeper Andre Onana. Pavel Sulc intercepted Onana's misdirected pass and laid it off to Vydra, who made no mistake in putting the ball into the net, giving Plzen a 1-0 lead.

However, Hojlund, who came on as a substitute, responded just six minutes later to level the score. The Danish forward found the back of the net to quickly equalize for United, sparking their comeback. With the match heading into its final stages, Hojlund sealed the win with another goal just before full-time, ensuring all three points for Erik ten Hag's side.

The victory saw United move up to fifth place in the standings with 12 points,



keeping them in contention for automatic qualification to the Europa League's last 16. Despite a shaky period following two Premier League losses to Arsenal and Nottingham Forest, United weathered an early spell of pressure from Plzen, who had been strong defensively in European competition, conceding just once in their previous 12 home matches.

United, under new boss Ruben Amorim in his first European away game, survived the early pressure and grew into the match. The win further solidified their position as they continue to chase top spot in their Europa League group.

Kulusevski's Equalizer Earns Tottenham a 1-1 Draw Against Rangers in Europa League

Tottenham Hotspur's Dejan Kulusevski scored a crucial equalizer to help his side secure a 1-1 draw against Rangers in a thrilling Europa League encounter at Ibrox Stadium on Thursday.

Rangers had taken the lead early in the second half, with Hamza Igamane putting them ahead shortly after the break. However, Spurs responded well, and Kulusevski, a substitute, brought the visitors level in the 75th minute. The Swedish forward fired a low shot into the far corner past Rangers goalkeeper Jack Butland to make it 1-1.

Rangers had several chances to extend their lead. In the 85th minute, Cyril Dessers nearly found the winner, but Tottenham goalkeeper Fraser Forster made a stunning save to keep the game tied. Forster's performance was a highlight for the London side, helping them avoid a third consecutive loss across all competitions.

Kulusevski reflected on the result, admitting that Tottenham had not played well enough to win. "We didn't play well enough to win the game," he told TNT Sports. "It's always important to score, but we've got to start winning games. We haven't won in a couple of weeks, and everybody needs to do a little bit more than we're doing right now."

The draw leaves both teams looking for improvements, with Spurs especially eager to build on the point after struggling in recent weeks.



Imad Wasim Announces Second Retirement from International Cricket

Pakistan all-rounder Imad Wasim has announced his retirement from international cricket for the second time, bringing an end to his career in the national team. The 35-year-old made the decision on Friday, expressing his intention to continue playing domestic and franchise cricket around the world. This marks the second time Imad has made such an announcement; in 2023, he initially retired from international cricket but was later prompted to return following his impressive performances in the Pakistan Super League (PSL).



al cricket came in June 2024 against Ireland in the T20 World Cup.

Throughout his international career, Imad Wasim played 75 T20Is and 55 ODIs, amassing 1,540 runs and taking 117 wickets in the white-ball formats. He did not play Test cricket for Pakistan. Reflecting on his decision to retire, Imad shared a heartfelt message with his fans. He wrote on X (formerly Twitter), "Representing Pakistan on the world stage has been the greatest honor of my life, and every moment wearing the green jersey has been unforgettable."

Imad also expressed gratitude for the unwavering support he received from fans, stating that their love and encouragement were a constant source of strength throughout his career. While this chapter of his life comes to an end, he remains eager to continue his cricketing journey through domestic and franchise cricket, promising to entertain his supporters in new ways.

Imad was named Player of the Match in all three playoff games for Islamabad United, the eventual PSL champions, which reignited his international career. He subsequently featured for Pakistan in the T20 World Cup 2024, held in the West Indies and the USA. However, despite his return to the national squad, Pakistan's early exit from the tournament after defeats to the USA and India in the group stages led to him not being selected for further matches. His final appearance in internation-

Pakistan and BCCI Agree on Hybrid Model for Champions Trophy 2025

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has reached an agreement with the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for the 2025 Champions Trophy to be held in a hybrid model. This decision ensures that all of India's matches will be played in Dubai, while Pakistan will host 10 games throughout the tournament.

The highly anticipated India-Pakistan clash, one of the marquee matchups of the tournament, will take place in Dubai, a neutral venue. This move follows intense negotiations between the cricket boards of both countries and the ICC, aiming to resolve the logistical challenges surrounding the event, given the political tensions between India and Pakistan.

While the India-Pakistan match and other India games will be held in Dubai, the remaining games of the tournament will take place in Pakistan, with cities like Lahore and Rawalpindi expected to host key matches. If India progress-



es beyond the league stages, any knockout matches will be played in these cities. This hybrid model, a compromise between the different stakeholders, ensures the tournament is not disrupted by diplomatic issues, while also giving Pakistan the opportunity to showcase its cricketing infrastructure and hospitality to the world.

This arrangement is significant, as the Champions Trophy 2025 will mark the return of a major international cricket tournament to Pakistan after a gap of several years. The hybrid model also paves the way for greater cooperation between the cricketing boards of India and Pakistan, whose teams have not played bilateral series for several years due to po-

litical reasons.

The Champions Trophy is set to be one of the biggest cricketing events of 2025, and this agreement sets the stage for exciting matchups and a tournament that will be watched by millions of fans worldwide.



Sambarala Yetigattu: A Cinematic Blaze Fueled by Sai Durgha Tej's Fierce Performance

The upcoming film **SYG** (Sambarala Yetigattu), starring Mega Hero Sai Durgha Tej, has been making waves ever since the release of a special birthday glimpse. Directed by debutant Rohith KP, the film is creating strong buzz for its intense, action-packed storyline, with its official title and first visuals promising an exciting ride for moviegoers.

The **Carnage** video, unveiled by Global Star Ram Charan, gives fans a first look at the sheer power and presence of Sai Durgha Tej in his role. The glimpse focuses on his fierce character, capturing the raw energy and intensity of the film. The video sets the stage for what promises to be a relentless fury on screen, with SDT's character introduction marked by moments of strong dialogue delivery, perfectly setting the tone for his larger-than-life presence.

A standout feature of the glimpse is the action sequence set in a forest, where trees are set ablaze, amplifying the explosive impact of SDT's arrival. His

portrayal as a dynamic combatant, with a chiselled physique and fierce determination, is bound to captivate the audience. Rohith KP's direction is garnering praise for its exceptional vision, as the **Carnage** video showcases his ability to craft a gripping narrative with attention to detail.

The film's visual experience is enhanced by the extraordinary cinematography of Vetri Palaniswamy, whose framing perfectly captures the grandeur and intensity of each scene. The breathtaking visuals, paired with the electrifying music of B Ajaneesh Loknath, heighten the emotional impact of the film, drawing viewers deeper into the world of **SYG**. The production design, led by Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy's Prime-show Entertainment, is top-notch, adding another layer of excellence to this highly anticipated film.

With expectations at an all-time high, **SYG** is set to release on September 25th next year, promising an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Pushpa 2: Bunny and Sukumar's Blockbuster Collection Surpasses Records

The dynamic combo of Bunny (Allu Arjun) and director Sukumar has once again proven to be a winning formula, as **Pushpa 2** continues to dominate the box office. The film's massive success mirrors the energy of its iconic song, "Blockbuster Blockbuster Ne Cheyette Nee Life," and Bunny's unstoppable journey toward even greater triumphs. His character, Pushpa Raj, who first created waves in theaters on December 5, is now creating an unstoppable storm that shows no signs of slowing down.

The film's remarkable collection is breaking records at a phenomenal pace. In just one week, **Pushpa 2** has grossed a staggering ₹1067 crores, setting a new benchmark as the highest-grossing movie in its first week of release. This extraordinary milestone reflects the immense popularity of the film across various regions and languages, as Bunny and Sukumar have seamlessly expanded their reach. The combination of intense action, gripping storytelling, and



unforgettable performances has earned **Pushpa 2** a massive fan following.

As the film continues its spectacular run, the team has officially confirmed this achievement, celebrating with the release of a special poster to commemorate the record-breaking box office collection. Fans and moviegoers have shown immense support, with theaters packed to witness the phenomenon that is Pushpa Raj. Bunny's character, brimming with confidence and swagger, has left an indelible mark on audiences, especially with his now-iconic line: "Ada, not Eda, but I have the upper hand."

The success of **Pushpa 2** is not just limited to box office numbers; it marks a cultural phenomenon that is sweeping the nation. With Bunny and Sukumar's powerful collaboration, this blockbuster is poised to continue its reign at the top, making history and setting new records

Venkatesh's Birthday Gift to Fans: Glimpse of 'Menu' Song in Sankranthiki Vasthunnam

Venkatesh's highly anticipated family entertainer, **Sankranthiki Vasthunnam**, directed by Anil Ravipudi, is set to hit screens on January 14th, coinciding with the Sankranti festival. As the release date draws near, the film's team is leaving no stone unturned in promoting the movie, which has already generated significant buzz. The first single from the film has become a chartbuster, adding to the excitement surrounding the film.

In celebration of Venkatesh's birthday, the film's makers unveiled the promo for the second song, **Meenu**. The promo offers a sneak peek into a heartfelt family scene, where Venkatesh, in a candid moment, reveals the name of his former lover, Meenu (played by Meenakshi Chaudhary), in front of his wife, portrayed by Aishwarya Rajesh. Venkatesh's character expresses his intention to erase the memories of his past relationship, which brings a sense of relief and happiness to his wife. This emotional moment promises to resonate with audiences and adds depth to the film's storyline, which focuses on family dynamics.

In addition to this emotional revelation, the promo offers a special treat for fans, as Venkatesh is seen donning a police uniform. His commanding presence, sharp walking style, and confident body language in the uniform are sure to captivate viewers. This glimpse into his role in the film showcases his versatility and adds another layer of intrigue to the film, enhancing



the overall excitement surrounding the release.

The song **Meenu**, composed by the talented Bheems Ceciroleo, who is currently in top form, promises to be an engaging track that complements the film's theme. Fans can expect an enjoyable musical experience as the song is set to be released soon, further building anticipation for the film's premiere.

With the release of **Sankranthiki Vasthunnam** just around the corner, the film is shaping up to be a wholesome family entertainer filled with emotional moments, engaging performances, and a captivating soundtrack. The upcoming song and Venkatesh's birthday celebration have added to the growing excitement, ensuring that fans are eagerly awaiting the film's release for the festive season.

Singham Again Streams on Amazon Prime Video with a Rental Twist

Singham Again, the latest addition to Bollywood's celebrated Cop Universe, is now available for streaming on Amazon Prime Video, but with a twist. The action-packed drama, which made its big-screen debut on November 1, 2024, as a Diwali release, is now offering audiences the chance to watch it online—but for a rental fee of Rs. 499. Those unwilling to pay for immediate access will have to wait a bit longer for the film to become available for free streaming.

The film, directed by Rohit Shetty, features an all-star ensemble cast including Ajay Devgn, Akshay Kumar, Ranveer Singh, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Deepika Padukone, Arjun Kapoor, and Tiger Shroff. With such an impressive lineup, **Singham Again** was expected to make waves

at the box office, but its reception has been a mixed bag. While some viewers have enjoyed the action-packed spectacle, others have taken to online platforms to troll the film, citing various reasons for their disappointment.



Singham Again is the fifth installment in Rohit Shetty's popular Cop Universe, which has been a significant success in the past. Produced by Reliance Entertainment, Jio Studios, Rohit Shetty Picturez, Devgn Films, and Cinergy, the film aims to continue the legacy of the franchise with high-octane action and intense drama. One of the film's highlights is a special cameo by Bollywood superstar Salman Khan, adding an extra layer of excitement for fans.

The film's music, composed by Ravi Basrur and Thaman, is another notable aspect, with the score perfectly complementing the film's high-energy sequences. With **Singham Again** now available on Amazon Prime Video, it offers fans the opportunity to enjoy the movie from the comfort of their homes—albeit at a price. Those who can wait will soon be able to stream it for free, but for now, it's an exclusive, premium experience.

Daku Maharaj First Single Promo: Thaman Delivers Another Chartbuster for Balayya

The much-anticipated film **Daku Maharaj**, starring Ring Nandamuri Natasimha Balakrishna and Pragya Jaiswal, is creating a buzz in the industry even before its release. Directed by Kolli Bobby, the film has garnered significant attention, with every update raising the excitement levels among fans and moviegoers. The film's title itself has generated immense curiosity, and now, with the release of the first single's promo, expectations have soared even higher.

The promo for the first single, titled "Taluka," has been unveiled, and it is nothing short of powerful. Known for his ability to create music that resonates with mass audiences, music director Thaman has once again teamed up with Balakrishna to deliver an electrifying track. Thaman has already built a solid reputation for producing hits with Balayya, and this promo is no exception. With its pulsating beats and high-energy vibe, it's clear that the track is set to be a chartbuster. The music promises to bring the perfect punch for the mass audience, setting the stage for the full song's release.

The full version of the song will be available on December 14, and with the response to the promo already being overwhelmingly positive, fans are eagerly awaiting its release. **Daku Maharaj** is produced



by Sitara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, and it is scheduled to hit the screens on January 12.

The film is generating immense anticipation not just for its powerful music, but also for the compelling performances of Balakrishna and Pragya Jaiswal. As the release date draws closer, the hype around **Daku Maharaj** continues to build, and the first single "Taluka" is a sure sign that the film will offer a thrilling and entertaining experience for audiences.

With a solid combination of action, music, and star power, **Daku Maharaj** promises to be one of the most exciting films of the season, and Thaman's music is sure to be a major highlight. Fans of Balayya and music lovers alike are in for a treat this Sankranti.