Weather Forecast **VIJAYAWADA** TIRUPATHI **HYDERABAD**

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Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Kept His **Promise Towards the Tribal People**

Lays Foundation for Road Construction in Manyam District



TPN Correspondent Manyam Parvathipuram, Dec 21

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan visited the tribal village of Bagujola in Makkuva Mandal on Friday, where he laid the foundation for a new road construction project. The 9-km stretch from Bagujola to Sirivara will be converted into a tar road at a cost of Rs. 9.50 crore. This initiative is part of a broader effort to improve infrastructure in the tribal areas of the state.

village. He recalled his earlier visits to tribal regions such as Paderu and Araku as part of his Porata Yatra, where he identified three major issues: lack of roads, drinking water, and employment for youth.

He expressed regret that despite the region's long-standing need for better infrastructure, no one had thought to address the road construction in Bagujola until now. "The central deep concern over the poor conditions in the rule without proper documentation," Pawan villagers.

by the tribals. Kalyan remarked, highlighting the neglect of

2018 Promise:

communities.

Pawan Kalyan recalls

a promise made in

2018 to address the

2024 Commitment:

Emphasizes that the promise will be kept

in 2024, with tangible

action being taken.

Personal Experience:

During his visit to

Pawan Kalyan was

advised to walk on

the hill to understand

the challenges faced

Bagujola village,

issues faced by tribal

the tribal areas. He further criticized the previous administration for prioritizing projects such as the Rushikonda Palace, which received Rs. 500 crore, while the basic infrastructure in tribal areas like Bagujola was ignored.

"I told Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu that these areas have lacked roads for 70 government, under Prime Minister Modi, al-years, forcing babies to be carried in dollies. located Rs. 670 crore for backward districts On behalf of the coalition government, we from 2020 to 2022. However, these funds were are ready to work tirelessly for you, come During his visit, Pawan Kalyan expressed his misused during the previous government's rain or shine," Pawan Kalyan assured the

CM Chandrababu Naidu Vows to Make AP Free of **Smugglers and Improve Grain Procurement System**

TPN Correspondent Penamalur, Dec 21

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has emphasized the government's commitment to eliminating smuggling and improving the grain procurement system for farmers. During his visit to the Gangur Rythu Seva Kendra in Penamalur constituency of Krishna district, CM Naidu conducted a thorough inspection of the grain procurement process, from collection to export to mills.

The Chief Minister expressed that authorities must be vigilant and ensure there are no mistakes in grain procurement. He underlined that what he seeks from officials is not mere documentation, but tangible improvements in the services provided to farmers. He also mentioned that he would personally gather feedback from farmers through the Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS).

During the inspection, CM Naidu raised concerns about discrepancies in moisture content readings and fluctuations in grain weight. He ordered officials to ensure that moisture content and other factors are recorded accurately during both export and import processes. CM Naidu personally examined the machines used to measure moisture content and questioned why there were differences between the readings at farmer service centers and rice mills.

He warned that strict action would be taken if any errors were found in the procurement process and emphasized the importance of farmers sending feedback through IVRS.

CM Naidu highlighted the government's steps to increase mechanization in grain production and improve farmers' income. He noted that farmers were now happier



compared to last year, as they were receiving timely payments and witnessing improved yields. However, he acknowledged shortcomings in moisture content determination and promised to address the issue of discrepancies between farmer service centers and rice mills.

The CM also addressed problems with gunny bags, which he attributed to errors by rice millers, and pointed out that 93% of farmers are being paid for their grain within 24 hours. He instructed officials to further streamline this process.

The Chief Minister assured that efforts would be made to reduce costs for farmers and increase their profits through the effective use of technology. He proposed largescale discussions with farmers to help them

identify profitable crops and improve agricultural practices.

CM Naidu made it clear that there would be no tolerance for smuggling and corruption in the state. He strongly condemned middlemen who exploit farmers and announced that the government would take strict action against those involved in the illegal transportation of rice. He stressed that the state would take decisive steps to prevent rice smuggling and recycling.

In his concluding remarks, CM Naidu reiterated his commitment to ensuring transparency in the grain procurement process and delivering justice to farmers. He emphasized that sudden surprise inspections would be increased to ensure accountability and efficiency in the system.

World Bank Approves Loan of ₹6,750 Crores for Amaravati Construction

TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Dec 21

In a significant boost to the development of Andhra Pradesh's capital, Amaravati, the World Bank has approved a loan of Rs. 6,750 crore for its construction. This marks a major step forward in realizing the vision for Amaravati as the state capital. The approval comes shortly after the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctioned a loan of Rs. 6,850 crore. Together, these two financial institutions have agreed to provide a total loan of Rs. 15,000 crore in installments for the capital's devel-

In addition to the World Bank and ADB loans, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has approved a loan of Rs. 16,000 crore in collaboration with a German bank. The AP government is now set to immediately call for tenders for works funded by HUDCO, with construction expected to begin after Sankranti.

The approval of the World Bank loan marks a decisive victory for the state government, as efforts by the opposition to derail the construction of Amaravati have been thwarted. In the past, when the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) was in opposition, various attempts were made to prevent the loan. These included allegations, led by YSRCP leaders like MP Vijayasai Reddy, who raised concerns about flooding risks and land acquisition issues.

Vijayasai Reddy had written to the World Bank, claiming that the construction of Amaravati would lead to flooding and making unfounded accusations against the previous Chandrababu Naidu-led government. He also fabricated complaints from farmers about forced land acquisitions, contributing to the World Bank's hesitation in approving the loan at that time.

After Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy assumed the role of Chief Minister, he wrote to the World Bank, stating that no further loans were needed for the construction of Amaravati, and soon after introduced the idea of three capitals for the state. Over the last five years, construction in Amaravati came to a halt, and the capital area faced neglect.

However, with the return of Chandrababu Naidu as CM, efforts were renewed to remove the obstacles to Amaravati's development. In addition, the central government's financial assistance, announced in the form of Rs. 15,000 crore, played a crucial role in facilitating the process. Following several rounds of discussions between central and state officials, and after an in-depth investigation into the allegations made by the opposition, the World Bank has reaffirmed its support.

The recent approval by the World Bank signifies that the long-delayed construction of Amaravati is back on track. With the backing of global financial institutions and the central government's commitment, the capital's development is poised to move forward, overcoming past political hurdles.



ANDHRA PRADESH

Nara Lokesh Facilitates Two Key Agreements to Boost Education and Innovation in AP

TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

In a significant step toward making Andhra Pradesh a hub for advanced technological innovations, two major agreements were signed in the presence of State IT, Electronics, and Education Minister Nara Lokesh. The agreements, which aim to modernize education and enhance skill development in the state, were signed with prominent organizations, Physics Wala (PW) and the Tony Blair Institute (TBI).

The first agreement, signed with PW Edutech and its industry partner Amazon Web, will establish the Institute of Eminence (IoE) and the University of Innovation (UoI) in Andhra Pradesh. This initiative will focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cutting-edge technologies, creating a hub for advanced learning and research. The University of Innovation will integrate academic excellence with technological innovations, offering contemporary, hybrid education through a hub-and-spoke model. This model will ensure that students from diverse backgrounds and regions have access to world-class education both online and in-person.

The second agreement with the Tony



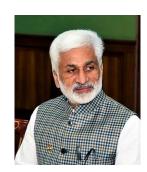
Blair Institute is aimed at modernizing the higher education system in the state. The MOU focuses on aligning Andhra Pradesh's higher education system with global standards and identifying educational policies that enhance employment opportunities for the youth. TBI will assist the state in improving the landscape of tertiary education and in bridging skill gaps through global best practices.

Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized that these initiatives align with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's vision to make Andhra Pradesh the leader in AI and emerging technologies. He stated that the agreements aim to prepare the youth of the state with the skills necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world, positioning Andhra Pradesh at the forefront of the global innovation ecosystem.

ED Gears Up the Money laundering case on Vijaya sai Reddy **Recently ED Issues** Notices to Vijayasai Reddy

TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued fresh notices to YSR Congress Party leader and Rajya Sabha MP Vijayasai Reddy, along with other accused, in connection with the Kakinada Seaport Limited (KSPL) and Kakinada SEZ (KSEZ) shares appropriation



case. This action follows the failure of the accused to respond to previous ED notices.

The investigation was initibased on complaint by KSPL own-

er Karnati Venkateswara Rao, leading the Andhra Pradesh CID to register a case. The CID's findings uncovered alleged irregularities, prompting the ED to conduct a preliminary inquiry. Evidence of money laundering surfaced, resulting in the filing of a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the registration of an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR).

The accused include YSR Congress MP Y.V. Subbareddy's son, Vikranth Reddy; Vijayasai Reddy; Vijayasai's sonin-law's brother; Aurobindo Pharma owner Penaka Sarath Chandra Reddy; and representatives of PKF Sridhar & Santhanam LLP, which is identified as Vijayasai Reddy's nominee firm.

Technology Key to State Development, Says APTS Chairman

TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

A review meeting at the AP Technology Services (APTS) Office discussed future programs and the role of tech-

nology in state development. The meeting, chaired by APTS Chairman Mannava Mohanakrishna, emphasized the importance of integrating technology into administration to deliver quicker and more efficient services to the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Chairman Mohanakrishna advised officials to expand software and hardware procurements currently provided by APTS to government departments

cy's income. He also highlighted the growing challenge of cyber attacks, urging everyone to increase awareness and strengthen cybersecurity measures to protect the state's technological infrastructure.

Discussing the future of technology, Mohanakrishna noted the rapid global growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI),

calling it a transformative force that can reduce human labor and automate decision-making processes. He urged the officials to focus on leveraging AI for innovation and enhancing governance, stressing that the coming era of



and offices, aiming to boost the agen- AI would revolutionize state services. The Chairman also praised Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and IT Minister Nara Lokesh for their passion for technology, urging officials to align their efforts with the government's vision. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of delivering civil services that meet the needs of the people using the available technological resources.

Indian Spochan Team Shines at 48th World Sports Chanbara Championships in Tokyo

Tokyo, Japan - The Indian Spochan Team made a remarkable appearance at the 48th World Sports Chanbara Championships held at the Higashin Sports Arena in Tokyo, Japan, on Sunday, December 15th, 2024.

Led by Captain Shamsuddin, the team comprised talented athletes and key officials including Raviteja Seetalam, Prof. Dr. Siddiq (Director for India), Kaicho Tanabe (Founder President of Spochan), A. Hameed Khan (Manager), as well as Harshad, Suhaib, and A. Moiz.

Notably, the team was represented by players from across India, with three athletes hailing from Telangana, one from Andhra Pradesh, and one from Maharashtra. The diverse team show-



cased excellent teamwork and skill, representing their regions with pride on the international stage.

in the sport of Chanbara (soft sword fighting), attracted top athletes from around the globe. The Indian team's participation marks a significant step

in promoting the sport and strengthening ties between India and Japan in sports diplomacy.

The Championships, a prestigious event As the competition continues, the Indian team aims to further elevate its presence in the global sporting community, with hopes of securing a spot on the podium in future tournaments.

Govt Considers Purchasing New Compactor Vehicles for Garbage Removal in Municipalities



The Andhra Pradesh government is exploring the option of purchasing new compac-

tor vehicles to improve garbage removal services across municipalities. Minister Narayana recently inspected a demo vehicle designed for the Vijayawada Municipality, as part of efforts to enhance waste management systems in urban areas.

The Minister, accompanied by Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Commissioner Dhyanachandra, examined the experimental vehicle, which features advanced technology for efficient waste collection. The vehicle is capable of removing up to 14 tons of garbage, showcasing its high capacity for handling waste in densely populated

During the inspection, Minister Narayana emphasized the importance of upgrading waste management infrastructure to address the growing needs of municipalities. He highlighted that the government is working on a comprehensive plan to streamline garbage removal services, ensuring that they are more efficient and effective.

Officials are currently preparing special plans for garbage removal in municipalities, with an emphasis on modernizing equipment and implementing new technologies. The introduction of compactor vehicles is expected to significantly improve waste disposal in urban areas, reducing the burden on existing infrastructure.

The government's initiative is part of its broader strategy to enhance cleanliness and environmental sustainability in cities and towns across the state. Further details on the rollout of these vehicles are expected in the coming weeks.



Key Announcement on Free Bus Travel for Women in AP

TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy made a significant announcement regarding public transportation in Andhra Pradesh, stating that free bus travel facilities for women will soon be implemented. The announcement was made during the launch of APSRTC's door delivery cargo service at Dwarka Bus Station on Friday.

Minister Ramprasad expressed his satisfaction with the start of the door delivery service, which aims to make APSRTC staff more accessible to the public. He highlighted APSRTC's vital role in connecting villages to cities, ensuring that people have better access to services. He further stated that the government is committed to providing better services to those working within the organization.

The Minister also shared ambitious plans to improve APSRTC's services, aiming to make it the number one bus service provider in India. He mentioned that, under the guidance of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, 500 new buses will be introduced shortly, enhancing passenger comfort and safety.

Minister Ramprasad assured that despite challenges and losses faced by APSRTC, the organization will continue to serve the public. He also addressed concerns regarding illegal land encroachments on RTC properties during the current government, asserting that such encroachments will be rectified and the land will be reclaimed.

The launch of the door delivery service is part of the ongoing efforts to improve the APSRTC's reach and efficiency in serving the people of Andhra Pradesh.



POLITICS

Minister Satyakumar Accuses Congress of Disrespecting Ambedkar

TPN Correspondent

Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

Minister Satyakumar Yadav strongly criticized the Congress for its alleged historical disrespect toward Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and defended the BJP's initiatives to honor his legacy. Speaking in Vijayawada on Friday, he also highlighted the benefits of Jamili elections, stating they would save public funds and ensure uninterrupted development.

Satyakumar accused the Congress of undermining Ambedkar by introducing the 24th Amendment, which he claimed curtailed fundamental rights. He alleged that the party mocked Ambedkar through derogatory cartoons during the drafting of the Constitution and orchestrated his defeat in direct elections. He further criticized Nehru for obstructing the construction of Ambedkar's memorial and failing to recognize his contributions with a Bharat Ratna during his tenure.

In contrast, he highlighted the BJP's initiatives, such as awarding Ambedkar the Bharat Ratna posthumously and launching the "Pancha Tirtha" program to honor key locations associated with Ambedkar's life.

Addressing Jamili elections, Satyakumar stated that simultaneous elections would reduce costs and minimize disruptions to governance and welfare schemes. He accused the Congress of spreading false propaganda against the idea, asserting that such elections were



common in the past and would bring stability to the

Satyakumar also criticized YCP leader Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of misleading party members by suggesting that Jamili elections would occur in 2027. He claimed Jagan's comments were aimed at retaining party leaders amidst growing defections.

The minister concluded by urging opposition parties to prioritize national development over political propaganda, reaffirming the BJP's commitment to honoring Ambedkar's legacy and improving governance.

TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu Warns Against **Political Comments at Tirumala**



TPN Correspondent Tirumala, Dec 21

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Chairman B.R. Naidu has issued a stern warning against using Tirumala as a platform for political statements. Addressing the media, Naidu emphasized the sanctity of the holy site and vowed to take action against anyone disrupting its peace with political remarks. "Tirumala is a sacred place, not a political platform. We will not tolerate any political comments made on the hill that disturb its sanctity," Naidu stated. He reiterated that the TTD governing body had previously discussed this issue as a special agenda item and resolved to maintain the spiritual and peaceful environment of Tirumala at all costs. Referring to recent incidents, Naidu expressed concern over a Telangana leader allegedly making political statements at Tirumala. "We are taking this matter seriously and ordering strict action against him. No matter who makes political comments on Tirumala hill, we will not ignore such acts," he affirmed.

The TTD Chairman's comments come amid rising concerns about political interference in religious and spiritual spaces. Naidu reiterated that the governing body would remain firm in protecting the sanctity of Tirumala and ensuring it is respected as a place of worship.

This strong stance from the TTD leadership is expected to send a clear message to individuals and groups attempting to politicize religious platforms.

MLC Duvvada Srinivas Slams Jana Sena-TDP Alliance, **Issues Stern Warning**



TPN Correspondent Srikakulam, Dec 21

MLC Duvvada Srinivas lashed out at the Jana Sena-TDP coalition, accusing its leaders of filing false cases to intimidate him and other YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) members. He warned that such acwould not deter him.

Speaking at a public event, Srinivas directly addressed State Minister Kinjarapu Chunnayudu, alleging that the minister was harassing him through fabricated cases. "If he continues this harassment, he will face double the consequences. When we return to power, we will give him the same treatment," Sri-

nivas declared. He criticized the handling of complaints by the police, claiming bias against fied the ongoing political YSRCP leaders. "When Jana rivalry in the state, with Sena workers filed a case, I was summoned to the tions as they prepare for police station. Yet, when the next elections.

I lodged a complaint, the police did not even respond," he said. Despite this, Srinivas affirmed his resolve to confront any challenges, emphasizing, "As a public representative, I am prepared to face any situation."

Srinivas also accused the tions would lead to severe coalition of failing to derepercussions, asserting liver on its promises, parthat the coalition's tactics ticularly the "Super Six" commitments. He claimed that YSRCP workers were being unfairly targeted under the guise of social media cases.

"Power is temporary," he reminded the Jana Sena-TDP leadership, warning them that the public is closely observing their actions. "If they think they can harass us with false cases, they will face serious consequences," Srinivas cautioned.

The remarks have intensiboth sides trading allega-

Demands Amit Shah Resignation TPN Correspondent

YS Sharmila Reddy Criticizes BJP,

Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) Chief YS Sharmila Reddy launched a sharp attack on the BJP over Union Minister Amit Shah's controversial comments on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, accusing the ruling party of attempting to divert public attention. She alleged that the BJP and RSS have consistently opposed Ambedkar's legacy and are now trying to erase his contributions. Speaking on Thursday's scuffle in Parliament, Sharmila criticized BJP MPs for their "arrogance" in allegedly pushing aside

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge, and Priyanka Gandhi as they entered the House. The incident reportedly caused Kharge to fall. "It is truly outrageous that BJP MPs, holding sticks like rowdies, are preventing Congress MPs from entering the House. Their behavior is a permanent stain on democracy," she said.

Sharmila also condemned the government for issuing notices to "X" (formerly Twitter) to delete videos of Amit Shah's comments. "This action makes it clear they know they've made a mistake. BJP's real thoughts about Ambedkar have been revealed through Amit Shah's remarks," she said.

The APCC Chief accused the BJP of continually disrespecting Ambedkar, a visionary who shaped the Constitution

and uplifted millions of Dalits and marginalized communities. She reiterated the Congress party's commitment to protecting Ambedkar's legacy and fighting against what she termed

as the "saffron mob." The Congress has demanded an apology from Amit Shah and called for his resignation, vowing to intensify their efforts to safeguard the Constitution. "The Congress will continue its relentless fight to uphold the values enshrined by Ambedkar and resist any attempt to undermine democracy," Sharmila stated.

The BJP has yet to respond to these allegations, but the issue has added fuel to the political discourse ahead of upcoming elections.

Manohar Reddy Slams Coalition Govt Over Misuse of Section 111

TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Dec 21

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) Legal Cell President M. Manohar Reddy accused the coalition government of misus-

ing Section 111 to target YSRCP leaders and social media activists. Addressing a press conference, Reddy claimed 1 a that the section is being applied indiscriminately as part of a conspiracy to intimidate and harass YSRCP support-

Reddy explained that Section 111, under which

arrests are being made, is not legally and activists. He accused the governapplicable in many cases, particularly those involving social media. "The coalition government is deliberately filing cases under this section to keep social media activists in jail for extended periods. This is a clear misuse of the law to suppress dissent," he elections.

He revealed that the YSRCP has filed a quash petition to challenge these cases, emphasizing that they will not hold up in court due to procedural lapses by the police. "The APPOLICE100

> has not acted in accordance with the law in these cases. Several judgments have already clarified that Section 111 is not applicable to social media activities," Reddy added. Calling the actions of the coalition government undemocratic, Reddy vowed that the YSRCP would fight legally and politically to protect its members

ment of weaponizing the law to stifle freedom of expression and intimidate the opposition.

The YSRCP's legal challenge is expected to intensify the political battle in the state as both sides gear up for crucial

Supreme Court Refuses Interim Bail to Former MP Nandigam Suresh in Murder Case

TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Dec 21

Former YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) MP The case dates back to 2020 when Nandigam Suresh faced a setback as Mariam, a Dalit woman from Vethe Supreme Court refused to grant lagapudi in Tullur Mandal, criticized

the 2020 murder case of Mariam, a woman from Velagapudi in Andhra Pradesh. The court has scheduled the next hearing for January 7.

The bail plea was heard by a bench comprising Justice Dipankar Dutta and Justice Prashant Ku-Mishra. The court highlighted three significant

- points while denying interim relief: 1. A charge sheet in the case has yet to be filed.
- 2. Suresh has not been in custody for more than 90 days.
- Previous case details involving Suresh were not mentioned in the bail petition.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing Suresh, sought interim bail until the next hearing, but the bench rejected the request. The court emphasized that the issue of bail would be

considered only after the charge sheet is filed.

him interim bail in connection with the YSRCP government for stopping

her pension and denying her housing. Following her remarks, a violent incident involving Suresh's alleged followers led to Mariam's death.

Although a complaint was lodged at the time, no action was taken during the YSRCP's tenure. After the coalition government came to power,

Mariam's son approached Minister Nara Lokesh, leading to a fresh investigation and the registration of a case against Suresh and his associates by Tullur police.

Suresh's attempts to secure bail from the High Court were unsuccessful, prompting him to approach the Supreme Court. The apex court has now deferred its final decision to January 7, emphasizing that the merits of the case will be examined during the next hearing.

Adari Anand Kumar Resigns from **YCP Along With Nine Others**

TPN Correspondent

Visakhapatnam, Dec 21

Adari Anand Kumar, a prominent member of the YSR Congress Party from Visakhapatnam, has resigned from his primary membership of the party. Kumar sent his resignation letter to the YSR Congress Party state headquarters on Friday, marking a significant development in the region's political landscape.

It is reported that Kumar stepped down to dedicate his efforts fulltime toward the development of the Visakhapatnam Dairy. His decision to resign has been accom-

panied by the resignation of nine other directors, who have also severed ties with the party.

The nine directors who resigned include: Saragadam Varaha Venkata Shankara Rao Pilla Rama Kumari





- 3. Seeramreddy Suryanarayana Kolla Katamayya
- Dadi Pawan Kumar
- Aarangi Ramana Babu
- Chitikela Rajakumari
- 8. Reddy Ramakrishna 9. Sundarapu Eeshwar Paradeshi Gangadhar

All the resignations were formally communicated to the party headquarters. The reasons for their collective decision remain unclear, although it appears to align with Kumar's focus on non-political

This wave of resignations comes at a critical time for the YSR Con-

gress Party as it prepares for upcoming elections. The move is expected to have political repercussions in Visakhapatnam, an area where the party has traditionally held significant influence.

commitments.







Livelihood Fair Workshop Held Under MEPM's Auspices in Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 21 A Livelihood Fair Workshop was conducted under the auspices of the Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPM) in Vijayawada, with Minister Narayana, Municipal Secretary



Kannababu, MEPM Managing Director Tej Bharat, District PDs, and other officials in attended.

Minister Narayana emphasized the government's commitment to empowering women economically. He outlined that the establishment of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with the involvement of one lakh women under the MEPM program is a key goal. The minister also highlighted the 100-day action plan aimed at increasing the per capita income of women. Further, Minister Narayana reiterated that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's vision of having a businessman in every household should guide the efforts to foster economic empowerment. He also noted that the MEPM program has made significant strides, with 90 percent of its members already mapped through the Mepma Profil-

He encouraged the MEPM staff to intensify their efforts at the grassroots level, working to raise awareness and provide support to women in the community. The workshop served as an important step towards achieving these goals, reinforcing the importance of economic independence and self-sufficiency for women in the state.

NTR District Launches App to Track Missing Children During Bhavani Diksha Retreat

Collector Has Launched a Child Monitoring System (CMS) App

TPN Correspondent NTR District, Dec 21

In a significant step to ensure the safety of children during the Bhavani Diksha retreat, NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha has

launched a Child Monitoring System (CMS) app to help track missing children. This initiative aims to facilitate quick communication between missing children and their families during the annual spiritual event, which will attract around five to six lakh people from December 21 to 25. The CMS app allows the details of children to

be registered at counters set up in various areas of the festival. A QR band is placed on the child's wrist, which can be scanned by security personnel or festival staff if the child goes missing. The app immediately displays the child's name, the parents' contact information, and options to call or message them via

Dr. Lakshmisha emphasized that this system will significantly streamline the process of re-



During a review meeting at the Collectorate, the Collector discussed the app's functionality with Amaravati Software Innovations CMD Anil Kumar, and suggested improvements to further enhance its effectiveness.

Dr. Lakshmisha urged the public to spread awareness about the system and to help locate missing children by promptly scanning the QR bands and contacting the parents. This initiative will provide peace of mind to the families attending the festival, ensuring a safer environment for all participants.

Police Commissioner Reviews Security Arrangements for Bhavani Deeksha Kshetra

Vijayawada, Dec 21

the Goddess.

City Police Commissioner Sri S. V. Rajasekhara Babu, IPS, is personally overseeing the security measures for the Bhavani Deeksha Kshetra program, set to commence on December 21, 2024, and conclude with the Maha Poornahuti on December 25, 2024. The event is expected to draw lakhs of devotees from across Andhra Pradesh and neighboring states, who will offer prayers, Irumul (Deeksha), and darshan of

The Police Commissioner, in coordination with other officers, is carefully supervising the security arrangements around the temple area to ensure a safe and smooth experience for the visitors. As part of the heightened security measures, drone cameras have been deployed at key locations to monitor crowd movements and ensure public safety. Additionally, the security teams have been briefed with several recommendations and suggestions to strengthen vigilance in the area.

Traffic congestion is another key area being



managed through the Astram app. The Police Commissioner is also leveraging the capabilities of CCTV surveillance from the command control room at the Model Guest House to monitor activities and ensure that no lapses occur during the event.

To further enhance security and public awareness, banners have been placed at strategic locations highlighting potential threats like drug abuse, cyber crimes (such as digital arrests, investment frauds, fake loan apps, and

closely monitored, with real-time updates APK app frauds). The City Police Commissioner has urged officers to coordinate effectively with other departments to ensure that devotees can attend the Deeksha program and have darshan of the Goddess without any inconvenience.

> The program also saw the participation of DCPs Gautami Shali IPS, Tirumaleswara Reddy IPS, Ananda Reddy, along with ADCPs, ACPs, Inspectors, and police staff, who are committed to maintaining order throughout the event.

Helmet Awareness Drive Held at Mangalagiri NRI Y Junction



TPN Correspondent Mangalagiri, Dec 21

In an effort to promote road safety, Mangalagiri Rural Police organized a special helmet awareness drive at the NRI Y Junction on Friday. The event aimed to encourage motorists to wear helmets, avoid driving under the influence of alcohol, and refrain from triple riding on two-wheelers.

Motorists were greeted by individuals dressed as Vinayakudu and Yamadharma Raju, who passionately appealed to the public to prioritize safety. Rural CI Y Srinivasa Rao and SI Chirumamilla Venkat addressed the gathering, emphasizing the critical role of helmets in preventing fatal head injuries in road

CI Srinivasa Rao stated that many road fatalities occur due to severe head injuries sustained in accidents, stressing the importance of wearing a helmet as a protective shield. "Wearing a helmet is not an inconvenience but a life-saving measure," he remarked, urging everyone to make it a habit to wear helmets. He further warned that driving under the influence of alcohol, triple riding, and driving without a license would result in strict legal action.

The police also highlighted that wearing helmets should not be avoided for trivial reasons, as it could save lives in the event of an accident. The awareness drive also included a warning to minors and their parents, stating that strict action would be taken against underage drivers.

The program was supported by police personnel, including ASI Shankar, Ramesh, Srinivasa Rao, and Constables Shyam, Ravi, and Ramu, who actively participated in spreading the message of road safety.

Semi-Christmas Celebrations Held at TDP Central Office

TPN Correspondent

Mangalagiri, Dec 21

The TDP central office hosted grand semi-Christmas celebrations on friday, organized by the party's Christian Cell. The event saw the participation of several leaders, pastors, and believers who joined in extending Christmas greetings to the people of the state. The gathering culminated in the ceremonial cutting of the Christmas cake.

During the celebrations, leaders emphasized the values of love, kindness,

and peace, highlighting Jesus Christ as a guiding figure for these principles. They called on everyone to follow the path of love and compassion, as shown by Lord Jesus.

The leaders further expressed their commitment to peace, good governance, and religious freedom under the coalition government. They praised TDP Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for his respect for all religions, and



emphasized that the welfare and development of Christians in the state can only be achieved under his leadership. They noted that Christmas celebrations are held grandly at the TDP central office, irrespective of the party's power status, which they claimed was unmatched by any other political party.

Leaders also contrasted Chandrababu Naidu's contributions to the Christian community

Minister, Y.S. Jagan Reddy, alleging that he had misled Christians, neglected their interests, and failed to protect Christian assets. They pointed out that under Chandrababu's leadership, Christians received more support, including substantial financial assistance for Haiti programs and extended marriage licenses for pastors. They also highlighted the allocation of funds and land for a Christian building in Guntur and the previous govern-

with those of the previous Chief

ment's support for believers to travel to Jerusalem.

The event was attended by prominent TDP leaders including State President Palla Srinivasa Rao, Polit Bureau Member Varla Ramaiah, Former Minister Nakka Anand Babu, and others. The celebrations were a strong display of TDP's support for the Christian community and its ongoing advocacy for their welfare.

Vijayawada CCS Police Arrest Gang for Robbing ₹25.5 Lakh by Posing as Police Officers

TPN Correspondent

Vijayawada, Dec 21

In a swift action, the Vijayawada CCS Police have successfully arrested a gang involved in robbing a gold clerk of Rs. 25.5 lakh by posing as police officers. The accused, after threatening the victim, took his money and left him stranded.

On December 15, 2024, a clerk working at a gold shop in Jaggayya Peta, on a business trip to Chennai, missed his train and took a car to reach his destination. While passing through Vijayawada, two individuals wearing khaki pants and white T-shirts stopped his car near Prabhas College. They

pretended to be police officers, threatened him, and forcibly took the bag containing Rs. 25 lakh 57 thousand.

Afterward, the victim, who was left traumatized, was helped by the cab driver and admitted to a hospital in Jaggayya Peta. Once he recovered, he filed a complaint with the Satyanarayana Puram Police, which was subsequently handed over to the CCS Police for investigation.

Based on the complaint, a special team was formed under the leadership of Police Commissioner S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, Crime DCP K. Tirumaleswara Reddy, and others. The team tracked the suspects' movements, leading to the



arrest of three accused individuals on December 20, 2024, near Banunagar. The arrested gang members included Chegu Pardasai, Patan Subhani Khan, and Prathipati Shanti, along with rowdy-sheeter Sheikh Hazaruddin Chotu. The police seized the stolen amount of Rs. 25.5 lakh from them.

One of the key suspects, Gullur Vamsi Krishnam Raju, remains absconding. The police congratulated the CCS team for their prompt investigation, which led to the successful recovery of the stolen money and the arrest of the culprits.

BC Welfare Minister Savita Addresses Grievances in Mangalagiri

TPN Correspondent Mangalagiri, Dec 21

State BC Welfare Minister Savita participated in a grievance meeting held at the TDP central office on Friday. Along with former MLA Pilla Govinda Rao, Minister Savita listened to the concerns of petitioners, most of whom raised issues related to land disputes and the need for employment opportunities.

During the meeting, Minister Savita ensured prompt action on the petitions by contacting the concerned officials and directing them to take immediate steps to resolve the issues. She expressed her commitment to addressing the problems faced by



the people and ensuring that their concerns are dealt with swiftly. The meeting served as an important platform for the public to voice their grievances, with Minister Savita assuring them of her full support in resolving their issues.

Nara Bhuvaneswari Highlights Development Plans for Kuppam, Slams Previous Govt

TPN Correspondent Kuppam, Dec 21

Nara Bhuvaneswari, wife of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, expressed her concerns about the state's decline under the previous government, stating that Andhra Pradesh had gone back 30 years in development due to its "destructive rule." Speaking during a visit to Aadavibuduguru as part of her tour of the Kuppam constituency, she accused the previous government of looting the state and leaving behind a burden of debt.

Bhuvaneswari emphasized that her husband, CM Chandrababu, is relentlessly working towards the state's development. She reassured the people that Kuppam would be developed into the number one constituency. "Chandrababu always thinks about how to improve the state. His vision is to create a society free of poverty, where everyone is happy," she said. She also expressed confidence that the Chief Minister would lead the state on a path of prosperity, thanks to his administrative capabilities and longterm vision.

Reflecting on the sacrifices of TDP workers, Bhuvaneswari mentioned the tragic loss of lives during the previous government's rule, particularly the unjust killing of Chandraiah in Palnadu. "Even in the toughest times, the workers stayed loyal to Chandrababu and worked tirelessly. We stand with them; their responsibility is ours," she stated.



In her efforts to empower women, Bhuvaneswari announced plans to establish an ELIP (Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Incentive Program) in Kuppam, aiming to create job opportunities for women. She also spoke about the skill development center set up through the NTR Trust to offer training in tailoring and other skills, which would help women become economically independent.

Earlier, she interacted with students at ZP School in Aadavibuduguru and planted a sapling in the school premises as part of her visit.



Revenue Officials Seize Crores Worth of Land from Squatters in **Prakasam Dist**

TPN Correspondent Prakasam Dist, Dec 21

In a significant move, revenue officials in Prakasam District have seized land worth crores of rupees from squatters, particularly targeting land grabbers who exploited government lands during the previous administration.

The action followed complaints from villagers during a revenue conference held in Markapuram mandal. According to the villagers, the former ZPTC of the YSR Congress Party had allegedly occupied government lands in the villages of Idupur and Darimadugu, looting valuable land. Acting swiftly on the orders of MLA Kandula Narayana Reddy, Sub-Collector Venkat Trivinad and Tahsildar Chiranjeevi led the revenue officials in removing encroachments. The officials have successfully reclaimed 1.20 acres of government land in Darimadugu, located next to National Highway-565, and 0.70 acres in Idupur, with the total value of the recovered land estimated at approximately ₹8.50 crores. This action has been welcomed by the local residents, who expressed their satisfaction with the efforts of the current government to address land encroachments and restore justice.

YCP Corporators Express Frustration Over Delayed Meetings at Guntur Corporation Council TPN Correspondent

Guntur, Dec 21

Tensions escalated during the Guntur Corporation Council meeting as YCP corporators voiced their frustration with the delay in holding regular meetings. The corporators questioned the corporation officials on why the council meetings were not being held on time, raising concerns about the lack of timely ac-

Mayor Kavi Manohar addressed the issue, stating that the meeting he had suggested was not held as scheduled. However, the corporators were dissatisfied with the explanations provided. They expressed that the delay in meetings was primarily due to the YCP having a majority in the council, which they argued had resulted in ineffi-

ciency and mismanagement. The YCP corporators, clearly frustrated, demanded better coordination and accountability from the corporation officials. They stressed the importance of conducting meetings regularly to ensure smooth functioning and address key issues facing the city.

The situation at the council meeting underscored ongoing concerns about the governance and operational efficiency of the corporation. As the tensions simmered, it became evident that the delay in holding meetings was affecting the overall functioning and decision-making process.

Awareness Rally on Helmets Held in Narasaraopet

TPN Correspondent Palnadu, Dec 21

An awareness rally on the importance of wearing helmets was organized in Narasaraopet, with active participation from local police officials. The rally, which featured a procession of motorcycles, aimed to educate the public about the crucial safety benefits of wearing helmets while riding.

District SP Srinivasa Rao, along with police personnel from Narasaraopet and Vinukonda, took part in the event, engaging with motorists and urging them to adopt helmet use for their own safety. The police officers highlighted the significance of hel-



mets in reducing the risk of head injuries during accidents, stressing that wearing one could save lives. The awareness rally was a part of ongoing efforts to promote road safety and prevent accidents in the region. Authorities are hopeful that such initiatives will encourage more people to wear helmets and abide by traffic safety regulations.

Border Constable Arrested for Selling Overpriced Tirumala Tickets



TPN Correspondent Tirumala, Dec 21

A case has been registered against a border constable for allegedly selling Srivari special entry tickets at exorbitant prices. The constable, identified as Chandrashekhar from the ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police), is accused of selling the ₹300 tickets for higher amounts to devotees from Bangalore.

According to reports, the tickets were sold to two groups at inflated prices based on the recommendations of Araku MLA and MLC Sivaramireddy. Four tickets were sold for ₹20,000 with the MLA's recommendation, and six tickets were sold for ₹50,000 through the MLC's recommendation.

The devotees, Haribabu and Jagadish, who were charged these exorbitant prices, approached vigilance officials with complaints. The police have since registered a case based on their complaint and the information provided by the TTD Vigilance Wing. Chandrashekhar allegedly collected ₹50,000 from one devotee and ₹20,000 from another, promising to arrange break darshan tickets. The tickets provided were the ₹300 special entry darshan tickets, which left the devotees feeling cheated.

The police investigation is underway, and further details will be revealed once the inquiry is complete. The TTD Vigilance Wing and local police are working together to address the issue.

Dead Body Found in Parcel in Yandagandi

TPN Correspondent West Godavari, Dec 21

A 45-year-old dead body was discovered in a parcel in Yandagandi, Undi Mandal, raising serious concerns. The body was found in a property that was previously rented by Sagi Tulasi, a resident who has been facing family disputes for several years.

Sagi Tulasi, who has been working at a steel factory in Bhimavaram to support herself, had recently settled on a plot in the former Jagananna Colony in Yandagandi village. She had been receiving financial assistance from the Kshatriya Foundation, which had previously provided construction materials for her parcel.

The body was found in the parcel where Tulasi's father, Mudunuri Rangaraju, resides. Along with the body, a threatening letter was discovered, demanding a payment of ₹1.30 crore, warning of serious consequences if the amount was not paid.

Police have launched an investigation into the incident, and authorities are looking into possible motives behind the crime. Further developments are awaited as the case continues to unfold.

MLA Bolishetty Srinivas Announces Development Projects in Tadepalligudem

TPN Correspondent Tadepalligudem, Dec 21

Jana Sena MLA Bolishetty Srinivas announced significant development initiatives for the Tadepalligudem constituency, with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu sanctioning ₹5 crore for road repairs.

The MLA laid the foundation stone for several projects, including:

- A park near the Gayatri Temple. A compound wall at Balusulamma Temple.
- CC drain construction at SVR Circle.
- CC road development at Juvvalapalem.

Speaking on the occasion, Srinivas highlighted that ₹20 crore has been allocated for road repairs across the district, of which ₹5 crore is designated for the Tadepalligudem constituency. Additionally, ₹20 lakh will be utilized specifically to address potholes within the town.

He assured residents that the coali-



tion government is committed to improving infrastructure and providing essential services. Srinivas pledged to address the long-standing issue of fresh water supply in the Juvvalapalem area, promising that the government would take full responsibility for its resolution.

The announcement reflects the government's efforts to prioritize developmental works and improve living standards in the region.

Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar Addresses **Public Petitions in Bapatla Dist**

TPN Correspondent Bapatla, Dec 21

Power Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar participated in the revenue conference held in Addanki, Bapatla District, where he received a large number of petitions from the public. The petitions primarily focused on land encroachments and irregularities that occurred during the previous government.

commitment to ensuring justice for the in land dealings. "We will work swiftly affected individuals and directed revenue officials to take immediate action on the cases. He emphasized the importance of addressing each petition with due diligence and instructed the officials to prioritize the resolution of these issues.

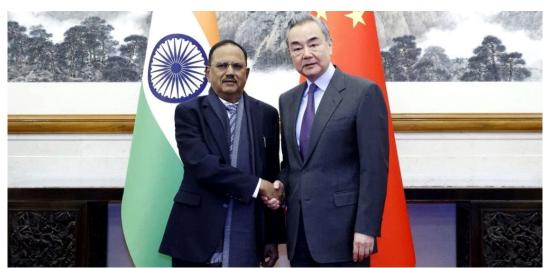
the government is determined to rectify

Minister Ravi Kumar expressed his past wrongs and ensure transparency to resolve every petition received in the revenue conference," he said, underscoring the government's dedication to protecting the rights of citizens.

This proactive approach aims to restore public trust in land administration and address longstanding grievances relat-The minister reassured the public that ed to land encroachments in the dis-







India-China SR Meeting: Progress and Differences in Boundary Talks

This week, the Special Representatives (SRs) on the India-China boundary issue met in Beijing for the first time in five years. The meeting between Ajit Doval and Wang Yi followed the October 2024 summit between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Kazan. While no specific timeline was set for the SR-level talks during the summit, the meeting before the year's end indicates both sides' intent to move towards normalizing relations.

The readouts from both sides highlight progress on some key areas, although fundamental issues remain unresolved. China issued two readouts detailing the discussions, which contrasted with the more concise statement from India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). One notable difference in the readouts is the Chinese version, which quotes Doval saying, "over the past five years, with the joint efforts of both sides, relevant issues in the border area have been properly resolved." However, this comment is not echoed in the MEA's version, and the ground situation in Eastern Ladakh suggests the border issues are far from resolved. This discrepancy reflects China's narrative diplomacy, where readouts are often detailed and selective, aiming for domestic consumption and setting the discourse on foreign issues.

Despite these differences, there were to urge Beijing areas of common ground between the two sides. Both parties confirmed forward movement on issues such as the term stability.

This week, the Special Representatives (SRs) on the India-China boundary issue met in Beijing for the first time in five years. The meeting between Ajit Doval and Wang Yi followed the October 2024 summit between Indian Prime Minister Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, data sharing on trans-border rivers, and border trade. They also agreed on the importance of maintaining "stable, predictable, and amicable" India-China relations, highlighting a shared strategic assessment.

A significant part of the talks focused on refining border management protocols and confidence-building measures (CBMs) to maintain peace and tranquility along the border. Both sides expressed the need for fresh dialogue on CBMs due to the changing dynamics on the ground, such as shifts in force deployment, infrastructure development, and technological advancements. The SRs acknowledged the necessity of a fair, reasonable, and mutually acceptable settlement for the boundary issue, although the urgency of this was framed differently. India emphasized the importance of maintaining a political perspective on the relationship, while China placed the boundary issue in a more compartmentalized context, stressing development and revitalization over a quick resolution.

This difference in urgency and framing of the boundary issue highlights the challenges ahead. For India, the boundary dispute cannot be treated as a separate issue from the broader bilateral relationship, as it could continue to hinder overall progress. New Delhi should continue to urge Beijing to view the resolution of the boundary issue within the broader context of healthy bilateral ties and long-term stability.

Priyanka Gandhi's Tote Bags: Fashion with a Political Message

Who needs long speeches when a tote bag can speak volumes? Priyanka Gandhi Vadra has turned heads in Parliament with her choice of bags, transforming them into powerful symbols of political and social issues. Each bag she carries is more than an accessory—it's a statement. One day, her tote read "Palestine," and the next, it boldly proclaimed "Stand with Bangladeshi Hindus and Christians." These bags have turned the Winter Session of Parliament into an unexpected

display of "fashion activism," where serious political matters are carried in style.

Priyanka is not alone in using fashion as a form of political expression. Internationally, US Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez made waves at the 2021 Met Gala by wearing a "Tax the Rich" dress, turning a high-fashion event into a conversation about wealth inequality. Back home in India, Opposition MPs have mastered the art of "wearable protests." Whether it's jackets emblazoned with the slogan "Modi-Adani Ek Hai" or all-black outfits worn in solidarity with victims of violence in Manipur, political messages are often displayed through clothing rather than just words.

However, these bold fashion choices are not without criticism. The BJP quickly branded Priyanka's tote bags as "appeasement politics," accusing her of focusing on international issues rather than addressing domestic concerns. Priyanka, unfazed by the backlash, responded with characteristic defiance, calling the criticism



"typical patriarchy" and asserting that it was her right to wear whatever she chose. Her response underscores the point that her bags are more than just fashionable accessories—they are powerful messages in themselves.

While symbolism in politics can often be seen as superficial, Priyanka's choice of tote bags goes beyond mere theatrics. Her messages invoke India's long-standing tradition of standing in solidarity with oppressed communities, whether it's advocating for Palestinian statehood or recalling India's support for Bangladesh during its 1971 Liberation War. In this way, her fashion statements tap into India's historical ethos of global humanitarian responsibility.

Whether one views it as fashion activism or clever posturing, there's no denying that Priyanka Gandhi's tote bags are not just bags—they are bold declarations of her political stance, sparking debates and drawing attention to important global is-

Prime Minister Modi's Defence of the Constitution: A Historic Address

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent reply to the debate on the Constitution stands out as a landmark address in India's parliamentary history. His speech not only highlighted the immense challenges that the Constitution has faced over the decades but also celebrated the vision and resilience instilled by its framers. Modi's speech emphasized the continued relevance of the Constitution in shaping India's future, marking a pivotal moment in the nation's political discourse.

In his address, the Prime Minister paid homage to the Constitution's framers, acknowledging their foresight and determination in crafting a document that has withstood the test of time. He also shared a vision for a future India, one that is built on the strong foundation laid by the Constitution. This was reflected in his eleven pledges, which, like the earlier Panch Pran initiative, emphasized collective duties that the nation must uphold through the thought-provoking, urging citizens to remain committed to the values enshrined in the Constitution.

Modi's speech also delved into historical narratives, invoking key figures like Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, whose contributions to the Constitution have often been underappreciated. He criticized how the Congress establishment, especially its first family, had sought to downplay or even distort Ambedkar's legacy. The Prime Minister also referenced the unwavering commit-



Constitution. These pledges were thought-provoking, urging citizens to remain committed to the values enshrined in the Constitution.

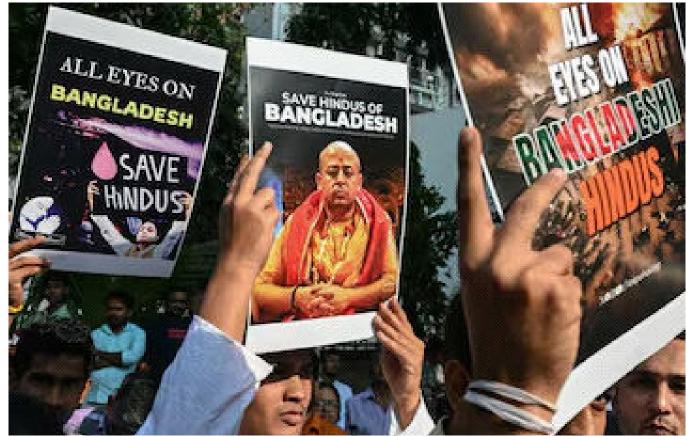
Modi's speech also delved into his
ment to Constitutional principles shown by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, highlighting the BJP's role in celebrating the Constitution, contrary to the Congress's historical approach.

One of the most striking aspects of Modi's address was his unflinching criticism of how the Congress treated the Constitution, especially under its leadership. He pointed out how the Congress often manipulated the Constitution for its own political gains, diminishing its sanctity and spirit. Modi's di-

rect references to these historical truths served as a reminder of the need to safeguard the Constitution from being politicized.

Prime Minister Modi's speech was a call to action, urging citizens and leaders alike to respect the Constitution and ensure its spirit continues to guide India's democratic journey. His powerful words underscored the importance of fostering a renewed commitment to the Constitution and ensuring that it remains the bedrock of India's democratic values.

Anti-Hindu Violence and the Struggle for Truth in Bangladesh



The year 2024 has been a pivotal one for Bangladesh, marked by political upheaval and social unrest. The long-standing rule of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who held office for 15 years, came to a dramatic end amidst a mass uprising. What initially began as student protests against a contentious quota system rapidly escalated into widespread dissent, culminating in violence and chaos. From July 16 to August 11, approximately 650 lives were lost, and the country experienced an economic collapse, with looting, arson, and mob violence becoming rampant.

On August 5, as the turmoil reached its peak, Hasina was forced to step down and flee her residence, leaving behind a political vacuum. This instability fueled further unrest, particularly among the religious minorities, especially the Hindu community, who became targets of violent mobs. These mobs, in a bid to retaliate

against perceived support for Hasina's Awami League (AL) party, specifically targeted Hindus, accusing them of complicity with the ruling government.

While it is crucial to acknowledge that political motivations often contribute to unrest, it is equally important to recognize that these acts of violence carry significant communal undercurrents. To suggest that the violence in Bangladesh is entirely void of communal influences would be to overlook the complex and longstanding religious tensions that shape the country's socio-political landscape. The persecution of Hindus, who form a religious minority in Bangladesh, is not a new phenomenon. Throughout history, they have faced repeated episodes of violence, often linked to political instability and shifts in power.

In the case of the 2024 unrest, the anti-Hindu violence was not an

isolated incident but a continuation of a troubling trend. The targeting of religious minorities, especially Hindus, during times of political and social chaos highlights the vulnerability of these communities. The blame placed on Hindus for their perceived political affiliations underscores the dangers of communalizing political struggles, further deepening divisions in an already polarized society.

As Bangladesh grapples with its political future, it is imperative that the truth behind the violence is fully acknowledged. The country must confront the deep-rooted communal tensions that fuel such violence, striving to create a more inclusive society where religious minorities can live without fear of persecution. Only by addressing these underlying issues can Bangladesh hope to rebuild and restore peace amidst the ruins of its political and social upheaval.





Canada Presented No evidence In **Support Of Serious Allegations: Govt**

TPN CORROSPONDENT DELHI **DECEMBER.21**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with UK's King Charles III on Thursday to reaffirm India's commitment to enhancing the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two nations. During their conversation, they reflected on the long-standing relationship between the countries and their shared vision of expanding cooperation in various sectors.

Both leaders emphasized their commitment to strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, a key pillar of the bilateral relationship. According to an official statement, they discussed the importance of continuing to build on this partnership, which has contributed significantly to their collaboration in trade, defense, technology, and other areas.

The dialogue also included a discussion on the Commonwealth of Nations, with both leaders exchanging views on the outcomes of the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) held in Samoa. As important members of the Commonwealth, India and the UK reiterated their support for advancing the organization's goals and working together to address global challenges.

Climate change and sustainability were central topics during the exchange. Prime



Minister Modi praised King Charles for his long-time advocacy for environmental issues and shared insights into India's efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainable development. Modi highlighted the country's initiatives aimed at enhancing green development and reducing carbon emissions.

In a warm and cordial gesture, the leaders

Will Be Destroyed": Yogi Adityanath

exchanged festive greetings for the upcoming Christmas and New Year, with Prime Minister Modi wishing King Charles good health and well-being. This conversation underscores the ongoing efforts by both leaders to strengthen the ties between India and the UK, with a focus on mutual goals

for global peace, environmental sustainability, and economic growth. "Lineage Of Those Who Desecrated Temples



TPN CORROSPONDENT AYODHYA **DECEMBER.21**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday strongly condemned recent attacks on places of worship, including Hindu religious sites in Bangladesh, and expressed outrage over the desecration of temples. Speaking at a 'Katha' programme organized by Peethadhishwar Sridharacharya Maharaj, Adityanath accused those

responsible for such acts of conspiring to create "hell on earth" by targeting places of religious significance to Sanatan Dharma.

The Chief Minister specifically highlighted the attacks on Hindu temples in Bangladesh, drawing parallels with similar incidents in Pakistan and Afghanistan. He questioned the motives behind these attacks, asking, "Who were those people who destroyed the Sanatan Dharma's places of pride in the country, and why did they do it?" Adityanath condemned the violence as part of a broader conspiracy aimed at undermining the sanctity of Hindu religious

Adityanath also referenced the historical desecration of prominent temples in India, including the Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya and the Krishna Janmabhoomi in Mathura, along with other temples in Sambhal. He called these acts "barbaric" and condemned the destruction, impurity, and desecration of sacred places as a deliberate attempt to tarnish the heritage of Sanatan Dharma. The CM further vowed that the "lineage and descendants" of those responsible for desecrating these temples would be "destroyed."

The strong rhetoric from Adityanath reflects his unwavering stance on the protection of religious sites, particularly those of Hindu significance, and highlights his commitment to responding firmly to any form of desecration or violence against such places. This statement is likely to resonate with his supporters, reinforcing his image as a staunch protector of religious identity and heritage in Uttar Pradesh.

BJP, other parties two sides of same coin in not respecting **Ambedkar: Mayawati**

TPN CORROSPONDENT LUCKNOW **DECEMBER.21**

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) supremo Mayawati on Friday launched a scathing attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and other opposition parties, accusing them of not respecting Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the architect of India's Constitution and a champion of Dalit rights. Mayawati criticized both political sides for what she described as their failure to honor Baba Saheb Ambedkar's legacy and their continued disregard for the welfare of Dalits and marginalized communities.

Mayawati's remarks came in response to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's controversial comments about Ambedkar in the Rajya Sabha earlier this week, which she claimed had deeply hurt the sentiments of Dalits and other neglected communities. She demanded that Amit Shah apologize for his remarks, stating that his words were disrespectful to the "messiah" of Dalits and should not be tolerated.

The former Uttar Pradesh chief minister further stated that the BJP, Congress, and their allies were increasingly losing public support due to their narrow-minded, casteist attitudes. According to Mayawati, both the ruling BJP and the opposition parties were guilty of neglecting the interests of Dalits, and their actions went against the values upheld by Dr. Ambedkar. She also accused these parties of being "two sides of the same coin," suggesting that despite their political differences, they shared a common flaw when it came to the treatment of Dalit communities and the denial of their constitutional rights.

"Pushing Around An MP Not 'Mardangi'": Kiren Rijiju's Swipe At Rahul

TPN CORROSPONDENT NEW DELHI **DECEMBER.21**

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju launched a strong attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi following an incident in Parliament on Thursday, accusing him of physically pushing BJP MPs, leading to injuries. Rijiju, speaking exclusively to NDTV, emphasized that such behavior was avoidable and not indicative of true "mardangi" (masculinity). He condemned Gandhi's actions, pointing out that physical altercations had no place in parliamentary proceedings.

The BJP has alleged that during a protest at one of Parliament's gates over Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on BR Ambedkar, Rahul Gandhi pushed BJP MP Mukesh Rajput. This caused Rajput to fall into fellow MP Pratap Sarangi, injuring both, and they were subsequently hospitalized. Rijiju responded to this by asserting that while heated exchanges are not uncommon in Parliament, an incident that results in injury and a police report is unacceptable. He added that it could have been avoided if the Leader of the Opposition refrained from engaging in physical actions.

Taking a dig at Gandhi, who holds a black belt in Aikido, Rijiju sarcastically asked, "Have you learned karate or kung fu to beat other MPs?" He remarked that martial arts should be used for self-defense and fitness, not for harming others. Rijiju also criticized Gandhi's behavior, calling it unworthy of a parliamentarian, particularly given that he allegedly pushed an elderly MP.



Will Oppose 'One Nation, One Election' 'Tooth And **Nail': Congress**

TPN CORROSPONDENT NEW DELHI **DECEMBER.21**

Omar Abdullah, former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and ally of the Congress party, came to the defense of senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi after BJP MP Pratap Chandra Sarangi accused him of being responsible for his injuries during a brawl in Parliament. Sarangi claimed that Gandhi had pushed another MP, causing that MP to fall onto him, resulting in his own fall.

"I was standing near the stairs when Rahul Gandhi came and pushed an MP, who then fell on me," Sarangi said, asserting that this incident led to his injury. The BJP MP's statement quickly gained attention on social media, fueling further debate.

However, Omar Abdullah dismissed the allegations, asserting that it was completely out of character for Rahul Gandhi to engage in such behavior. "I know Rahul, he would not push anyone, much less a member of parliament. It's simply not in his nature to be rude or nasty to anyone," Abdullah wrote on X, expressing his belief in Gandhi's good character. His comments were an attempt to counter the circulating accusations and offer a more balanced perspective on the situation.

The incident in question reportedly took place during a chaotic scene in Parliament, which had seen protests and disruptions. Rahul Gandhi has long been a vocal figure in Indian politics, often at the center of heated exchanges in Parliament. However, those close to him, like Omar Abdullah, maintain that his actions have always been grounded in civility and respect.

The controversy surrounding this event is just the latest in a series of political disputes within the Indian Parliament, where tensions often flare during debates and protests. Despite the allegations, Abdullah's defense of Gandhi highlights the ongoing political rifts between Congress and the BJP, as both sides continue to exchange sharp criticisms.



Ambedkar Row: Opposition MPs Hold Protest Against Amit Shah At Vijay Chowk

TPN CORROSPONDENT DELHI **DECEMBER.21**

Opposition parties under the INDIA alliance staged a protest march from Vijay Chowk to Parliament House on Friday, demanding the resignation of Home Minister Amit Shah over his alleged disparaging remarks about Dalit icon Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The protest was joined by leaders from various parties including Congress, Samajwadi Party (SP), DMK, JMM, CPI, and CPI(M).

During the march, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accused the government of avoiding important discussions, particularly on the Adani issue, and claimed that it was now "scared" of the Opposition for raising concerns about Shah's comments. She emphasized that the issue was not just political, but a matter of national interest. "This government is scared to have a discussion on the Adani issue. They know their true sentiments for Ambedkar have come out. Such insult to him will not be tolerated by India," she said, reiterating that Ambedkar's contributions to the Constitution and India's freedom struggle were sacred to the nation.

Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav also joined in calling for an apology from Amit Shah, accusing him of insulting Ambedkar in the Rajya Sabha. "Babasaheb Ambedkar has been insulted. He must admit his guilt and apologize. The Constitution drafted by Ambedkar can guide us forward," Yaday said, stressing the need to uphold the values enshrined in the Constitution.

Congress Rajya Sabha MP Imran Pratapgarhi added that instead of addressing the insult to Ambedkar, the BJP was attempting to distract the public by lodging false FIRs against Rahul Gandhi.



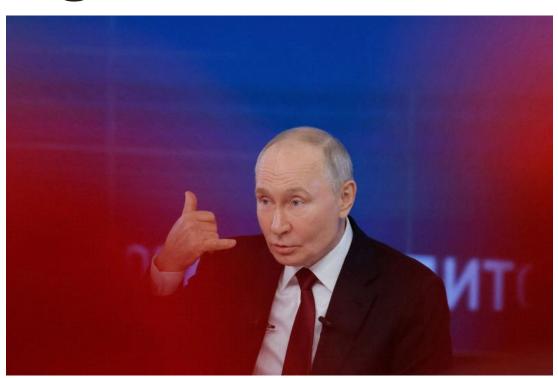
GLOBAL

Ready to meet Trump over Ukraine negotiations: Putin

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed his willingness to compromise on Ukraine in potential negotiations with US President-elect Donald Trump, indicating he has no preconditions for talks with Ukraine's government. Putin's remarks came during his annual question-and-answer session with Russian citizens on state TV, where he addressed various topics, including the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Putin's comments signal a possible shift in Russia's approach to the conflict, as he stated that he would be ready to meet Trump, a self-styled expert in negotiation, whose book "Trump: The Art of the Deal" touted his skills in brokering agreements. Although Trump has committed to ending the war quickly, he has not yet outlined specific plans or strategies on how to achieve peace in the region.

When asked about the potential of talks with Trump, Putin noted that he had not communicated with the US president for several years but would be open to a dialogue. He also dismissed claims that Russia was in a weakened position due to the ongoing war, asserting that the country had grown stronger since its military intervention in Ukraine in 2022.



Putin further speculated that the war might soon reach a turning point, suggesting that the number of Ukrainians willing to continue fighting could diminish. He emphasized that, in his view, the resolve of Ukrainian forces would eventually wane.

These comments from Putin reflect the complex and evolving nature of the Ukraine conflict, with shifting dynamics

between Russia, Ukraine, and the international community. Putin's openness to talks with Trump introduces the possibility of diplomatic efforts to end the war, although it remains unclear how such negotiations would unfold or what the key points of compromise might be. The coming months could reveal whether these discussions will lead to a de-escalation or whether the war will continue.

'Settle Issues Of 1971': Bangladesh's Muhammad Yunus To Pak PM Shehbaz Sharif



CAIRO: **Bangladesh's Interim Leader Yunus Seeks to Strengthen Ties with Pakistan**

Bangladesh's interim leader, Muhammad Yunus, expressed his desire to strengthen relations with Pakistan, a move that is likely to further test his country's already tense relations with India. Yunus, who met Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at a conference in Egypt, emphasized his intention to resolve outstanding issues stemming from Bangladesh's 1971 separation from Pakistan.

The split occurred during a brutal war, after which Bangladesh moved closer to India, Pakistan's longtime rival. Over the years, relations between Dhaka and New Delhi have remained complicated. However, recent political turmoil, including the August overthrow of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who had been backed by India, has strained Bangladesh's ties with India. Hasina, who now lives in exile in India, had fostered strong diplomatic and economic relations with New Delhi during her tenure.

Yunus, addressing the lingering grievances from Bangladesh's bloody separation from Pakistan, met with Sharif to discuss the possibility of moving forward. Yunus noted that these issues had resurfaced multiple times, and urged that they be resolved to allow for better bilateral relations.

Sharif, in turn, highlighted the positive tone of his exchange with Yunus, stressing their shared commitment to enhancing collaboration between Pakistan and Bangladesh. Both leaders agreed on the importance of strengthening bilateral ties through increased trade, commerce, and cultural exchanges. One notable step in this direction was the successful unloading of containers from the first cargo ship to sail directly from Pakistan to Bangladesh in decades, which arrived at Chittagong port in November.

The leaders were participating in the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation summit in Cairo, a forum of eight Muslim-majority countries. Yunus also expressed his ambition to revive the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which has been largely inactive due to tensions between Pakistan and India. He told Sharif that organizing a SAARC summit, even if symbolic, was a top priority and would send a strong message of regional unity.



Buy Oil And Gas From US : Donald Trump Threatens Europe

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump has once again set his sights on a new target: the European Union. As he prepares for his second term as US President, Trump has issued a stern warning to the EU, demanding that it reduce the "tremendous" trade deficit with the United States or face severe consequences. In a post on his Truth Social platform, Trump made it clear that Europe must significantly increase its purchases of US oil and gas. If not, he threatened to impose "TARIFFS all the way," capitalizing the word to emphasize the severity of the potential tariffs.

This latest ultimatum follows a pattern from Trump's previous presidency, where he often accused Europe of taking advantage of the United States. Trump has long criticized Europe for not contributing enough to global defense costs, particularly in relation to NATO. He even suggested reducing US funding to the alliance unless European nations contributed more.

The US currently has a substantial trade deficit with the European Union, amounting to \$202.5 billion in 2022. While the US imported \$553.3 billion in goods from the EU, its exports to Europe were valued at \$350.8 billion, further inflaming Trump's frustration with the imbalance. His solution is simple: force Europe to buy more US oil and gas to reduce the deficit, or face tariffs.

Trump has long been vocal about his belief that the US has been losing out in global trade deals. In a recent statement at his Mar-a-Lago residence, he lamented that the country is "losing to everybody" due to what he perceives as "bad deals" made by previous administrations.

Biden's Final International Trip Before Transition: Rome Visit from January 9-12

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden is scheduled to visit Rome from January 9 to January 12, marking what is expected to be his final international engagement before the handover of the presidency to Donald Trump. The White House confirmed the visit on Thursday, which will include high-profile meetings with key Italian officials and Pope Francis.

During his time in Rome, Biden will meet with Pope Francis, the head of the Roman Catholic Church, continuing a longstanding relationship with the pontiff. Biden, a devout Catholic, has maintained a cordial rapport with Pope Francis, particularly on global issues such as climate change, poverty, and human rights.

Additionally, Biden will hold discussions with Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, both of whom are expected to address pressing diplomatic and economic concerns during their meetings with the US leader. The talks are anticipated to focus on strengthening bilateral relations, Italy's role within



the European Union, and global challenges could set the stage for a continued US-It-such as the ongoing Ukraine crisis.

This trip comes as President Biden prepares to transition out of office following the upcoming inauguration of Donald Trump as the 47th President of the United States on January 12. Biden's Rome visit will be one of his final official diplomatic engagements, with many speculating it

aly partnership under the next administration. Biden's visit underscores the enduring importance of US-European ties, particularly with Italy, a NATO ally and key member of the European Union. The trip is expected to further cement the cooperation between the two nations as they navigate both shared regional and global challenges in the coming years.

Thailand says ASEAN will want inclusive Myanmar election



THAILAND: Thailand has urged Myanmar's military junta to ensure that all stakeholders are included in the upcoming election it plans to hold next year. This call for inclusivity comes as ASEAN members work to form a unified stance on Myanmar's political roadmap, Thai officials confirmed on Friday.

Foreign Minister Maris Sangiampongsa emphasized that ASEAN would want the election process to be inclusive, involving all relevant parties. Speaking in Bangkok after regional meetings, Sangiampongsa stressed that any political process in Myanmar must include diverse groups, acknowledging the importance of ensuring fair participation from opposition factions, which have largely been sidelined by the military government.

Myanmar's junta has been facing intense challenges, including ongoing armed resistance from rebels and the management of a deteriorating economy. The military's coup in February 2021 ended a decade-long experiment with democracy, leading to widespread protests and violence. Despite

the junta's efforts to push forward with an election scheduled for 2025, critics argue that the process is being manipulated to exclude opposition groups and perpetuate military control.

This week, Thailand hosted two regional meetings regarding the crisis in Myanmar. The first involved the junta and neighboring countries, including China, Bangladesh, and India, while the second was focused on discussions with ASEAN members. During the meetings, Myanmar's foreign minister briefed attendees on the military's political roadmap and the progress towards holding an election.

Maris stated that Myanmar's neighboring countries expressed support for Myanmar in finding solutions but stressed that the election must be inclusive. He also pointed out that ASEAN's support would align with its broader peace initiative for Myanmar, the "Five Point Consensus." However, despite ongoing efforts, this peace plan has seen limited success, with little progress made in de-escalating the conflict. Thailand's calls for inclusivity in Myanmar's election process underline the growing regional concern over the country's political stability and the need for a genuine dialogue among all factions.





Stocks Extend Losing Streak; Sensex Drops 1,176 Points, Nifty Ends at 23,587 Amid Fed Jitters

The impact of the US Fed's hawkish comments continued on Friday. Domestic stock market indices fell for the fifth consecutive day. The indices suffered their worst fall since 2022. Nifty crashed by 1200 points and Sensex by 4000 points in 5 sessions. Investors lost Rs. 19 lakh crore of wealth. The indices, which started flat this morning, rebounded for a while due to mixed signals from global markets. Investors immediately started taking profits and continued sell-



ing in IT shares, which immediately led to a run towards the ground. European markets fell further after the start. Nifty fell by 400 points and Sensex by 1350 points. FIIs leaving and weakening technicals led to negative sentiment.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 79,218 in the previous session, opened at 79,335 today. It touched an intraday low of 77,874. It reached an intraday high of 79,587. It finally fell 1176 points to end at 78,041. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,960 on Friday, touched a low of 23,537 and a high of 24,065. It fell by a total of 364 points to close at 23,587. The Bank Nifty fell 816 points to settle at 50,759.



JSW Steel, ICICI Bank, Nestle India, and HDFC Life were the top gainers. Tech Mahindra, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, M&M, Trent were the biggest losers. All sectoral indices were mixed today. In the Nifty50, 5 companies gained while 45 lost. Dr. Reddy's, Auto, IT, Realty, PSU Bank, Consumer Durables, Oil & Gas, Bank

and Finance indices were the biggest los-

Market breadth on NSE was in favour of sellers. Out of 2893 companies traded, 555 gained and 2270 lost. 74 companies hit 52week highs and 70 hit 52-week lows.

Rupee strengthened by 5 paise to settle at 85.02 against the dollar. 11 lakh shares changed hands in Union Bank of India. Nuwama has given a buy rating to SRF with a target price of Rs. 2628. DAM Advisors IPO received a response of 5.76 times on the second day. Motilal Oswal has given a buy rating to Anantraj with a target price of Rs 1100. Adami Group will invest Rs 200 billion in a thermal power plant in Bihar. Restaurant Brands Asia has approved to raise Rs 500 crore through QIP. 10 lakh

shares changed hands in Aditya Birla Fashion. Kothari Products shares rose by 20% on the proposal to issue bonus shares. NBCC received an order of Rs 200 crore from Oil India. Adani Enterprises recovered from four consecutive days of losses.

India Launches Investigation **Into Rising Steel Imports**

Tndia has launched an **⊥**investigation into the alleged surge in imports of certain steel flat products following a complaint from the Indian Steel Association (ISA). The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) announced that it would probe imports of Non-Alloy and Alloy Steel Flat Products, which are crucial for industries such as construction, manufacturing, auto production, tractor and bicycle manufacturing, capital goods, and electrical panels.



equipment manufacturing.

The investigation follows a formal application submitted by the Indian Steel Association, representing major steel players in India, including ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India, JSW Steel, Bhushan Power & Steel, Jindal Steel and Power, Steel Authority of India, and AMNS Khopoli. The application urges the government to impose safeguard duties on the imports of steel flat products, citing concerns over a significant increase in inbound shipments that could harm the domestic steel industry.

The steel products under investigation include hot rolled (HR) coils, sheets, and plates; HR plate mill plates; cold rolled (CR) coils and sheets; metallic-coated steel coils and sheets; and color-coated coils and sheets. These products are widely used in manufacturing processes across a variety of sectors, including infrastructure development, automotive production, and electrical

India's domestic steel industry has raised alarms about the growing imports of these products, arguing that the influx of foreign steel could undermine local manufacturers by driving down prices and creating an unfair competitive advantage. By seeking the imposition of safeguard duties, the ISA aims to protect Indian manufacturers from potential injury caused by the rising volumes of imported steel.

The investigation will examine whether the increase in imports has caused, or is threatening to cause, serious harm to India's domestic steel industry. If the DGTR's probe concludes that safeguard measures are necessary, it could result in the imposition of import duties designed to protect local steel producers and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Indian steel sector.

RBI board reviews global, domestic economic situation

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Central Board of Directors convened its 612th meeting on Friday, chaired by the newly appointed Governor Sanjay Malhotra. The meeting, which marked a key moment in the central bank's leadership transition, included a review of the global and domestic economic situation and its outlook. The RBI also acknowledged the contributions of Shaktikanta Das, who completed his extended six-year tenure as Governor earlier this month.

During the meeting, the board examined various economic factors, including trends in both global and local markets. The discussion also covered

Banking in India" for the fiscal year 2023-24.

The meeting was attended by several key figures from the RBI's leadership, including directors Satish K Marathe, Revathy Iyer, Sachin Chaturvedi, Venu Srinivasan, and Ravindra H Dholakia. In addition, the RBI's deputy governors - Michael Debabrata Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, T Rabi Sankar, and Swaminathan J – participated in the proceedings, contributing to the discussions on various policy matters.

Governor Malhotra's first meeting with the central board comes at a crucial time, as India navigates

the activities of key central office departments a complex global economic landscape, with chaland the draft report on the "Trend and Progress of lenges such as inflationary pressures, supply chain disruptions, and geopolitical tensions. The RBI's focus on reviewing both global and domestic factors reflects the importance of adjusting policies to ensure financial stability and promote sustainable

> The board's appreciation for Das' tenure, marked by his leadership during critical economic challenges, underscores the continuity and importance of the RBI's strategic direction. The insights gained from this meeting are expected to guide future RBI actions aimed at maintaining economic stability and promoting banking sector progress in the country.



Rupee Shows Signs of Recovery, Appreciates 6 Paise Against US Dollar

The Indian rupee showed signs of recovery on **▲** Friday morning, appreciating by 6 paise to 85.07 against the US dollar in early trade. This marked a slight rebound from its all-time low level, offering some relief to forex markets. However, forex traders indicated that the rupee could remain under pressure due to sustained demand for the US dollar, with the currency expected to continue facing challenges in the near term.

The recent strength of the US dollar is largely driven by expectations that the Federal Reserve will maintain a more hawkish stance in its monetary policy for 2025. The Dollar Index (DXY), which tracks the performance of the greenback against a basket of major currencies, is anticipated to stay elevated, with resistance near the 110 mark. This has put additional pressure on emerging market currencies, including the rupee.

Earlier this week, the Federal Reserve reduced interest rates by 25 basis points, but the central bank's forward guidance has been tempered. The market's previous expectation of up to four rate cuts in 2025 has been scaled back to just two, indicating that the Fed may not ease rates as significantly as previously anticipated. This has helped support the US dollar and weighed on other currencies globally.



On the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 85.07, gaining 6 paise from its previous close. Despite the initial recovery, the rupee was trading at 85.10 against the dollar later in the session, slightly above its record low. Analysts suggest that the rupee could face continued pressure from global factors, including the strength of the US dollar and the prevailing uncertainty in international markets.

Overall, while the rupee saw a modest recovery, the outlook remains uncertain, and the currency is expected to remain vulnerable to fluctuations in global market dynamics, particularly movements in the US dollar and US Federal Reserve policy de-

India's Merchandise Trade Deficit Hits Record High Amid Rising Gold Imports

growth.

Tndia's merchandise trade **L**deficit surged to an alltime high of \$37.84 billion in November, up from \$27.14 billion in October, primarily driven by a significant increase in gold imports, according to data released on December 16. The sharp rise

in inbound shipments of gold, which often fluctuates due to domestic demand and price changes, has contributed to the widening deficit.

Jitin Prasada, the Minister of State for Commerce, addressed concerns over India's growing trade deficit in a statement on December 20. He explained that much of the merchandise imported from China, including Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), auto components, electronic parts, and mobile phone components, are essential for manufacturing finished products that are later exported from India. This highlights the importance of these imports in supporting domestic industries and boosting exports in the long term.

Prasada emphasized that India's integration into Global Value Chains (GVC) means that imports play a crucial role alongside exports



for the country's economic success. "These goods are imported to meet the growing demand in sectors like electronics, pharmaceuticals, telecom, and power," he stated. He added that India's reliance on imports in these areas is driven by the

expanding domestic demand fueled by rising income levels, which continue to grow at a fast pace.

In the fiscal year 2023-24, India's total merchandise imports amounted to \$677.2 billion, with \$101.8 billion coming from China. This accounted for approximately 15 percent of India's overall imports. While India has been working to reduce its dependency on Chinese imports, especially in critical sectors, the growing demand for products in industries like electronics and pharmaceuticals makes it challenging to fully cut reliance on certain imports from China.

As India continues its economic integration into global supply chains, managing trade deficits while maintaining access to necessary imports remains a key challenge for policymakers.



OFF BEAT

Volcanic Remelting Could Reset the Moon's Age, New Study Suggests

Anew study suggests that the Moon's age may be much older than previously thought, potentially by over 100 million years. Researchers propose that volcanic remelting of the lunar surface could have reset the clock on the Moon's rocks, making them appear younger than their true age.

Scientists have long studied lunar samples brought back by the Apollo missions to understand the Moon's history. Early findings suggested that the Moon's surface was formed around 4.5 billion years ago, with rare lunar zircon minerals providing evidence of its ancient origins. Additionally, planetary simulations indicated that the Moon likely formed from a massive collision between Earth and another celestial body, which would have occurred no more than 4.4 billion years ago.

However, the new study presents a different perspective. According to the researchers, volcanic activity on the Moon, occurring around 4.35 billion years ago, may have caused its surface to remelt. This volcanic facelift could have effectively "reset" the age of the Moon's outermost rocks, masking their original formation date. As a result, the Moon's



surface may appear much younger than it actually is.

The study's findings challenge previous assumptions and open up new possibilities for understanding the Moon's true age. If the volcanic remelting hypothesis proves correct, it could push back the Moon's actual age by more than 100 million years, offering a more complex and detailed view of its early history. This discovery not only has implications for lunar studies but also for broader planetary science, as it suggests that volcanic processes can play a crucial role in shaping the age of celestial bodies.

Bua Noi, World's Loneliest Gorilla To Spend 36th Christmas In Thai Mall Zoo

Bua Noi, Thailand's only gorilla, will spend yet another Christmas confined to a grim concrete cage at Pata Zoo in Bangkok. Known as the "world's loneliest gorilla," Bua Noi has been imprisoned in the zoo since 1988, located on the sixth and seventh floors of a neglected shopping mall. Despite global protests and appeals from celebrities like Cher and Gillian Anderson, Bua Noi remains in captivity, living a life of isolation.

Gorillas are social animals native to Africa, typ-

ically living in family groups. However, Bua Noi has spent her entire life alone, surrounded by other animals such as orangutans, birds, langurs, flamingos, and sheep, but no gorilla companionship. Brought to Thailand at the age of three from Germany, she has endured over 35 years of confinement. With Christmas approaching, it seems unlikely that Bua Noi will be freed from her cage any time soon.

Pata Zoo was established in 1983 by businessman Vinai Sermsirimongkol, within the Pata Pinklao Department Store. The zoo's location has been heavily criticized, as it is situated in an abandoned shopping mall with limited space for the animals. Experts are concerned about Bua Noi's future, as the average lifespan of an Eastern Gorilla is over 40 years, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). There are growing fears that she may die in captivity before being given the chance to live freely in the wild.

The current owner of Pata Zoo, Kanit Sermsirimong-kol, has denied allegations of mistreatment and rejected claims that Bua Noi and other animals are poorly cared for. Recent reports suggested that the Sermsirimongkol family demanded a sum of Rs 7.4 crore for the release of Bua Noi. The zoo, however, has not responded positively to calls for her freedom, leaving the gorilla's future uncertain.

Zomato Launches Safety Response Program for Delivery Partners



Zomato, India's leading food ordering and delivery platform, has introduced the Accelerated Safety Response Program, a new feature designed to automatically detect accidents through its delivery partner app. When a crash is detected, the app triggers an emergency call to Zomato's central response system, which then dispatches an ambulance to the delivery partner's location. This automated process reduces the need for manual intervention, ensuring that critical time is not lost in emergencies, ultimately enhancing the safety and well-being of Zomato's delivery partners.

Anjalli Ravi Kumar, Zomato's Chief Sustainability Officer, emphasized the company's commitment to sustainability and safety, stating, "Sustainability is deeply ingrained in Zomato's core business ethos. We are steadfast in our commitment to prioritizing the safety and well-being of our delivery partners. The launch of our Accelerated Safety Response system is a testament to this commitment. The feature is designed to provide immediate support and assistance to our delivery partners in times of need." She further explained that through initiatives like this, Zomato integrates sustainability into every facet of its operations.

The program was officially launched during the second edition of the "Sustainability and Inclusivity: Role of the Platform Economy" Conference, organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), Invest India, DPIIT, and Zomato. Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, the Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, attended the event virtually as the Chief Guest. The conference concluded with attendees taking the 'Road Safety' pledge, committing to prioritize their own safety and contribute to the safety of others on the road.

Zomato has consistently launched initiatives to support its delivery partners, including the 'Shelter Project', real-time weather notifications, tax filing facilities, EV renting services, and maternity benefits. Since its inception in 2010, Zomato's mission has been to provide better food for more people, with a strong focus on the safety and welfare of its delivery workforce.

Instagram Developing Al Tool for Video Reimagination

Instagram is introducing a new artificial intelligence (AI)-powered feature that will allow users to transform their videos in creative ways. This cutting-edge video editing tool, based on Meta's Movie Gen AI model, will enable users to modify and enhance videos featuring real humans. Rather than generating videos from scratch, the tool will focus on improving videos already shot with cameras, offering users the ability to change various elements like outfits, backgrounds, and even personal appearances.

The new feature was teased by Instagram's Head, Adam Mosseri, in a Reel shared with followers. In the short video, Mosseri demonstrated some of the AI tool's capabilities, offering a sneak peek into the powerful editing options it will provide. While the feature is still in development, Mosseri indicated that it could be available to users next year.



In the demonstration, the AI tool showcased its ability to make impressive changes. For example, it altered Mosseri's outfit, adding a gold chain, and even placed a hippopotamus in a swimming pool in the background. The tool also combined multiple effects, making it appear as if Mosseri was sitting beside a snowy mountain or surrounded by a desert landscape. These examples illustrate how the tool can help users take their video content to new heights with minimal effort.

Instagram's new AI-powered video editor is expected to revolutionize the way users create and personalize content on the platform, offering an easy way to add creative elements and make videos more engaging. The feature aligns with the growing trend of AI in digital media, further cementing Instagram's commitment to enhancing user experience with

advanced technology.

Lab-Grown Mini Brains Not Only Survived In Space But Grew Healthier

In an astonishing discovery, researchers found that mini human brains, or organoids, not only survived in space but also grew healthier and matured faster than their Earth-bound counterparts. This groundbreaking experiment, conducted in 2019, aimed to understand how microgravity affects brain development, and the results have opened new doors for studying brain disorders.

The researchers had sent small brain organoids to the International Space Station (ISS) to observe how they would respond to the unique conditions of space, including the absence of gravity. The organoids were made from human brain cells and designed to replicate the complex processes that occur in an actual brain. The primary goal of the experiment was to examine how space conditions might influence the progression of brain diseases, such as Parkinson's disease, and to understand the impacts of microgravity on neuron function.

After a month aboard the ISS, the mini brains returned to Earth, where scientists were stunned by the findings. Not only had the organoids remained healthy despite being exposed to weeks of weightlessness, but they had also matured at an accelerated rate



compared to the same organoids grown on Earth. This faster maturation is significant, as it suggests that space conditions might stimulate certain aspects of brain development.

The researchers noted that while the brain organoids grew healthier, they also exhibited changes that were not expected. These unexpected results are leading scientists to reconsider the potential benefits of studying the effects of space on the human brain. The accelerated growth of the organoids may provide insights into how neural develop-

ment can be enhanced, potentially offering new strategies for treating neurological diseases.

This experiment marks a major step in understanding how microgravity affects the brain and offers promising avenues for future research, particularly in relation to brain health and disorders. As scientists continue to explore the mysteries of space and its effects on the human body, this discovery adds an exciting layer to the field of space biology.



India Beat Sri Lanka And Storm Into U19 Women's T20 Asia Cup Final

■U19 Women's T20 Asia Cup continued as they secured a four-wicket victory over Sri Lanka to reach the final, remaining unbeaten in the tournament. The match, which took place in the Super Four stage, saw India chasing down a modest target of 99 with 31 balls to spare.

The star of the day was Aayushi Shukla, who was the standout performer with the ball. The left-arm spinner delivered an exceptional spell, taking 4 wickets for just 10 runs in her four overs. Her efforts, along with Parunika Sisodia's two wickets, helped restrict Sri Lanka to a mere 98/9 in their allotted 20 overs. Despite a few decent individual contributions from Sri

Manudi Nanayakkara (33) and Sumudu Nisansala (21) — their total never seemed threatening. India's bowlers dominated, with the Lankan top order crumbling under pressure. A 22-run partnership between Nanayakkara and Nisansala was the highlight for Sri Lanka, but their efforts were quickly undone by a run-out.

India's chase didn't start ideally, as opener Ishwari Asware was run out on the very first delivery of the innings. However, G Kamalini (28) and Gongadi Trisha (32) steadied the ship with an important partnership, ensuring that India remained in control. Despite a brief Sri Lankan fightback led by leftarm spinner Chamodi Praboda (3/16),

India's dominant performance in the Lanka's top-order — notably captain who dismissed three Indian batters, India's lower order saw the chase through. Mithila Vinod, batting at number seven, played a crucial cameo, scoring an unbeaten 17 runs, and guided India home comfortably.

> This win marks India's third consecutive victory in the tournament, having previously beaten Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. The team will now look forward to the final, where they aim to extend their unbeaten streak and claim the title.

Sri Lanka: 98/9 in 20 overs (M Nanayakkara 33, S Nisansala 21; A Shukla 4/10)

India: 102/6 in 14.5 overs (G Trisha 32, G Kamalini 28; C Praboda 3/16).



PHF Awaits Government Clearance for Junior World Cup Participation

The Pakistan Hock-rederation Federation (PHF) has been instructed to secure government clearance before confirming its participation in the 2025 FIH Junior World Cup, scheduled to take place in India. PHF Secretary-General Rana Mujahid revealed that the team would need a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the federal government to travel to India for the prestigious event,

which will be held in December 2025.

Mujahid mentioned that while the Pakistani teams have typically been allowed to participate in major events in India despite strained relations between the two countries, this time the PHF has been explicitly told to first seek government approval before finalizing the squad and confirming participapermitted by our government to play in but now we need clearance before proceeding," he explained.

Pakistan qualified for the FIH Junior World Cup after finishing as runners-up in the Asia Cup held in Oman, where they lost the final to India 3-5. The Junior World Cup is seen as an important



event for the PHF as they aim to develop a strong senior squad capable of qualifying for future World Cups and the Olympics, something they have failed to achieve in the last two editions.

Mujahid also provided an update on domestic hockey, confirming that the National Senior Hockey Championship would take place in Karachi from Detion. "Normally, we have always been cember 27 to January 8. Despite facing financial challenges in recent years, the major events in India in recent years, PHF has made progress in clearing outstanding dues, including daily allowances for senior and junior team players and officials. The PHF Secretary also expressed optimism, citing government support and hope that the Sindh government would soon release its annual grant to the federation.

Tottenham Edge Manchester United 4-3 to Reach League Cup Semi-Final

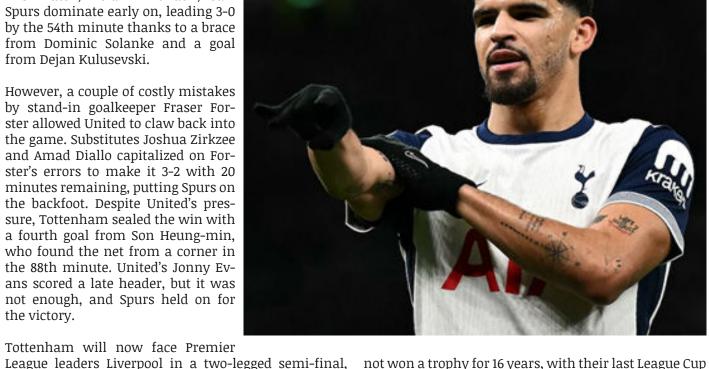
Tottenham secured a thrilling 4-3 victory over Manchester United on Thursday to advance to the League Cup semi-finals, keeping their hopes alive for their first trophy since 2008. The match, held in London, saw Spurs dominate early on, leading 3-0 by the 54th minute thanks to a brace from Dominic Solanke and a goal from Dejan Kulusevski.

However, a couple of costly mistakes by stand-in goalkeeper Fraser Forster allowed United to claw back into the game. Substitutes Joshua Zirkzee and Amad Diallo capitalized on Forster's errors to make it 3-2 with 20 minutes remaining, putting Spurs on the backfoot. Despite United's pressure, Tottenham sealed the win with a fourth goal from Son Heung-min, who found the net from a corner in the 88th minute. United's Jonny Evans scored a late header, but it was not enough, and Spurs held on for the victory.

Tottenham will now face Premier

while Arsenal will meet Newcastle in the other tie. Spurs boss Ange Postecoglou praised his team's resilience, despite the self-inflicted chaos. "It should have been more comfortable, but this group has done an unbelievable job," said Postecoglou. He also defended his attacking approach, stating that taking risks was essential for scoring goals and achieving success.

Tottenham, who are 10th in the Premier League, have



victory in 2008 under Juande Ramos. However, they are just one step away from a Wembley final in March, and Postecoglou remains confident in his ability to deliver a trophy in his second season at the club.

United, under new manager Ruben Amorim, had hoped to build on their dramatic 2-1 win over Manchester City in the Premier League, but their defensive lapses ultimately cost them against Spurs.

Bangladesh Make History, Whitewash West Indies 3-0 in Away T201 Series

Bangladesh created history on Thursday by sweeping West Indies 3-0 in their away T20 International series, dominating the third and final match with a commanding 80run victory. At the Arnos Vale Stadium in St. Vincent, Jaker Ali played a blistering knock of 72 not out from just 41 balls, leading his team to a formidable total of 189 for seven after captain Litton Das opted to bat first.

Ali's innings was the highlight of the day, as he struck six sixes and three fours, taking advantage of a major re-

18. However, replays showed he had made his ground just in time, and Jaker made the most of his second chance, putting the West Indies on the backfoot.

Despite the early setback, with opener Brandon King dismissed on the second delivery of the West Indies' chase, the hosts were never in contention. They were eventually bowled out for just 109 in 16.4 overs. Romario Shep-



herd top-scored for the West Indies with 33, but it was a dismal performance overall.

Bangladesh's spinners played a key role in the West Indies' collapse. Wrist-spinner Rishad Hossain led the way with three wickets for 21 runs, while Mahedi Hasan, who was named "Man of the Series," and Taskin Ahmed took two wickets each. Taskin started the rout by dismissing King and later sealed the win by dismissing Obed McCoy.

Debutant Parvez Hossain Emon set the tone for Bangladesh's in-

prieve when he was initially given run out at nings with a quick-fire 39 off 21 balls, laying the foundation for Jaker's explosive finish. The historic series victory marked a dominant performance from Bangladesh, with their all-rounders and bowlers contributing to a memorable win.

> The win was a fitting end to a brilliant series for Bangladesh, who outplayed the West Indies in all departments, creating a historic clean sweep on foreign soil.

Richa Ghosh and Smriti Mandhana Lead India to 2-1 Series Win Against West Indies

⊥ry over the West Indies in the third and final Women's T20I on Thursday, securing a 2-1 series win. This marked India's first T20I series victory on home soil since October 2019.

Richa Ghosh stole the show with a blistering knock, smashing a record-equalling fastest fifty off just 18 balls. She ended her explosive innings with 54 runs from 21 balls, including 3 fours and 5 sixes. Ghosh's incredible performance helped India reach a formidable total of 217/4, their highest ever in a T20I.

Smriti Mandhana also played a crucial role in India's command-

ing total, making a stylish 77 runs. Her solid and composed innings provided the backbone for the team's mammoth total, with 9 fours and 1 six. The duo of Ghosh and Mandhana combined to lay a strong foundation, ensuring India set a target beyond the West Indies' reach.

In response, the West Indies struggled to keep up with the required run rate, and despite some resistance, they were eventually dismissed for 157. India's all-round performance in both batting



and bowling dominated the West Indies, sealing the 60-run victory and securing the series.

This win was significant for India, not only because of the series victory but also as a confidence booster ahead of future international tournaments. With Ghosh and Mandhana leading the way, India demonstrated their T20I prowess and showed that they are a force to be reckoned with in women's cricket.

SCREEN

Pushpa 2 Grossing ₹1508 Crore Worldwide: A New Era for Commercial Cinema

 ${f R}$ eleased under the direction of Sukumar, Pushpa 2 has redefined the landscape of commercial cinema, setting unprecedented records at the box office. Starring the iconic Allu Arjun in the lead role, the film has taken the Indian film industry by storm, grossing an astounding ₹1508 crore worldwide. The monumental success of Pushpa 2 has not only broken box-office records but also earned a place in cinematic history as the fastest Indian film to reach this colossal figure.

The filmmakers are overjoyed by the overwhelming reception and the film's groundbreaking success. In a cele-

bratory post shared on social media, they proudly declared, "COMMERCIAL CINEMA RE-DEFINED. HISTORY MADE AT THE BOX OFFICE. #Pushpa2TheRule collects 1508 CRORES GROSS WORLDWIDE – the fastest Indian film to reach the mark.

The film has been a game-changer, surpassing several significant milestones at the box office. With its massive popularity, it has become a trailblazer in both domestic and international markets, with the Hindi version of the movie performing exceptionally well compared to the original Telugu version. This cross-language success has made *Pushpa 2* a pan-India phenomenon.

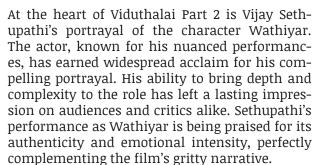


In a unique move, the poster of this record-breaking film included the director Sukumar's photograph for the first time alongside the usual presence of Allu Arjun. This symbolic gesture highlights the immense contribution of Sukumar to the film's success, marking a significant shift in how creators are recognized in blockbuster cinema.

Pushpa 2 stands as a testament to the evolving nature of commercial cinema, where storytelling, star power, and the creative vision of directors blend seamlessly to captivate global audiences. The film's triumph at the box office is not only a victory for its cast and crew but also a landmark achievement for the Indian film industry.

Vijay Sethupathi Shines in Viduthalai 2 Receives Positive Reviews

Viduthalai Part 2, the highly anticipated sequel to Vetrimaran's gripping franchise, hit theaters today, and early reviews suggest it has lived up to the expectations set by its predecessor. Known for his ability to capture real-life events on screen, Vetrimaran has once again delivered a powerful narrative that highlights the intense struggle between the tribal communities—referred to as the "children of the forest"—and the police. This gripping story, based on real events, continues to unfold with the same raw intensity and emotional depth that made the first part so impactful.



The film also features a strong supporting cast, including Suri and Manju Warrier, both of whom have garnered praise for their performances. Suri, in particular, is being lauded for his intense role, while Manju Warrier adds an emotional layer to the storyline with her portrayal of a significant character. Together, the ensemble cast has contributed to the film's success in terms of



both storytelling and emotional engagement.

The film's direction, screenplay, and cinematography have also been highlighted as major strengths in Viduthalai Part 2. Vetrimaran's vision continues to shine, with the sequel maintaining the high standards set by the first part. The real-world backdrop, combined with strong performances and a gripping plot, makes this a must-watch for fans of intense, socially relevant cinema.

Overall, Viduthalai Part 2 has received positive reviews, with audiences praising the performances, direction, and emotional weight of the story. The sequel has once again proven that Vetrimaran's filmmaking style remains one of the most impactful in the Indian film industry today.

Allari Naresh Bachchalamalli: A **Heartfelt Drama with a Powerful** Message Bachchalamalli, the latest release starring Allari Naresh, is movie that showcases the actor's versatility in a serious, tional journey between father and son, as well as

emotionally charged role. Known for his comedy roles, Naresh has earned recognition in emotional dramas like *Nandi* and *Ugram*, and *Bachchalamalli* continues this trend with a gripping, character-driven story. Directed by Subbu Mangadevi, the film is inspired by the real-life character of "Bachchalamalli" and offers a poignant reflection on life's mistakes, redemption, and relationships.

The film centers around Bachchalamalli (Allari Naresh), a man first half feels slightly slow, it is in the second half who spirals into self-destruction after a troubled past. Despite that the story picks up momentum, revealing the depth of the the film with her portrayal of Kaveri, and Rao Ramesh's supportexcelling academically in school, Bachchalamalli's life takes a characters and their emotional arcs. The film spans from the ingrole is one of the highlights of the movie. Technically, the film dark turn due to his father's betrayal of the family. Consumed by 1980s to 2005, providing a nostalgic and impactful backdrop for excels with its authentic feel and well-executed scenes, despite anger and resentment, he drowns his pain in alcohol, leading a the drama. life of irresponsibility and foolishness. His life takes a new direction when Kaveri (Amrita Iyer) enters his world, sparking a glim- Naresh delivers a standout performance as Bachchalamalli, per- Overall, Bachchalamalli is a heartfelt drama that relies heavily mer of hope and change. The story unfolds with Bachchalamalli fectly capturing the character's complexity and emotional range.

Bachchalamalli's evolving relationship with Kaveri, forms the crux of the narrative.

Bachchalamalli tells a story of mistakes, regret, and personal growth, with a strong societal message. Director Subbu Mangadevi highlights the irreversible consequences of foolish decisions, creating a film that is both cautionary and redemptive. While the

attempting to leave his vices behind, but his stubbornness and His portrayal of a foolish man struggling with his past is both Allari Naresh truly owning the film.



relatable and heartbreaking. Amrita Iyer adds a touching layer to some minor pacing issues.

on its lead performance and its thought-provoking message, with

NKR21: Kalyan Ram's Film Kicks Off New Schedule, Sohail Khan's First Look Revealed

The makers of NKR21, starring Nandamuri Kalyan Ram, have begun a new shooting schedule at the Aluminum Factory in Hyderabad. Kalyan Ram is actively participating in the ongoing shoot, marking another key phase in the film's production. In a special announcement, the team has revealed the first look of Sohail Khan, who plays the antagonist in the film, coinciding with his birthday.

The poster features Sohail Khan in a sleek black outfit that exudes both elegance and power. His calm expression contrasts with the intensity in his eyes, hinting at the formidable character he portrays. This has generated significant buzz among fans, who are eagerly awaiting his performance in the film.

NKR21 also features a strong supporting cast, including Vijayashanthi in a crucial role and Saiee Manjrekar as the female lead. Srikanth and Prithviraj, known for his role in Animal, will also play important characters, further



storyline. Directed by Pradeep Chilukuri, the film is progressing according to schedule, with each phase of production shaping up well.

The film is being produced on a grand scale by Ashoka Creations and NTR Arts, with Muppa Venkaiah Chowdary serving as the presenter. *NKR21* is set to captivate action movie enthusiasts, with high-octane action sequences that are expected to elevate the overall cinematic experience. The production team has focused on delivering a gripping narrative combined with intense action, ensuring the film will appeal to a wide audience.

With its star-studded cast, high expectations, and meticulous planning, *NKR21* is one of the most anticipated films in Telugu cinema. Fans are eagerly looking forward to seeing Kalyan Ram and Sohail Khan bring their respective characters to life on the big screen.

Ram Charan Heads to the USA for *Game Changer* Pre-Release Event

R am Charan is all set to attend the much-anticipated pre-release event of his upcoming film *Game Changer*, which will take place on December 21 at the Curtis Caldwell Center in Dallas, Texas. In a video message released earlier, Ram Charan expressed his excitement about meeting his fans in Dallas and shared his eagerness to be part of this special event as the film gears up for its release.

Recently, pictures surfaced of the actor at the Hyderabad airport, looking stylish in a beard look and a sleek black jacket. Charan's charismatic appearance has generated a buzz as fans eagerly await his arrival in the USA for the pre-release celebrations.

Directed by Shankar, *Game Changer* is a high-profile project that has generated significant excitement. The film is slated for release on January 10, with US premieres scheduled for January 9. Ram Charan plays the lead role, with actress Kiara Advani joining him in a pivotal role. The film also stars Srikanth and SJ Suryah in important roles, adding to the star power of the film. The music for *Game Changer* is composed by Thaman, while the film is produced by Dil Raju under his banner.

Fans are eagerly awaiting the pre-release event, which promises to be a grand affair. With the excitement building, *Game Changer* is expected to make a big impact at the box office, especially given Ram Charan's popularity and the



massive anticipation surrounding the film. The film's combination of star power, talented director, and gripping storyline has raised expectations to new heights.

As Ram Charan heads to the USA for this significant event, fans are buzzing with excitement, counting down the days until the release of *Game Changer* in January 2024.