



Weather Forecast

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

Tollywood's Shift Towards Andhra Pradesh

**Telangana's Ticket Price Policies Spark Industry Concerns
Andhra Pradesh's Film-Friendly Initiatives
Sankranti Releases Under Spotlight Amid Industry Shift
Future of Tollywood: A Growing Dependence on AP?**

TPN, **Pardhu** : Tollywood, India's renowned film industry, is witnessing an unexpected shift in focus. Recent decisions by the Telangana government, particularly concerning big-budget films, have sparked concerns among producers, especially with the Sankranti releases around the corner. The government's firm stance against increasing ticket prices and denying permissions for benefit shows has caused ripples across the industry. In contrast, the Andhra Pradesh government is seizing this opportunity to attract Tollywood's attention. By organizing film-friendly events and promoting scenic shooting locations, Andhra Pradesh has positioned itself as an appealing alternative for filmmakers.

Sandhya Theater Incident and CM's Announcement

The controversy surrounding the Sandhya Theater incident in Telangana has become a hot topic in Tollywood. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's announcement regarding ticket price regulation has drawn mixed reactions. Industry insiders argue that such controls pose significant challenges for big-budget films, which rely heavily on higher ticket prices and promotional events for profitability.

Andhra Pradesh Steps In
Andhra Pradesh is making strategic moves to lure the film industry. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kaly-

an and other officials have actively encouraged Tollywood producers to consider Andhra locations, particularly scenic spots like Araku. Efforts to promote tourism through collaborations with filmmakers have added to AP's appeal. Reports suggest that producers of high-profile films like **"Game Changer"** and **"Daku Maharaj"**—both slated for Sankranti release—are already in talks with AP authorities to secure permits for promotional events.

Tollywood's Next Steps

Prominent figures from Tollywood are set to meet Pawan Kalyan to discuss these developments. Additionally, plans are underway to engage with Chandrababu Naidu and other



er key representatives from Andhra Pradesh to explore opportunities for better event management and ticket pricing policies. The industry seems increasingly inclined towards Andhra Pradesh, leveraging the state's support for film promotions and shoots.

Future Implications

While opinions remain divided within Tollywood regarding Telangana's

policies, Andhra Pradesh is leveraging this situation to its advantage. If AP continues to offer favorable conditions for filmmakers, Tollywood's reliance on the state could deepen, potentially shifting the industry's center of operations. As Sankranti approaches, all eyes are on the decisions that will shape the future of Tollywood, with Andhra Pradesh poised to emerge as a key player in the film industry.

Rs. 50 Lakh Help for Revathi's Family

Producer Naveen Assists Victim's Family with Rs. 50 Lakh Stampede Highlights Need for Better Safety Measures

TPN, Hyderabad: Film production company Mythri Movie Makers has extended financial assistance of Rs. 50 lakh to the family of Revathi, who tragically lost her life in a stampede at Sandhya Theater, RTC Cross Roads, Hyderabad. The incident occurred during the premiere show of the highly anticipated movie Pushpa-2, produced by Mythri Movie Makers. On Monday, producer Naveen personally handed over the cheque to Revathi's family, offering support in their time of grief. This gesture follows actor Allu Arjun's earlier assurance of standing by the victim's family. The stampede, which took place on October 4, also left Revathi's son, Sree Tej, critically injured. He is currently receiving treatment at KIMS Hospital. Minister Komatireddy recently visited the hospital to check on his condition and provide support to the family.



Movie Makers' financial assistance is seen as a step toward alleviating the family's burden during this difficult time.

The tragedy has brought attention to the importance of safety measures during large-scale public events. Mythri

Deputy CM Bhatti RRR Project Receives Permissions

**Regional Ring Road: Approvals Secured, Tenders Imminent
Farmer Loan Waiver: ₹21,000 Crore Deposited in Two Months
Empowering Women: 1 Crore Millionaires & Solar Power Initiatives**



TPN, **Telangana** : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka announced that permissions for the construction of the Regional Ring Road (RRR) have been secured, and tenders will be called shortly. Speaking at a bankers' meeting at Praja Bhavan, he urged financial institutions to adopt a long-term

perspective to support Telangana's growth. Bhatti highlighted that the state government has achieved 81.57% of its target for Kharif season loans, disbursing ₹44,438 crore out of the ₹54,480 crore target. He urged banks to expedite the distribution of Rabi loans, with only a month left for completion.

The Deputy CM emphasized the government's commitment to supporting farmers, revealing that ₹21,000 crore has been deposited into banks under the farmer loan waiver scheme in just two months. Additionally, interest-free loans worth ₹20,000 crore are provided annually to transform beneficiaries into entrepreneurs.

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Patnam Narender Reddy Granted Anticipatory Bail

TPN, Hyderabad : In a significant development, former MLA and BRS leader Patnam Narender Reddy was granted anticipatory bail by the High Court on Monday in connection with a case registered at Bomraspet Police Station. The case predates the Lagacharla incident, for which Reddy had previously been granted bail. Narender Reddy had approached the High Court seeking protection from arrest in the Bomraspet case. The court, while granting bail, instructed him to fully cooperate with the ongoing investigation.

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Manchu Family Feud Escalates

**Manchu Manoj's Shocking Allegations
Against Brother Vishnu
Claims of Fund Misuse in Mohan Babu University
Intimidation Tactics: Power and
Water Supply Cut Off
Manoj Seeks Police Protection Amid Death Threats**

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Permissions

continued from P-1

In an ambitious initiative, the state aims to make one crore women millionaires within five years. Bhatti also shared that the government has signed an agreement to produce 1,000 megawatts of solar power through self-help group members, reflecting its commitment to green energy and women's empowerment.

Granted Anticipatory Bail

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Attack on Vikarabad Collector Linked to Reddy

In a related case, Vikarabad District Collector Prateek Jain recently faced an attack during a public opinion survey on establishing an industrial corridor in Lagacharla village, Kodangal constituency. The police have identified Suresh, a close associate of Patnam Narendar Reddy, as the individual responsible for inciting the attack.

Investigations uncovered frequent communication between Suresh and Reddy, prompting police allegations that Reddy masterminded the attack. Suresh has been arrested, and further inquiries are underway. These incidents have sparked political discussions, raising questions about Reddy's alleged involvement and the growing need for ensuring the safety of officials during public engagements.

Telangana Cabinet Meeting Scheduled for December 30



TPN, Hyderabad : The Telangana Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is set to convene on December 30 at the State Secretariat. Orders re-

garding the meeting were issued by Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari.

lated to the temple board's administration and future initiatives.

Key Agenda Points

- 1. Farmer Insurance and Ration Cards:** Discussions on procedures for issuing farmer insurance and ration cards are expected to take center stage.
- 2. Financial Aid to Landless Poor:** A scheme providing financial assistance to individuals without any agricultural land, who rely on daily wage work, will be reviewed. The government plans to use the National Employment Guaranteed Worker Identity Card to identify eligible beneficiaries.
- 3. Yadagirigutta Temple Board:** The Cabinet may deliberate on matters re-

Rythu Bharosa Scheme Update

The Cabinet will also discuss the cash transfer initiative under the Rythu Bharosa scheme, set to benefit farmers. The government plans to deposit funds into farmers' accounts starting January 14, coinciding with Sankranti. This scheme targets approximately 46 lakh families in the state who lack agricultural land.

The meeting is expected to finalize plans to streamline these schemes, ensuring effective implementation.

Hospital Delay Hurts Poor: Harish Rao

Rao Accuses Congress of Stalling Key Healthcare Project Warangal Super Specialty Hospital Remains Stagnant Rao Urges Government to Speed Up Construction Hospital to Provide Advanced Care for North Telangana

TPN, Telangana: Former Minister Harish Rao criticized the Congress government for its negligence in advancing the construction of the 24-storey super specialty hospital in Warangal district, a project initiated by KCR to provide high-quality medical care to the poor. During his visit to the site, Harish Rao expressed disappointment over the lack of progress despite the ambitious plans laid out by the Telangana government.

Harish Rao highlighted that the hospital, envisioned as a corporate-level facility for the underprivileged, was designed to accommodate 2,000 beds. The project also expanded its floor space from 1,600 SFT to 2,000 SFT to better serve the healthcare needs of North

Telangana. However, he lamented that there has been no significant development since the Congress government took charge.

"Our government had proposed to complete this state-of-the-art hospital by June 2024. However, the project remains stagnant. The poor continue to suffer from a lack of proper medical care," Rao remarked.

The hospital features a 14-floor tower for medical services and a 10-floor administrative block, standing 91 meters high. It was planned to deliver advanced treatments for heart, kidney, liver, and cancer diseases using cutting-edge technology. Rao accused the Congress government of stalling prog-



ress, likening its approach to "a chicken sitting on an egg."

He also took a swipe at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of undermining Congress leaders to gain power and shutting down welfare schemes. Rao criticized the rising crime rate under the Congress govern-

ment and alleged that it focuses on filing cases against those who question its inefficiency.

Rao urged the government to expedite the hospital's construction, emphasizing its importance for providing accessible healthcare to the region's poor.

Cine Exhibitors Back CM's Ticket Price Regulation



TPN, Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's decision to ban benefit shows in the state has been welcomed by the Telangana Cine Exhibitors Association. During a media conference held today, exhibitors expressed their gratitude to CM Revanth Reddy and State Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for addressing the issue of benefit shows.

Exhibitors clarified that such shows often lead to financial losses and disrupt regular ticket sales. They emphasized the need for movie ticket prices to remain within a fixed range to prevent exploitation. The association pointed out that ticket price hikes primarily benefit exhibitors, not producers, and stressed that increasing rates would push audiences toward OTT platforms.

Buchi Babu, an exhibitor, mentioned that the rise in ticket prices was driving audiences away from theaters. While acknowledging that actors should be allowed to attend benefit shows, he suggested that they plan their appearances in a way that doesn't disrupt the regular audience flow.

Exhibitors from Andhra Pradesh also praised Revanth Reddy's decision, expressing hope that the AP government would follow suit. They highlighted the inconvenience caused to moviegoers by rising ticket prices and urged a similar review of ticket rates in their state.

Meanwhile, in the wake of the tragic Sandhya Theater stampede, the Telugu Film Chamber has called a key meeting of producers, distributors, and exhibitors. The meeting will address recent developments and discuss support for the victim's family. Members of the chamber have been encouraged to contribute to the victim's family, with donations being collected in support of the young boy, Sreetej, affected by the incident.

Film Chamber Supports Sandhya Theater Victim

Hyderabad: The tragic incident at Sandhya Theater has been a topic of intense discussion in the Telugu states over the past few days. Following the remarks by CM Revanth Reddy in the assembly and a subsequent media conference by actor Allu Arjun, the incident has sparked widespread public attention.

In response, the Telangana Film Chamber of Commerce has taken a significant step to support the victims. The Chamber released a letter announcing that it would be collecting donations to aid the family of Sree Tej, who was severely injured in the incident. The Film Chamber has called on its members to contribute towards the welfare of Sree Tej, who is currently hospitalized. Meanwhile, Allu Arjun has pledged his support for the family of Revathi, who tragically lost her life in the incident. The actor confirmed that he would cover all the medical expenses for Sree Tej and provide any other necessary support to both families during this difficult time.

Kishan Reddy

Appointment Letters Issued Transparently

TPN, Telangana: Union Minister for Coal and Mines Kishan Reddy emphasized that appointment letters are being distributed transparently, without succumbing to recommendations, during the Rozgar Mela. Speaking at the event, Reddy handed over appointment letters to new recruits and highlighted India's progress in various sectors.



suggest a very short titles

He stated that India has achieved the number one position in digital transactions and is now manufacturing essential defense equipment domestically. Reddy expressed pride in the economic advancements under the Modi government, asserting that the administration has been strengthening the nation's financial foundation.

Meanwhile, Kishan Reddy criticized the Congress-led Telangana government, accusing it of politicizing the incident involving Tollywood actor Allu Arjun. He condemned the state administration for its approach to governance and claimed it was priori-

tizing politics over development.

Addressing unemployment, he remarked on the persistent issue in Telangana and praised the Modi government's efforts to fill vacancies in central departments. He noted that 9.25 lakh appointments have been made through the Rozgar Mela so far, with 7,000 appointment letters distributed nationwide on a single day. Reddy concluded by expressing confidence that India will emerge as the number one global economy by 2047.

Manchu Family Feud Escalates

TPN, Hyderabad : A fresh controversy has erupted in the Manchu family as actor Manchu Manoj has filed a complaint against his brother, Manchu Vishnu, and six others. The seven-page complaint alleges harassment, conspiracy, and threats to Manoj and his family.

In his complaint, Manoj accused Vishnu and his associates—Vinay Maheshwari, Vijay Reddy, Kiran, Raj Konduru, Shiva, and Vannuru—of causing harm to him, his wife, and his children. The allegations include a misuse of funds in Mohan Babu University and its associated trust. Manoj claimed that he was targeted for exposing financial irregularities and was subjected to intimidation tactics.

Key Allegations in the Complaint

- 1. Threats to Life:** Manoj alleged that Vishnu and his followers conspired to harm him and his family, even threatening their lives.
- 2. Tampering with Utilities:** He claimed that a fake letter was sent to the electricity department, allegedly signed by him, to cut off power to his house. Additionally, he stated that the water supply to his house was intentionally stopped.
- 3. Mental Harassment:** Manoj alleged that Vishnu and his associates were mentally torturing him to force him out of his house.



Manoj further requested police protection for himself and his family, citing ongoing threats. The feud within the prominent Tollywood family has shocked fans and the film industry. While Vishnu has yet to respond to the allegations, the police are reportedly examining the complaint and are expected to initiate an investigation.

This rift has cast a shadow over the Manchu family, raising questions about the alleged misuse of funds and internal conflicts within one of Telugu cinema's most influential families.



Singireddy Niranjana Reddy Criticizes Government on Irrigation Projects

TPN , Telangana: Former Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjana Reddy held a press conference at the Wanaparthy district center, sharply criticizing the current government, particularly Minister Revanth Reddy and Jupalli Krishna Rao. He questioned the credibility of claims made by Krishna Rao about development projects, asking, "Will development not come true just because parties change?"

Niranjana Reddy accused the government of

incompetence, particularly regarding the irrigation needs of the region. He criticized the government's claim of no irrigation water for Yasangi, calling it a sign of failure. He emphasized that the credit for completing irrigation projects in the joint Palamuru district, which benefited thousands of acres, should go to Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu (KCR), not the current administration.

The former minister also dismissed the Ko-

dangal lift irrigation scheme as ineffective, calling it a "waste" with no tangible benefits. He reminded the public that the Kalvakurthi Lift Irrigation scheme, which provided water to the region, was completed under KCR and Harish Rao's leadership.

Niranjana Reddy challenged the government's claims, stating that Jupalli Krishna Rao, despite his role as a minister, had failed to deliver water to any acre. He urged the government



to focus on the additional reservoir under Kalvakurthi and criticized the irrigation minister's lack of understanding of the Palamuru Rangareddy project.

Bandi Sanjay: Unemployment Worsens in Telangana

TPN , Telangana : Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay, expressed concern over the growing unemployment problem in Telangana. He highlighted the plight of thousands of job aspirants in Hyderabad's Ashok Nagar, struggling to make ends meet while preparing for competitive exams, often surviving on just one meal a day.

Speaking at the Rozgar Mela event at the National Industrial Academy in Hakimpet, Hyderabad, Bandi Sanjay praised the Modi government's consistent efforts to fill vacancies in central departments. He noted that Prime Minister Modi had promised 10 lakh jobs, of which 9.25 lakh appointments have already been made. On this single day, 71,000 appointment letters were distributed nationwide.

Sanjay lauded India's achievements under Modi's leadership, including its position as the world's fifth-largest economy and its top rank in dig-



ital transactions. He expressed confidence that India will become the leading global economy by 2047.

Criticizing the Congress and BRS governments in Telangana, Sanjay asserted that people have witnessed their governance but are yet to experience BJP rule. He predicted a BJP victory in the 2028 assembly elections, emphasizing that Modi's government delivers on its promises.

Sandhya Theater Stampede: Political Tensions Rise After Tragedy

TPN , Hyderabad : A tragic stampede at Sandhya Theater, RTC Cross Roads, during the premiere of *Pushpa-2* claimed the life of a woman, Revathi, and left her son in a coma. The incident has sparked a nationwide debate and political unrest in Telangana.

Congress leader Vijayashanti expressed concern, stating that the tragedy could create divisions among the people of Telangana. She criticized recent political reactions, accusing some parties of exploiting the situation for political gain.



Vijayashanti also accused the BJP of manipulating the tragedy for political advantage in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. She condemned BJP central ministers' accusations that the Telangana Congress government and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy were targeting the film industry, calling these claims baseless.

The incident has raised serious concerns about public safety, with authorities increasing security at the theater and vowing swift action against those responsible.

DK Aruna: Law and Order Collapsing in Telangana



TPN , Telangana: BJP leader DK Aruna condemned the recent attack on actor Allu Arjun's house by Osmania

University JAC leaders, calling the stone-pelting incident "inhuman" and strongly criticizing the deteriorating law and order situation under Telangana's Congress-led government. She urged senior police officials to take strict action against the culprits and ensure such incidents do not recur.

DK Aruna alleged a possible Congress conspiracy behind the attack and accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of allowing political enmity with KTR to spill over into the film industry. She stated that targeting the industry is inappropriate and counterproductive.

Former Andhra Pradesh Minister Ambati Rambabu also condemned the

incident, holding the Telangana government accountable for the breach in security. He voiced his concerns on X, criticizing the lack of preventive measures.

The incident occurred when OU JAC leaders protested at Allu Arjun's residence, demanding justice for the victims of the recent stampede at Sandhya Theater. In the attack, some flower pots were destroyed, and attempts were made to breach the premises. Police intervened, detaining six individuals and registering cases against them. Security around Allu Arjun's house has since been tightened.

MLC Kavitha Accuses CM Revanth of Betraying Farmers

TPN , Hyderabad: BRS MLC Kavitha has launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of adopting a "two-faced attitude" by making promises during elections and reneging on them after coming to power. Kavitha alleged that the Congress-led state government is attempting to auction the lands of farmers who have taken loans from Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies.

Addressing the media, Kavitha condemned the government's actions, describing them as harassment of farmers to recover debts. She expressed outrage over the alleged attempts to auction agricultural lands in Mylaram, Durki, Nasrullabad, Mirzapur, and Nachupalli in Kamareddy district. Kavitha criticized the government for failing to waive loans as promised and instead pressuring



farmers to repay, likening the actions to those of a dictatorial regime.

"During his election campaign, Revanth Reddy assured support to the farmers and communities such as the Ankol Tanda. However, after assuming office, he has turned against them, betraying their trust. This is clear proof of his deceptive attitude towards farmers," Kavitha said.

The MLC called on the state govern-

ment to immediately stop the auctions and provide relief to farmers. She emphasized that instead of pushing farmers into further distress, the government should focus on delivering on its promises, including loan waivers and support for agricultural development.

The issue has sparked widespread criticism from the opposition and farming communities, who are demanding that the government address their concerns without resorting to extreme measures like land auctions.

The controversy adds to the growing tensions between the BRS and Congress in Telangana, highlighting the ongoing political battle over governance and support for rural communities.

Congress Launches Statewide Protests Against Amit Shah's Comments

TPN , Hyderabad: AICC Telangana in-charge Dipadas Munshi announced a week-long protest program condemning Union Minister Amit Shah's comments on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The Congress Party is demanding Amit Shah's resignation and dismissal, with plans to submit formal requests to District Collectors across Telangana.

As part of the campaign, tributes will be paid to Dr. Ambedkar's statues at Mandal and District Headquarters. Rallies will be organized from these statues to the local District Collector's offices, underscoring the party's demand for justice. "We are committed to protecting the dignity of Ambedkar and will ensure that

our voices reach the highest levels of government," Munshi stated.

The Congress Party will also forward these requests to the President of India, seeking immediate action against the Union Minister. Munshi emphasized that this movement aims to uphold Ambedkar's legacy and stand against any attempts to undermine his contributions to the nation.

The protest program begins tomorrow and is expected to witness active participation from Congress leaders, party workers, and the public, as they rally to defend the ideals of equality and justice championed by Dr. Ambedkar.



KTR Pays Tribute to Former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao

TPN , Hyderabad: On the death anniversary of former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, BRS Working President KT Rama Rao (KTR) paid heartfelt tributes to the legendary leader. PV Narasimha Rao, an economist, statesman, and multilingual scholar, was hailed by KTR for transforming India through landmark economic reforms and guiding the nation during challenging times.

KTR expressed pride in PV's Telangana roots and acknowledged his contributions to shap-

ing modern India. He highlighted PV's pivotal role in steering the country out of an economic crisis and laying the foundation for its growth and global recognition.

KTR recalled the efforts of the KCR-led Telangana government in honoring PV Narasimha Rao. He mentioned the grand centenary celebrations organized by the state, renaming Necklace Road as PV Marg, and installing a statue in his memory. Additionally, the Veterinary University in Telangana was named

after PV, reflecting the government's commitment to preserving his legacy. KTR also pointed out that the state government had passed a resolution urging the central government to confer the Bharat Ratna on PV Narasimha Rao. He noted the recognition given to PV's family, including appointing his daughter as an MLC.

In a tweet, KTR referred to PV as "Bharat Ratna PV" and "Telangana Thivi" (Pride of Telangana), concluding with, "Johar PV!"



Six Accused Granted Bail in Allu Arjun House Attack Case



TPN , Hyderabad: In a recent development, six individuals accused of attacking actor Allu Arjun's residence have been granted bail. The incident occurred following a tragic stampede at Sandhya Theater during the screening of Allu Arjun's movie *Pushpa 2*, which claimed the life of Revathi. Her son, Sri-teja, is critically injured and undergoing treatment in the hospital.

Outrage over the incident led leaders of the Osmania University Joint Action Committee (OU JAC) to besiege Allu Arjun's residence, accusing the actor of failing to provide justice to Revathi's family. In the ensuing protest, the agitators caused significant damage to the actor's property.

The police swiftly intervened and detained six protesters, identified as Reddy Srinivas, Mohan, Nagaraju, Naresh, Prem Kumar, and Prakash. A case was registered under multiple sections, including BS 331(5), 190, 191(2), 324(2), 292, 126(2), and 131.

The accused were produced before the judge, who granted them bail on the condition of furnishing two sureties and a deposit of Rs. 10,000 each.

This incident has sparked widespread discussions about security, responsibility, and the fallout from public grievances in high-profile events. The condition of Sri-teja remains critical.

DCP Announces Action Against ACP Vishnumurthy

TPN , Hyderabad : Central Zone DCP Akshansh Yadav has announced disciplinary action against ACP Pabbati Vishnumurthy, who is currently under suspension, for violating protocol by holding a press conference to criticize actor Allu Arjun.

"Vishnumurthy conducted a press meet without prior permission, which is a clear violation of rules. We will take strict disciplinary action against him. Such behavior will not be tolerated, especially comments about Allu Arjun," stated DCP Yadav.

ACP Vishnumurthy, during a media conference at the Hyderabad Press



Club, made sharp remarks against the actor, accusing him of making inappropriate comments about the police for personal gain. He questioned whether a celebrity accused in a case could hold a press conference and criticized actors and politicians for allegedly undermining the police force.

Vishnumurthy's statements included allegations that actors avoid responsibility in incidents like the Sandhya Theater stampede and claimed that police officers are being unfairly targeted.

Notably, Vishnumurthy was previously suspended over a corruption case during his tenure as the ACP of the Nizamabad Task Force. He is not part of the investigation team handling the Allu Arjun case.

The controversy has raised questions about discipline within the police force and the boundaries of free speech for suspended officers.

Drugs Seized in Madhapur's Ayyappa Society: Two Arrested

TPN , Madhapur: The Special Task Force (STF) conducted raids in Ayyappa Society, Madhapur, following information about illegal drug activities. Acting on credible intelligence, the STF team apprehended two individuals involved in the sale of narcotics.



to the accused.

During the operation, 3.2 grams of MDMA and 66 grams of marijuana were seized. One of the accused has been identified as Pamuparthi Navdeep Sai Charan, who was allegedly selling the drugs in the area.

Authorities have registered a case against the two individuals under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The seized substances were sent for further analysis, and investigations are ongoing to uncover any possible network linked

The STF has intensified its efforts to combat drug-related activities in the region and has urged citizens to report suspicious activities to local authorities. This operation highlights the department's commitment to curbing the illegal drug trade and ensuring public safety in Madhapur.

Nakshatra Hotel Staff Allegedly Attacks Customers

TPN , Vikarabad: In a shocking incident near Chittampalli Gate in Pudur Mandal, employees of Nakshatra Hotel reportedly attacked villagers from Ghanapuram, Chevella Mandal, with lathis.



The incident occurred when the villagers raised a complaint about a scabbard (gasni) found in their biryani. They informed the hotel staff, who escalated the matter to the management. Allegedly, the hotel owner confronted the villagers and accused them of causing trouble during their visits.

hostility and used excessive force without provocation.

Following this, the hotel staff reportedly followed the villagers and attacked them with lathis, leaving the victims injured and shaken. The victims have alleged that the management acted with

The police have been informed of the incident, and an investigation is underway. Local residents have condemned the actions of the hotel staff and demanded strict action against those responsible. Authorities are urged to ensure justice for the victims and prevent such incidents in the future.

Bhatti Unveils Plans to Make Women Millionaires

TPN , Hyderabad : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu attended the 31st Foundation Day program of the Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India at Daspalla Hotel, Madhapur, Hyderabad, where he spoke as the chief guest.



During his speech, Bhatti Vikramarka emphasized the Telangana government's commitment to women's empowerment. He stated, "We will respect every woman as Mahalakshmi and aim to make them millionaires. This is the goal of the Indiramma Praja government."

He highlighted key initiatives, including the action plan to establish Mahila Shakti Bazaars in every district to promote products made by Dwakra women's groups. The government is also providing interest-free loans of Rs. 20,000 crores this year to support these groups, with a target of Rs. 1 lakh crore in the next five years.

up. He also pointed to the inclusion of women in solar power projects, ensuring they have the financial backing to set up plants and sell generated electricity.

The government's efforts extend to women's mobility, with over one crore women benefitting from free RTC bus travel through the Mahalaxmi scheme.

Bhatti Vikramarka outlined plans to support women entrepreneurs through industrial parks in 119 assembly constituencies and offer land and loans for industry set-

Bhatti Vikramarka and Minister Sridhar Babu also inspected stalls set up by women entrepreneurs and presented the Best of the Best awards to deserving women.

Cyber Bureau Targets ATM Fraudsters, Arrests 21

TPN , Hyderabad : Telangana CID DG Shikha Goyal recently discussed the evolving tactics of cyber criminals and the Cyber Security Bureau's efforts to tackle them. In a significant operation, the Cyber Security Bureau arrested 21 individuals withdrawing stolen foreign money from ATMs, a shift from the typical online fraud methods. The gang had been moving fraudulently obtained funds from mule accounts in Hyderabad to cyber criminal accounts.

While releasing the 2024 annual report of the Cyber Security Bureau, Shikha Goyal revealed a troubling rise in cyber crimes, which have increased by 18-20% this year. She noted that the Bureau has recovered ₹176 crore and returned it to the victims. Additionally, 1,057 cyber criminals have been arrested, with involvement in 19 cases in Telangana. The Bureau has blocked 9,800 IMEI numbers and taken action against multiple fraudulent websites. A special desk has also been set up to raise awareness and clarify cyber crime-related queries.



Chikkadapalli Police Issue Notices to Allu Arjun



TPN , Hyderabad : The Chikkadapalli police in Hyderabad have issued notices to actor Allu Arjun, asking him to appear for questioning at 11 am tomorrow in connection with the stampede incident at Sandhya Theater on December 4. The tragic incident occurred during the *Pushpa-2* premiere, leading to the death of a woman named Revathi, while her son is currently being treated at KIMS Hospital, Secunderabad.

Allu Arjun was initially arrested in the case and later produced in court. The High Court granted him interim bail for four weeks, and he is currently out on bail. However, following the recent developments, the police have issued fresh notices, with indications that they may seek the cancellation of his interim bail in court. The investigation into the incident continues, with authorities working to determine the circumstances surrounding the stampede.

Transgenders to Serve as Traffic Assistants in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad: In a significant step towards inclusivity, 39 transgender individuals will begin serving as traffic assistants in Hyderabad starting today. These individuals, hailing from various districts of Telangana, have undergone a 15-day training program to prepare for their roles in assisting the city's traffic management.

Hyderabad Commissioner of Police, C.V. Anand, announced the initiative and emphasized that their performance and discipline while on duty

will determine their future opportunities in the department. The deployment aims to provide a platform for transgender individuals to contribute meaningfully to society while fostering inclusivity in public service roles.

The initiative has been widely welcomed as a progressive move towards breaking societal barriers and empowering the transgender community. The trained traffic assistants will help manage vehicular flow, assist commuters, and ensure smoother traffic operations across the city.

The program not only marks a milestone for the Hyderabad Traffic Police but also serves as an example for other cities to embrace diversity and equality. It is expected to boost confidence among the transgender community and encourage more such initiatives in the future.

This deployment reflects the commitment of the Telangana Police to promote diversity and create inclusive opportunities for all sections of society.



Minister Seethakka Criticizes Movie Industry's Response to Fan's Death



TPN, Mulugu District: Minister Seethakka has expressed her concerns regarding the recent incident involving a fan's death at a movie theater during the release of Pushpa-2. She commented on the situation, emphasizing the importance of following the law and protecting the rights of the people.

Seethakka expressed sadness over the fan's tragic death, stating it was unfortunate that the actor of the movie, Allu Arjun, did not visit the deceased fan's family or offer condolences. She also criticized the behavior of other actors who visited Allu Arjun instead of helping the grieving family, stating that such actions made it seem as though it was wrong for a fan to visit a movie theater.

The Minister clarified that neither the Congress party nor CM Revanth Reddy expressed anger toward Allu Arjun, but stressed that any wrong actions should be addressed according to the law. She affirmed that those who act excessively will face punishment, reinforcing the need for law and order to maintain peace and discipline.

Seethakka also addressed recent comments made by BJP leaders, urging them to respect the Constitution of India and recognize the rights it guarantees to all citizens. She pointed out that the film Jai Bhim, which delivers a positive social message, had not been given any awards, while films about smuggling were being praised and awarded. Seethakka criticized the portrayal of constitutional officers in such films and condemned Union Minister Amit Shah's remarks belittling Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, asserting that without Ambedkar's Constitution, leaders like Amit Shah and Prime Minister Modi would not hold their positions. While Seethakka expressed support for the film industry, she emphasized that films should not cause harm or distress to the public. She concluded by asserting that the law, as laid out by the Constitution, must be followed by everyone, ensuring equality for all.

Auto Driver Creates Ruckus by Attacking Cell Tower in Nalgonda Over Unregistered Case

TPN, Nalgonda: An auto driver in Kattangur mandal created a disturbance by attacking a cell tower after alleging that the police had not registered a case following an assault on him. The incident occurred near the Aitipamula National Highway in Kattangur mandal.

Chilumula Chintalu, an auto driver from Cheruvu Annaram village, reported being attacked and injured by a group of individuals two days ago in Nakirekal town. He filed a complaint with the Nakirekal police, but claims that no action was taken. Frustrated by the lack of response, Chintalu climbed onto a Reliance cell tower near the highway, demanding justice for the assault.

The situation caused a ruckus, drawing attention from the public and authorities. Upon receiving reports, the police arrived at the scene and assured Chintalu that a case would be registered against those responsible for the attack. Following the assurance, Chintalu descended from the tower and was taken to the police station for further action.



Telangana Student Dies Under Suspicious Circumstances in America



TPN, Hanamkonda: A 25-year-old student from Telangana has tragically died under suspicious circumstances in Minnesota, USA. Bandi Vamsi, a resident of Madannapet, Kamalapur mandal, Hanamkonda district, had moved to the United States in July last year to pursue higher studies in MS while working part-time.

Vamsi was found dead in a car on the ground floor of the apartment where he was staying on Sunday. The body was discovered by fellow students from Hanamkonda district, who were living in the same apartment complex. They immediately notified his family members, and the news has left his hometown of Madannapet in shock.

Vamsi's untimely death has raised concerns, especially given the recent series of deaths of Indian students in the United States. His parents are devastated by the loss of their son, as they struggle to cope with this heartbreaking incident. Further investigations are underway to determine the cause of death.

Chhattisgarh Security Forces Destroy Largest Maoist Monument in Bijapur District



TPN, Chhattisgarh: In a major operation, security forces have destroyed a towering 62-foot monument erected by Maoists in Komatpally, a Maoist stronghold under the Tarrem police

station limits in Bijapur district. The destruction of this monument has become a sensation, marking a significant achievement in the ongoing fight against Maoist insurgents in the region.

The operation was a joint effort involving the District Reserve Guard (DRG), Special Task Force (STF), Cobra battalions 210 and 205, BDS, and CARIPU. Given the area's reputation as a highly Maoist-affected zone, senior Chhattisgarh police officials were on-site, closely monitoring the operation to ensure its success and security. The destruction of the monument is seen as a symbolic blow to the Maoists' presence and influence in the region.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Conducts Surprise Inspection at Husnabad Gurukul School



TPN, Husnabad: Minister Ponnam Prabhakar conducted a surprise inspection at the Social Welfare Gurukul School in Jillallagadda, Husnabad, to assess the facilities and services provided to students. During the inspection, the Minister focused on the quality of food and the general upkeep of the school's hostel.

The Minister noted that after the recent increase in diet charges, it is essential for students to follow the prescribed menu to ensure they receive balanced and nutritious meals. He emphasized the importance of providing quality food to the students and instructed the concerned authorities to ensure that the menu is adhered to strictly. In addition to the food quality, Minister Prabhakar observed the surrounding environment of the hostel. He ordered officials to clear the bushes and maintain the cleanliness of the area for the safety and well-being of the students. He

also inspected the hostel's water plant and instructed that the water tanks be cleaned regularly to ensure clean and safe drinking water for the students.

Further, the Minister directed the principal to plant useful and beneficial trees and plants on the school grounds. He specifically recommended planting trees like munaga, guava, and mango, as well as vegetable plants, to provide both aesthetic value and practical benefits to the school community. The surprise visit by Minister Ponnam Prabhakar reflects his commitment to improving the conditions of social welfare institutions and ensuring that students have a safe, healthy, and conducive environment for their studies. The Minister's directions are expected to enhance the overall facilities at the Gurukul School in Jillallagadda.

Wife Kills Husband in Nallamala Forest Area After Heated Quarrel

TPN, Nagarkurnool: A shocking incident occurred in the Nallamala forest area when a wife brutally killed her husband in the middle of the night after a domestic quarrel. The incident has sent shockwaves through the village of Chenampally, in Lingal Mandal, where the couple lived with their three children.

Ramulu, a shepherd, and his wife Yellamma had been facing ongoing marital issues due to Ramulu's addiction to toad, a drug, and his failure to participate in the family's livelihood of herding sheep. The couple had been fighting frequently, with the quarrels intensifying in recent days due to Ramulu's refusal to go with the sheep.

On the night of the incident, the argument escalated, and after the dispute, the couple went to sleep. However, in the middle of the night, Yellamma, apparently overcome by anger, attacked her husband with a rock while he was asleep. Ramulu, who was intoxicated and unable to resist, was struck multiple times, leading to his death.

The locals, who discovered the crime the next morning, alerted Ramulu's family and the authorities. Neighbors mentioned that the couple's



addiction to toad and their frequent quarrels had been a source of tension in the household for some time.

Police arrived at the scene, gathered details, and have registered a case, initiating an investigation into the tragic incident. The villagers are left reeling from the shock of this violent act, especially as Ramulu's two daughters and one-year-old son now face an uncertain future, with their mother likely to be incarcerated.

The incident has stirred up strong emotions in the nearby forest villages, highlighting the deep tensions within a family struggling with addiction and domestic strife.

KTR Extends Best Wishes to Singareni Workers on Foundation Day



TPN, Singareni: On the occasion of Singareni's foundation day, BRS Working President and Sirsilla MLA KTR extended his best wishes to the Singareni family members, lauding the historic public sector enterprise for its significant contributions to Telangana and the nation. He referred

to Singareni as "Telangana Kongu Bangaram," praising it for being a cornerstone of the state's development.

KTR highlighted Singareni's role as the first public sector enterprise in India, which has provided employment to thousands and played a crucial role in meeting the country's electricity demands. With a history spanning over a century, Singareni has consistently set new records in coal production and has become a vital resource for Telangana's economy.

During his address, KTR expressed strong support for Singareni workers, declaring that the BRS party would oppose any attempts by the central or state governments to privatize the coal mines. He assured the workers of the party's unwavering solidarity, emphasizing that the unity of Singareni's workforce should continue to thrive. "Jai Singareni!" KTR exclaimed, reinforcing his commitment to standing by the workers and management of Singareni.

Amit Shah and Ambedkar: The Hard Facts Behind the Controversy

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has long been a polarizing figure in Indian politics. A strong and decisive leader, Shah's tenure has been marked by bold policies and significant achievements. However, his recent remarks about Dr. B.R. Ambedkar have sparked controversy, particularly among opposition parties. While Congress has criticized Shah's comments, it's important to examine the historical context and track record of the Congress party in relation to Ambedkar's legacy, as well as the Modi government's commitment to upholding Ambedkar's principles.

Amit Shah's leadership has been defined by a series of impactful decisions and reforms. Under his watch, the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir was a game-changing move, which resulted in a drastic reduction in violence and improved security in the region. Stone-pelting incidents dropped to zero, terror attacks decreased by 69%, civilian casualties fell by 80%, and armed forces' casualties dropped by 44%. This monumental shift in Kashmir's security landscape can be largely attributed to Shah's tireless efforts and strategic approach.

In the fight against Naxalism, Shah has delivered impressive results. Over 287 Naxalites have been neutralized, and more than 1,000 arrests have been made. Additionally, 837 individuals have surrendered in recent times, with the government also providing significant support to those living in Naxal-affected



regions, including the approval for the construction of 15,000 houses.

Despite these achievements, Shah's comments about Ambedkar have ignited a political firestorm. However, it is essential to recognize that the Congress party's own record regarding Ambedkar's legacy has been a topic of controversy. While Congress claims to champion Ambedkar's values, the party's actions over the years have often been inconsistent. In stark contrast, the Modi government, under Shah's leadership,

has made a concerted effort to honor Ambedkar's legacy. From promoting his values of equality and social justice to ensuring that his contributions are celebrated, the current government has consistently upheld Ambedkar's principles.

As the debate over Shah's remarks continues, it's crucial to focus on the facts. While the opposition may criticize his comments, the track record of the Modi government in safeguarding and promoting Ambedkar's legacy remains clear.

The Places of Worship Act: Unconstitutional, Immoral, and Anti-Secular



The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, passed by the Congress-led Narasimha Rao government, was aimed at preserving social harmony during the aftermath of the Ayodhya dispute. However, its provisions are deeply flawed and violate the moral and constitutional fabric of India. The Act, rather than fostering secularism, condones past injustices and suppresses the Hindu community's rightful claims to religious spaces.

The crux of the Act lies in its two most controversial provisions: Section 3, which prohibits converting the religious character of any place of worship, and Section 4, which locks the status of places of worship as they existed on August 15, 1947, and bars any future legal challenges on these matters. By denying any recourse to judicial review, this Act fundamentally undermines the right of citizens to seek justice and redress through the courts. This provision contradicts the basic structure doctrine of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees the right to judicial review, as affirmed by the Supreme Court in various judgments, including Kesavananda Bharati and Anita Kushwaha v. Pushap Sudan.

Morally, the Places of Worship Act is deeply problematic. The Act maintains the status quo of places where Hindu temples were destroyed and mosques were built on their sites during periods of Muslim rule and colonialism. These acts of iconoclasm were not just crimes but a historical denial of the rights of Hindus. By preventing any legal challenges to these actions, the Act effectively condones these historical wrongs, giving them a form of legal legitimacy. This is morally indefensible, as it ignores the suffering and victimization of the Hindu community.

The Act also conflicts with the principles of secularism. Secularism is not about maintaining a false equilibrium by suppressing one community's rights to appease another. True secularism requires equal respect for all religions, and the Places of Worship Act, by denying justice to Hindus, undermines this fundamental tenet. Furthermore, it perpetuates communal disharmony by protecting the symbols of past religious intolerance under the guise of social peace.

Internationally, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples emphasizes the need for restitution and protection of cultural and religious property. The Places of Worship Act, by denying Hindus the right to challenge the status of religious sites, directly violates this principle, further solidifying the Act's unjust nature.

In conclusion, the Places of Worship Act is an immoral and unconstitutional law that undermines justice, secularism, and the rights of Hindus. It must be struck down by the Supreme Court to restore the sanctity of India's democracy and uphold its commitment to justice and equality for all.

Unconventional Leadership: The Shifting Global Landscape

In the year 2024, bold, unconventional leaders have reshaped the world stage with radical ideas that challenge established norms. Much like the legendary Alexander the Great, who cut the Gordian knot to conquer Asia, today's leaders have used sharp rhetoric and drastic policies to tackle entrenched problems. These mavericks, often dismissed as too radical, are testing the limits of traditional governance, and their actions are altering the global political landscape.

One such leader is Argentina's President Javier Milei, who, after defeating Peronist candidate Sergio Massa, launched a campaign centered on drastic economic reforms. A self-described anarcho-capitalist, Milei famously wielded a chainsaw to symbolize his intention to dismantle Argentina's bloated public sector. He slashed government spending on infrastructure, education, healthcare, and social services, and took a hard line against inflation, which had crippled the nation. Milei's shock therapy has shown some signs of success, with inflation dropping from 211% to 193%, and foreign reserves rising by \$11 billion. However, the reforms have also led to rising unemployment and increased poverty. While the economy is stabilizing, Milei's success or failure will depend on whether the short-term pain leads to long-term gain.



Across the Atlantic, former U.S. President Donald Trump has made a surprising political comeback, reclaiming the White House with his brash, no-nonsense approach. His bold stance on foreign policy and business deregulation has earned him the support of powerful figures like Masayoshi Son and Gautam Adani, signaling the massive influence he continues to wield. Trump's foreign policy is grounded in non-interventionism, focusing on U.S. interests while allowing other global powers to manage their own conflicts. This shift in American strategy has forced allies like NATO and Israel to reevaluate their approach to security and diplomacy.

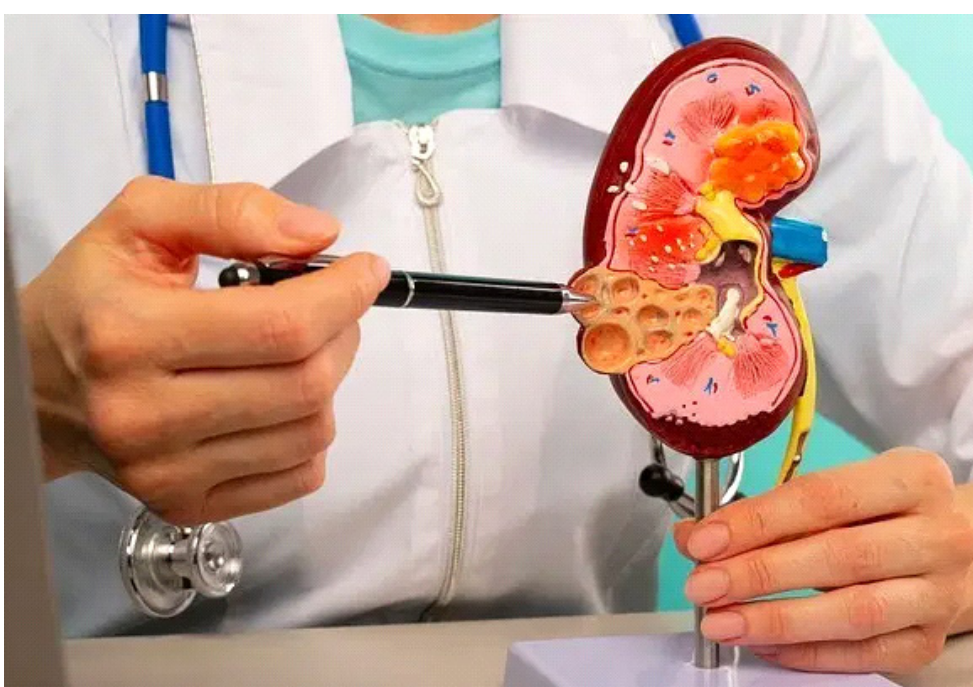
Meanwhile, in Turkey, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has tackled a complex regional issue by backing rebel forces in Syria to evict Bashar al-Assad, dramatically shifting the power balance in the Middle East. His leadership has also challenged Russia's influence in the region, notably in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, where Turkey helped Azerbaijan wrest control from Armenia. These actions have reshaped alliances and given Erdogan greater leverage in the region.

In countries like Argentina, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, the window for drastic measures is narrowing. As the global political climate evolves, these nations may also see the rise of leaders willing to break from traditional approaches.

Hope for Organ Shortages: Towana Looney's Pioneering Pig Kidney Transplant

Last month, 53-year-old Towana Looney from Gadsden, Alabama, became the third person to receive a genetically engineered pig kidney in a groundbreaking xenotransplantation procedure. This significant advancement in animal-to-human organ transplants could pave the way for future treatments, potentially saving countless lives.

Looney's medical journey has been challenging. After donating a kidney to her mother in 1999, she later developed high blood pressure during pregnancy, which led to kidney failure. Years of dialysis followed, but Looney faced even greater difficulty in finding a suitable kidney donor due to the antibodies in her body from previous blood transfusions. This left her with limited options for a transplant.



In a fortunate turn of events, Looney was given the opportunity to receive a pig kidney through an experimental program by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which allows for the compassionate use of new treatments. Just three weeks after the transplant, her pig kidney appears to be functioning well. Although her immune system initially showed resistance, doctors managed to address the issue, and Looney is regaining her strength.

Looney's participation in this experimental transplant is a significant step for the field of xenotransplantation. As the first successful case in this new phase, her experience could provide valuable insights and move the field closer to clinical trials, where genetically engineered pig organs could po-

tentially help many patients in need of life-saving transplants.

At a recent press conference, Looney shared her joy about her recovery. "I'm overjoyed," she said, noting her increased energy and improved appetite after years of dialysis. For the first time in years, she's rediscovering simple pleasures, such as being able to use the bathroom normally and looking forward to traveling to places like Disney World.

Although every xenotransplant is an experiment, Looney's case is especially important, as it could represent a promising future for those who face long waits for organ donors. Her success offers hope to many more patients who desperately need new kidneys to survive.



Turned Dreams Of people Into Source Of Income: Priyanka Over GST On Exam Forms

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.24

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday criticized the BJP government for imposing an 18% Goods and Services Tax (GST) on examination forms, calling it an exploitation of parents' savings. In her attack on the government, she said that it had turned the dreams of parents who saved every penny to prepare their children for exams into a revenue source for the government.

The Congress General Secretary shared a copy of an examination form from the Kalyan Singh Super Speciality Cancer Institute in Lucknow, which indicated that GST was being charged on the exam form. Priyanka Gandhi took to social media to voice her concerns, emphasizing that the government's actions were adding to the financial burden on parents and students.

"The BJP cannot provide jobs to youngsters, but it is definitely rubbing salt on the wounds by charging 18 per cent GST on examination forms," Priyanka wrote in her post. She also highlighted that GST was being levied on every government job form, including the Agniveer recruitment process.

The Congress leader further expressed her frustration with the situation, pointing out the potential consequences for students. "After filling the form, if the paper is leaked due to the government's failure or if there is corruption, then this money of the youngsters is wasted," she added, stressing the unfairness of the burden being placed on those hoping to secure employment or educational opportunities.

Her statement has drawn attention to the rising costs of examinations and the challenges faced by students and their families in an increasingly difficult economic climate. Priyanka Gandhi's comments add to ongoing discussions about government policies that critics say disproportionately affect middle and lower-income groups.

PM Modi Announces Record 10 Lakh Permanent Government Jobs Under Rozgar Mela



TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.24

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday highlighted that his government has provided nearly 10 lakh permanent government jobs to youth in the last one-and-a-half years under the "mission mode" initiative, a feat he described as a record for India. This achievement was made possible through the 'Rozgar Melas' organized by the government.

Addressing the new recruits through a virtual event, which was held simultaneously at 45 locations across the country, Modi emphasized that the 'Rozgar Mela' initiative has been instrumental in fulfilling the government's commitment to providing job opportunities to young people. The recruits will be joining various government Ministries and Departments, including the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Department of Posts, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the Department of Financial Services.

In his address, Modi praised the trans-

parent and honest process through which these appointments were made, highlighting that the recruitment drive was carried out with integrity and openness. He stressed that during previous governments, youth did not have access to permanent government jobs under such a systematic and mission-driven approach.

The Prime Minister noted that over the past decade, the government has prioritized providing permanent government jobs through such events, with the latest initiative marking a significant milestone in India's efforts to enhance youth employment. With this announcement, Modi underscored the government's continued focus on boosting employment and providing stable career opportunities for the younger generation.

This marks another significant step in the government's larger vision to create an employment-oriented economy, ensuring that qualified individuals are appointed to various government roles across the country.



Maha Kumbh: Yogi Adityanath Highlights Prayagraj's Hospitality Potential

TPN CORRESPONDENT MAHAKUMBH NAGAR
DECEMBER.24

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday emphasized that the Maha Kumbh is not just a religious event but also a remarkable opportunity for Prayagraj to showcase its hospitality to the world. Speaking to reporters after reviewing the preparations for the event, which will take place from January 13 to February 26, 2025, CM Adityanath highlighted the extensive efforts being made to ensure its success.

"The preparations for the Sanatan Gaurav Maha Kumbh are progressing well. Over 20,000 saints and institutions have been allocated land through a comprehensive registration process," the Chief Minister stated. This includes all 13 Akhsharas and various other religious groups. He assured that efforts are being made to complete the land allocation by January 5, 2025.

The Chief Minister also mentioned the increased number of pontoon bridges for the event, with the number rising from 22 to 30, 20 of which are already completed. Additionally, significant progress is being made on the infrastructure front, with 330 kilometers of checkered plates laid and 250 signages installed across the city and fairgrounds.

Water management efforts include ensuring a clean and uninterrupted flow of the Ganga, with the Irrigation Department working to maintain sufficient water levels. Water purification efforts are also in place using bioremediation and geo-tube techniques. In terms of electricity infrastructure, several substations and kilometers of LT and HT lines have been installed, along with nearly 48,000 LED streetlights.

"Manipur Situation Complex But Gradually Improving"



TPN CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI
DECEMBER.24

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Monday acknowledged the ongoing challenges in the state but emphasized that the situation has been gradually improving. He stated that while full restoration of normalcy and peace would take time, significant progress has been made, with most districts remaining incident-free for several months.

Addressing the media after attending the passing out parade of newly recruited Manipur police personnel at the Lachit Barphukan Police Academy in Dergaon, Assam, Biren Singh described the situation in Manipur as "complex." However, he assured that the state

and central security forces, along with the civil administration, are working diligently to maintain a violence-free environment and deliver essential services to the people. The passing out ceremony saw 1,946 recruits successfully completing their training, with a total of 1,984 recruits having undergone training at the academy. Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya, who holds the additional charge of Manipur's governorship, also attended the event. The Chief Minister expressed his gratitude to Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for facilitating the training of Manipur's police recruits, given the security situation in Manipur. Biren Singh highlighted the strong historical relationship between Assam and Manipur, noting that Sarma had agreed to assist immediately when approached.

'They Will Dig Their Government': Akhilesh Yadav Attacks BJP Over Sambhal

TPN CORRESPONDENT UTTAR PRADESH
DECEMBER.24

Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav criticized the BJP government on Monday, following the ongoing excavation work in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, where a stepwell (baoli) was recently unearthed. Yadav humorously remarked that the BJP will continue its search and one day, by digging continuously, "end up digging their own government."

The statement came after an excavation team from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) discovered a stepwell in the Chandausi area of Sambhal district on Sunday. District Magistrate Rajendra Pensiya confirmed the discovery of the stepwell, which spans an area of 400 square meters and includes four chambers. The structure is composed of marble floors in the second and third chambers, with the upper levels made of brick. According to local historians, this stepwell is believed to date back more than 150 years, possibly built during the time of the grandfather of the king of Bilari.

The unearthing of the stepwell follows the recent reopening of a Shiv-Hanuman temple in Sambhal that had been closed for 46 years. This temple reopening has sparked additional historical investigations in the region. The district magistrate noted that the stepwell could have been constructed



during the 19th century and further investigation would be conducted to learn more about its origins.

In addition to the stepwell discovery, an ASI team also surveyed the Kalki Vishnu temple in Sambhal, inspecting five shrines and 19 wells in the area. The inspection lasted between 8-10 hours and covered approximately 24 locations. The district magistrate stated that ASI would submit a report based on the findings from this survey.

The ongoing excavation work in Sambhal has caught the attention of local political figures, with Akhilesh Yadav making his remarks amid rising political tensions surrounding the excavation projects and historical findings in Uttar Pradesh.

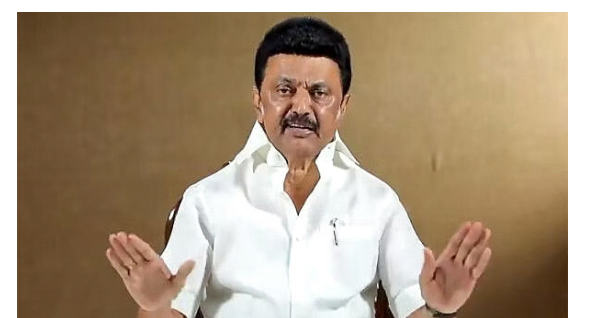
Amendment To Conduct Of Election Rules Assault On Free And Fair Polls: MK Stalin

TPN CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI
DECEMBER.24

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Monday condemned the Union Government's recent amendment to the Conduct of Election Rules, describing it as an "undemocratic assault on free and fair elections." The amendment restricts public access to certain poll documents, a move Stalin claims undermines transparency and accountability in the electoral process.

The Ministry of Law and Justice amended the rules following a directive from the Punjab and Haryana High Court, which had ordered the Election Commission of India to release all documents related to the Haryana Assembly elections, including CCTV footage. Stalin criticized this amendment, asserting that it prevents public inspection of essential election materials, which he believes is a crucial aspect of ensuring electoral transparency.

Stalin described the amendment as an attempt to "kill the transparency in election," calling it a direct threat to the democratic principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution. He accused the BJP-led Union Government of using such amendments to control



the electoral process and suppress public scrutiny, suggesting that this move was indicative of the ruling party's growing insecurity.

The DMK president also pointed to the amendment as part of the BJP's larger fear of public exposure in election-related matters, referencing the controversial assembly elections in Maharashtra. He suggested that the "orchestrated and unholy victory" in Maharashtra had raised significant concerns regarding the integrity of the elections in states under BJP control.

Furthermore, Stalin expressed disappointment with the Election Commission of India, claiming that instead of defending its institutional integrity, the Commission had "succumbed to the pressure" from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government.



UN 2024: India calls for change in world forum as conflicts persist

UNITED NATIONS: As the United Nations approaches its 80th anniversary, India has reiterated the importance of reform to maintain the organization's relevance in addressing global challenges. During the high-level 79th session of the General Assembly in September, world leaders adopted the ambitious 'Pact of the Future' by consensus. The pact addresses key themes such as peace and security, sustainable development, climate change, digital cooperation, human rights, gender, youth, and the transformation of global governance.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasized the need for more effective and inclusive problem-solving mechanisms, stating, "We can't create a future fit for our grandchildren with systems built for our grandparents." He underscored that the current systems must evolve to meet the 21st century's challenges.

India, a long-time advocate for reform, has consistently called for changes to the Security Council, particularly regarding its expansion in both permanent and non-permanent categories. The country argues that the current structure, which was established in 1945, no longer



reflects contemporary geopolitical realities. India believes it is entitled to a permanent seat at the table to better represent the global landscape.

The failure of the Security Council to effectively address current global conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas conflict, highlights the necessity for reform. Guterres noted that many of the pressing issues facing the world today were not anticipated when the UN

framework was created 80 years ago.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi echoed these sentiments during his address at the UN's Summit of the Future, where the 'Pact of the Future' was adopted. He stated, "Reform is the key to relevance... Global action must match global ambition," calling for reforms that reflect the evolving dynamics of the world and ensure that the UN remains a robust and effective organization for the challenges of the 21st century.

North Korea Preparing to Send More Troops, Drones to Russia



North Korea has been supplying Russia with artillery systems, including 240-millimeter rocket launchers and 170 mm self-propelled artillery.

Additionally, there are signs that North Korea is working to manufacture and supply suicide drones, a weapon type first showcased by Kim Jong-un during a military inspection in November. The drones are seen as a vital tool in modern warfare due to their low cost and high effectiveness. North Korea's decision to ramp up the production of these drones aligns with its broader strategy to gain valuable battlefield experience and modernize its conventional weapons systems.

The move also highlights the deepening military ties between North Korea and Russia, with both nations increasingly relying on each other amidst international sanctions and isolation. While there have been no direct signs of provocation from North Korea in recent days, its growing cooperation with Russia signals a significant shift in the region's security dynamics. The increased deployment of troops and arms supplies from North Korea may further complicate the situation in Ukraine and add to global concerns over the proliferation of military technologies.

SEOUL: North Korea is reportedly preparing to deploy additional troops and military equipment, including suicide drones, to Russia in support of its ongoing war in Ukraine, according to South Korea's military. The country's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) stated on Monday that intelligence gathered indicates North Korea plans to increase its involvement in the conflict by rotating or expanding

its military presence in Russia.

The South Korean military's assessment follows reports that North Korea has already sent thousands of soldiers to fight alongside Russian forces in Ukraine. The number of North Korean casualties is estimated at around 1,100, highlighting the significant human cost of their participation. The JCS also revealed that

Don't Need "Proxy Force" To Take Action: Iran Ayatollah's Latest Warning



IRAN: Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, denied claims that Tehran uses militant groups in the region as proxies, insisting that if Iran were to take military action, it would do so without relying on outside forces. The comments came after a year marked by heavy losses for Iran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, as well as the recent fall of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, a longtime ally of Tehran.

Khamenei's remarks challenge the widespread perception that groups like Hezbollah, Hamas, and Yemen's Huthi rebels act as Tehran's proxies. These groups, often aligned with Iran's strategic goals, have faced military setbacks in their respective regions, notably during the Israel-Hamas conflict and U.S.-led strikes on the Huthis. Khamenei, however, emphasized that these groups are motivated by their own beliefs and not by orders from Tehran.

"The Islamic Republic does not have a proxy force," Khamenei told visitors in Tehran. He continued, "Yemen fights because it has faith. Hezbollah fights because the power of faith draws it into the field. Hamas and Jihad fight because their beliefs compel them to do so." Khamenei dismissed American claims that Iran had lost its proxies in the region, adding that Iran would not need such groups if it chose to take direct action. Khamenei also commented on the recent developments in Syria, where Assad's regime faced significant challenges from rebel forces, which culminated in the loss of Damascus. Khamenei predicted that Syria would see the emergence of "a strong, honorable group" to counter what he described as foreign-imposed insecurity.

We Want Her Here: Bangladesh Asks India To Send Back Deposed PM Sheikh Hasina

DHAKA: Bangladesh's interim government announced on Monday that it has formally requested India to return deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Dhaka. Hasina, 77, has been living in exile in India since August 5, after fleeing the country amid widespread student-led protests that resulted in the fall of her 16-year rule.

The Dhaka-based International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) issued arrest warrants for Hasina, along with several former cabinet ministers, advisers, and military and civil officials, for alleged "crimes against humanity and genocide." In response to this, Bangladesh's Foreign Affairs Adviser, Touhid Hossain, confirmed that a diplomatic note, also known as a "note verbale," has been sent to the Indian government requesting Hasina's extradition.

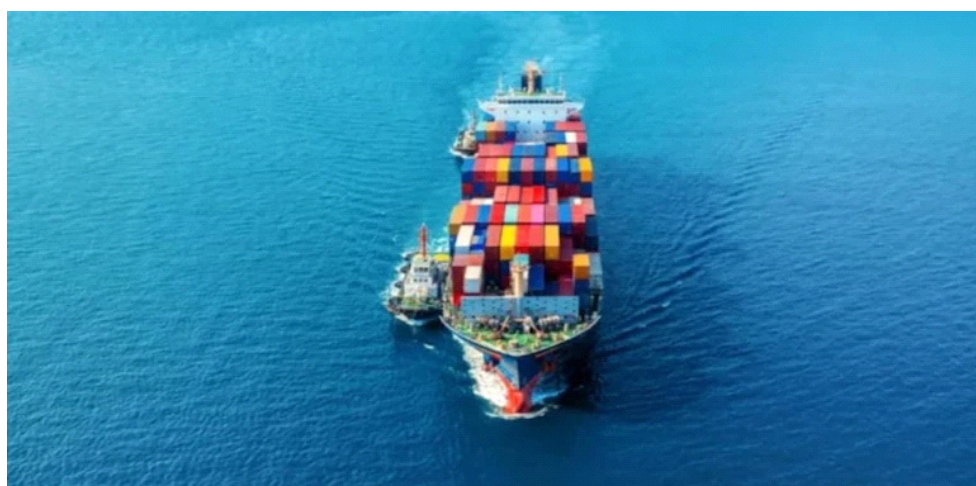
"We have sent a note verbale to the Indian government saying that Bangladesh wants her back here for the judicial process," Hossain told reporters at his office. He added that the government is actively pursuing the legal process to bring Hasina back to face charges.

In parallel, Home Advisor Jahangir Alam revealed that a letter has been sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangladesh to facilitate the former prime minister's extradition from India. Alam emphasized that an existing extradition treaty between Bangladesh and India could be used to bring Hasina back to her home country.

The demand for Hasina's return is part of ongoing legal and political tensions in Bangladesh. The exiled leader's return could mark a significant development in the ongoing judicial process related to her alleged involvement in various crimes. Hasina's time in exile, which began following the collapse of her government, has been a point of contention, especially given the legal actions now being pursued against her by the Bangladesh government.

Bangladeshi Traders "Forced" To Import From Pakistan Amid Growing Maritime Ties

DHAKA: Trade and maritime relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh are strengthening, with the recent arrival of a second cargo vessel from Karachi to the Chittagong port, sparking concerns in India. The Panama-flagged vessel, 'MV Yuan Xiang Fa Zhan,' entered Bangladeshi waters on Sunday, carrying 811 containers of essential industrial goods like soda ash, dolomite, and marble blocks, along with consumer products such as garments raw materials, sugar, and electronics. This follows the arrival of a similar vessel earlier in the week.



This development coincides with a meeting between Bangladesh's interim leader, Professor Muhammad Yunus, and Pakistan's Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif in Cairo, where the two countries agreed to strengthen bilateral relations. Reports suggest that Bangladesh's traders are increasingly

being pushed to import goods from Pakistan, prompting some officials to suggest reviewing the India-Bangladesh shipping pact, which currently

grants India access to the Chittagong and Mongla ports.

Chittagong Port holds significant strategic value, located in the Bay of Bengal, and has been closely monitored by India. Historically, India has kept a close eye on activities at the port, particularly after a 2004 incident where 1,500 boxes of Chinese ammunition, allegedly linked to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), were confiscated at the port. The consignment was reportedly meant for the insurgent group ULFA in India's north-east.

India is also concerned about a potential resurgence of Islamist extremism in Bangladesh, which could threaten

its security. In a move that adds to these worries, Bangladesh recently lifted a policy requiring physical inspections of Pakistani cargo at Chittagong, making it easier for Pakistan to utilize the port without scrutiny. This change, along with the resumption of direct maritime trade between Bangladesh and Pakistan, marks a significant shift in relations, particularly under Yunus, who has taken steps to improve ties with Islamabad since assuming office in August.

The growing Bangladesh-Pakistan ties are seen as a reversal of the pro-India policies of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, raising alarm in New Delhi over the implications for regional security.

Markets Rebound After Five-Day Slide; Sensex Gains 498 Points, Nifty Rises 165 Points

The five-session losing streak came to an end. Domestic stock markets ended in gains on Monday. Positive signals were received from international markets. Better US economic and inflation data, and a rebound in metal and heavyweight stocks led to positive sentiment. On the other hand, investors bought quality shares available at attractive prices. Nifty rose by 165 points and Sensex by 498 points. It is noteworthy that at one stage, Nifty gained up to 280 points. However, the rupee touched a lifetime low.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 78,041 in the previous session, started at 78,488 today. It touched an intraday low of 78,189. It reached an intraday high of 78,918. Finally, it rose by 498 points and closed at 78,540. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,738 on Monday, touched a low of 23,647 and a high of 23,869. It closed at 23,753, up 165 points. The Bank Nifty rose 558 points to settle at 51,317.

In the Nifty50, 32 companies gained while 18 lost. JSW Steel, ITC, Hindalco, Trent and HDFC Bank were the top gainers. Hero Moto, Maruti, HCL Tech, HDFC Life and Bajaj Finserv were the biggest losers. All sectoral indices rose today, except auto, media and healthcare. Bank, finance, FMCG, metal, realty, consumer durables, oil and gas indices were in a good position.

Despite the gains in benchmark indices, the market breadth on NSE today was more in favor of sellers. 1130 stocks advanced while 1704 declined. Shares of 46 companies reached 52-week highs while 82 touched 52-week lows.

Rupee closed at a record low of

85.11 against the dollar. Adani Defence to acquire 85.8% stake in Air Works India. Nuwama maintains 'hold' on IndiGo, SpiceJet. NSE and BSE will conduct live trading sessions on Saturday, February 1, 2025. Concord Enviro Systems IPO received a response of 5.19 times. DAM Capital Advisors IPO received a response of 35.64 times. 27 lakh shares changed hands in a block deal held in Reliance Industries. BEL received an order worth Rs. 973 crore on December 9. JBM Eco-life Mobility received an order of Rs. 1800 crore. Adani Ports recovered from five consecutive days of losses. Bharti Airtel added 19.28 lakh new customers in October, after losing 14.35 lakh customers in September.

Jubilant FoodWorks Ltd. (JUBLFOOD)

As of December 2024, Jubilant FoodWorks holds a significant share in the Indian QSR (Quick Service Restaurant) segment, with Domino's being a leading pizza delivery brand in the country. The introduction of value meals aimed at budget-conscious customers has been a key driver in attracting a broader customer base, especially amid high inflation and rising food prices. Despite revenue growth, the company faced increased costs due



to higher prices for key ingredients, leading to a contraction in its EBITDA margin from 21.1% to 19.3%.

Aster DM Healthcare Ltd. (AS-TERDM)

The company has a diversified portfolio, including hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies, catering to a wide patient base across multiple geographies. The company continues to invest in expanding its network and enhancing service offerings, aiming to strengthen its presence in existing markets and explore new opportunities. The healthcare sector faces regulatory challenges and competitive pressures, which could impact profitability.



SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd. (SBILIFE)

Leveraging the extensive network of its parent, State Bank of India, SBI LIFE has a strong distribution network across the country. The company has demonstrated robust growth in premium collections and a steady increase in market share within the life insurance sector. Focus on digital initiatives and customer-centric products has enabled SBILIFE to enhance cus-



tommer experience and operational efficiency. The insurance industry is subject to regulatory changes and market volatility, which can affect investment returns and policyholder behavior.

One97 Communications Ltd. (PAYTM)



Paytm has a significant user base, offering services ranging from mobile recharges to financial products, making it a key player in India's digital ecosystem. The company has been focusing on reducing losses and achieving operational profitability, with improvements observed in recent quarterly results. Expansion into financial services, including lending and wealth management, aims to diversify revenue streams and enhance profitability. Intense competition in the digital payments space and regulatory scrutiny pose challenges to sustained growth.

Lupin Ltd. (LUPIN)

Lupin is among the top pharmaceutical companies in India, with a significant global footprint, particularly in the United States and Japan. The company has experienced revenue growth driven by new product launches and expansion in key markets. Focus on research and development, especially in complex generics and biosimilars, positions Lupin for future growth opportunities. Regulatory challenges, pricing pressures in key markets, and competition in the generic drug space are potential hurdles.



Oil Prices Settle Flat Amid Chinese Demand and U.S. Inflation Data



HOUSTON (Reuters) – Oil prices closed little changed on Friday as markets weighed concerns over Chinese demand alongside expectations of interest rate cuts following data showing cooling U.S. inflation.

Brent crude futures rose by 6 cents, or 0.08%, closing at \$72.94 a barrel. Meanwhile, U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures gained 8 cents, or 0.12%, to settle at \$69.46 per barrel. Despite the slight uptick, both benchmarks ended the week approximately 2.5% lower.

The U.S. dollar, which had reached a two-year high earlier in the week, retreated after inflation data indicated a slowdown in November. This brought relief to markets, as it followed the Federal Reserve's decision to cut interest rates, although the central bank also reduced its outlook for further rate cuts in 2025. A weaker dollar typically makes oil more affordable for buyers using other currencies, while potential rate cuts could stimulate oil demand.

John Kilduff, partner at Again Capital in New York, remarked that concerns about the Fed potentially halting its support for the market had faded. However, he acknowledged the ongoing worries about the demand outlook, particularly in China. The Chinese government's forecast that oil consumption would peak by 2027 and the weakening demand for diesel and gasoline raised doubts about the strength of global demand.

Emril Jamil, a senior research specialist at LSEG, emphasized that OPEC+ needed to maintain supply discipline to calm market nerves amid continuous revisions to the demand forecast. OPEC+ recently downgraded its global oil demand growth projection for 2024 for the fifth consecutive month.

JPMorgan forecast that the oil market would transition from balance in 2024 to a surplus of 1.2 million barrels per day in 2025, driven by rising non-OPEC+ production.

India's savings rate surpasses global average amid rising financial inclusion: SBI report



India's savings rate has surpassed the global average, reaching 30.2%, higher than the global average of 28.2%, according to a report released by the State Bank of India (SBI) on Monday. The report highlights the growing financial inclusion in the country, noting that over 80% of Indian adults now have formal financial accounts, a significant improvement from around 50% in 2011.

The increase in financial inclusion has contributed to a higher financialisation of household savings. The report states that the share of net financial savings in total household savings has grown from 36% in FY14 to 52% in FY21. However, there has been a slight deceleration in this trend during FY22 and FY23. In FY24, trends show that the share of physical savings is once again on the decline, with more people turning to financial products.

As new investment avenues such as mutual funds gain popularity, the share of bank deposits and currency in household financial savings is decreasing. The SBI research also pointed out that, in the past decade, Indian companies have significantly increased their fund-raising from capital markets, with the amount raised surging more than ten-fold, from Rs 12,068 crore in FY14 to Rs 1.21 lakh crore in FY25 (up to October).

Household investment in shares and debentures has also grown, reaching around 1% of GDP in FY24, up from just 0.2% in FY14. Additionally, the share of household financial savings invested in these areas has increased from 1% to 5%. This indicates that Indian households are now playing a more substantial role in funding the country's capital needs.

HDFC Securities Projects India's GDP Growth at 6.4% in 2024-25

HDFC Securities has projected India's GDP growth for 2024-25 at 6.4%, citing potential downside risks due to a slowdown in urban demand and a lack of substantial revival in private capital expenditure (capex). While these factors present challenges, the firm also pointed to growing rural demand and an expected increase in government spending as key drivers for economic growth.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had recently revised its growth forecast for the same period, lowering it to 6.6% from the earlier 7.2%. The downward revision followed a 5.4% real GDP growth in the July-September quarter of the 2024-25 financial year, a



significant miss from the RBI's earlier es-

timate of 7%. The lower-than-expected quarterly growth has raised concerns about the pace of recovery in the economy.

HDFC Securities noted that despite the weaker-than-anticipated performance in the first half of the fiscal year, India's economy is expected to recover in the coming years. For FY 2025-26, the firm forecasts a modest improvement in GDP growth to 6.7%. This suggests that while the short-term outlook may be tempered, long-term growth expectations remain optimistic, driven by factors like rural consumption and government expenditure, which are likely to provide a cushion against the urban slowdown.

NSE and BSE Announce Special Trading Session for Union Budget 2025

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) have announced a special live trading session on Saturday, February 1, 2025, due to the presentation of the Union Budget for the year 2025. Both exchanges will operate as usual, with trading hours from 9:15 AM to 3:30 PM. Additionally, the commodity derivatives segment will also be open for trading during the morning session.

Typically, stock exchanges in India are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. However, in special cases, such as significant events like the Union



Budget, both exchanges conduct live trading sessions to accommodate market partici-

pants and ensure uninterrupted operations.

The Union Budget 2025 will be presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman following the 2024 general elections. This will mark her second comprehensive budget since taking office, and expectations are high regarding the proposals. The budget is likely to focus on India's ongoing economic transition toward the goal of achieving a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) in the framework of "Amrit Kaal," the period from 2022 to 2047, which is seen as a transformative phase for the nation.

Over 20 Android Smartphones to Lose Access to WhatsApp in 2025



WhatsApp, Meta's widely used instant messaging and calling platform, has become an essential app for nearly every Android smartphone user around the world. However, as the app continues to evolve with new features and capabilities, the minimum system requirements to run it also increase. This means that some older smartphones will lose access to WhatsApp permanently.

According to a report by HDBlog, published on December 20, 2024, more than 20 Android smartphones will no longer be able to run WhatsApp starting January 1, 2025. The main reason for this is that these devices are still running Android KitKat or earlier versions of the operating system. As a result, users with these outdated smartphones will find that they can no longer use WhatsApp after the new year begins. Additionally, other Meta apps, such as Facebook and Instagram, are also likely to stop working on these older de-

vices in the near future.

The list of smartphones that will lose access to WhatsApp includes devices from brands like HTC and LG, which stopped producing smartphones several years ago. This highlights the ongoing issue of software compatibility with older devices as smartphone manufacturers and app developers continue to push for more advanced features that older operating systems simply cannot support.

For users with affected devices, this may mean upgrading to a newer smartphone if they wish to continue using WhatsApp and other Meta apps. While this can be an inconvenience, it also emphasizes the importance of keeping devices up to date in order to access the latest apps and features. As technology continues to advance, users with older devices will face similar challenges in the future.

Viral Secret Santa Gift: Employee Gets Tub Of Dahi, Internet Cannot Stop Laughing

An unusual and hilarious Secret Santa gift from an Indian office's Christmas celebration has gone viral, leaving social media users in fits of laughter. The present, a big tub of 'dahi' (yoghurt), was revealed in a post on the platform X, quickly capturing attention with its quirky charm.

Christmas festivities are in full swing around the world, with people indulging in festive meals, watching Christmas movies, and participating in the beloved tradition of Secret Santa. In this tradition, employees draw names randomly to buy gifts for one another. While many go out of their way to get creative or extravagant gifts, others often resort to last-minute solutions. The latter was the case for one Secret Santa in an Indian office, who decided to gift a large tub of dahi to their randomly assigned colleague.

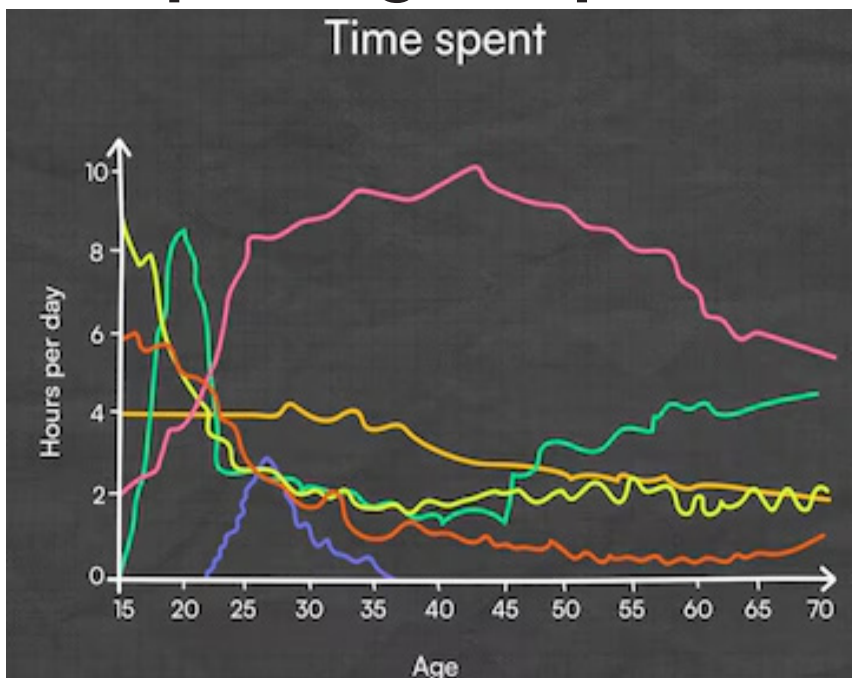
In the viral photo, the office Christmas tree, beau-



tifully decorated with festive ornaments, is surrounded by neatly wrapped presents. However, one gift stands out — a plain, unwrapped tub of yoghurt, sitting prominently with a simple yellow name tag. The contrast between the other polished gifts and the humble tub of dahi has caused a stir online. The caption accompanying the post read, "Secret Santa mei kisi ko dahi gift kr diya. Welcome to Haryana," humorously acknowledging the regional flavor of the gift.

The internet has erupted with laughter, with many sharing their own experiences of quirky or last-minute Secret Santa gifts. This hilarious moment from an office celebration has captured the spirit of fun and spontaneity that often accompanies the holiday season. It's a reminder that, sometimes, the most unexpected gifts are the ones that bring the most joy — or at least, the most laughs!

Zerodha Explores Time Spent With Family Vs Co-workers In Eye-opening Graphic



Zerodha, the online brokerage firm co-founded by Nithin and Nikhil Kamath, has recently shared a thought-provoking post on social media emphasizing the importance of work-life balance. In an era where corporate employees often find themselves caught up in a relentless work schedule, Zerodha's post offers a wake-up call about the need to prioritize family time and personal well-being.

The company's Instagram post features a powerful graphic that highlights the stark contrast between the time employees spend working and the time they dedicate to family. The graphic paints a clear picture of how the modern work environment can often lead to a significant imbalance, where family and personal life take a backseat to work commitments. Many employees, especially in high-pressure corporate settings, may find it difficult to carve out time for their loved ones due to long working hours and increasing work demands.

The post resonated with many,

as it reflects the struggles faced by numerous professionals who are caught up in the "rat race" and feel overwhelmed by work responsibilities. Zerodha's message is clear: the pressures of work should not come at the expense of mental health and family connections. The graphic urges individuals to reflect on their daily routines and reassess the importance of making time for their loved ones and personal well-being.

With the caption "If the realization hasn't hit you yet, swipe through again," Zerodha encourages its followers to take a moment to pause and evaluate their work-life balance. The post is a timely reminder that true success includes not just professional achievements, but also the happiness and fulfillment that come from spending quality time with family.

By sharing this insightful graphic, Zerodha is sparking a conversation about the need for employees to reclaim their time, balance their priorities, and put their well-being first.

Why Sugar is Now Viewed as Harmful: Expert Insights

In recent years, sugar has gone from being a staple in celebrations to a villain in many health-conscious diets. The shift in perception has led to people cutting down on sugar in their daily meals, from skipping desserts to checking ingredient labels. But why has sugar, once a symbol of festivity and joy, become associated with harm? Here's what the experts have to say.

Why Sugar Is Seen as Harmful Today

Historically, sugar was consumed sparingly, mostly during special occasions. People enjoyed homemade sweets like laddoos, kheer, and halwa without worrying about health risks. However, in today's world, sugar is found everywhere—from cookies and cakes to beverages like sodas and juices. This constant presence of sugary treats is a major factor in the growing concerns about sugar consumption. Nutritionist Simrat Kathuria explains that, unlike our ancestors, who only indulged in sweets occasionally, modern lifestyles expose us to sugar more regularly, often in processed foods and drinks.

Another contributing factor is the rise in sedentary lifestyles. With many people spending most of their day sitting at desks or engaging in minimal physical activity, the body doesn't burn off excess sugar efficiently. Without adequate exer-



cise, the negative effects of consuming sugary foods are more pronounced.

Health Risks of Excessive Sugar Consumption

Overindulging in sugar can lead to various health issues. Nutritionist Neha Sahaya highlights some common effects of too much sugar in the diet:

1. Energy Fluctuations: Consuming sugar leads to spikes in blood sugar levels followed by crashes, leaving you feeling drained after the initial burst of energy.

2. Swollen Face: Excessive sugar can cause water retention, leading to facial puffiness and bloating.

3. Digestive Issues: Too much sugar can disrupt digestion, resulting in bloating and discomfort.

4. Sleep Disturbances: High sugar intake can interfere with sleep patterns, making it harder to fall asleep.

5. Skin Problems: Sugar promotes inflammation, which can lead to issues like acne, wrinkles, and reduced skin elasticity.

How to Cut Down on Sugar

If you're concerned about your sugar intake, experts suggest starting with small changes. Opt for fresh fruits instead of sugary snacks, read food labels carefully to spot hidden sugars, and stay hydrated throughout the day to reduce sugar cravings. Switching to natural sweeteners in moderation can also help satisfy your sweet tooth without overloading on sugar.

In conclusion, sugar doesn't need to be completely eliminated from your diet, but moderation is key. As long as it's consumed occasionally and in small amounts, it can be part of a healthy lifestyle. However, if you have specific health concerns, it's always advisable to consult a healthcare professional before making significant dietary changes.

Biryani Tops Swiggy's Year-End Report with 83 Million Orders in 2024

Swiggy has unveiled its year-end report for 2024, revealing significant insights into the most popular food trends. As in previous years, biryani continues to reign supreme, maintaining its position as the most ordered dish on the platform. Swiggy recorded an astonishing 83 million biryani orders between January 1 and November 22, 2024, which translates to 158 orders every minute, or approximately two orders per second.

Chicken biryani was the most preferred variation, accounting for 49 million of those orders. Southern India, particularly Hyderabad, has a strong preference for this dish. Hyderabad emerged as the top city for biryani orders, with 9.7 million orders in 2024. Bengaluru and Chennai followed closely with 7.7 million and 4.6 million orders, respectively.



In addition to biryani's continued dominance, dosa also made its mark, with 23 million orders this year. Swiggy also highlighted biryani's popularity during late-night hours, noting that it was the second-most ordered dish between midnight and 2 a.m., following chicken burgers. Moreover, biryani was frequently chosen by travelers, as Swiggy's collaboration with IRCTC enabled deliveries

at select train stations.

Swiggy also shared a fun anecdote from earlier in the year, revealing that during Ramadan 2024, around 6 million plates of biryani were ordered, with Hyderabad once again leading the charge with over a million orders. One particular Swiggy user in Kolkata even began the year with a biryani order at 4:01 a.m. on January 1, 2024, marking a flavorful start to the year.

This ongoing love for biryani is not exclusive to Swiggy. Rival platform Zomato's year-end report for 2023 also highlighted the dish's popularity, with biryani topping the charts for New Year's Eve orders, further cementing its status as a beloved dish across India.



India Women Eye Series Win Against West Indies in 2nd ODI

After a dominant 211-run victory in the opening ODI, the India women's cricket team is poised to seal the series in the second ODI against the West Indies in Vadodara on Tuesday. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led team has shown impressive form in the first match, ticking almost all the boxes. As the series progresses, India will look to guard against complacency and ensure they finish strong against a West Indies side that is currently underperforming.

India's morale is high following their massive win in the series opener, where Smriti Mandhana's classy 91 and a stellar five-wicket haul from Renuka Singh stood out. India's preparations for the upcoming ICC World Cup are crucial, as they aim to end their title drought at home. The team is well aware of the importance of building momentum leading up to the mega event in 2026, alongside strong contenders like Australia and England.

Despite a recent 0-3 defeat in Australia, India's performance in this series has been a significant bounce-back. Their 2-1 victory over the West Indies in a T20I series earlier, which marked their first home win in the shortest format in over five years, added to the optimism. However, their failure to qualify for the T20 World Cup semifinals highlighted areas for improvement.

India's squad has been undergoing experiments, giving debuts to seven players, including Titus



Sadhu, Priya Mishra, and Pratika Rawal. Pratika impressed in her debut match with a 40-run knock, forming a solid partnership with Mandhana. The team will also be looking for continued contributions from key players, including Deepti Sharma and Jemimah Rodrigues.

On the West Indies' side, senior players like Hayley Matthews, Deandra Dottin, and Shemaine Campbelle must step up to challenge the dominant Indian team. The West Indies will need to raise their game significantly to stay competitive in the remaining ODIs.

As the series heads into its crucial second match, India will be aiming for a series win while keeping their focus sharp ahead of the World Cup.

Australia Clinch ICC Women's Championship Title for Third Consecutive Time

Australia has secured their third consecutive ICC Women's Championship title, capping off a dominant 24-match campaign with a commanding 75-run victory over New Zealand at the Basin Reserve in Wellington. This win has propelled Australia to an unassailable position in the tournament standings, finishing with 39 points from 17 wins, three no-results, and three losses. With their total points now beyond reach, Australia's closest competitor, India, can only achieve a maximum of 37 points from their remaining matches against the West Indies and Ireland.



For New Zealand, the loss carries significant consequences as they now face uncertainty regarding their automatic qualification for the 2025 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup. Currently sitting in the final automatic qualification spot with 21 points from 24 matches, New Zealand is at risk of being overtaken by Bangladesh (19 points with three matches left) or the West Indies (14 points with five matches remaining). If displaced, New Zealand will have to compete in the Cricket World Cup Qualifier, where six teams will battle for the last two spots.

Australia's victory also secures an automatic World Cup spot for Sri Lanka, as they can no longer be overtaken by other teams with matches still to be played.

Australia's performance in the match reinforced their dominance in women's cricket. Opting to bat first, Australia posted an imposing 290, thanks to solid contributions from Alyssa Healy and Phoebe Litchfield, who put on an 88-run opening stand, followed by key knocks from Annabel Sutherland (42 off 43) and Ashleigh Gardner (74 off 62). In reply, New Zealand's chase faltered after a promising start at 106/1 in the 20th over. Australia's bowlers, led by Sutherland (3-39) and Alana King (3-34), took control, bowling New Zealand out for 215.

Australia remains the only team to have won the ICC Women's Championship, having also claimed the title in the 2014-16 and 2017-20 cycles.

Pakistan Makes History with 3-0 ODI Sweep Against South Africa

Pakistan made cricket history by becoming the first team ever to beat South Africa 3-0 in an ODI series on their home soil. Under the captaincy of Mohammad Rizwan, the Pakistani team completed a dominant clean sweep in Johannesburg, securing a 36-run victory in the third ODI to seal the historic series win.

South Africa, a team that has been playing official ODI series since 1991, had never suffered a 3-0 defeat at home. Despite already securing an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series, Pakistan refused to let up in the final match. The team delivered a balanced performance, combining powerful batting with

excellent bowling to make history.

In the third ODI, Saim Ayub starred with the bat, scoring a dazzling century (101 off 94 balls), his second of the series. Ayub's knock included 13 fours and two sixes. Alongside him, Babar Azam contributed a solid 52, forming a crucial 115-run partnership with Ayub. Pakistan's captain, Mohammad Rizwan, also added 53 off 52 balls, helping his team reach a competitive total of 308/9. The late contributions from Salman Agha (48 off 33 balls) and Tayyab Tahir (28 off 24 balls) ensured Pakistan posted a daunting total.

Kagiso Rabada was the standout bowler for

South Africa, taking 3 wickets for 56 runs, while Marco Jansen and Bjorn Fortuin also picked up wickets.

In response, South Africa's chase started brightly, but Pakistan quickly gained control with Naseem Shah removing Temba Bavuma. The Proteas tried to rebuild with Aiden Markram and Rassie van der Dussen, but regular wickets derailed their chase. Heinrich Klaasen fought valiantly with an 81-run knock, but Pakistan's bowlers, especially Sufiyan Muqeem (4/52) and Shaheen Shah Afridi (2/70), sealed the victory by bowling South Africa out for 271, completing a historic 3-0 sweep.



India Clinches Women's U19 Asia Cup Title with Dominant Win Over Bangladesh

India emerged as the champions of the inaugural Women's U19 Asia Cup, defeating Bangladesh by 41 runs in a low-scoring final. The match, held on Sunday, saw a brilliant performance by India's spinners, who helped their team secure a dominant victory after posting a modest total of 117/7.

Opener G Trisha played a crucial role in India's innings, scoring a steady 52 off 47 balls, including 5 fours and 2 sixes. Her knock anchored the Indian innings, and the biggest partnership of the match came between Trisha and captain Nikki Prasad, who put on 41 runs for the fourth wicket. Despite Trisha's efforts, India struggled against Bangladesh pacer Farjana Easmin, who claimed four wickets, keeping the Indian total in check.

In response, Bangladesh was off to a solid start, reaching 44/2 in the seventh over. However, the Indian spinners took control of the match from that point. Ayushi Shukla (3/17), Sonam Yadav (2/13), and Parunika Sisodia (2/12) put the brakes on the Bangladesh batting line-up, reducing them to a paltry 76 all out in just 18.3



overs. The collapse was swift, with Bangladesh losing their last eight wickets for just 32 runs.

India's spinners were the key to their success, cutting through the Bangladesh top order and ensuring a comfortable win. This victory marked India's first-ever Women's U19 Asia Cup title, a remarkable achievement for the young team.

Brief Scores:

India: 117/7 in 20 overs (Trisha 52; Easmin 4/32)
Bangladesh: 76 all out in 18.3 overs (Ferdous 22; Shukla 3/17, Yadav 2/13, Sisodia 2/12)

Real Madrid Move to Second Place with 4-2 Victory Over Sevilla

Real Madrid secured a 4-2 win against Sevilla on Sunday, moving up to second place in La Liga and narrowing the gap to Atletico Madrid to just one point. Kylian Mbappe was instrumental in the victory, scoring the opening goal and providing an assist to help his team extend their lead.

Mbappe opened the scoring in the 10th minute with a powerful strike from outside the box, setting the tone for the match.

Just 10 minutes later, Federico Valverde doubled Real Madrid's lead with a long-range effort. Sevilla struggled to respond, and in the 34th minute, Rodrygo added a third goal, finishing off a cross from Lucas Vazquez.

Sevilla managed to pull one back a minute later, with Isaac Romero heading home to reduce the deficit. However, Real Madrid regained their three-goal advantage early in the second half. In the 53rd minute, Brahim Diaz finished a well-executed move, with Mbappe and Vazquez combining to set him up for the goal.

Sevilla made a late push when Dodi Lukebakio found the net in the 85th minute, but it was too little too late. Real Madrid held on to the lead and saw out the game to secure all three points. With the win, they move two points clear of Barcelona, who are in third place with 38 points, but have played a game more than the top two.

The victory puts Real Madrid in strong contention for the La Liga title as they head into the winter break, with Atletico Madrid still leading the table.





Venkatesh's "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam" Features Grand Sankranti Song

Venkatesh is all set to enthrall audiences with his upcoming triangular love and crime thriller, *Sankranthiki Vasthunnam*, which has been generating significant buzz with its impressive promotional content. The film's first two songs, "Godari Gattu" and "Meenu," have already become massive hits, capturing the attention of fans and music lovers alike.

Currently, the film's team is shooting

a vibrant Sankranti-themed song featuring the lead cast in a grand set erected at the Ramanaidu Film Studios (RFC). The poster for the song showcases a lively Sankranti celebration, with Venkatesh, Aishwarya Rajesh, and Meenakshi Chaudhary at the center of the festivities. The song, composed by Bheems Ceciroleo, promises to perfectly capture the joyous spirit of the Sankranti festival.

Directed by Anil Ravipudi, known for his hit films, and produced by Dil Raju and Shirish under the banner of Sri Venkateswara Creations, *Sankranthiki Vasthunnam* is slated for a grand release on January 14, 2025, just in time for the Sankranti festival. The film is expected to draw large crowds, thanks to its exciting mix of romance, suspense, and drama, coupled with its catchy music and festive vibe.



Aadi Saikumar's Birthday Poster for *Shambala* Creates Buzz

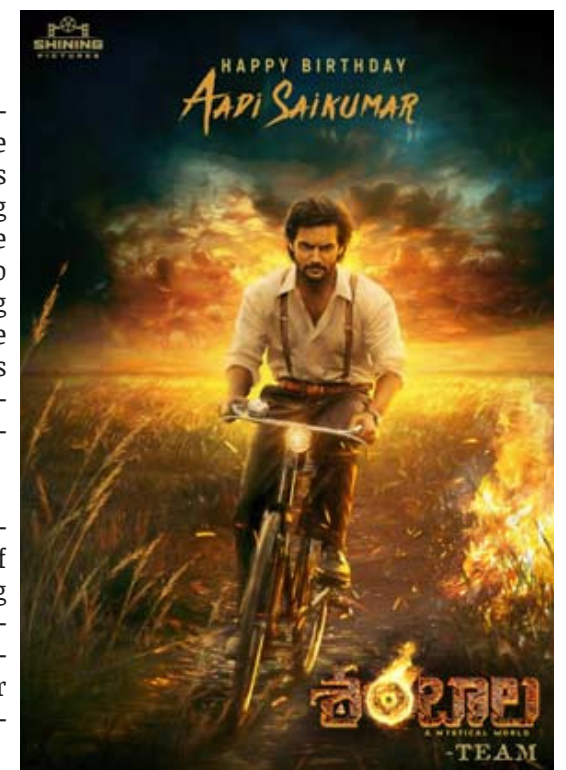
Telugu actor Aadi Saikumar is celebrating his birthday today, and to mark the special occasion, the makers of his upcoming film *Shambala* have unveiled an intriguing new poster. The poster showcases Aadi riding a bicycle through a fiery field, his expression intense and full of determination. This striking visual has piqued fans' curiosity, leaving them eager to learn more about the film and Aadi's character.

Shambala is a supernatural horror thriller that promises to offer a fresh cinematic experience. Directed by Ugandhar Muni, known for his earlier work *A (Ad Infinitum)*, the film introduces a mystical and gripping narrative. In *Shambala*, Aadi Saikumar takes on the role of a geo-scientist, while Archana Iyer plays the female lead. The movie also features a talented supporting cast, including Swasika, Ravi Varma, Meesala Laxman, and Madhundan, all of whom contribute to the film's in-

triguing storyline.

The film is produced by Rajasekhara Anabhimouju and Mahidhar Reddy under the banner of Shining Pictures, and it comes with a high production budget, ensuring top-notch visuals and effects. Music for the film is composed by Sriram Madduri, who brings his extensive experience working with renowned Hollywood composers like Hans Zimmer. This collaboration promises a unique and atmospheric score that is expected to introduce fresh sounds never before heard in Indian cinema.

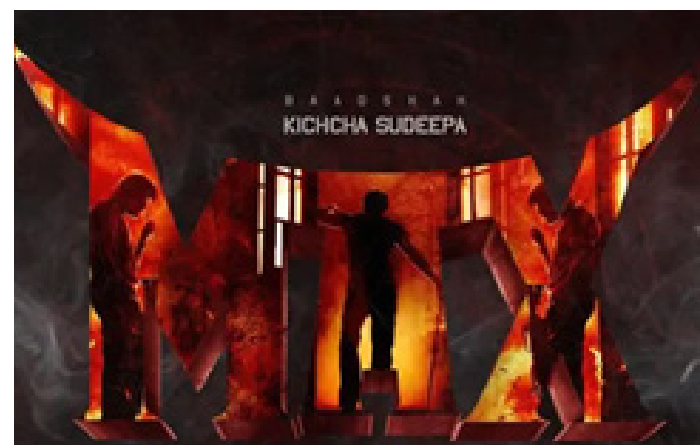
With its supernatural premise, Aadi Saikumar's intense role, and the involvement of an impressive team, *Shambala* is shaping up to be an exciting project. The newly released poster has already sparked significant interest, and as the film gears up for release, fans are eager to see how this intriguing thriller unfolds on screen.



Kichcha Sudeep's MAX Trailer Sets High Expectations Ahead of Release

Kichcha Sudeep, one of Sandalwood's most prominent stars, is all set to make a grand impact with his upcoming action drama *MAX*. Directed by Vijay Karthikeya, the film is scheduled for a highly anticipated Kannada release on December 25, 2024. Adding to the excitement, fans of the actor will also be able to enjoy the Telugu version of *MAX*, which is set to hit theaters on December 27, 2024, with Asian Suresh Entertainment LLP managing the release.

The recently released trailer has generated considerable buzz, quickly capturing the attention of fans. It showcases Kichcha Sudeep delivering powerful dialogues and featuring intricately choreographed action sequences, making it clear that *MAX* will be packed with high-octane moments. The trailer's gripping visuals and intense per-



formances have left fans eagerly awaiting the film's release, building anticipation for what promises to be an exciting cinematic experience.

MAX features a talented ensemble cast that includes Varalaxmi Sarathku-

mar, Sunil, Samyukta Hornad, and Sukrutha Wagle, among others, each playing key roles that add depth to the storyline. The film is backed by renowned producer Kalaippuli S. Thanu, who has been a part of several successful ventures. Music for the film is composed by the talented Ajaneesh Loknath, ensuring a memorable soundtrack that complements the high-energy narrative.

With a storyline full of action, drama, and emotional depth, *MAX* is poised to appeal to a wide audience, not only in Kannada but also in Telugu, thanks to its gripping trailer and the star power of Kichcha Sudeep. As the release date draws closer, fans are eagerly counting down the days to see the film hit the big screen and experience this thrilling ride.

Anupama Parameswaran: A Modern-Day Muse, Gracing the Cover of Vogue India

Anupama Parameswaran graces the January-February cover of Vogue India, channeling the timeless elegance of Raja Ravi Varma's iconic muses. Dressed in a stunning pink outfit and adorned with a delicate bindi, she embodies the ethereal grace of Padmini, the lotus nymph, in a contemporary reimagining of the celebrated artworks. The actress, known for her versatile acting skills and natural beauty, strikes a perfect balance between tradition and modernity in this breathtaking photoshoot.

In an exclusive interview with the magazine, Anupama opens up about her journey to stardom. Reflecting on her childhood, she shares, "When I was younger, I longed for the grace of Raja Ravi Varma's muses, secretly longing to carry it as my own." Now, as she appears on the cover, that childhood dream has become a reality, marking a significant milestone in her career. Anupama's fluency in five languages—Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kanna-

da, and English—has allowed her to take on a wide range of roles in Indian cine-



ma. From her breakthrough performance in *Premam* to her recent successes in *Karthikeya 2* and *18 Pages*, she continues to impress audiences with her versatility and range.

Despite her fame, Anupama is refreshingly grounded and candid about the challenges she faces. While she excels in her craft, she admits, "I do not mind mugging ten pages of conversation, but photoshoots and interviews stress me out." This honesty and humility make her even more relatable, revealing the calm strength behind the starlet's busy life in the public eye.

With over 16 million followers on Instagram, Anupama is one of the most popular celebrities on social media. As she gears up for the release of six new films in 2024, spanning multiple languages, her star continues to rise. Her cover shoot for *Vogue India* is just the beginning of what promises to be another groundbreaking year for this unstoppable talent.



Chinni Song Release Time Announced for Daaku Maharajaaj

Nandamuri Balakrishna's much-anticipated film *Daaku Maharajaaj* is creating waves ahead of its grand theatrical release on January 12, 2025. Directed by Bobby Kolli, the movie features a star-studded cast, including Shraddha Srinath as the heroine. Fans are eagerly awaiting the film's release, and the excitement continues to build with the unveiling of its music.

Following the massive success of the first single, *The Rage of Daaku*, which resonated deeply with music lovers, the makers are set to release the second single, *Chinni*. This emotional track is expected to tug at the heartstrings, showcasing the poignant bond between Balakrishna's character and a young girl. Composed by the talented Thaman, *Chinni* will be released today at 04:29 PM, and anticipation is high as fans eagerly await the song's emotional depth and connection.

Daaku Maharajaaj boasts a strong ensemble cast, with Bobby Deol, Urvashi Rautela, and Chandini Chowdary among the key actors, each playing pivotal roles that add to the film's intrigue. Produced by Sithara Entertainment and Fortune Four Cinemas, the film is already generating considerable buzz. With its captivating storyline, stellar performances, and a captivating soundtrack, *Daaku Maharajaaj* is quickly becoming one of the most anticipated releases of early 2025.

As the film's release date approaches, fans are looking forward to more updates, especially with *Chinni* now on the horizon. Stay tuned as *Daaku Maharajaaj* promises to be a thrilling cinematic experience for audiences.