

POINT

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Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 27° C L 14° C	H 30° C L 19° C	H 26° C L 21° C

CM Pays Tribute to Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh



TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Dec 28

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu paid tribute to the mortal remains of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, acknowledging his immense contributions to the nation's economic progress. Naidu visited the family members of Singh to express his condolences and emphasized the significant role the former Prime Minister played in shaping India's economic policies.

During his visit, Naidu described Singh as a great economic reformer whose vision led to the introduction of several key initiatives, including the Aadhaar scheme and the Employment Guarantee Scheme. Naidu praised Singh's foresight and leadership, recognizing his critical role in steering the country through crucial economic reforms that have had a lasting impact on India's financial landscape.

"India has lost a great leader and economic reformer," Naidu said, adding that Singh's contributions have left a profound mark on the nation. He noted that the economic reforms Singh introduced continue to serve as a foundation for the country's development and progress.

Naidu expressed his admiration for Singh's dedication to the welfare of the nation and his ability to bring about significant changes in India's

DY CM Pays Tributes to Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Bharat is in mourning after the demise of Padma Vibhushan Dr. Manmohan Singh, a visionary economist, a man of humility, intellect, and a former Prime Minister. Dr. Singh's leadership transformed the nation's trajectory, leaving an indelible mark on India's progress.

As Finance Minister under Prime Minister Sri PV Narasimha Rao, Dr. Singh introduced the landmark LPG (Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization) reforms, which laid the foundation for a modern and progressive Bharat. Together, the Sri PV Narasimha Rao - Sri Manmohan Singh duo guided the country out of an economic crisis, restoring stability and positioning Bharat as a global growth engine.

During his tenure as Prime Minister in the UPA government, Dr. Singh introduced several groundbreaking initiatives, including the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the Right to Information Act (RTI), and the Right to Education, which impacted millions of lives across the nation.

Dr. Singh's wisdom, integrity, and dedication to public service set him apart as a leader who worked tirelessly for the country's development. His silence often spoke louder than the loudest voices, a testament to his thoughtful and measured approach to governance. In this difficult time, I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends. May his soul rest in peace. Om Shanti.

economy. Singh's legacy, Naidu said, would be remembered for generations, as his visionary policies have paved the way for modern India's growth.

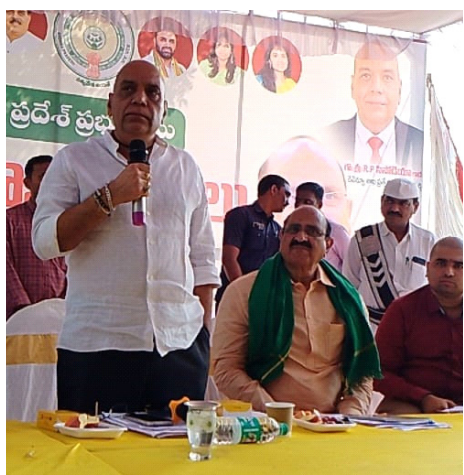
The Chief Minister's tribute underscored the respect and recognition Singh earned for his transformative leadership during his tenure as Prime Minister.

Revenue Meetings to Continue Until All Issues Are Resolved - RP Sisodia

TPN Correspondent
Eluru, Dec 28

Special Chief Secretary of the Revenue Department, RP Sisodia, announced that revenue meetings will continue across the state until all revenue-related issues are resolved. Speaking at a constituency-level revenue meeting in Pedapalaparru village, Mudinepalli Mandal, Eluru district, Sisodia emphasized that Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has instructed officials to address people's grievances regarding revenue matters.

Sisodia highlighted that several errors, particularly related to land records, were caused by faulty surveys, with some lands incorrectly recorded under Section 22A. He assured that these errors would be rectified. So far, 1.35 lakh petitions have been received through the revenue meet-



ings, which are aimed at resolving local issues. However, Sisodia clarified that these meetings will not address issues pending in court. He also assured that petitions submitted during the meetings would be acknowledged, and no fees would be charged for filing them.

Kaikaluru MLA, Kamineni Srinivas, also spoke at the meeting, emphasizing the need for permanent solutions to long-standing revenue issues in the constituency, including vyvaka lands and Kolleru lands. Despite paying taxes, the occupants of these lands have been unable to claim ownership. Kamineni urged the government to address these concerns and provide lasting solutions. Villagers raised issues regarding incorrect issuance of joint Land Possession Memos (LPMS) for multiple lands due to a resurvey carried out by the previous government, leading to disputes among landowners. They also complained about the inconvenience caused by combining patta lands with gram kantham lands. The meeting was attended by Eluru District Joint Collector Dathri Reddy, Eluru RDO Ambareesh, Mudinepalli Tahsildar Subani, and other officials.

YCP Launches Statewide Protest Against Increased Electricity Charges



TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

The YCP has intensified its fight against the coalition government in Andhra Pradesh, with protests erupting across the state over the recent hike in electricity charges. The party, which has already organized rallies in support of farmers, held dharnas in all districts on Friday, accusing the government of burdening the people despite promises to reduce electricity charges.

YCP leaders have made it clear that they will not be intimidated by cases or threats. They emphasized that the struggle against the government's policies will continue unabated. Former Minister Ambati Rambabu, speaking during one such protest, strongly stated that YCP's fight is not motivated by fear but by the need to hold the government accountable for its actions. He dismissed claims that YCP is weakened by its reduced seat count, stressing that the party still enjoys significant support, with 40 percent of the vote share. Rambabu asserted that the party will persist in opposing the government's anti-people policies, including the electricity charge hike.

In a related criticism, MP Mithun Reddy accused former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of misleading the public by promising no increase in electricity charges during the elections. Instead, the state has now been saddled with a debt of Rs. 15,485.36 crore, with the government already beginning to collect Rs. 6,072.86 crore. YCP leaders revealed that another Rs. 9,412.50 crore is set to be collected starting in January.

YSRCP activists have staged protests at electricity offices throughout the state, expressing their dissatisfaction with the government's actions and reaffirming their commitment to challenging the current administration's policies.

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Minister Durgesh Pledges Govt Support at Graphite Crucible Industry Centenary

TPN Correspondent
Rajahmundry, Dec 28

State Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh assured that the coalition government will support the sustainability of local industries during the centenary celebrations of the All India Graphite Crucible Manufacturers Association. The event was held on Friday at Hotel Manjira Sarovar, Arts College Road, Rajahmundry.

Minister Durgesh congratulated the members and leadership of the association for reaching this significant milestone, acknowledging the challenges the organization has faced over the years. He expressed the government's commitment to supporting the All India Graphite Crucible Manufacturers Association, which has provided employment to hundreds. Durgesh emphasized that the government will cooperate in revitalizing the industry.

During his speech, Minister Durgesh outlined the challenges faced by the industry in recent years, such as the lack of raw materials, outdated technology, and certain government policies. He suggested that a meeting will be held after the Sankranti festival, with company owners, local MLAs, and MSME officials, to discuss solutions. Durgesh also proposed reducing GST from 18% to 12%, which he believed would significantly benefit the industry.

The Minister praised the new industrial policy introduced by the coalition government, highlighting its efforts to support small, medium, and



large-scale industries. He also noted that the tourism sector has been granted industry status and stressed that the industry must work alongside the government to overcome its challenges.

Durgesh shared his concern over the decline of the industry, noting that while over 120 companies once

thrived, only 40 remain on Friday. He encouraged the industry to adopt advanced technology and create a partnership with the government to ensure its survival and growth.

Rajahmundry Urban MLA Adireddy Vasu, Rajanagaram MLA Bathula Balaramakrishna, and other local leaders participated in the event.

Raghurama Custodial Torture Case, Vijaypal's Bail and Custody Hearing Postponed

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

The hearing for the bail and custody petitions of former CID officer Vijaypal, arrested in connection with the Raghurama Krishna Raju custodial torture case, has been postponed. The hearing, which was scheduled for today, will now take place on the 30th of this month.

Vijaypal, the former Additional SP of CID, was arrested in relation to the alleged torture of AP Assembly Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishna Raju during the previous government's tenure. He is currently in custody at Guntur jail. Today, the Guntur court took up the hearing for Vijaypal's bail petition and the custody petitions of CID officers involved in the case. After the arguments, the court decided to postpone the hearing to later this month. Vijaypal had earlier approached the Supreme Court seeking anticipatory bail in the case. However, his petition was dismissed by the apex court, leading to his arrest. The investigation into the custodial torture case is being conducted under the supervision of Prakasam District SP Damodar.

The case has garnered significant attention, with the alleged custodial abuse of Raghurama Krishna Raju becoming a point of controversy. The outcome of the upcoming hearing will be crucial for Vijaypal's legal battle in this high-profile case.



Crowds Flood AP Registration Offices as Charge Hike Looms

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Registration offices across Andhra Pradesh have been overwhelmed with large crowds as people rush to complete property registrations before an expected increase in charges. The coalition government had initially planned to implement the new registration charges starting January 1, but the decision has been postponed as the necessary procedures are still being finalized.

Despite the delay, officials have already submitted proposals for the increase in registration fees, and the new charges are anticipated to be enforced soon. As a result, there has been a significant surge in visitors to sub-registrar offices throughout the state. On Friday, the registration offices saw double the usual number of transactions, with people eager to complete property deals, purchases, and sales before the fee hike takes effect.

The rush has led to commotion at the registration offices, as citizens seek to finalize their paperwork ahead of the price increase. While the exact date for the new charges remains unclear, the ongoing surge in registrations indicates that many are anxious to avoid higher fees.



Minister Gummadi Sandhyarani Criticizes YCP's Claims on Electricity Charges

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

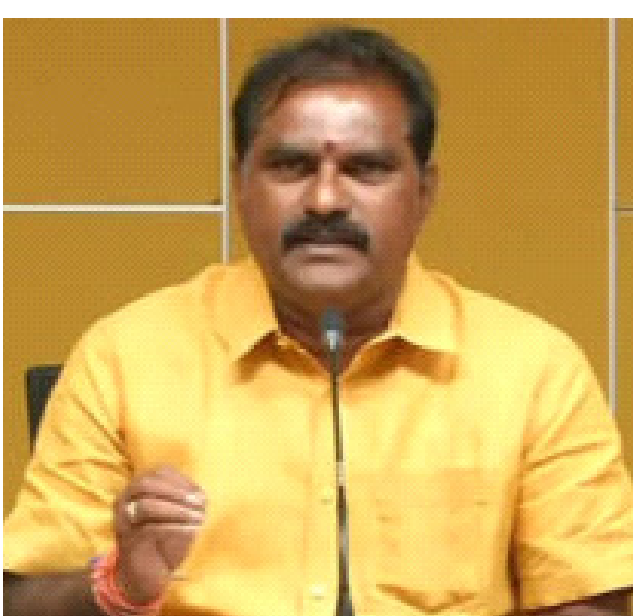
Minister Gummadi Sandhyarani has expressed strong disapproval of the YCP's claims regarding the increase in electricity charges, accusing them of hypocrisy. Speaking at a press conference at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) central office in Mangalagiri on Friday, she criticized the YCP for protesting against the very charges they imposed during their tenure.

Sandhyarani pointed out that the YCP government had raised electricity bills ten times in the last five years, leading to a burden of Rs. 32,000 crore on consumers. She emphasized that people had rejected Jagan Reddy's leadership, as evidenced by the limited support YCP received in the elections, securing only 11 seats. She also questioned the credibility of Sakshi media, which she claimed was spreading lies.

Highlighting the achievements of the TDP government under Chandrababu Naidu, Sandhyarani recalled how AP transitioned from a power deficit of 22.5 million units in 2014 to a power surplus state by 2019. She also criticized the current YCP government for its mishandling of the electricity sector, which included the cancellation of power purchase agreements (PPAs) and neglect of solar power generation, resulting in financial losses.

In response to claims about pension schemes, Sandhyarani reiterated that the TDP government provides a monthly pension of Rs. 4,000 for the elderly, significantly higher than other states. She also noted that the TDP is committed to providing free solar electricity to SCs and STs, offering an alternative energy solution to reduce the electricity burden.

Minister Sandhyarani concluded by stressing that TDP's focus is on public welfare, promising to continue working towards the betterment of the state's people.



Minister Nimmala Criticizes YCP's Protest on Electricity Charges, Suggests Dharna at Jagan's House

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has strongly criticized the YCP leaders for staging dharnas over the issue of electricity charges, despite the fact that the charges were increased nine times during Jagan Reddy's tenure as Chief Minister. Nimmala pointed out the hypocrisy of Jagan, who is now protesting the very charges he raised. Speaking on the matter, Minister Nim-

mala stated that the coalition government had imposed a significant burden on the people by raising electricity charges, totaling a burden of Rs. 16,000 crore. He also accused the government of pushing the discoms into a financial crisis, which has further affected the public, resulting in an additional burden of Rs. 18,000 crore. Nimmala suggested that if the YCP leaders were genuinely concerned about the increased charges, they should hold their protests in front

of Jagan's house, as he was responsible for the hike in the first place. He further criticized the government's purchase of electricity at high prices, alleging that this was done for commission-based reasons.

The Minister also credited former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for transforming Andhra Pradesh into a power-surplus state between 2014 and 2019, contrasting the achievements of the previous government with the current situation under Jagan's rule.



Minister Anagani Satya Prasad Slams Jagan Over Power Sector Burdens

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Andhra Pradesh Minister Anagani Satya Prasad has launched a sharp attack on YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of crippling the state's power sector with mismanagement and heavy financial burdens during his regime. Speaking to the media on Friday, Satya Prasad criticized Jagan for what he called "irresponsible actions" that left the people of Andhra Pradesh struggling under increased electricity costs. The minister claimed that Jagan's government had imposed a burden of nearly ₹1.30 lakh crore on the state's power sector by purchasing electricity at inflated prices of ₹8 to ₹14 per unit, instead of the standard ₹5 per unit. He further alleged that Jagan canceled solar and wind energy Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), rendering 10,000 megawatts of renewable energy unavailable to the state.

Highlighting recent developments, Satya Prasad pointed out that the Jagan government approved a ₹17,000 crore increase in true-up charges for the 2022-2024 period, with orders from the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC) to implement the charges starting December. "It is shameful that Jagan is now protesting against the very electricity charges he approved," Satya Prasad remarked.

He lashed out at Jagan's "hypocritical" actions, calling him a "crazy Tughlaq" for leading protests against policies he himself enacted. The minister condemned YSRCP's ongoing dharnas against electricity tariff hikes,



stating that they are an attempt to mislead the public and distract from the failures of Jagan's governance. Satya Prasad's remarks add to the growing criticism of Jagan's handling of the energy sector, as leaders across the political spectrum continue to voice their discontent with his administration's policies.

Roja Slams Pawan Kalyan's Silence on Power Tariff Hikes

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Former minister and YSRCP leader Roja has launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan over the ongoing increase in electricity charges. Speaking during a YSRCP protest against the hikes, Roja accused Chandrababu of betraying his election promises and questioned Pawan Kalyan's silence on the issue.

Roja criticized Chandrababu for going back on his promise to reduce electricity charges, stating, "Chandrababu, who assured people he would not increase tariffs and even reduce them, is now imposing a heavy burden on the public. Why has he forgotten his election commitments?"

Targeting Pawan Kalyan, she questioned his inability to hold Chandrababu accountable. "Pawan Kalyan claimed he wouldn't agree to higher electricity tariffs. Why is he silent now? Why is he unable to stop Chandrababu from burdening the people?"

Roja reaffirmed YSRCP's commitment to fighting the tariff hikes, declaring that the protests will continue until the increased charges are rolled back. She called



the coalition government's actions a betrayal of the people's trust, highlighting the disconnect between their pre-election promises and post-election decisions.

YSRCP's protests have gained traction, with leaders emphasizing the hardships faced by citizens due to escalating electricity costs. Roja's remarks reflect the party's growing criticism of the coalition government and its approach to governance.

JC Prabhakar Reddy Laments Hardships Faced Over the Past Five Years

TPN Correspondent
Tadipatri, Dec 28

Municipal Chairman JC Prabhakar Reddy expressed his frustration and grief over the challenges he has faced in the last five years. Speaking to the media from his residence in Lakshmi Nagar, Anantapur city, he shared his ordeal, reflecting on his strained relationship with the YS family and the losses he endured.

JC Prabhakar Reddy, once considered close to the YS family, clarified that their association no longer exists. He lamented the loss of his All India buses, attributing the hardships to actions beyond his control. "We have suffered even though we have done nothing wrong," he stated.

Recounting his personal struggles, JC shared that his family has faced financial difficulties from the beginning. "There has been no car in our house since childhood, and there isn't a vehicle I haven't driven," he said, questioning why the police have seized his vehicles. "The police can take my vehicles, but what is it that I should not say?" he asked, emphasizing his right to speak out.

JC also highlighted his concern for those dependent on the ultra-tech factory, stating that his priority is ensuring they do not end up on the streets. He stressed the need for fair treatment and justice for those who rely on such establishments for their livelihoods.

The municipal chairman's candid remarks shed light on the personal and professional challenges he has faced, marking a poignant moment in his political journey.



Former IAS Officer Imtiaz Ahmed Resigns from YSRCP, Announces Exit from Politics

TPN Correspondent
Kurnool, Dec 28

In a significant blow to the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), former IAS officer and Kurnool in-charge Imtiaz Ahmed has announced his resignation from the party. Ahmed, who had contested as the YSRCP candidate for the Kurnool Assembly seat in the 2019 elections, declared that he will stay away from politics and focus on social service programs.

Addressing the media, Ahmed explained that his decision to quit politics was made following advice from his family and close relatives. "I have decided to resign from YSRCP and step away from active politics to dedicate myself to social service," he stated.

Imtiaz Ahmed, a former Krishna District Collector, entered politics after his retirement approached. Recognizing his administrative experience, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy inducted him into the YSRCP and fielded him as the MLA candidate for



Kurnool. However, Ahmed lost the election to TDP candidate TG Bharath, and his involvement in party activities diminished significantly thereafter.

The resignation of Imtiaz Ahmed adds to the growing list of leaders departing from the YSRCP, highlighting the party's internal challenges. His exit also raises questions about the party's strategies and its ability to retain experienced leaders as it gears up for upcoming electoral battles.

With Ahmed now focusing on social service, his departure marks the end of his brief stint in active politics, leaving a gap in YSRCP's leadership in the Kurnool region.

Minister Dola Criticizes Former CM Jagan Over Power Tariff Hikes

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

Minister Dola Bala Veeranjanya Swami has strongly criticized former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that the actions during his tenure continue to burden the people of the state. The minister accused Jagan of creating an energy crisis through mismanagement and corruption.

Referring to Jagan's past dharnas staged by YSRCP ranks over power tariff hikes, Minister Dola called the act "psychotic" and a blatant attempt to mislead the public. "Is it not true that Rs. 19,000 crores were spent on power purchases beyond what was approved by APERC? This burden has now fallen on the people," the minister stated.

Minister Dola alleged that electricity costing Rs. 5 per unit was sold at inflated rates of Rs. 8 to Rs. 14 per unit due to commissions and corruption under Jagan's rule. She emphasized that such decisions, driven by greed, were shameful and detrimental to the people.

Drawing attention to Jagan's leadership, she remarked that the public had "stolen power" from him in



response to the unjustified increase in electricity charges. "When leaders cheat the people, the consequences will inevitably catch up with them. Jagan should reflect on this," Minister Dola said.

The minister highlighted that the repercussions of Jagan's policies are still being felt across the state. She urged people to recognize the damage caused by his administration and called for accountability in governance.

The critique comes as the current government works to address the challenges posed by past mismanagement, with a focus on easing the burdens imposed on citizens.

Bhanuprakash Reddy Alleges Looting of TTD Funds During YSRCP Rule

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

TTD board member and BJP leader Bhanuprakash Reddy has made serious allegations against the YSRCP government, claiming that hundreds of crores of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) funds were looted during its regime. He accused senior officials of misusing temple resources and highlighted the theft in Tirumala Parakamani as a glaring example of corruption.

Speaking to the media, Bhanuprakash Reddy expressed outrage over the alleged destruction of temple systems under YSRCP rule. He claimed that even sacred idols were attacked, chariots were burned, and efforts were made to divert TTD funds for non-religious purposes.

The BJP leader stressed the need for the protection of temples and Hindu traditions, emphasizing that temple funds should not be used for government programs. "We must protect our temples ourselves. Not a single rupee of temple funds should be misused," he asserted.

To address these issues, Bhanuprakash Reddy announced plans to



meet the Director General of Police (DGP) and demand a thorough investigation into the Tirumala theft incident. He also declared that a movement for the protection of Hindu Dharma would be launched under the auspices of the TTD.

As part of this initiative, a "Shankharavam" program will be organized in Vijayawada on January 5, where resolutions will be passed to safeguard Hindu Dharma and temple integrity. Bhanuprakash Reddy called on devotees and stakeholders to join hands in preserving the sanctity and resources of temples across the state.

Judgment Reserved on Anticipatory Bail Plea of Perni Nani's Wife in Ration Rice Case

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Dec 28

The 9th Additional District Judge's Court in Machilipatnam has reserved its judgment on the anticipatory bail petition filed by Jayasudha, wife of former minister Perni Nani, in connection with the missing ration rice case. The verdict is scheduled to be announced on the 30th of this month.

Senior advocate Varadarajulu represented Jayasudha, while Special Public Prosecutor Venkateswara Rao argued on behalf of the government. Following extensive arguments from both sides, the judge decided to reserve the judgment. The case pertains to the disappearance of 3,708 bags of ration rice from a godown in Machilipatnam, which were reportedly stored under Jayasudha's name. Civil Supplies Department officials lodged a complaint with the police, leading to a case being registered against Jayasudha and the godown manager, Manas Teja. In response to the case, Jayasudha



sought anticipatory bail, arguing for protection against arrest. The court's decision will play a crucial role in determining the next steps in the legal proceedings surrounding the allegations.

The case has drawn significant attention due to its implications for accountability and the alleged mismanagement of public distribution system resources.

'Savitri Classics' Book Release Event Honoring Mahanati Savitri

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

The Akkineni Foundation of India, in association with Pranavi Musical Academy, commemorated the death anniversary of legendary actress Mahanati Savitri with a grand event. The occasion marked the release of the book Savitri Classics, penned by renowned filmmaker and poet Shri Sanjay Kishore, at Vijayawada.



The event witnessed the presence of several distinguished personalities, including Retired High Court Judge Sri Akula Sessa Sai, High Court Government Pleader Thota Srinivas, Kuchipudi dance master Madhavapeddi Murthy, film director Relangi Narasimha Rao, and Vijayawada CI SVVS Murthy.

Speaking on the occasion, Retired High Court Judge Sri Akula Sessa Sai lauded the contributions of Savitri, calling her a timeless icon who transcended generations with her talent and grace. He praised the author, Shri Sanjay Kishore, for his dedication to preserving her legacy through the book.

High Court GP Thota Srinivas highlighted Savitri's impact on Indian cinema, describing her as an epitome of versatility and dedication. He noted that her performances in the 1950s and 60s set benchmarks in acting that continue to inspire artists today.

Kuchipudi dance master Madhavapeddi Murthy shared insights into Savitri's cultural impact, emphasizing her role as a bridge between art forms. "Savitri was not just an actress; she was an institution of artistry," he remarked.

Film director Relangi Narasimha Rao reminisced about Savitri's golden era in the film industry, narrating anecdotes that showcased her humility and commitment to her craft.

The book Savitri Classics was applauded for its in-depth portrayal of the actress's life and career, offering a tribute to her unparalleled legacy. Vijayawada



CI SVVS Murthy and other dignitaries also expressed their admiration for Savitri's contributions to Indian cinema.

Mahanati Savitri (6 December 1934 – 26 December 1981) remains one of the greatest actresses in the history of Indian cinema. Fondly known as Mahanati in Telugu and Nadigaiyar Thilagam in Tamil, she was celebrated for her versatile performances and was among the highest-paid actresses of her time.

The event concluded with a note of gratitude to the organizers and a collective resolve to ensure that Savitri's legacy continues to inspire generations.

Awareness Program on Cybercrime, Drug Use, and Digital Safety Organized by Police Commissioner

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

In an effort to raise awareness about pressing societal issues like cybercrime, the harms caused by drug use, and the precautions necessary to prevent them, the N.T.R. District Police Commissioner, Sri S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, IPS, organized an awareness program for students at Lakkireddy Balireddy College.



The program focused on educating students about various topics including cybercrime, digital arrest, the Cyber Citizen app, and the dangers of drug use. Commissioner Rajasekhara Babu emphasized the importance of preventive measures to control cyber-crimes and creating awareness to build a safer, cyber-secure society.

In his message, the Commissioner shared his experience as a former engineering college lecturer and expressed his pleasure at being back in an academic environment. He also visited the college's Aerospace Lab and highlighted how technology can be leveraged in police work to improve services to the public. He encouraged students to create apps and digital tools to fight cyber-crimes, urging them to use their knowledge and creativity for the benefit of society. The Commissioner provided several tips for cybercrime prevention, including the use of the Cyber Citizen app, which has been used



by over 3 lakh people for crime surveillance. Other resources such as the 1930 Call Center for filing complaints and national portals like NCRP and I4C were also introduced. On the issue of drug abuse, the Commissioner stressed the devastating impact on youth and called for a collective effort to stay away from drugs. He highlighted the launch of the "Eagle" initiative aimed at a drug-free society and assured strict action against drug-related offenses. The event saw the participation of approximately 3,500 students, along with IPS Trainee Manisha, ADCP Task Force Srinivasa Rao, and other officials.

Kankipadu Police Arrest Copper Wire Thieves in Krishna District

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

The Kankipadu Police have successfully arrested a group of individuals involved in serial copper wire thefts across several areas in Krishna and Guntur districts. The arrested suspects were reportedly involved in stealing copper wires and brass plumbing items from apartments, villas, and solar plants under construction.



The thefts occurred in areas including Kankipadu, Machilipatnam, Pamarru, Penamaluru, and parts of Mangalagiri rural in Guntur district. A total of eight theft cases have been registered, and the police have seized stolen copper wire valued at approximately Rs. 11 lakh.

The arrests were made following a thorough investigation, utilizing both technical and non-technical methods. Based on the efforts of Kankipadu SI Sandeep and his team, under the supervision of Gannavaram DSP Sri CH Srinivasa Rao and Kankipadu Circle Inspector Sri J Muralikrishna, four suspects were ap-

prehended. The accused are residents of Mangalagiri.

The Kankipadu Police team, including Additional SI Thatacharyulu and staff members Chandra, Murthy, Baji, and Pillai, were praised for their effective investigation and dedication in solving the case. They were specially congratulated and awarded by Gannavaram DSP Sri CH Srinivasa Rao and Kankipadu Circle Inspector J Muralikrishna for their outstanding efforts.

Special Meeting of Display Device Fee Committee at Vijayawada Municipal Corporation

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

A special meeting of the Display Device Fee Committee was convened on Friday morning at the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) headquarters, following the orders of VMC Commissioner Dhyanaachandra. The meeting, held in the Command Control Room, was attended by representatives from various agencies related to display devices.

A total of 28 agencies were invited to the meeting, and eight agencies participated. During the meeting, the committee members reviewed the permission letters, trade licenses, and applications submitted by the agencies. They discussed the issues surrounding payment dues to the municipal corpora-

tion and explored the challenges faced by agencies in making these payments. The committee members also instructed the town planning staff to follow up with the agencies that failed to attend the meeting. The meeting was led by Additional Commissioner (Project) Chandrasekhar, who serves as the head of the Display Fee Committee. Other notable attendees included Chief City Planner GVGSV Prasad, Joint Director (Amrit) Dr. Latha, Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Srujana, Accounts Officer Satyanarayana, and other members from the Town Planning department. The discussion focused on streamlining the payment process and addressing concerns from participating agencies.

Janasena Party Hosts Janavani Program in Mangalagiri

TPN Correspondent Mangalagiri, Dec 28

The Jana Sena Party Central Office in Mangalagiri organized a Janavani program on Thursday, where people from various parts of the



country gathered to express their concerns and problems. Nellimarla MLA Smt. Lokam Madhavi was present to receive the petitions from the attendees.

The program saw participation from key party leaders including Sri Myforce Mahesh, State Joint Secretary, and Sri Lokam Prasad. Legal team members, Sri Marri Ravikumar and Sri Sai Suresh, also joined the event.

During the event, attendees shared their issues with the party leadership, and the team took note of their concerns for further action. The Janavani program is an initiative by Jana Sena Party to engage with the public and address their grievances directly.

Devineni Umamaheswarao Accuses Y.S. Jagan of Spreading False Propaganda on Electricity Charges

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

Devineni Umamaheswarao, a senior leader, has lashed out at Former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of spreading false propaganda regarding the burden of electricity charges in Andhra Pradesh. He criticized Jagan's stance, calling it "shameful" that the



same person who imposed the burden on the people is now holding protests and rallies.

Umamaheswarao emphasized that Jagan Reddy's actions, including purchasing electricity at high rates for personal commissions, have caused massive

debts for the state's electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs). He stated that Jagan's decisions have weakened the electricity system and benefited unscrupulous companies, leading to increased electricity charges nine times over five years.

The senior leader pointed out that, despite the public's discontent with Jagan's corrupt rule, the Chief Minister has not altered his attitude. Umamaheswarao accused Jagan of continuing to propagate lies and false narratives, even as the people of the state suffer from the consequences of his administration's decisions.

YCP Protests Against Increased Electricity Charges in Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Dec 28

In Vijayawada, a large-scale peaceful protest rally was led by NTR District YCP President Devineni Avinash, voicing strong opposition to the recent hikes in electricity charges. The rally aimed to raise awareness about the financial burden imposed on the public by the coalition government's actions.



During the protest, Avinash presented a gift to Lingamurthy, the HR Director of Vidyuth Nilayam, demanding an immediate reduction in electricity charges. He criticized the government's decision to increase charges, blaming them for imposing a financial burden of ₹15,500 crores on the people. Avinash also highlighted the government's removal of the scheme that provided free electricity up to 200 units for SC communities. Avinash expressed that the government's arbitrary

hikes in electricity charges were breaking the hearts of the common people. He slammed the coalition government for its failure to fulfill promises made before taking power, including schemes such as free bus services and gas connections for women. He criticized the government's inefficiency and the false promises made during their campaign.

"We stand with the people and condemn the anti-people policies of the coalition government. The people are ready to make their voices heard in the upcoming elections," said Avinash.

The protest saw strong participation from various YCP leaders, including Deputy Mayor Bellam Durga, YCP corporators, division in-charges, and party activists, all showing their solidarity for the cause. The protest was deemed a success, with plans for further public movements led by YCP and Jagan in the near future.

Shocking Twist in Dead Body Parcel Case, Accused Had ₹2 Crore in Bank Accounts

TPN Correspondent, West Godavari Dist : In a chilling revelation, police arrested Sridhar Verma, the prime accused in the infamous "dead body parcel case" of Yandagandi, Undi mandal, West Godavari district. Key details of the gruesome crime came to light during interrogation, exposing a conspiracy involving property disputes, multiple wives, and occult practices. Sridhar Verma, along with his third wife Sushma and ten-year-old daughter, orchestrated the murder of Parlayya, a solitary villager, in a plot to seize the property of his sister-in-law, Tulasi. The accused, aided by his second wife Revathi and Sushma, conspired to intimidate Tulasi by send-

ing Parlayya's body to her house in a wooden parcel box. **The chilling sequence of events unfolded as follows:**

- The Murder:** Parlayya, inebriated, was taken to a secluded location and strangled to death with a nylon rope. His body was then placed in a wooden box prepared at Sridhar's residence in Gandhinagar.
- The Parcel:** The box containing the corpse was delivered to Tulasi's house, causing her immense distress. Using threats and coercion, Sridhar and his accomplices pressured Tulasi to sign over her property.
- The Escape:** After Tulasi secretly sought help from acquaintances,

Sridhar fled with Sushma and their daughter, using over 40 SIM cards to evade the police. The police eventually apprehended the trio in a rented house near Manginapudi beach in Krishna district. Investigators discovered ₹2 crore in Sridhar's bank accounts, adding another layer of intrigue to the case. Locals were further alarmed by evidence of occult practices found in the accused's hideout. The grisly crime has sparked outrage, with villagers demanding the death penalty for Sridhar. The case has raised serious concerns about societal safety and justice, leaving the community in shock.



Congress Leaders Pay Tribute to Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in Bhimavaram



TPN Correspondent, Bhimavaram : Congress party leaders in Bhimavaram, under the leadership of constituency in-charge Ankem Sitaram, gathered at the Congress party office to pay tribute to the late former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. The leaders garlanded his portrait and honored his legacy. Ankem Sitaram, speaking on the occasion, praised Dr. Singh as both a brilliant statesman and economist. He highlighted Dr. Singh's pivotal role as Finance Minister during the tenure of Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, where he helped steer the country out of economic difficulties. Sitaram also acknowledged Dr. Singh's significant contributions in bringing about major economic reforms, which played a key role in advancing India's economy.

scribed Dr. Singh as a great leader who worked tirelessly to eradicate poverty during his two terms as Prime Minister. He emphasized that Dr. Singh's leadership elevated India's standing on the global economic stage.

The leaders further lauded Dr. Singh for coming from a humble background, rising to become the first non-Hindu Prime Minister of India. They recalled his reputation as a thoughtful and principled man, with a legacy that continues to inspire.

Among those who attended the tribute event were Sodadasi Sylvia, Bonam Ravi Kumar, SC Cell President Raj Kumar, Youth Congress President Somu Naga Kesava Babu, and many other Congress leaders and supporters.

Former PCC spokesperson Sodadasi Gangaiah de-

YSRCP Leaders Protest Against Electricity Charge Hikes in Nellore District

TPN Correspondent, Nellore Dist : In Nellore district, YSRCP leaders and activists organized a massive rally from Kasumuru Road to the electricity office in Venkatachalam under the leadership of former minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy. The protest was held to demand the rollback of increased electricity charges. During the rally, Kakani Govardhan Reddy submitted a petition to AD Ramu at the Venkatachalam electricity office, urging the reduction of the charges.



Addressing the gathering, Kakani criticized former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for breaking his pre-election promise of not increasing electricity charges. He accused Naidu of a consistent pattern of making false promises before elections and renegeing on them after securing power.

Kakani alleged that electricity charges had increased by 30% in December and that the coalition government is preparing to impose an additional burden of ₹15,486 crore on the people starting in January. He further criticized the "Super Six" scheme introduced by Chandrababu, claiming that while it promises to offer ₹15,000 or ₹18,000 to beneficiaries,

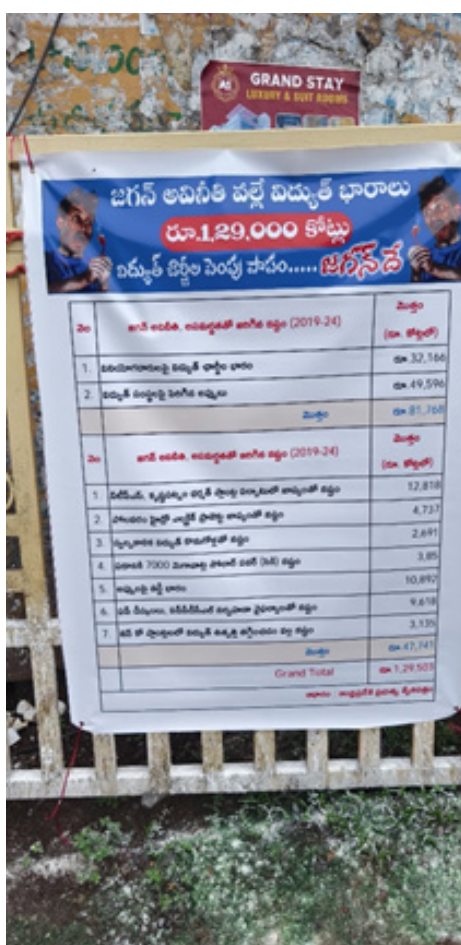
it only imposes additional financial burdens on the public without delivering substantial benefits.

The former minister also condemned the alleged illegal arrest of District Vice President Venkata Seshiah, warning authorities to release him immediately and threatening action against any officers involved in such unlawful acts.

The protest drew significant public attention, with YSRCP leaders vowing to continue their agitation until the government addresses their concerns regarding electricity charges and ensures relief for the people.

Flexi Clash in Darsi Amid Protests Over Electricity Charges

TPN Correspondent, Darsi : A flexi riot erupted in Darsi, Prakasam district, amidst the ongoing protests against electricity bill hikes. As the YSRCP called for a statewide demonstration over the increased charges, tensions flared when opposing parties used flexi banners to voice their narratives. TDP cadres installed flexis in Darsi, accusing Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy of corruption and blaming his governance for the surge in electricity charges. In response, YSRCP supporters alleged that the TDP was creating obstacles to their fight for reducing electricity bills. To counter the TDP's narrative, YSRCP cadres put up their own flexis defending the government.



The flexi duel escalated, leading YSRCP cadres to express their displeasure and lodge complaints with the police and the Municipal Commissioner, alleging defamation and disruption of their protest efforts. Acting on the complaints, municipal officials removed the flexis put up by the TDP. The incident highlights the growing friction between the two parties as protests over electricity charges continue to dominate public discourse.

Mudragada Padmanabham Leads Protest in Prathipadu Against Electricity Charge Hikes



TPN Correspondent, Prathipadu : In Prathipadu, Kakinada district, former Minister Mudragada Padmanabham led a protest at the AP Transco Division Office, demanding the reduction of the recently increased electricity charges. The protest, which attracted large numbers of YSRCP and Congress party supporters, was organized to express dissatisfaction with the coalition government's failure to fulfill its pre-election promises.

Constituency in-charge Mudragada Giri and other party ranks joined in raising

slogans, urging the government to reverse the hike and reduce the financial burden on the people. Padmanabham and other leaders accused the coalition government of breaking its promise to lower electricity charges once in power. Padmanabham emphasized that the government's failure to honor its commitment is causing additional hardship to the poor, further deepening their economic struggles. The protest serves as part of a wider movement demanding relief from escalating electricity costs and accountability from the government.

YSRCP Protests Against Electricity Charge Hikes in Kuppam

TPN Correspondent, Kuppam : In Kuppam, Chittoor district, YSRCP leaders organized a rally to protest the recent hike in electricity charges. The protest was aimed at raising awareness among the public about the impact of the increased charges, which they claim are burdening the people of the region. During the rally, a memorandum was submitted to the RESCO MD, urging the reduction of the electricity charges. MLC Bharat addressed the media, criticizing the coalition government for the ongoing increase in electricity

rates since it came to power. Bharat stated that the rising electricity charges are putting a significant financial burden on the people and expressed concerns over the government's failure to address the issue. The rally aimed to educate the public about the consequences of the price hikes and to demand immediate action from the authorities. The protest reflects growing dissatisfaction with the government's handling of electricity pricing, with calls for relief from the rising costs.





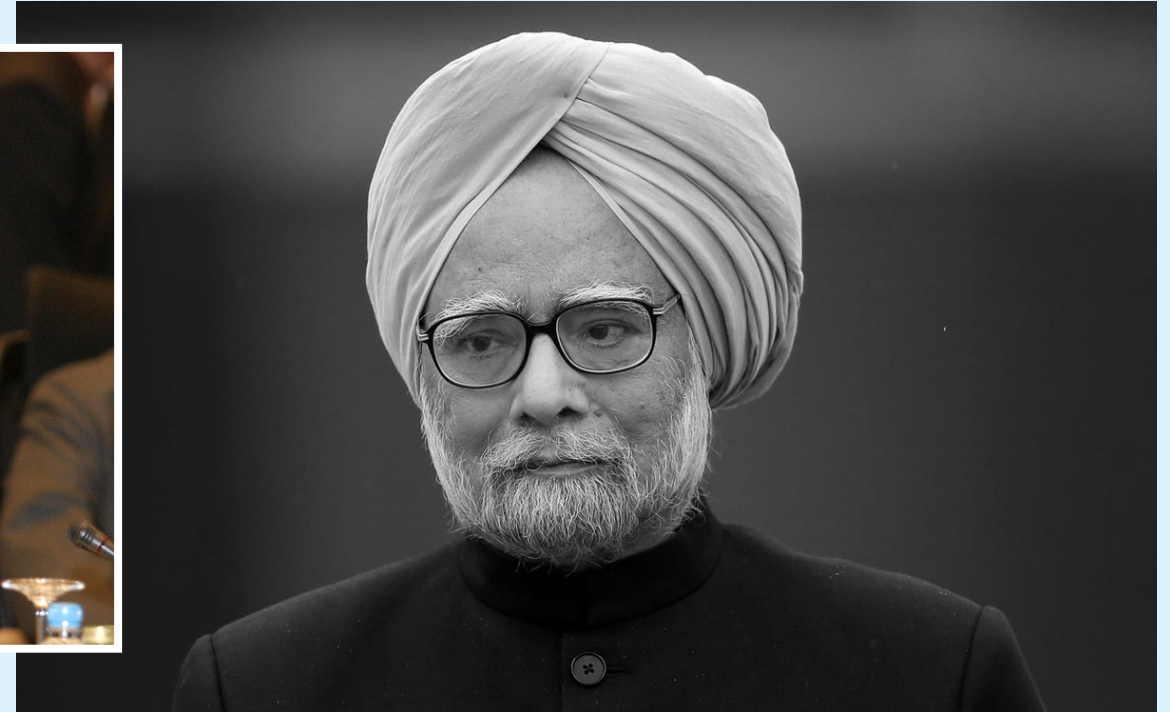
India's Economic Wheel Did Not Move Without A Push From **MANMOHAN SINGH**



By **Murthy Naidu Padam**
Stock market Expert

A Life Dedicated to India's Progress

Dr. Manmohan Singh (September 26, 1932 – December 26, 2024) was a distinguished economist, politician, and reformist who played a pivotal role in shaping India's economic policies. As the 13th Prime Minister of India (2004–2014), Singh left an indelible mark on the nation's development trajectory. Notably, he was the first Sikh and the first leader from a minority community to hold the office of Prime Minister.



The Prime Ministerial Era (2004–2014)

Dr. Singh's tenure as Prime Minister saw India achieve an average growth rate of 7%, with GDP growth averaging 6.7% during his leadership. His handling of the 2008 global financial crisis minimized its impact on India through monetary easing and fiscal stimulus. He introduced landmark social welfare programs such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which provided 100 days of guaranteed employment to rural households, significantly reducing poverty.



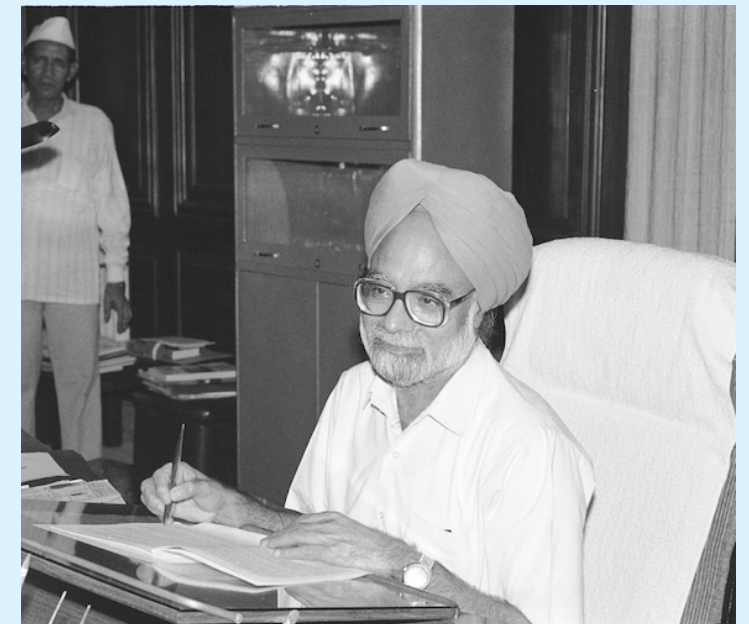
Academic Excellence and Professional Journey

Dr. Singh's academic journey began with a Bachelor's and Master's in Economics from Panjab University (1952, 1954), followed by his Economic Tripos from Cambridge University in 1957 and a D.Phil. in Economics from Oxford University in 1962.

His career spanned academia, government service, and international organizations. After teaching at Punjab University and the Delhi School of Economics, he joined the Government of India in 1971 as Economic Advisor in the Commerce Ministry, later becoming Chief Economic Advisor in 1972. He also served as:

- Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
- Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission
- Secretary in the Finance Ministry
- Chairman of the University Grants Commission

Dr. Singh was also the Secretary General of the South Commission in Geneva (1987–1990). His vast experience prepared him for his role as a transformative policymaker.



The Reformer Behind India's Economic Liberalization

When India faced a severe balance of payments crisis in 1991, Dr. Singh, as Finance Minister under Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, introduced sweeping economic reforms. His policies reduced the License Raj, deregulated industries, and opened India to foreign investments.

Key reforms under his tenure included:

- Trade Liberalization: Reduction in import tariffs and easing trade barriers.
 - FDI Policies: Introduction of foreign investments in crucial sectors.
 - Rupee Devaluation: Boosting export competitiveness.
 - Tax Reforms: Simplification and broadening of the tax base.
- Presenting his first budget in July 1991, Singh famously remarked, "Our economy would return to a path of high sustained growth with reasonable price stability and greater social equity."

Strategic Initiatives and Global Recognition

Dr. Singh's tenure also saw the launch of the Aadhaar project, which revolutionized welfare distribution through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), reducing leakages in government schemes.

He spearheaded the India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement, opening doors for civilian nuclear energy. "The civil nuclear initiative is good for India and good for the world," he declared, emphasizing its role in sustainable development.

Honors and Legacy

Dr. Singh received numerous accolades, including:

- Padma Vibhushan (1987)
- Euro Money Award for Finance Minister of the Year (1993)
- Asia Money Award for Finance Minister of the Year (1993, 1994)
- A Visionary Leader's Impact

Dr. Manmohan Singh's visionary reforms and steady leadership laid the foundation for India's economic rise. From rescuing the economy in 1991 to propelling growth during his tenure as Prime Minister, his contributions remain integral to India's development story.

As the nation mourns his passing, his legacy stands as a testament to his lifelong dedication to India's progress.



Grave Loss To The Nation: PM Modi Condoles Manmohan Singh's Passing



TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.28

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has requested financial aid from the Centre, emphasizing the need for special assistance to support the state's ongoing development projects. Naidu made these requests during his visit to Delhi on Wednesday, where he attended the NDA partner coordination meeting and met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with several Union ministers including Nirmala Sitharaman, Amit Shah, Ashwini Vaishnaw, and HD Kumaraswamy.

Naidu's meetings with the central leadership come ahead of the preparations for the next Union Budget, with discussions on funding key

state projects, particularly Amaravati and Polavaram, which are priorities for the Naidu government. In the last budget, the TDP, a key ally in the NDA, had secured funds for these projects through soft loans from multilateral development agencies and central assistance.

During his meeting with Prime Minister Modi, Naidu highlighted the financial damage caused to Andhra Pradesh by the previous government, particularly how it derailed the state's financial system. He informed Modi that the previous administration had used the revenue deficit grant, meant for five years, within just three years. Naidu also drew attention to the diversion of funds intended for 94 centrally sponsored schemes, a move that had a detrimental impact on the state's

development. Naidu noted that 74 of these schemes had been relaunched under his government's leadership.

In addition to financial support, Naidu raised the issue of the establishment of an ArcelorMittal Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh. He requested central assistance to ensure a steady supply of raw materials for the plant and sought help in clearing technical hurdles to facilitate the plant's development.

Naidu also updated Modi on the progress of key state projects, particularly the Polavaram multipurpose project and the development of Amaravati. He thanked Modi for the central assistance provided in the past and expressed appreciation for the support extended to complete these projects.



Friend, Philosopher, Guide: Sonia Gandhi Remembers Manmohan Singh

TPN CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
DECEMBER.28

Congress leader Sonia Gandhi expressed deep sorrow over the passing of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who died at the age of 92 at Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences. In an emotional statement, Gandhi described Singh as the "epitome of wisdom, nobility, and humility," and mourned his loss as a personal one.

"He was my friend, philosopher, and guide," Gandhi said, highlighting Singh's gentle nature combined with his resolute commitment to his convictions. She praised his unwavering dedication to social justice, secularism, and democratic values. "To spend any time with him was to come away enlightened by his knowledge, moved by his honesty, and awed by his humility," she added.

Gandhi acknowledged the immense void his passing leaves in national life, saying that both the Congress Party and the people of India will forever be grateful for having had a leader like Singh. His leadership, marked by dedication to India's growth and values, will always be remembered fondly.

Other tributes followed from her family, including heartfelt messages from her son Rahul Gandhi and daughter Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Rahul Gandhi expressed the personal loss of a "mentor and guide," recognizing the pivotal role Singh had played in his own life. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra praised Singh's honesty and the respect he commanded across political circles, calling him an enduring inspiration.

Reflecting on Singh's leadership journey, Sonia Gandhi recalled the fateful decision made in May 2004 when she chose not to become Prime Minister, instead making Singh the head of the government. This decision, though controversial at the time, was one that Gandhi said was guided by her self-awareness and belief that Singh was better suited for the role.

Singh's leadership during the UPA era helped steer India through a period of growth and stability, and his work as Finance Minister during the 1991 economic reforms had already established him as a brilliant technocrat. Gandhi underscored that his visionary leadership transformed India and earned him global respect, leaving a lasting impact on the nation.

"Felt He Was Like An Elder Brother To Me": Dalai Lama On Manmohan Singh

TPN CORRESPONDENT DHARMASALA
DECEMBER.28

Upon hearing of the passing of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday night, His Holiness the Dalai Lama sent a heartfelt letter of condolence to Singh's widow, Gursharan Kaur. In his message, the Dalai Lama expressed his sadness and extended his deepest sympathies to the family during this difficult time.

"I will remember him in my prayers and offer my condolences to you and your family at this sad time," the Dalai Lama wrote. Reflecting on their years of interaction, he shared, "Whenever we met, I deeply appreciated his concern and good counsel. I felt he was like an elder brother to me."

The Dalai Lama highlighted Singh's lifelong dedication to others, noting that his significant contributions to India's development, particularly in fostering economic growth, had a profound impact on the lives of the Indian people. He also acknowledged Singh's strong friendship with the Tibetan people, emphasizing his commitment to helping others both in India and beyond.



In his closing remarks, the Dalai Lama praised Singh's legacy, saying, "We can rejoice that for 92 years, he lived a truly meaningful life — an inspiration to us all."

The state funeral for Manmohan Singh is scheduled for Saturday, with his body set to lie in state at the All India Congress Committee office in Delhi, where the public will have the opportunity to pay their respects. The funeral procession will take place in the afternoon, with the cremation occurring near Rajghat, the site where the final rites of Indian Prime Ministers are traditionally performed.

Singh, who passed away at the age of 92 at AIIMS, Delhi, succumbed to age-related medical conditions. He had been rushed to the hospital after a sudden loss of consciousness at his home.

On Friday, prominent political leaders, including Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, and senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, paid their respects to the former Prime Minister. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah also visited Singh's residence, where they offered tributes to the late leader.

"Irreparable Loss For Country": Arvind Kejriwal Pays Last Respect To Manmohan Singh

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.28

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convenor and former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal paid his final respects to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who passed away on Thursday, at the age of 92. Kejriwal expressed his condolences to Singh's family and hailed him as a visionary leader whose economic reforms significantly shaped modern India.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Kejriwal wrote, "Paid my last respects to former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji. Met his family during this solemn moment and extended my condolences to them. Dr. Singh was a visionary leader whose economic reforms shaped modern India and whose humility touched countless lives." He further described Singh's death as an "irreparable loss" for the nation, emphasizing his wisdom, simplicity, and immense contribution to the country's progress. Kejriwal prayed that Singh's noble soul would find peace and expressed heartfelt condolences to his family and well-wishers.

AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh also mourned the loss, calling Singh a "great economist and honest leader" whose passing was a significant setback for India. Singh's contributions to the country's economy, particularly during his tenure as Finance Minister, were acknowledged by many, including Singh's colleagues at AAP.

The body of the former Prime Minister will be kept at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters for public viewing, with a "last darshan" scheduled for Saturday morning. Singh's cremation will take place near Rajghat, where the last rites of Prime Ministers are traditionally performed.



UP Not Safe For Women: Akhilesh Latches On To Governor's Remarks

TPN CORRESPONDENT LUCKNOW
DECEMBER.28

Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav has seized on comments made by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel about the state's law and order situation to subtly criticize the ruling government.

Patel, during an interaction with the media at the Raj Bhavan on Thursday, acknowledged that the law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh had improved under the current regime, but she also emphasized that the state was still not "100 per cent safe for women." Her remarks were significant, as they suggested that there were still gaps in ensuring complete safety for women despite the progress made.

Responding to the Governor's statement, Yadav shared a news headline of Patel's comments on social media with the caption "Satya Vachan" (true statement), implying that the Governor's assessment echoed his own views on the state of law and order in Uttar Pradesh.



PM Modi Pays Tribute to Osamu Suzuki, Celebrating His Legacy in India's Automotive Industry

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed profound sorrow over the passing of Osamu Suzuki, the long-time chairman of Suzuki Motor Corporation and a pioneer in the global automotive industry. In a heartfelt message posted on social media, PM Modi extended his condolences to Suzuki's family and colleagues, recognizing his invaluable contributions to the automotive world.

"Deeply saddened by the passing of Mr. Osamu Suzuki, a legendary figure in the global automotive industry. His visionary work reshaped global perceptions of mobility. Under his leadership, Suzuki Motor Corporation became a global powerhouse, navigating challenges, driving innovation, and achieving remarkable growth," Modi wrote on X (formerly Twitter). He also highlighted Suzuki's special bond with India, noting that the collaboration between Suzuki and Maruti had transformed the Indian automobile market.

PM Modi fondly recalled his numerous interactions with Suzuki and praised his pragmatic, humble leadership. "I cherish fond memories of my numerous interactions with Mr. Suzuki and deeply admire his pragmatic and humble approach. He led by example, with unwavering commitment to quality, hard work, and meticulous attention to detail. Heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and countless admirers," Modi continued.

Osamu Suzuki, who led Suzuki Motor Corporation for over 40 years, is widely credited for revolutionizing India's car market, most



notably with the introduction of the Maruti 800, a small car that became a household name in India. His leadership not only propelled Suzuki to global prominence but also laid the foundation for a long-standing partnership with India.

Last year, during a visit to Japan, PM Modi met with Suzuki to discuss future investment opportunities in India, including the establishment of production facilities for electric vehicles, battery production, and recycling centers. Both leaders also emphasized enhancing India's local innovation sys-

tem through initiatives like the Japan-India Institutes of Manufacturing (JIM) and Japanese Endowed Courses (JEC).

In his tribute, PM Modi acknowledged Suzuki's crucial role in supporting India's automotive industry, noting the ongoing transformations driven by reforms aimed at making India a "Model Landscape" for global investment, particularly in the realm of self-reliance (Aatmanirbhar). Suzuki had long praised these reforms, affirming their role in strengthening India's economic ties with Japan.

SK Lawmakers Impeach Acting President Han Duck-soo Amid Martial Law Crisis



SEOUL: South Korea's National Assembly impeached acting President Han Duck-soo on Friday, accusing him of actively participating in the insurrection following his predecessor's declaration of martial law earlier this month. The motion for impeachment passed with unanimous support, as all 192 lawmakers present voted in favor of the motion.

National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik announced the result, stating, "I announce that Prime Minister Han Duck-soo's impeachment motion has passed. Out of the 192 lawmakers who voted, 192 voted to impeach." This marks a significant political development in South Korea as lawmakers hold Han accountable for his role during a time of intense political turmoil.

The impeachment comes after former President Park Geun-hye's controversial declaration of martial law, a move that sparked widespread protests and calls for government accountability. Han, who was serving as the Prime Minister during Park's absence, is accused of supporting the martial law decree, which led to severe public unrest. The government's decision to implement martial law was seen by many as a serious breach of democratic principles, and Han's participation in the insurrection fueled suspicions that he was complicit in efforts to maintain power undemocratically.

The impeachment motion reflects growing dissatisfaction within South Korea's political landscape, with lawmakers expressing concern over the erosion of democratic values and the government's increasing authoritarian tendencies. Han's impeachment has intensified debates about the future of South Korea's leadership and the role of the acting president during a period of constitutional crisis.

While the impeachment marks a significant shift in South Korea's political climate, it remains to be seen how the country's courts will respond to the motion. The situation is far from settled, and the decision could have profound implications for the future of South Korean democracy and governance.

German President Steinmeier Dissolves Parliament To Pave Way For Feb Snap Elections



BERLIN: German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier dissolved the country's lower house of parliament on Friday, triggering snap elections set for February 23, following the collapse of Chancellor Olaf Scholz's three-way coalition government. The move comes after Scholz lost a confidence vote earlier this month, stemming from the departure of Finance Minister Christian Lindner's Free Democrats, which left his government without a legislative majority.

The dissolution of parliament sets the stage for intense election campaigning, with conservative challenger Friedrich Merz gaining significant traction in recent polls. Merz, who is widely expected to challenge Scholz for the chancellorship, criticized the outgoing government for imposing excessive regulations that he believes have hindered Germany's economic growth.

In recent polls, the conservative bloc holds a commanding lead over Scholz's Social Democratic Party (SPD), with a gap of more than 10 points. The far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party is also making gains, slightly ahead of the SPD, while the Greens have dropped to fourth place in the standings.

The presence of the AfD in German politics complicates the situation for the mainstream parties, as they have consistently refused to enter into coalitions with the far-right group. This dynamic is expected to make coalition-building more challenging after the elections, with the likelihood of unwieldy and fragmented government alliances.



UK Honors Legacy of India's 'Reluctant Prime Minister' Manmohan Singh

LONDON: In January 2023, Dr. Manmohan Singh, India's former Prime Minister, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Indian Students and Alumni Union in the UK, acknowledging his immense contribution to both India and the global stage.

Singh, often referred to as India's "reluctant prime minister" and "architect of economic reforms," left an indelible mark on the country's economic landscape. The UK media has paid tribute to his legacy, recognizing his pivotal role in shaping India's modern economy and his statesmanship on the global front. Singh's legacy as a leader who brought bold economic reforms to India continues to resonate worldwide, with many hailing his ability to stabilize the global economy during the financial crisis.

Lindy Cameron, the British High Commissioner to India, praised Singh on social media, describing him as "a great Prime Minister, Finance Minister, and global statesman" who significantly advanced India's interests. She also highlighted his vital role in putting India in its rightful place on the world stage

and stabilizing the global economy after the crisis. Cameron also noted that the UK would always be proud of Singh's partnership with three British Prime Ministers, as well as his academic ties, being an alumnus of two prestigious UK universities.

Singh's tenure as Prime Minister spanned the leadership of Labour's Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, as well as Conservative David Cameron. The latter, in his memoir "For the Record," reflected on his relationship with Singh, describing him as a "saintly man" who was resolute in facing the threats India encountered. Cameron recalled a conversation with Singh during a visit, in which Singh remarked that another terrorist attack on the scale of the 2008 Mumbai attacks would force India to take military action against Pakistan.

Dr. Singh's life and career have left a lasting impact, not only on India's political and economic landscape but also on the global stage. His legacy continues to be remembered and respected, particularly in the UK, where his contributions have forged a lasting bond between the two nations.



Trump Returns, India-US Ties Remain In A Very Strong Place

WASHINGTON: It was a year of dramatic political shifts in the United States, culminating in President Joe Biden abandoning his reelection bid following a poor performance in a nationally televised debate against his Republican rival, Donald Trump. The debate highlighted Biden's vulnerabilities, while Trump, a convicted felon, withstood two assassination attempts during the bitter and tumultuous campaign.

Trump, at 78, emerged victorious in the race, defeating Vice President Kamala Harris, an Indian-origin candidate who had been hoping to make history as the first female President of the United States. His win marked a significant moment in US politics, as Trump became the first president since Grover Cleveland, 132 years ago, to be evicted from the White House only to return to it four years later.

The outcome shattered the dreams of many Democrats who had supported Biden and hoped to see Harris break new ground by becoming the first woman to hold the nation's highest office. With Trump's return to power, the political landscape of the country shifted once again, raising questions about the future direction of the US under his leadership.



Markets End with Moderate Gains

Sensex Rises 226 Points, Nifty Up 63 Points Amid Cautious Sentiment



Domestic stock markets ended with moderate gains on Friday. They traded with huge gains in the morning due to mixed signals from Asian and international markets. They traded in a range-bound mode as the rupee weakened and investors took profits. There was demand for auto and pharma shares. Selling pressure continued on metal shares. Investors are acting cautiously in the face of uncertainty. The slight decline in India Vicks is a good sign. The rupee fell sharply due to the increase in the dollar index.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 78,472 in the previous session, started today at 78,607. It touched an intraday low of 78,598. It reached an intraday high of 79,043. It finally closed at 78,699 with a gain of 226 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,801 on Friday, touched a low of 23,800 and a high of 23,938. It closed at 23,813, up 63 points. The Bank Nifty rose 140 points to settle at 51,311.

In the Nifty, 30 stocks gained while 20 lost. Dr. Reddy's, IndusInd Bank, M&M, Tata Motors, Eicher Motors

were the top gainers. Hindalco, SBI, CoalIndia, ONGC, BEL lost the most. Metal, PSU Bank, Realty, Consumer Durables, Oil and Gas indices were in the red. Auto, FMCG, Pharma, Healthcare indices rose.

The market breadth on the NSE was equal for buyers and sellers. Out of 2894 companies traded, 1431 gained and 1391 lost. 47 shares hit 52-week highs. 59 hit 52-week lows. The fear index India VIX fell 5.68% to 13.24, which is a good sign.

The rupee suffered a sharp fall against the dollar. It touched a lifetime low of 85.81. It then recovered slightly and settled at 85.54. Due to the market correction, investors' interest in defense stocks like Hindustan Aeronautics, BEL, Mazda, PTC increased. Motilal Oswal has given a buy rating to HomeFirst Finance with a target price of Rs. 1250. Adani Wilmar gains for fifth day in a row. Motilal has given a buy rating to JSW Infra with a target price of Rs 375. 10 lakh shares changed hands in a block deal in UPL. Ircan International gets an order worth Rs 89 crore. Dhani Services is looking to raise funds. NBCC gets an order worth Rs 369 crore.

India's Economy Expected to Grow at 6.5% in FY2024-25



India's economy is projected to grow at 6.5% in FY2024-25, according to the Finance Ministry's Monthly Economic Review released on Thursday. This optimistic outlook comes as agricultural and industrial activities are expected to gain momentum in the second half of the fiscal year, following a slowdown in the first half.

India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate fell to 5.4% in Q2 of FY2024-25, marking the lowest growth in seven quarters. This slower growth, which has persisted for three consecutive quarters, led to a 6% growth rate for the first half of the fiscal year.

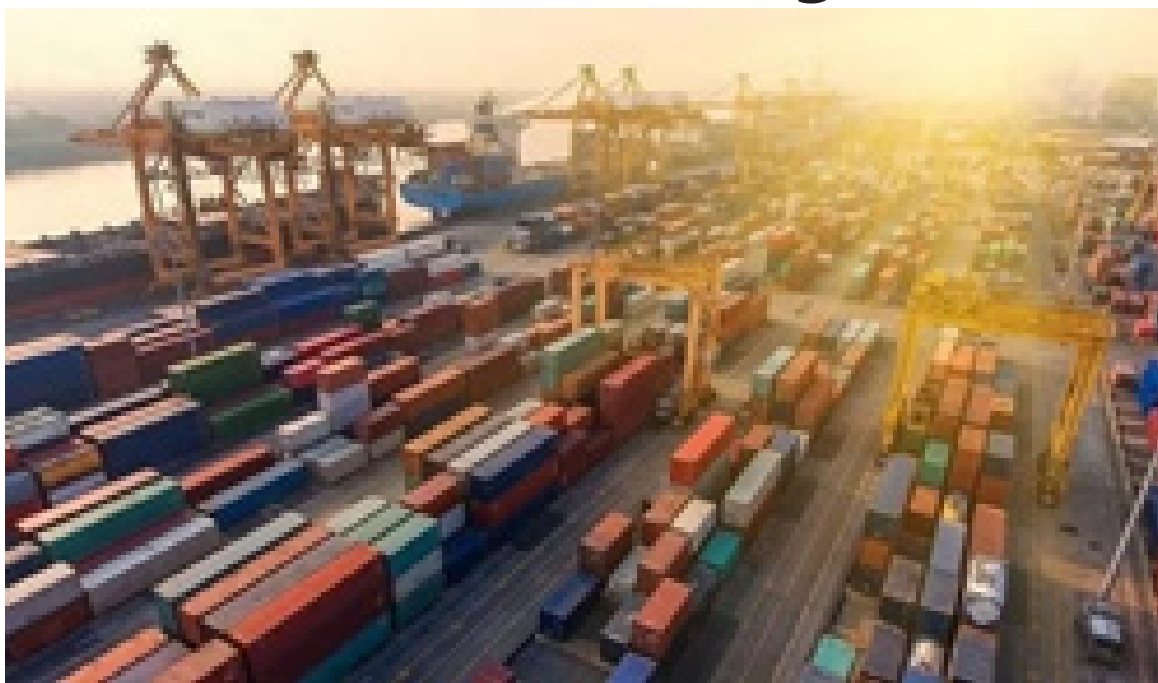
Despite this, the Finance Ministry remains optimistic about the prospects for the third quarter. "The outlook for Q3 appears bright," the report states, citing improved agricultural conditions due to higher minimum support prices (MSP), favorable reservoir levels, and sufficient fertilizer availability for rabi crop sowing. Additionally, industrial activity is expected to pick up in the coming months.

The end of the monsoon season, along with anticipated increases in government capital expenditure, is expected to boost key sectors like cement, iron, steel, mining, and electricity. The services sector also continues to perform strongly, providing further optimism for the economy's growth in the latter half of the year.

The report acknowledged that the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy stance and macroprudential measures may have contributed to the slowdown during the first half. However, it noted the recent reduction of the cash reserve ratio (CRR) from 4.5% to 4% by the RBI, which could provide a boost to economic activity moving forward.

Overall, while India faced a dip in growth during the first half of the fiscal year, the Finance Ministry's review highlighted key factors driving optimism, including a recovery in agriculture, industrial activities, and government investments, which are expected to support the economy's rebound in the second half.

India's Export Growth Boosted by High-Value Sectors Amid Global Challenges



India's export growth is gaining momentum, driven by the country's increasing capabilities in high-value sectors like machinery and electronics. Despite ongoing global uncertainties, such as geopolitical conflicts, India's export performance remains resilient. The gradual recovery of developed markets is also providing an improved outlook for future growth.

Trade experts suggest that India stands to benefit from the potential changes in global trade dynamics, particularly if the new US administration, under President Donald Trump, imposes higher tariffs on China, Mexico, and Canada. Such measures could create opportunities for Indian exporters to capture market share in sectors where trade relationships with these countries are disrupted.

In addition to tariff changes, the potential intervention of the US administration in resolving the Russia-Ukraine conflict could bring about a shift in global trade. A resolution to this conflict could help ease disruptions in global supply chains, reduce shipping costs, and further stabilize trade flows, benefiting exporters worldwide, including in India.

However, challenges remain, particularly concerning Trump's threat to impose reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods. These additional duties could hurt the competitiveness of Indian exports, making it more challenging for exporters to maintain their market position and profitability in the US.

Moreover, the European Union's new green regulations, such as the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and deforestation laws, pose additional hurdles for Indian exporters. These policies could increase export costs, especially for industries with high carbon footprints, and complicate free trade negotiations. Indian businesses may need to adapt to these regulatory changes, which could have significant implications for their competitiveness in the European market.

Despite these challenges, India's export sector continues to benefit from strategic opportunities in high-value industries and the potential reshaping of global trade dynamics. However, navigating these new risks and regulations will be crucial for sustaining growth in the coming years.

Sebi Withdraws Recognition of Indian Commodity Exchange, Marking Its Exit from Bourse Business



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has officially withdrawn the recognition granted to the Indian Commodity Exchange Ltd (ICEX), marking the exchange's exit from the bourse business. The decision follows Sebi's approval on December 11, allowing ICEX to exit after it had met necessary regulatory requirements.

Sebi issued a notification on December 24 confirming that the recognition of ICEX, which had been granted under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 (FCRA), was officially withdrawn. The notification marked the formal end of ICEX's role as a recognized stock exchange.

In its exit order, Sebi stated that it had reviewed ICEX's valuation report, compliance submissions, and undertakings before making the decision. Additionally, the regulator outlined certain compliance obligations for ICEX post-exit, including settling its tax liabilities under the Income Tax Act, 1961, changing its name, and refraining from using the term "stock exchange." Sebi also directed ICEX to maintain a comprehensive database of all transactions conducted on its platform in

previous years.

ICEX, which is based in Surat, Gujarat, had originally received permanent recognition in 2009 under the FCRA. Following the merger of the Forward Markets Commission with Sebi in 2015, ICEX became a recognized stock exchange under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 (SCRA). However, in May 2022, Sebi derecognized ICEX due to non-compliance with minimum net worth requirements, infrastructural deficiencies, and inspection findings.

Although ICEX appealed to the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) and was allowed to temporarily retain its recognition, the exchange faced challenges raising the necessary funds due to Sebi's stringent shareholding cap of 5% for investors. ICEX requested a relaxation to allow investors to hold up to 51% equity for five years, but Sebi declined the request. Subsequently, in May 2023, ICEX shareholders approved the voluntary surrender of the exchange's recognition, leading to the initiation of the exit process.



Climate Change Weakens Plant Nutrition, Threatening Ecosystems

More than one-third of Earth's animals, ranging from insects to large mammals, depend on plants as their primary food source. However, plants, particularly those that herbivores consume, are often low in calories, making it difficult for these animals to obtain enough energy for survival. This challenge is being further exacerbated by climate change, which is reducing the nutritional quality of plant-based foods.

Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, have led to higher levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and rising global temperatures, accelerating plant growth. While this "greening of the Earth" can absorb more carbon and offset some greenhouse gas emissions, it has unintended consequences. Faster-growing plants tend to have fewer nutrients, a phenomenon known as nutrient dilution.

This decline in plant nutrition poses significant risks for herbivores, from small insects to large mammals like giant pandas. With plants offering less nutrition, herbivores must spend more time foraging to meet their energy needs, which increases their exposure to predators and environmental stressors. The reduced nutritional value can also hinder their growth, reproduction,

and overall survival.

Research has shown that climate change is already diminishing the nutritional value of human food crops, particularly in vital micronutrients like iron, zinc, and magnesium. Livestock also face challenges, as lower protein levels in grasses negatively affect weight gain and profitability. Wild species, such as giant pandas, are similarly impacted, with rising temperatures diminishing the nutritional content of bamboo, their primary food source.

Insects, which play a crucial role in pollination and food webs, are also suffering. Herbivorous insects like caterpillars and grasshoppers are seeing reduced reproduction rates and smaller body sizes due to nutrient-poor plants. However, some insects, like locusts, may thrive on the increased carbon in vegetation.

Nutrient dilution is particularly pronounced in regions like the Amazon and Congo basins and affects smaller animals with higher metabolic demands. More research is essential to fully understand the broader impacts of these changes on ecosystems and global food webs.



Korean Bakery Products Hit \$440 Million in Exports, Set New Record

South Korea's culinary influence has expanded far beyond its traditional staples like kimchi and ramyeon, with its bakery-related exports reaching new heights. In 2023, the country's bakery exports hit a record \$440 million, reflecting the rising global demand for Korean snacks, pies, and innovative treats like steamed buns and fish-shaped pastries.



This surge in exports highlights the growing international appetite for Korean cuisine, fueled in part by the global wave of K-pop and K-drama.

The popularity of Korean food products, particularly in markets like the United States, China, and Japan, is becoming a defining feature of South Korea's culinary export success. According to the Korea Customs Service, the export value of bakery-related products surged by 8.3% in the January-November period, compared to the same period in the previous year. This marks a significant achievement for the country, as bakery items are now a central part of South Korea's food export sector.

Products like Korean-style pastries and snacks have gained international recognition for their unique flavors and textures, setting them apart in the competitive global market. Among these, fish-shaped pastries and tradi-

tional steamed buns have attracted attention for their innovative presentation and delicious fillings, often combining sweet or savory flavors in unexpected ways.

As Korean culture continues to gain global influence through the worldwide popularity of K-pop idols and K-drama series, the appetite for Korean food is also growing. This cultural phenomenon has paved the way for Korean products to gain traction in international markets, transforming the food export industry into a vital part of the country's economy.

The record export figures signal that South Korean food products are no longer a niche market but are becoming increasingly mainstream. As global interest in Korean cuisine continues to rise, it's likely that the country's bakery industry will continue to thrive, introducing more of its delicious and innovative treats to food lovers around the world.

The Rise of "Brain Rot" in 2024: Impact on Health and Ways to Combat It

The term "brain rot" was crowned Oxford University Press's Word of the Year for 2024, capturing the growing concerns surrounding the impact of modern lifestyle habits on both mental and physical health. Initially a slang term referring to the effects of excessive exposure to low-quality or mindless content, brain rot has evolved into a broader concept that encompasses the cognitive fatigue and stagnation linked to various unhealthy habits prevalent in today's society. From prolonged screen time to poor work-life balance, brain rot is becoming a global health issue.



Brain rot, although not a medical diagnosis, refers to a mental state characterized by cognitive stagnation and exhaustion caused by unhealthy daily practices. The term aptly describes the mental and physical toll of modern life, where constant exposure to distractions, information overload, and sedentary lifestyles take a significant toll on the brain and body. This state can lead to reduced productivity, memory impairment, and a sense of emotional depletion, all of which are symptoms of mental burnout.

Physically, brain rot is often linked to poor posture, eye strain from long hours of screen time, and disrupted sleep patterns. These habits can contribute to chronic conditions such as headaches, fatigue, and an overall decline in physical

health. Additionally, cognitive fatigue may hinder the brain's ability to focus, process new information, and retain memories, further exacerbating feelings of frustration and dissatisfaction.

To combat brain rot, experts recommend adopting healthier habits that nurture both the mind and body. Reducing screen time, particularly on social media, can alleviate cognitive overload. Engaging in physical activity, practicing mindfulness, and setting boundaries between work and personal life are essential steps toward improving overall well-being. Taking breaks, cultivating hobbies, and prioritizing quality sleep also play a crucial role in maintaining mental clarity and physical health.

As 2024 progresses, awareness of brain rot and its effects will continue to rise, encouraging individuals to take proactive steps in safeguarding their health from the dangers of a fast-paced, technology-driven world.

Are Paper Cups Harmful to Your Health? A Closer Look at the Concerns

Drinking hot beverages in disposable paper cups has become a common habit, especially for those on the go. However, growing concerns have emerged about the potential health risks associated with using these cups. Some experts claim that paper cups may release harmful chemicals, including microplastic particles, which can pose health risks, including an increased cancer risk. Recently, Dr. Kiran Patil, the district collector of Buldhana city in Maharashtra, issued a directive banning paper cups, citing their potential role in the rise of cancer cases. But is this claim supported by science?



While there is ongoing debate regarding the safety of paper cups, particularly for daily users, Dr. Tirathram Kaushik, a consultant oncosurgeon at Wockhardt Hospitals Mira Road, provides some clarity. He clarified that paper cups themselves are not directly linked to cancer. However, the issue lies in the chemicals used to coat the cups, such as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and microplastics, which may be present in the lining to prevent leakage.

PFAS, a group of man-made chemicals, are commonly used in the production of paper cups for their water and grease-resistant properties. These chemicals have been linked to various health concerns, including cancer, liver damage, and developmental issues. When exposed to high temperatures, such as when drinking hot beverages, these chemicals may leach into the liquid inside the cup. Over time, prolonged exposure to these substances could increase the risk of

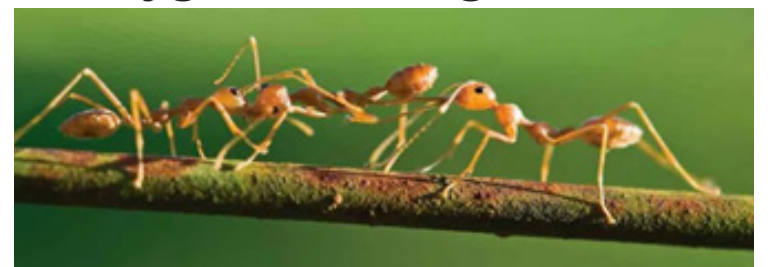
certain health problems, especially when consumed regularly.

Experts recommend reducing the use of disposable paper cups, particularly for hot beverages, as a precautionary measure. Choosing reusable alternatives, such as stainless steel or ceramic cups, can help minimize exposure to harmful chemicals and also reduce waste. If using disposable cups is unavoidable, opting for those labeled as PFAS-free may be a safer choice.

In conclusion, while paper cups are not a direct cause of cancer, the chemicals used in their production could potentially pose health risks. It's important to be mindful of what you drink from and consider safer alternatives to protect your health in the long term.

Ants' "Graveyard" Behavior: A Fascinating Example of Hygiene Management

Ants are incredibly organized creatures, and some species demonstrate an intriguing behaviour: they establish designated areas within their nests to act as "graveyards" or refuse piles for their dead. This practice plays a crucial role in the colony's hygiene management system, ensuring the health and productivity of the group.



When an ant dies, its body emits specific chemical signals, such as oleic acid, which alerts the other ants to its death. Worker ants, often assigned to cleaning tasks, detect these chemical signals and immediately transport the deceased ant to a designated graveyard area within the nest. These burial sites are usually located at the outer edges of the nest or in specific chambers reserved for waste disposal.

By isolating the corpses, ants are able to prevent the spread of harmful pathogens or parasites within their crowded colony. This is particularly vital in social insects, where close quarters and constant interaction can lead to the rapid spread of diseases. The behaviour of separating

the dead not only prevents contamination but also helps maintain a healthy environment for the colony.

In addition to dead ants, these graveyard areas often contain other waste materials, such as leftover food or excrement. This underscores the importance of the graveyard in keeping the nest clean and hygienic. These waste management practices further highlight the advanced social organisation of ants, demonstrating their ability to develop effective strategies for colony survival.

This fascinating behaviour serves as a reminder of the complex and highly structured lives of ants, and their capacity to create systems that ensure the longevity and well-being of the colony. From their waste management to their meticulous care for the dead, ants provide a remarkable example of cooperation and organisation in the natural world.



MCC Honors Sachin Tendulkar with Honorary Membership

The Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) has officially honored cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar with an Honorary Cricket Membership, recognizing his immense contributions to the sport throughout his illustrious career. The club made the announcement on Friday, expressing their pride in welcoming the legendary Indian cricketer into their fold.

In a post shared on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), the MCC stated, "An icon honoured. The MCC is pleased to announce that former Indian captain Sachin Tendulkar has accepted an Honorary Cricket Membership, acknowledging his outstanding contribution to the game."

Sachin Tendulkar, widely regarded as one of the greatest batters in

the history of cricket, has left an indelible mark on the sport. The Mumbai-born cricketer made his Test debut on November 15, 1989, at the tender age of 16, and went on to captivate the world with his unmatched skill and consistency until his retirement in 2013. His journey spanned over two decades, during which he set numerous records that continue to stand as milestones in the sport.

Tendulkar remains the highest run-scorer in international cricket, with a total of 34,357 runs from 664 matches across all formats. His career includes a record 100 centuries and 164 half-centuries, a feat that has yet to be matched. Additionally, he was the first cricketer to score a double century in One-Day Internationals (ODIs)

and holds the record for playing the most number of Test matches, with 200 appearances.

The "Master Blaster" also played a crucial role in India's victory in the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup, fulfilling a lifelong dream of winning the prestigious tournament after making his World Cup debut in 1992.

Tendulkar's Honorary Cricket Membership from the MCC is a fitting tribute to his unparalleled achievements and enduring legacy in the cricketing world. The MCC, established in 1838, has a long history of celebrating cricketing excellence, and Tendulkar's inclusion in its ranks further cements his status as one of the sport's greatest figures.

India Collapse After Jaiswal's Costly Run-Out on Day 2 of Fourth Test

India faced a dramatic collapse after a costly run-out of Yashasvi Jaiswal, leaving the team at a precarious 164/5 on day two of the fourth Test against Australia in Melbourne. Despite his fluent innings, Jaiswal's 82-run knock off 118 balls was cut short due to a mix-up with Virat Kohli. Attempting a quick single, Jaiswal was caught well short of his crease, handing Australia a crucial breakthrough at a critical moment.

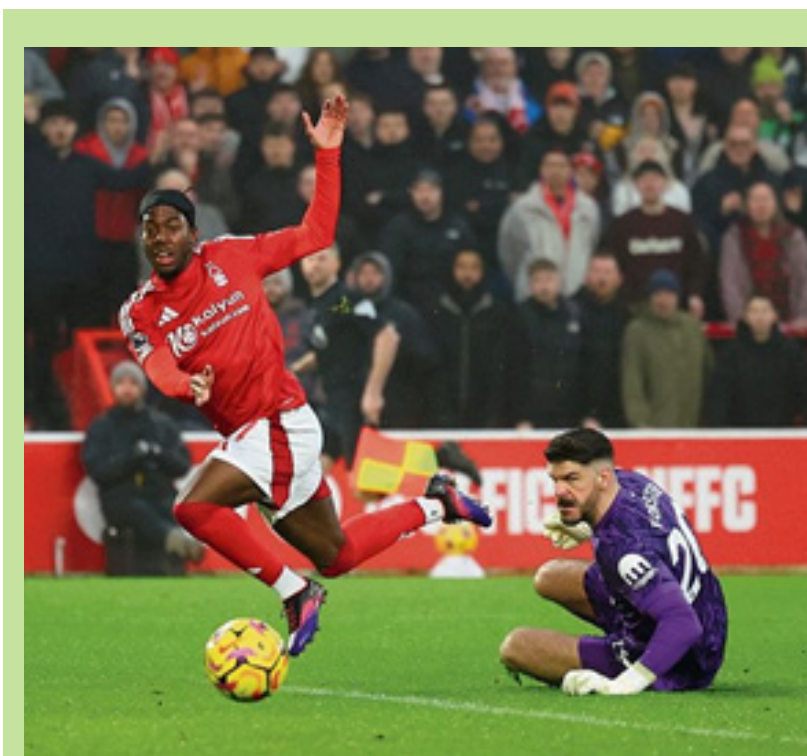


The collapse came after India had been in a relatively solid position at 153/2. However, in just four overs, three wickets tumbled, leaving India in dire straits. At the time of Jaiswal's departure, India was already 310 runs behind Australia's commanding first innings total of 474, with 111 more runs needed to avoid the follow-on.

The run-out turned the game on its head as India's middle order struggled to cope with the pressure. The decision to send nightwatchman Akash Deep to the crease, as suggested by head coach Gautam Gambhir, also backfired, adding to India's growing list of questionable decisions.

In a matter of minutes, cricket's unpredictable nature was on full display. Jaiswal had driven the ball toward mid-on and immediately called for the single. Kohli initially responded, taking a step forward before deciding to retreat. The miscommunication led to the disastrous result, with Jaiswal left stranded and a crucial partnership broken.

As India looks to recover on the third day, the team needs a strong performance from the remaining batsmen to stave off further collapse and reduce the deficit.



Nottingham Forest Defeat Tottenham 1-0, Surge to Third in Premier League

Nottingham Forest continued their impressive climb up the Premier League table with a 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur on Thursday. Anthony Elanga's first-half goal was enough to secure all three points for Forest, moving them provisionally into third place with 34 points. Meanwhile, Spurs' disappointing form continues as they remain in 11th place with only 23 points from 18 matches.

The breakthrough came in the 28th minute when Forest launched a swift counterattack. After regaining possession, Morgan Gibbs-White threaded a perfectly

timed pass through the Tottenham defense, allowing Elanga to finish calmly and score his third goal of the season. The goal was a result of Forest's disciplined defense and efficient use of counterattacks, which proved to be their key weapon.

Tottenham dominated possession for much of the game but struggled to break down Forest's resilient defense. Despite creating several opportunities, Spurs were unable to find the back of the net. Forest, on the other hand, held firm and secured their second consecutive clean sheet, much to the delight of manager Nuno Es-

pirito Santo, who enjoyed a victory over his former team.

This result highlights Forest's growing strength in the Premier League and their ability to grind out important wins, even against higher-ranked teams. For Spurs, the loss adds to their disappointing run of form, leaving them with work to do if they are to challenge for a top-half finish this season. As the league continues, Forest will look to build on this momentum while Tottenham faces more pressure to improve.

Rybakina Leads Kazakhstan to Victory Over Spain at United Cup

Elena Rybakina, the world number six, started her season on a high note, leading Kazakhstan to a 2-1 victory over Spain in the United Cup on Friday. The former Wimbledon champion, who is aiming to build on a successful 2023 campaign, delivered an impressive performance in her opening singles match and helped clinch the decisive mixed doubles match alongside Alexander Shevchenko.

Rybakina showcased her dominance in the singles, defeating Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro 6-2, 6-3 to give Kazakhstan an early lead in the match. However, Spain leveled the tie when Pablo Carreno Busta triumphed over Shevchenko 6-2, 6-1 in the men's singles. This set up an intense mixed doubles showdown, where the outcome of the tie hinged on the result.

In the mixed doubles, Rybakina and Shevchenko faced Spain's Carreno Busta and Yvonne Cavalle-Reimers in



a gripping battle. After splitting the first two sets 7-6 (7/4), 6-7 (2/7), the match went into a thrilling match tie-break. Rybakina and Shevchenko emerged victorious with a 10-7 win, securing the tie for Kazakhstan after 82 minutes of intense play.

Rybakina, reflecting on the tough encounter, said, "It was a really tough one, first matches are always difficult. I'm happy with the way I played today." Shevchenko praised his teammate, acknowledging her crucial role in

the win, saying she "carried me" through the challenging match.

This victory marked a promising start for Kazakhstan in the mixed-team event, as they face more top-tier competition at the United Cup, which serves as a launchpad for the 2025 tennis season. In the evening session in Perth, China will face Brazil, while the action continues in Sydney starting Saturday.

India Eye Series Sweep Against West Indies Women in Final ODI

India's women's cricket team is on track to complete a series sweep against the West Indies as they head into the third and final ODI on Friday. After a tough series loss to Australia, India has bounced back strongly to dominate the West Indies in home conditions, showcasing their depth and skill. With the series already in their grasp, India now aims to push their boundaries, particularly in the batting department, to continue their dominance.



In the second ODI, Pratika Rawal, making her debut in the series, showed promise after a modest start. Opening the innings with Smriti Mandhana, Rawal didn't shine in her first outing but improved significantly in the second match, hitting a six and beginning to show her potential. The Delhi-based cricketer, who replaced Shafali Verma in the squad, will be a key player

to watch as India looks to solidify their batting lineup for the future.

One of India's key strengths in the series has been their ability to consistently post scores over 300 runs. This has been a marked improvement, as they strive to match the standards set by top teams like Australia. If they are to succeed in future international contests, particularly against higher-ranked teams, maintaining such high-scoring capabilities will be essential.

As the series reaches its conclusion, India will look to build on their batting successes and sweep the series 3-0. A strong performance in the final game will give the team added confidence as they prepare for more challenging opponents on the global stage. The West Indies, already struggling in the series, will have a tough task to break India's momentum.



Vijay Deverakonda and Gautham Tinnanuri's Upcoming Movie: A Two-Part Epic

Tollywood's dynamic hero, Vijay Deverakonda, is all set to collaborate with director Gautham Tinnanuri, renowned for his work in *Jersey*, on an exciting new project currently under the working title 'VD12'. This film is poised to be the largest-budget project of Vijay Deverakonda's career, adding significant anticipation to its release. Produced by Nagavamshi under the prestigious Sitara Entertainments banner, *VD12* promises to be a milestone for both the actor and the director.

In an intriguing revelation, producer Nagavamshi shared that *VD12* will be released in two parts. This decision was not made during the production process but rather before the shooting even began, ensuring that the narrative will unfold in a grand, expansive way. He emphasized that the two parts will not be mere extensions of the same story, but will feature distinct and separate plots, adding a unique layer to the movie's structure. This ambitious approach has further fueled excitement about the project.

Nagavamshi also mentioned that the release date for *VD12* is planned for March next year. However, he hinted at the possibility of rescheduling if Pawan Kalyan's *Harihara Veeramallu* were to release around the



same time. This comment showcases the respectful camaraderie between the stars of the industry, with Nagavamshi willing to adjust the film's release schedule to avoid a clash with another major Tollywood film.

As anticipation builds, fans of Vijay Deverakonda, Gautham Tinnanuri, and Tollywood cinema as a whole are eagerly awaiting more details about this high-budget venture. With the promise of an epic two-part narrative and a stellar team behind it, *VD12* is shaping up to be one of the most exciting films of the year.

Kiccha Sudeep's 'Max The Movie': A Gripping Mass Action Drama

After the success of Vikrant Rona and Kabja, Kannada superstar Kiccha Sudeep returns to the big screen with his latest film, *Max The Movie*. Directed by Vijay Karthikeyan in his directorial debut, this action thriller has been released in Telugu on a grand scale, attracting attention from Sudeep's fanbase and action movie enthusiasts alike. The film promises to offer a powerful cinematic experience, and early reactions from netizens suggest that it delivers the high-octane action drama audiences crave.

Max The Movie is being hailed as a strong mass action drama, thanks to debutant director Vijay Karthikeyan's tight grip on the screenplay. The movie is structured with an engaging narrative that keeps viewers on the edge of their seats, making it an ideal pick for fans of the action genre. Cinematography, music, and production values have all been highlighted as key contributors to the film's success. The visual elements are paired with sharp editing that keeps the pace brisk and the energy high, ensuring an engaging experience throughout.

Kiccha Sudeep, known for his versatility and in-



tensity, has delivered a solid performance that drives the film. His portrayal in *Max* further strengthens his reputation as a top-tier action star. Fans of Sudeep are particularly pleased with his screen presence, which adds depth to the action-packed narrative.

The movie is being described as a "visual feast" for action lovers, with exhilarating fight sequences, intense drama, and an overall gripping plot. For those who enjoy mass action thrillers, *Max The Movie* appears to be a must-watch, offering all the essential elements that make for an entertaining and electrifying cinematic experience. Netizens and fans alike are excited by the film's successful execution of action and drama, marking *Max The Movie* as a significant addition to Kiccha Sudeep's filmography.

HHVM: Pawan Kalyan's Powerful Voice to Take the Stage with First Single

Tollywood superstar Pawan Kalyan's much-anticipated film *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* is set to create a major buzz in the industry. The film, directed by Jyotikrishna, features Pawan Kalyan in the titular role, with the talented Nidhi Aggarwal playing the female lead. This periodical drama is being released in two parts, with *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* Part 1 slated for a grand worldwide release on March 28.

As excitement builds, fans are eagerly awaiting the release of the film's first single, which has become the talk of the town. Inside sources reveal that the song will be launched on January 1 at 12 noon, just in time for the New Year. What makes this announcement even more exciting is that Pawan Kalyan himself has lent his voice to the track. Known for his popular songs in previous films, Pawan Kalyan's involvement in the music has further fueled anticipation for the movie. The song will be released not only in Telugu but also in other languages, amplifying the film's reach across multiple regions.

The buzz around *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* continues to grow, with fans eager to see the impact of Pawan Kalyan's voice on the film's soundtrack and box office performance. The film is already drawing attention for its larger-than-life sequences, including a 42-day shoot for the iconic red dress fight scene in the climax. Fans can also look forward to thrilling action-packed moments such as the intro song, a tiger fight, a Mahal ac-



tion part, wrestling sequences, Charminar action scenes, and a grand pre-interval and interval action sequence. The climax war scene promises to be another high point that will leave viewers on the edge of their seats.

With a star-studded cast, including Bollywood actors Anupam Kher, Arjun Rampal, and Nargis Fakhri in key roles, and music by legendary composer MM Keeravani, *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* is shaping up to be one of the most eagerly awaited films of the year. Fans are ready for the action, drama, and Pawan Kalyan's magic on screen!

Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 Now Streaming on Netflix: A Horror-Comedy Hit

The much-awaited Bollywood horror-comedy *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* has made its way to Netflix after a successful theatrical run. Directed by Anees Bazmee, the film was met with rave reviews from both audiences and critics, quickly becoming a box office hit. Featuring a star-studded cast that includes Karthik Aaryan, Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit, and Triptii Dimri, the film blends supernatural thrills with humor, creating an entertaining experience for moviegoers.

Now available for streaming in Hindi with English subtitles, *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* offers an exciting opportunity for viewers who missed its theatrical release or those who wish to enjoy it again from the comfort of their homes. As the movie transitions to the OTT platform, it remains to be seen how it will perform with the Netflix audience, but its previous success



at the box office suggests it will continue to captivate viewers on streaming as well.

Produced by T-Series Films and Cine1 Studios, *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* follows the legacy of its predecessors, combining spooky elements with comedic moments that keep the audience engaged. The film's stellar performances, especially from Karthik Aaryan and Vidya Balan, along with the intriguing storyline, are expected to drive interest on Netflix.

As more viewers get the chance to enjoy this horror-comedy on the streaming platform, it will be interesting to see how *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* fares in the OTT space. For fans of the genre and the franchise, this is a perfect opportunity to experience the latest chapter in the *Bhool Bhulaiyaa* saga. Stay tuned for more updates on future OTT releases and other exciting films!



Salman Khan's 'Sikandar' Teaser Postponed: New Release Date Revealed

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan's much-anticipated action-packed drama *Sikandar*, directed by the renowned AR Murugadoss, is one of the most talked-about films set for release on Eid 2025. The film features Salman Khan in a dynamic role, alongside *Pushpa 2* actress Rashmika Mandanna in the female lead, which has created massive excitement among fans and movie enthusiasts.

Originally, the makers had planned to unveil the teaser for *Sikandar* today at 11:07 AM, aligning it with Salman Khan's birthday celebrations. However, in a mark of respect for the passing of former Prime Minister and economist Dr. Manmohan Singh, the teaser launch was postponed. The decision was made to honor the somber occasion and maintain the respect for the late leader's legacy.

While fans were disappointed by the delay, they will only

have to wait a little longer. The teaser is now scheduled to be released tomorrow, much to the relief of eager fans who have been counting down the days to catch a glimpse of what *Sikandar* has in store. The film is produced by Sajid Nadiadwala under the banner of Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment, and it is expected to be one of the biggest blockbusters of 2025.

With *Sikandar* shaping up to be a high-octane entertainer, the postponement of the teaser only adds to the growing curiosity surrounding the film. With AR Murugadoss at the helm, known for his successful collaborations in the past, and a stellar cast featuring Salman Khan and Rashmika Mandanna, the film promises to deliver a thrilling cinematic experience for audiences. Fans are eagerly awaiting the release of the teaser, which is sure to give them a taste of the action-packed drama that *Sikandar* has to offer.