

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 28° C

L 22° C

VIJAYAWADA

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 29° C

L 24° C

TIRUPATHI

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 26° C

L 24° C

MANMOHAN SINGH

A QUIET LEADER WHO TRANSFORMED INDIA

Transformative Leadership: Milestones Achieved During Manmohan's Tenure

Empowering the Rural Poor: Employment and Farmer Welfare Initiatives

Technological Advancements: Aadhaar and Mobile Revolution

Courageous Decisions: Nuclear Deal and Anti-Terror Efforts

Infrastructure and Social Reforms: A Legacy of Progress

TPN , New Delhi : Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, often referred to as a quiet reformist, guided India with transformative policies and unprecedented developments during his tenure from 2004 to 2014. Under his leadership, the country witnessed historic milestones such as the creation of Telangana, the introduction of the Employment Guarantee Scheme, and the Aadhaar initiative.

Manmohan Singh's administration revolutionized mobile technology with the launch of 3G and 4G services, while Aadhaar-linked direct benefit transfers streamlined welfare schemes. The Employment Guarantee Scheme provided 100 days of work annually to rural poor, while free education in private schools for underprivileged children empowered many. The Right to Information Act became a powerful tool for citizens under his government.

Displaying bold decision-making, his government waived off loans worth ₹72,000 crore, benefiting 3 crore farmers. This landmark move contributed significantly to the UPA's re-election in 2009. Special packages for crisis-hit regions like Vidarbha and Bundelkhand were introduced to prevent farmer suicides.

Dr. Singh signed the India-U.S. nuclear deal despite political backlash, establishing him as a fearless leader. His government modernized land acquisition laws, ensuring fair compensation and rehabilitation. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was formed to combat terrorism. Major infrastructure projects, including the expansion of metro rail in cities and the development of Delhi International Airport, were realized under his leadership.

His government initiated the National Rural Health Mission and the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission, significantly improving rural health and urban infrastructure. Despite allegations of corruption and political scandals, Dr. Singh remained untainted by personal accusations, reflecting his integrity. He championed the Telangana Bill and the Women's Reservation Bill, showcasing his strategic prowess. Dr. Manmohan Singh's quiet yet impactful leadership ushered India into a new era, earning him a place in history as one of the nation's most visionary Prime Ministers.

Singh's Funeral Today: Nation Pays Tribute

AICC Headquarters to Host Public Viewing

Union Cabinet Observes Silence and Declares Mourning

State Honors and Final Farewell at Rajghat

TPN , New Delhi: The nation bids a solemn farewell to former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, whose funeral will be held today with full state honors near Rajghat. His mortal remains will be taken to the AICC headquarters at 8:30 am for public viewing, allowing people and party workers to pay their final respects until 9:30 am.

Nation Mourns the Loss of Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

TPN , New Delhi : President Droupadi Murmu paid her final respects to former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh at his residence on Friday. "President Droupadi Murmu visited the residence of Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Prime Minister of India, and paid last respects to him. She also offered her condolences to his family," the President's Office shared in a post on X.

The British High Commissioner to India, Lindy Cameron, also paid tribute to Dr. Singh, hailing him as "a great Prime Minister, Finance Minister, and global statesman." She acknowledged his bold economic reforms that advanced India's interests and highlighted his role in stabilizing the global economy during the financial crisis.

CM Revanth Reddy Pays Tributes to Former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh

TPN , New Delhi : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy paid his respects to the mortal remains of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. The Chief Minister visited the family members of Dr. Singh to offer his condolences and expressed deep sorrow over the loss.

Several state ministers, MPs, and public representatives also joined in paying tributes to the late statesman. Dr. Manmohan Singh, remembered as a visionary leader and economist, leaves behind a lasting legacy. The state mourns his passing, with leaders across parties highlighting his contributions to the nation.

Court Grants Relief to KTR

Interim Bail Extended for KTR

ACB Seeks Arrest Order Reversal

Court Hearing Scheduled for December 31

TPN , Telangana : The Telangana High Court has issued crucial orders in the Formula E-car race case involving BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR). During a hearing on Friday, the court extended the interim bail granted to KTR until December 31, providing temporary relief. KTR had filed a quash petition on December 21, challenging the allegations against him in the case. In an earlier order, the court had directed the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) not to arrest him until December 30. The hearing was subsequently adjourned to December 27, and after today's session, the court extended the non-arrest order until the end of the month.

Stampede Case: Bail Plea Postponed

Police Seek More Time to File Counter

Allu Arjun Appears Virtually in Court

Next Hearing Scheduled for December 30

TPN , Hyderabad : The Nampally court has postponed the hearing on actor Allu Arjun's bail petition in the Sandhya Theater stampede case. The hearing, originally scheduled for today, has been deferred to December 30 after the Chikkadapally police requested additional time to file their counter.

Allu Arjun, popularly known as Bunny, appeared for the hearing virtually. He had filed a petition in the Nampally court seeking regular bail following his recent arrest in connection with the stampede incident. While he was initially granted four weeks of interim bail by the High Court, his 14-day remand imposed on December 13 ended today.

The Nampally court has also postponed the broader hearing on the Sandhya Theater stampede case to January 10, during which the remand hearing for Allu Arjun will also take place. The police are expected to file their counterarguments on the bail petition by Monday, December 30, when the court will reconvene to deliberate on Bunny's plea.

The Sandhya Theater stampede incident has garnered significant attention, with Allu Arjun's legal battles becoming a focal point of the case's developments. Further updates are anticipated in the coming hearings.

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## Nation Mourns the Loss of Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

*continued from P-1*

Dr. Singh retired from the Rajya Sabha in February this year, representing Rajasthan. Prior to this, he served six terms as a representative of Assam in the Upper House since 1991. During his farewell in the Rajya Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Dr. Singh as an “inspirational example” for his leadership. “Whenever our democracy is discussed, Dr. Manmohan Singh will be remembered as one of its most esteemed contributors,” he said. Dr. Singh’s legacy as a visionary leader, reformist, and statesman will remain etched in the nation’s history.



## Singh’s Funeral Today: Nation Pays Tribute

*continued from P-1*

Following this, the funeral procession will proceed from the central office, culminating in the last rites. The Union Cabinet has condoled Dr. Singh’s demise, with ministers observing a two-minute silence as a mark of respect. The Centre has declared seven days of national mourning, during which the national flag will be flown at half-mast until January 1. The Union Home Ministry has instructed Chief Secretaries of all states to refrain from holding government functions and celebrations during the mourning period. Dr. Manmohan Singh, remembered for his integrity, intellect, and contributions to India’s progress, leaves behind a legacy of transformative leadership. His funeral marks the end of an era, with the nation uniting in grief and gratitude for his service to the country.

## Relief to KTR

*continued from P-1*

**ACB Files Counter :** In a significant move, the ACB filed a counter in the High Court, requesting the withdrawal of the no-arrest directive. The agency argued that KTR’s investigation is crucial for progressing in the case. ACB officials expressed concerns that granting him bail or any relief at this stage could hinder the investigation.

The court acknowledged the ACB’s counter-petition and has scheduled its hearing for December 31. Until then, the no-arrest order remains in effect. The Formula E-car race case has drawn considerable attention, with the ACB alleging irregularities and seeking a thorough probe. KTR’s petition to quash the case and the ACB’s insistence on his interrogation will now be reviewed further in the upcoming hearings.

## We Have Lost the Architect of Modern India: Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka

**TPN , Telangana :** Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu expressed profound grief over the passing of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, calling him the “architect of modern India.” In his tribute, he highlighted Singh’s critical role in rescuing the country from economic crises and shaping modern India through his visionary leadership.

“Manmohan Singh showed through his conduct how to maintain respect and decorum in political and public life, without room for controversy or criticism,” Bhatti said. He praised Singh as a great economist, reformist, humanitarian, and leader who significantly contributed to India’s economic, social, and cultural growth.

The Deputy CM credited the Congress party for recognizing Singh’s capabilities and appointing him to key positions, including Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Finance Minister, and ultimately Prime Minister. He acknowledged Singh’s long-term contributions to India’s progress, particularly during the liberalization era, and his role in landmark initiatives such as the National Employment Guarantee Scheme, Right to Information Act, Food Security Act, and Aadhaar design.

Bhatti emphasized that Singh’s ideas and work had enriched the nation in various sectors and expressed that his death is an immense loss to the country and the Congress party.

# Telangana CM Revanth Reddy Pays Tribute to Former PM Manmohan Singh

**TPN , New Delhi :** Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy paid his respects to the late former Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh, on Friday in New Delhi. Upon arriving in the capital, the CM went directly to Singh’s residence, where he expressed his deepest condolences to the family. Revanth Reddy was accompanied by several ministers, MPs, and other public representatives from Telangana, all of whom offered their tributes to the former leader.

The Congress party has announced a week-long mourning period in honor of Manmohan Singh, who passed away recently. TPCC Pres-

ident Mahesh Kumar Goud confirmed that all political programs in Telangana will be canceled until January 3, including the Congress Party’s foundation day celebrations scheduled for tomorrow. This decision reflects the party’s respect and reverence for the former Prime Minister.

Other political leaders, including Union Minister Rajnath Singh and Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav, also paid tribute to Singh. BRS MPs, including K.T. Rama Rao, are expected to attend the funeral on Saturday, further highlighting the widespread respect and admiration for Singh’s legacy across



party lines. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is scheduled to return to Hyderabad later this evening. His gesture of tribute to the former Prime

Minister underscores the deep sense of loss felt by the nation in the wake of Singh’s passing.

## KCR Pays Tribute to Manmohan Singh, Highlights His Contribution to Telangana

**TPN , Hyderabad :** BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) expressed his heartfelt condolences on the death of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, praising his significant contributions to India and the Telangana movement. Speaking on the occasion, KCR described Singh’s work as “unforgettable,” emphasizing the former PM’s pivotal role in the economic reforms that shaped the nation.

“Manmohan Singh was the architect of India’s economic reforms, and his services to the country are invaluable,” KCR said. He also highlighted the special connection between Telangana and the former Prime Minister, noting that Singh’s support for the state’s formation was crucial. KCR recalled serving as a minister in Singh’s cabinet and remarked on their personal connection and Singh’s visionary leadership.

“Telangana society will never forget the support Manmohan Singh offered, particularly during the Telangana movement and the formation of the state,” KCR continued. “He stood by me and the TRS party in every situation, providing unwavering support.”

The BRS leader also noted that the formation of Telangana was a reality during Singh’s tenure as Prime Minister, and he expressed deep



gratitude for the positive attitude and backing that Singh extended to the movement.

In honor of the former Prime Minister, KCR announced that the BRS party would pay tribute to Manmohan Singh, who was dearly cherished by the Telangana community. “I have instructed the party working president and MPs to participate in the funeral procession and offer their respects during his final farewell,” KCR stated.

KCR’s tribute underscores the profound impact Manmohan Singh had on both the nation and the state of Telangana.

## State Ministers Surekha and Komatireddy Pay Tributes to Manmohan Singh

**TPN , Telangana :** State Ministers Konda Surekha and Komatireddy Venkat Reddy expressed their heartfelt condolences over the death of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, calling it an irreparable loss for the nation and the world. Konda Surekha hailed Singh as a renowned economist and visionary who introduced neo-liberal economic policies, steering India out of a severe economic crisis. She described his life as a reflection of honesty and commitment. “He was a great leader who turned the country’s economic situation around and taught the nation humility despite his remarkable success,” she said. Surekha added that Singh’s death is a monumental loss for the nation and prayed for his soul to rest in peace.

Komatireddy Venkat Reddy highlighted Singh’s contributions to India’s progress through transformative policies and reforms. “He was an economic genius who implemented progressive policies, driving GDP growth to 8-9% and elevating India’s global standing,” he said. The minister recalled key initiatives under Singh’s leadership, including the Food Security Act, Right to Information Act, and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

Venkat Reddy extended his condolences to Singh’s family, emphasizing the former PM’s legacy as a true people’s leader and a source of pride for the nation.

## Government to Take Key Decision on Issuance of New Ration Cards

**TPN , Telangana :** The Revanth Reddy-led government in Telangana is reportedly taking a significant decision regarding the issuance of new ration cards. According to sources, the state government is set to launch a new initiative for issuing ration cards to beneficiaries soon. In a key policy change, officials are likely to propose an increase in the income limit for eligibility compared to the previous guidelines.

Currently, the income limit for eligibility is set at Rs. 1.5 lakh per annum in rural areas and Rs. 2 lakh in urban areas. However, it is expected that the government will raise these limits by an additional Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000, thereby allowing more families to benefit from the public distribution system.

The final decision on the new income limits and ration card issuance will likely be made during the Telangana Cabinet meeting scheduled for December 30. This move is seen as a step towards expanding the reach of government welfare schemes to a larger number of eligible families, aligning with the state government’s focus on social welfare and support for low-income groups.

The cabinet’s approval could lead to a swift roll-out of the new ration cards, benefiting thousands of households across the state.



Telangana  
Ration Card (FSC ) Apply Online

## Telangana High Court News Roundup: Indiramma Housing Committees, Formula-E Case, and SI Sentencing

1. High Court Refuses to Suspend Indiramma Housing Committees The Telangana High Court has refused to grant interim relief suspending the Indiramma Housing Committees established for beneficiary selection under the State’s Indiramma Housing Scheme. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance of ₹5 lakh for the construction of 4.5 lakh homes in its first phase.

The committees, composed of local leaders and members from BC, SC, and ST communities, were challenged by petitioners citing concerns over transparency and potential political bias. While a single judge upheld the committees’ formation, petitioner A. Nithish Kumar appealed, questioning the lack of specific qualifications for committee members.



The State’s Additional Advocate General defended the initiative as transparent and free from corruption. The court directed the State to file a counter and adjourned further hearings to January 24, 2025.

2. Formula-E Case: Hearing Adjourned to December 31

The High Court extended its order protecting BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) from arrest until December 31 in connection with allegations of financial irregularities in the Hyderabad Formula-E race.

The ACB sought to vacate the “not to arrest” order, while KTR’s legal team argued that the charges were politically motivated and baseless. KTR maintained that all financial dealings complied with legal agreements. The court granted the State more time to respond, scheduling a detailed hearing on December 31, 2024.

3. SI Naresh Yadav Sentenced for Contempt of Court Justice K. Surender sentenced Naresh Yadav, Sub-Inspector of Tharigoppula Police Station, Wa-

rangal, to one week of imprisonment and imposed a ₹50,000 fine for contempt of court. Yadav was found guilty of willfully disobeying a directive to adhere to Section 41-A of the CrPC during the arrest of Golusu Narsaiah.

Despite court orders, Narsaiah was arrested without proper notice, and Yadav’s affidavits revealed inconsistencies. The court rejected Yadav’s defense and apology, describing his conduct as deliberate and unremorseful. In addition to the fine, Yadav was ordered to compensate Narsaiah with ₹50,000 from his personal funds.

This series of cases highlights the Telangana High Court’s emphasis on judicial compliance, transparency, and accountability in governance and law enforcement.





## Nation Mourns the Passing of Dr. Manmohan Singh

**TPN , Hyderabad:** TPCC General Secretary Addanki Dayakar described the death of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh as an irreparable loss to the nation. Remembering him as a respected statesman and a supporter of the Telangana movement, Dayakar praised Dr. Singh's pivotal role in saving India during challenging economic times. He expressed condolences to the bereaved family and wished for his soul to rest in peace.

The passing of Dr. Singh has left political, film, and business circles across the country in mourning. Many have paid tribute to his exceptional leadership and contributions to the nation.



In Telangana, the state government has declared a holiday for schools to honor Dr. Singh's memory. Tributes continue to pour in for the world-renowned economist and visionary leader, whose legacy will remain etched in India's history.

## Big Relief for BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy: Trial Postponed by Police



**TPN , Hyderabad:** In a significant development, BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy has received relief as the Telangana police postponed his trial. The trial, initially scheduled for earlier, has now been deferred to the sixth of next month due to the health condition of Kaushik Reddy's father.

Kaushik Reddy has been under scrutiny after a case was registered against him for allegedly obstructing the duties of the Banjara Hills Circle Inspector (CI) during a protest. Following the incident, the police issued

notices to the MLA, citing his actions as interference with law enforcement.

The recent postponement of the trial comes as a reprieve for the MLA, who can now focus on his father's health. The police clarified that the decision to defer the trial was made on compassionate grounds.

This development has been closely watched, given the MLA's political prominence and the sensitivity surrounding the case. The trial rescheduling offers temporary relief but keeps the focus on the legal proceedings set to resume next month.

## MRPS Chief Urges Madiga Youth to Fight for SC Sub-Classification Rights

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Manda Krishna Madiga, the founding president of the Madiga Reservation Porata Samiti (MRPS), called on Madiga youth to join the fight for Scheduled Caste (SC) sub-classification rights during a meeting in Alwal on Thursday, December 26. He emphasized the community's long-standing struggle, noting that they have fought tirelessly for the cause for the past 30 years.

Madiga highlighted a historic Supreme Court ruling affirming that states have the authority to classify SCs, describing it as a significant victory for the community. However, he accused certain individuals from the Mala community of attempting to thwart SC classification efforts by engaging in "conspiracies" to undermine their progress.

To combat these opposition forces, Madiga announced plans for a large-scale event to rally support for SC classification and urged Madiga youth to participate in large numbers. The event is seen as a crucial step in advancing the community's fight for justice and recognition.

"The long-awaited victory from our relentless efforts is now at hand, despite facing opposition," Madiga stated. He called for unity within the community, urging them to make their voices heard and turn the tide against those opposing SC sub-classification.

The MRPS is determined to continue its battle for SC rights, and this upcoming event is expected to further strengthen the movement's momentum.



## Kavitha Demands Clarity on BC Reservations Before Local Body Elections

**TPN , Hyderabad:** BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has demanded that local body elections in Telangana be held only after providing clarity on Backward Classes (BC) reservations. Addressing the media, she criticized the Congress government for failing to fulfill its promises made in the last election regarding BC reservations and budgetary allocations.

Kavitha expressed concern over reports that the state government is preparing to conduct local body elections without addressing the issue of BC reservations. She questioned, "How can elections be held without clarity on increasing BC reservations?" She reminded that the Congress had assured 42 percent reservation for BCs in local body elections through the Kamareddy Declaration but lacked accurate data on the BC population to support this promise.

She further stated that more than half of Telangana's population comprises BCs, and the Congress' promise of 42 percent reservation raises questions about its feasibility. Kavitha warned that elections would not be allowed if BC reservations are not increased. She announced



plans for protests under the banner of BRS and Telangana Jagruti at mandal and district levels to pressurize the government.

Kavitha also criticized the Congress for breaking its promise of allocating Rs. 20,000 crore annually in the budget for BC welfare. She demanded that elections be postponed until the BC Dedicated Commission submits its report and the

BC population is revealed. "The government must honor its commitments to BCs before proceeding with elections," she added.

The BRS leader's strong stance has intensified the debate on BC reservations, putting pressure on the Congress government to take definitive action before announcing the election schedule.

## Minister Surekha Urges AP to Address TTD Issues

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Telangana Forest, Environment, and Endowment Department Minister Konda Surekha has raised concerns over the difficulties faced by Telangana devotees visiting the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD). Speaking after her visit to the Srisailem Bhramarambika Mallikarjuna Swamy temple on Thursday night, Surekha expressed hope that the Andhra Pradesh government would take steps to resolve these issues, ensuring a smoother experience for devotees.

Minister Surekha, who visited the temple with her family to fulfill a vow, shared her unwavering faith in Srisailem Mallikarjuna Swamy. She explained that her daughter had vowed to visit the temple if her wish for a son was granted. Since the wish was fulfilled, the family made the journey to express their gratitude.

While discussing the challenges faced by Telangana devotees, the minister noted that, despite the state's separation, Telangana's devotion to Srisailem Mallikar-



juna Swamy remains unchanged. She urged the Andhra Pradesh government to take action to address the problems faced by Telangana pilgrims, emphasizing the positive response from both state chief ministers and the formation of a committee to explore solutions.

Additionally, Surekha pointed out that, in the past, TTD provided funds for the development of temples and Kalyana Mandapams in Telangana. However, this

funding has ceased post-bifurcation. She requested that the Andhra Pradesh government reinstate these funds to support the development of ancient temples and community facilities in Telangana.

The minister concluded by praying for the prosperity of both states, the well-being of farmers, and the continued growth of the government's strength and economy.

## MP Owaisi Pays Tribute to Former PM Manmohan Singh

**TPN , Hyderabad:** All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi expressed his deep condolences over the passing of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, calling his demise a significant loss for India.

In his tribute, Owaisi said, "I am truly saddened to hear of Dr. Manmohan Singh's demise. A partition refugee who rose to become the RBI Governor, Finance Minister, and Prime Minister, his journey is a remarkable one. I will always remember him as the only Prime Minister who made sincere efforts to uplift India's marginalized communities, including minorities and backward classes. My condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues."



Manmohan Singh, who began his life as a partition refugee, achieved prominence as a distinguished economist. He served as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Finance Minister, and ultimately as Prime Minister from 2004 to 2014. As Finance Minister under P.V. Narasimha Rao, Singh played a pivotal role in implementing bold economic reforms in 1991, including the liberalization of markets, abolition of the License Raj, and the introduction of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), which transformed India's economic landscape.

Singh is survived by his wife, Gursharan Kaur, and three daughters. Many national and international leaders, including Owaisi, have paid tribute to him following his passing.

## CPM Leader Bhimagani Ramulu Questions Tollywood Heroes' 300 Crore Remuneration

**TPN , Hyderabad:** CPM leader Bhimagani Ramulu has sparked controversy with his remarks on Tollywood heroes' high remunerations. In a statement, Ramulu expressed frustration over the growing payments, particularly highlighting reports that some heroes are receiving as much as 300 crores for their work.

Ramulu criticized the film industry's earnings, questioning what these heroes contribute to society in return for such massive amounts. He emphasized that politicians often target the film industry, and at this moment, he questioned the value of such high payments.

Additionally, Ramulu revealed that Telangana Congress leader Revanth Reddy had reportedly summoned the Telangana Pedda police station to inquire about the industry's financial dealings, asking how much these individuals were earning and what they were doing for society.

"What are the film industry people doing for the public? What are they contributing to this government?" Ramulu asked, raising concerns over the significant salaries in the industry amidst ongoing socio-economic challenges. His comments have sparked a debate over the priorities of the entertainment industry and its role in societal development.





## Governor Jishnu Dev Varma Mourns the Demise of Former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Telangana Governor Shri Jishnu Dev Varma expressed profound shock and grief over the demise of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, an eminent politician, economist, academician, and bureaucrat.

The Governor described Dr. Singh as one of India's most esteemed leaders, highlighting his pivotal role in pioneering economic reforms and elevating the nation's global stature. "Dr. Singh's visionary leadership set India on a path of progress," he said.

The Governor extended heartfelt condolences to Dr. Singh's family and followers, honoring his enduring legacy in India's political and economic history.



## Governor Dattatraya Mourns the Passing of Former Manmohan Singh



**TPN , Chandigarh:** Haryana Governor Shri Bandaru Dattatraya expressed deep sorrow over the demise of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, calling him a seasoned politician, skilled economist, and visionary leader.

The Governor praised Dr. Singh for his lifelong dedication to the nation, highlighting his pivotal role in implementing liberalization policies as Finance Minister to address financial crises and introduce structural reforms that strengthened India's economy.

Shri Dattatraya extended heartfelt condolences to Dr. Singh's family and prayed for strength to bear the loss, as well as for the departed soul to rest in peace.

## Man Arrested for Abetment to Suicide of Teenager in Hyderabad

**TPN , Hyderabad:** A laborer was arrested for abetment to suicide after a 19-year-old teenager took her own life at her residence on December 26.

The deceased's neighbor, Nikhil, allegedly blackmailed her with threats to leak private pictures after her family arranged her engagement to another man. Unable to cope with the pressure, the teenager ended her life.

The Jawaharnagar police initially filed a case under Section 194 of the BNS but later revised it to Section 108 (abetment to suicide). Nikhil has been arrested and sent to judicial remand. An investigation is ongoing.

In an unrelated case, a 28-year-old woman, Deepti, also died by suicide in Nacharam after alleged harassment over financial issues. Deepti, a PhD holder working at a research institute, had been facing distress due to a complaint against her father, Sangeet Rao, who absconded after receiving Rs. 35 lakh from Anita, who had paid for a promise of securing a government job for her relative.

The Nacharam police have filed a case under Section 108 (abetment of suicide) against Anita, her husband, and others, with further investigation underway.

## Power Department Employee Attacked After Disconnecting Supply at KPHB Colony



**TPN , Hyderabad:** A power department employee was attacked by a group of individuals after he disconnected

the electricity supply to their house in KPHB Colony, Hyderabad.

The incident occurred when Ramesh, an outsourcing employee of the Telangana State Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL), visited the residence to collect payment for an overdue bill. Upon receiving the high bill, the property owner argued that it was too expensive and insisted on resolving the issue with higher officials of the power department.

Despite the dispute, Ramesh proceeded to disconnect the power supply. Enraged by his actions, the property owners attacked him, damaging his motorcycle in the process.

A formal complaint was filed against the attackers at the KPHB Police Station, and an investigation has been initiated. The police are currently taking action to address the matter.

This incident highlights the ongoing issues surrounding billing disputes and the potential for such conflicts to escalate into violence. The power department is expected to continue working with authorities to ensure the safety of its employees during such operations.

## Tragic Road Accident in Madhapur Claims Two Lives

**TPN , Hyderabad :** In a tragic road accident last night in Madhapur, two young software professionals lost their lives when their vehicle collided with a divider on the 100-foot road near Ayyappa Society. The victims have been identified as Akash, a software employee in Hyderabad, and Raghu Babu, who worked in Bengaluru.

The accident occurred when the vehicle, traveling at high speed, lost control and struck the divider, resulting

in the deaths of both young men. The police have registered a case and are investigating the cause of the crash. The bodies have been transferred to the hospital for post-mortem.

Authorities have expressed concern about the growing number of road accidents in the area and have called for greater safety measures to prevent such tragedies in the future. The families of the victims have been informed, and the police are offering assistance in the investigation.



## Former Sarpanches Demand Immediate Payment of Pending Bills

**TPN , Telangana :** In a recent protest, former Sarpanches across Telangana submitted petitions to the Mahatma Gandhi statues, urging the government to immediately settle pending bills for development work carried out in their respective villages. The protest took place near the Bapu Ghat in Langer House, where the Telangana Sarpanches' Joint Action Committee (JAC) president, Survi Yadava Goud, and other Sarpanches presented their appeal.

Speaking to the media, Survi Yadava Goud emphasized that Sarpanches, who have worked diligently for village development in line with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Gram Swaraj, have been facing undue hardships due to the non-payment of bills for years. He pointed out that many Sarpanches have committed suicide, and some families have been torn apart due to the financial strain. Additionally, many Sarpanches are being harassed by creditors, unable to pay back loans or interest due to pending payments from the government.

The protesting Sarpanches have demanded that the government release the pending funds for completed works without further delay. They also urged the government to focus on the development of villages and fulfill their financial obligations, which have been pending for a long time.



**Key Demands:**

1. Immediate payment for completed works that have been recorded in the M.B. (Measurement Book).
2. Release of collected tax funds from village panchayats and the removal of any pending freezing orders.
3. Payment for SD (Sarpanch Development Fund) checks that have been approved.
4. Release of SF (State Fund) funds that have been pending for a year.
5. Payment for funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) due from the Central Government.

The Sarpanches have urged the government to settle these bills and provide them with justice.

## PhD Student Dies by Suicide After Alleged Harassment Over Father's Debt in Hyderabad



**TPN , Hyderabad:** A 29-year-old PhD student, Deepti, took her own life after allegedly being harassed by the police to pay money taken by her father, Pulivarthi Sangeeth Rao. The tragic incident occurred in Saraswati Nagar Colony under Nacharam PS, and Deepti filmed a video before her death, which has since gone viral.

Deepti, a PhD student at IICT, was deeply distressed by the actions of her father, who had allegedly cheated Constable Anil's wife, living across their house, by taking Rs. 15 lakh in 2022. The case was registered at Nacharam PS. Although Sangeeth Rao later returned Rs. 8 lakh, he was accused of further harassing his daughter for money. Deepti's family claimed that Anil's relatives, including his uncle Somaiya, wife Anita, and brother Saidu, demanded Rs. 35 lakh from Deepti to withdraw the case, despite her having no

involvement in the matter.

In her heartbreaking video, Deepti expressed her sorrow, stating that her father had abandoned them for years and that despite her efforts to resolve the issue by filing cases and approaching the police, she had been subjected to continuous harassment. Unable to cope with the pressure, Deepti hanged herself when no one was at home. In her final message, she blamed the police harassment for her decision.

The Nacharam police have made progress in the case, arresting three individuals, including Sangeeth Rao, Anita, and Somaiya. They have been remanded into police custody, and investigations are ongoing. The disturbing video of Deepti's suicide has sparked widespread outrage and drawn attention to police harassment.



## Woman Stages Protest Outside Lover's Home

**TPN , Telangana :** In a dramatic turn of events, a woman staged a protest outside her lover's home in Singarayapalem village, Kothagudem mandal, Khammam district, accusing him of betrayal. The woman, identified as Anita from Angalpet, Nalgonda district, had been in a secret relationship with Sudheer, a software employee from Singarayapalem, and the two had been living together in Hyderabad for the past few years.

The couple had secretly married earlier but had not informed their families. Recently, Sudheer proposed that they get married again in front of their parents. However, when Anita agreed, Sudheer claimed his parents were unwilling to accept the marriage, leading to a fallout. Feeling betrayed,



Anita attempted suicide but later recovered and went to Sudheer's house to confront him.

Supported by locals, Anita accused Sudheer of hiding behind his parents' refusal and stated that she could not live without him. She



sat outside his house, demanding justice, and declared she would continue the protest until her grievances were addressed. The incident has sparked a local uproar, with the community rallying behind Anita.

## Tiger or Hyena Tracks Found in Rudragudem

**TPN , Telangana :** In a concerning development, locals in Rudragudem village, Nallabelli mandal, Warangal district, have reported the presence of unusual animal tracks near the village. The tracks, believed to be from a large carnivore, have sparked fear among the villagers.

The residents first noticed the footprints and quickly informed the Forest Department authorities, who are investigating the situation. While some locals suspect the tracks belong to a tiger, others believe they may be from a hyena.

The Forest Department is yet to confirm the identity of the animal behind the footprints. Meanwhile, villagers remain on edge, fearing potential wildlife threats to their safety and livestock. Authorities are



expected to increase patrols and monitor the area closely. Further updates are awaited as investigations continue.

## Khammam District Leaders Pay Tribute to Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

**TPN , Telangana :** Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and MP Raghuram Reddy expressed their heartfelt condolences over the death of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The leaders paid tribute to his portrait at the Ponguleti camp office in Khammam city, where they were joined by Khammam MP Ramasayam Raghurami Reddy.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy described Singh's death as a monumental loss for the country. He highlighted Manmohan Singh's significant contributions to India's economic reforms, noting that India's economic stability was largely due to his efforts. Reddy also acknowledged Singh's pivotal role in the formation of the state of Telangana. In honor of the late former Prime Minister, the state government has declared today a holiday and announced a week of mourning. Leaders and citizens across the state are reflecting on Manmohan Singh's legacy and contributions to the nation.



## Brutal Murder in Ippalagudem, Jayashankar Bhupalapally District

**TPN , Telangana :** A brutal murder took place in Ippalagudem, Kataram Mandal, Jayashankar Bhupalapally District, following a clash between two families over a land dispute. The victim, identified as 55-year-old Butchaiah, was attacked with a stick by his brother-in-law, Pawan Lingaiah's son, during an altercation.

The dispute between Butchaiah and Lingaiah's family had been brewing over a land issue. The situation escalated when Pawan Lingaiah's son struck

Butchaiah on the head with a stick, causing fatal injuries. Butchaiah died on the spot due to the severe head injury.

The police arrived at the scene and conducted an examination of the body. Investigations are underway to determine the full details of the incident and the circumstances surrounding the murder. Authorities are working to gather further evidence and take appropriate action against the accused.

## Minister Ponnamp Visits Former MP Manda Jagannatham at NIMS Hospital

**TPN , Telangana :** Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar visited NIMS Hospital to inquire about the health of former Member of Parliament from Nagar Kurnool, Manda Jagannatham, who is undergoing treatment for serious health issues.

During the visit, Minister Prabhakar met with NIMS Hospital Superintendent Beerappa and

other medical staff to gather information on Jagannatham's condition. He instructed the medical team to ensure that the former MP receives the best possible treatment.

Minister Prabhakar also offered words of encouragement and comfort to Manda Jagannatham's family, urging them to stay strong during this challenging time.



## Theft at Basara Temple: Devotee's Gold Chain Stolen

**TPN , Telangana :** In an unfortunate incident at the Basara Sri Jnana Saraswati temple in Nirmal district, a devotee's gold chain was stolen while she was on her pilgrimage. The woman, accompanied by her family, had just taken a holy dip in the Godavari River and was heading towards the temple for darshan when two unidentified youths on a bike approached her. They snatched the gold chain from her neck and fled the scene.

The incident occurred in broad daylight, raising concerns about the safety of devotees at the temple. Local authorities are investigating the matter, and further details are awaited. Devotees visiting the temple for darshan are urged to remain vigilant, and the police have been alerted to intensify security measures.



## Telangana to Scrap Final-Year Language Study for Degree Students

**Hyderabad:** The Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) is considering a significant change to undergraduate course curriculums by eliminating mandatory language studies in the final year. This move, aimed at conventional degree courses, particularly science programmes, is expected to be implemented starting the next academic year.

The decision is intended to allow students to focus more on core subjects during their final year. As per the proposed changes, students studying languages like Telugu, Hindi, and Urdu as their second language will no longer have to pursue these subjects in their third year.

"There is a growing need to equip students with core skills, especially in science disciplines. Removing languages in the final year will provide students with more time and focus on their core subjects," sources from the Council said.

This approach revisits a system that existed in the State before 2021. However, language studies were reintroduced into the final year after expert committee recommendations.

### Other Proposed Reforms

- 1. Reduction in Credits:** The Council is also considering reducing the total credits for science programmes from 160 to 145 or 146, ensuring uniformity across all degree courses offered by State universities.
- 2. Mandatory Projects:** Final-year students will be required to undertake project work relevant to their field of study, potentially in collaboration with industries. These projects will carry four credits and aim to enhance practical knowledge and employability.
- 3. Online Learning Platforms:** Degree students will have the option to enroll in courses on platforms like Swayam and NPTEL, with the credits earned transferable to their degree programme.

These reforms align with the State's vision to modernize and streamline higher education, equipping students with industry-relevant skills and reducing academic burdens. If approved, they will mark a significant shift in the academic structure of Telangana's undergraduate programmes.

## Policemen Arrested for Selling Duty-Free Liquor in Block

**TPN , Telangana :** Two policemen, a constable and a home guard, were arrested for running a racket involving the sale of duty-free liquor. The duo, Constable Jemya Nayak and Home Guard Bandari Lingaiah, were caught by excise police while selling liquor outside the block. They had been purchasing duty-free liquor at the airport, using the names of several passengers, and selling it to people outside the block.

The excise officials seized 41 bottles of liquor, worth Rs 15 lakh, from the accused. The racket

was discovered when Mahesh, an employee working at the duty-free liquor counter, became involved in the scheme with the two policemen. A total of five individuals have been implicated in the incident.

Interestingly, both the constable and the home guard are usually assigned duties when VIPs arrive, performing their roles as part of protocol. However, their involvement in the illegal liquor trade has now led to their arrest, with further investigations underway.







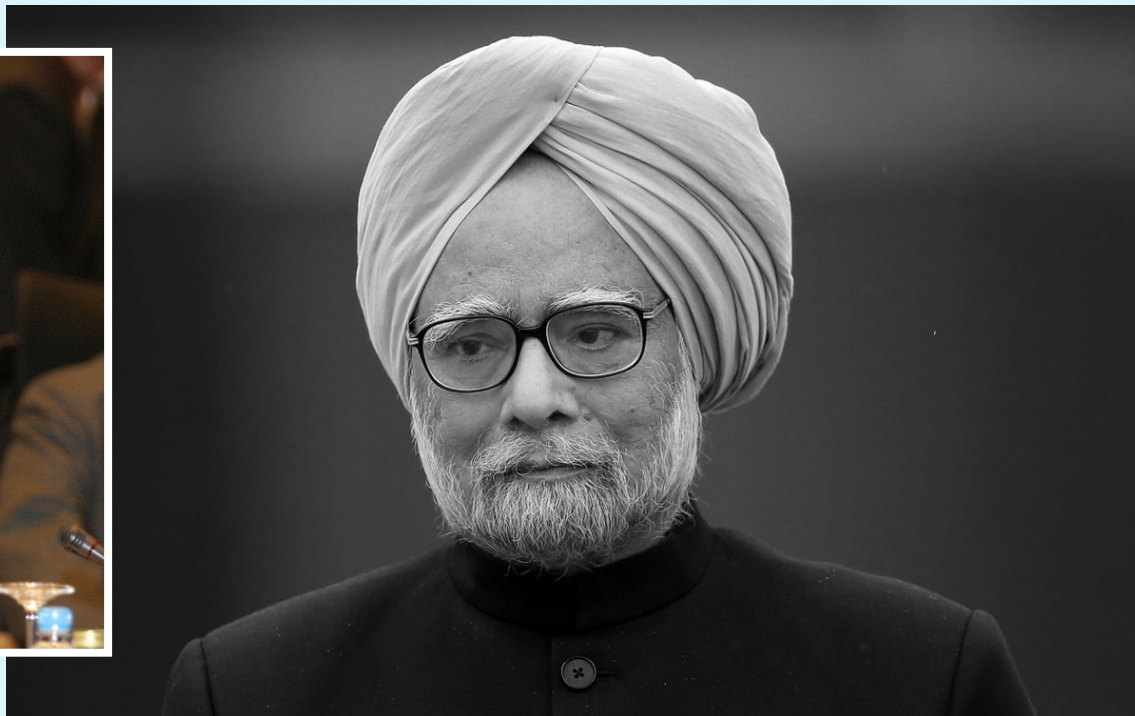
# India's Economic Wheel Did Not Move Without A Push From **MANMOHAN SINGH**



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.



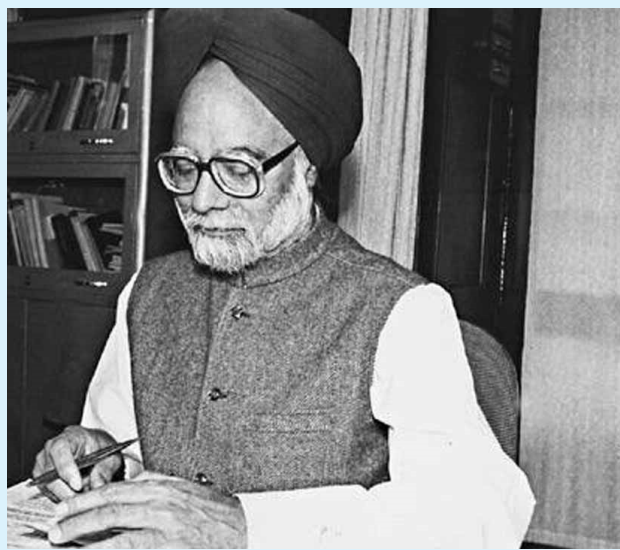
## Academic Excellence and Professional Journey

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.



## 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.

## "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.







# 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.



## 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.

## 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.





## 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. Itron 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.

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.

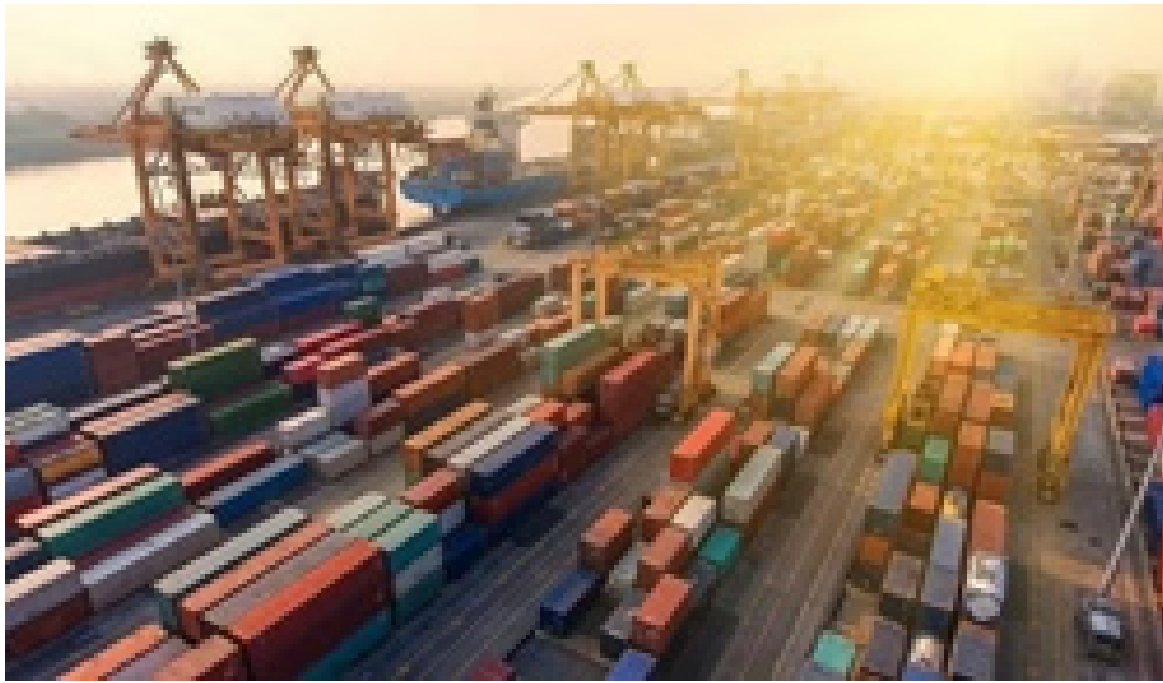
India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate fell to 5.4% in Q2 of FY2024-25, marking the lowest growth in seven quarters. This slower growth, which has persisted for three consecutive quarters, led to a 6% growth rate for the first half of the fiscal year.

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.

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.

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 (CO<sub>2</sub>) 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.



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

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-

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.





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 crick-eting 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.



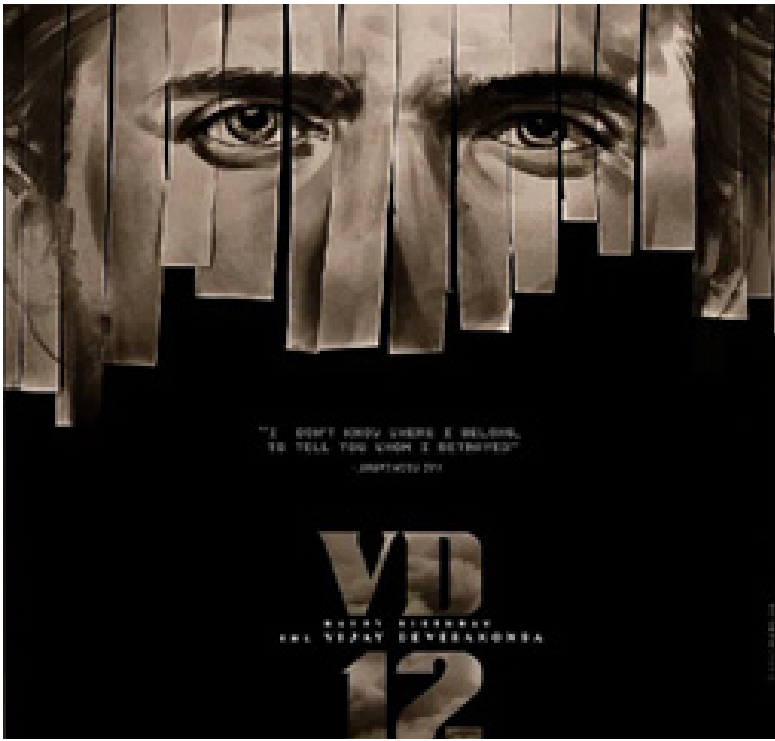


## Vijay Deverakonda and Gautham Tinnanuri’s Upcoming Movie: A Two-Part Epic

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.



### 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.

## 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!