



**Weather Forecast**

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

# Aminpur Sparks Conservation Debate

**Hydra's Restoration Efforts Bring Rare Birds Back to Aminpur**  
**Locals Decry Demolition of Homes Under FTL Norms**  
**Nature Lovers Celebrate the Return of the Red-Breasted Flycatcher**  
**CM Revanth Reddy Defends Environmental Protection Measures**  
**Balancing Conservation and Community Welfare: The Aminpur Debate**

**TPN , Pardhu :** The restoration of Aminpur Lake by the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protecting Agency (Hydra) has sparked mixed reactions. While nature enthusiasts are rejoicing over the sighting of the rare red-breasted flycatcher bird at the lake, local residents are expressing anger and frustration over the measures that led to the destruction of their homes.



### Nature's Revival Through Hydra's Efforts

Hydra has been lauded for its work in restoring several lakes and ponds in Hyderabad, including Aminpur Lake. The agency claims that its efforts have brought back the lake's former glory, allowing rare species such as the red-breasted flycatcher to return. This small bird, known for its striking appearance, migrates from Eastern Europe to South Asia during winter. Hydra has highlighted this as a significant achievement, stating that it

showcases the revival of biodiversity in the area.

### Residents' Grievances

However, the joy of nature lovers contrasts sharply with the grievances of local residents. Many homes near the lake were demolished under the Full Tank Level (FTL) norms. Residents al-

lege that their houses, painstakingly built with years of hard work and savings, were destroyed without adequate compensation or rehabilitation.

"Hydra is celebrating the return of birds, but what about us? They have taken away our shelter and left us to fend for ourselves," lamented one

of the affected residents. Others expressed concern about repaying bank loans taken to build their homes, now reduced to rubble. They also criticized the government for failing to provide alternative housing, such as the promised double-bedroom houses under welfare schemes.

### CM Revanth Reddy Defends the Efforts

Amid the controversy, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy defended the actions, emphasizing the importance of environmental protection. In a tweet, he stated, "When we care for nature, nature takes care of us. The return of rare birds to restored lakes like Aminpur is a testament to our commitment to safeguarding biodiversity."

The CM also pointed out that several water bodies and green spaces have been reclaimed from illegal encroachments to ensure the preservation of Hyderabad's natural resources.



### Questionable Actions Without Rehabilitation

Despite Hydra's success in reviving the lake and attracting rare wildlife, the agency's approach to enforcing FTL norms has come under scrutiny. Residents argue that while environmental restoration is vital, it should not come at the cost of displacing families without providing proper rehabilitation. The situation at Aminpur highlights the delicate balance between environmental conservation and the rights of local communities, sparking an ongoing debate on how best to achieve sustainable development while ensuring social justice.

## Phone Tapping Scandal

### Case Filed Against Harish Rao

**Congress Leader Alleges Threats and Coercion**  
**Police Probe and Legal Battle Intensify**



complaint stating that his phone, along with those of his family members, was tapped during the BRS regime. He claimed he received an alert from Apple indicating the breach and previously raised the issue with senior police officials, including the DGP.

Goud alleged that then-Task Force DCP Radha Kishan Rao, under Harish Rao's direction, coerced him to join the BRS party, threatening him with false cases and harm to his family. Based on his allegations, the police registered the case under IPC Sections 120(B), 386, 409, 506, and relevant sections of the IT Act.

**Police Investigation Intensifies**  
 The Panjagutta police have launched a thorough investigation into the complaint, examining evidence provided by Chakradhar Goud.

### Serious Allegations Against Harish Rao

Chakradhar Goud, a Congress leader from Siddipet, filed the

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## Revanth Vows Global Future for Hyderabad

**Hyderabad's Global Vision: CM's Development Plans**  
**Musi Cleanup Sparks Political Showdown**  
**Cabinet Sub-Committee to Drive City Growth**

**TPN , Hyderabad :** The Hyderabad Rising Festival was held on Tuesday at HMDA Grounds, NTR Marg, marking one year of the Telangana Congress government. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers Ponnam Prabhakar, Sridhar Babu, and several MLAs attended the event. The festival showcased Telangana's culture and traditions through various stalls inspected by the CM.

Addressing a public meeting, CM Revanth Reddy emphasized his government's commitment to transforming Hyderabad into a global city. He criticized the previous government for deceiving the public with unfulfilled promises and announced significant investments in Hyderabad's infrastructure and beautification. He outlined plans under the "Musi Sundari Karana" initiative to develop Hyderabad as a world-class city capable of competing with global metropolises like New York and Tokyo.

The CM highlighted Hyderabad's unique identity and its role as an employment

hub, contributing 65% of the state's revenue. He credited past leaders, including PJR and Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu, for their contributions to the city's growth. He also mentioned ongoing projects like the Regional Ring Road, allocated Rs. 7,000 crore for city development.

### Challenge to Kishan Reddy and Criticism of KCR

CM Revanth Reddy challenged Union Minister Kishan Reddy to secure Rs. 10,000 crore in central funds for Hyderabad's development, particularly for Musi River rejuvenation. He criticized the minister for inaction, accusing him of failing to bring any funds from the central government.

Targeting former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), Revanth accused him of mismanaging Telangana's resources for a decade and obstructing current development efforts. He urged KCR to reveal his policy plans and offered to debate the policies of BRS and BJP.



Cabinet Sub-Committee for City Development

Reaffirming his commitment to Hyderabad's growth, the CM announced the formation of a cabinet sub-committee led by the Deputy Chief Minister to oversee city development. He called for an all-party meeting to gather suggestions from opposition parties, emphasizing collaborative governance for Hyderabad's future. The festival concluded as a celebration of governance and a call for collective efforts to elevate Hyderabad's global stature.

## Sridhar Babu Launches Digital Building Approval System

**Blockchain Technology Enhances Trust in Building Approvals**  
**Government Allocates Rs. 2400 Crores for City Development**  
**Elevated Corridors and Beautification Projects for Hyderabad**



**TPN , Hyderabad :** Minister Sridhar Babu unveiled the innovative "Build Now" system, designed to streamline the approval process for new buildings and layouts. The system incorporates blockchain technology to ensure transparency, reliability, and efficient tracking of applications. Linked with the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA), this initiative aims to usher in a new era in Telangana's digital sector.

At the launch event, MAU officials presented the system through a short film, showcasing its potential. Highlighting past successes, the Minister mentioned the resolution of long-pending Defense Department land approvals under the HMDA framework last year.

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## Forest Permissions Approved for RRR

**Union Ministry Approves Forest Land for RRR**  
**Komatireddy Announces 90% Land Acquisition Completion**  
**Work on Hyderabad RRR Set to Begin Soon**

**TPN , Telangana:** Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy announced that the Union Environment Ministry has granted forest permissions for the northern part of the ambitious Regional Ring Road (RRR) project in Telangana. This approval is a significant step in advancing the construction of the Hyderabad Regional Ring Road (HRRR), part of the Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-1.



The permissions were conveyed through a letter from Kailash Bheem

Rao Bhavar, Assistant Inspector General of the Central Forest Department, as per the Union Ministry's approval. The letter confirms that the Telangana government's proposal for forest permits, submitted on July 26, 2024, under the Forest Conservation Act-1980, has been approved. The Regional Empowered Committee (REC), after reviewing the proposal, granted "in-principle" approval during its 69th meeting on September 19, 2024.

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## Case Filed Against Harish Rao

continued from P-1

He also appeared before the Jubilee Hills ACP for questioning, where he reiterated his claims and provided detailed accounts of the alleged threats.

### Legal Battle Ahead

Chakradhar Goud has vowed to pursue justice, expressing readiness to take the matter to the Supreme Court if necessary. He alleged that the tapping of phones was part of a broader strategy of political intimidation under the BRS government. The case is expected to have significant implications, adding another dimension to the already heated political landscape in Telangana.

## Building Approval System

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City Infrastructure and Beautification Projects

Minister Sridhar Babu emphasized the government's commitment to urban development. Key initiatives include:  
- Construction of two elevated corridors spanning 18 km, including a 5.2 km corridor from Paradise Junction to Dairy Farm.  
- A city beautification drive with extensive greenery projects, including a 214 km-long even plant initiative.  
- Allocation of ₹2,400 crores for GHMC development, focusing on pond restoration and greenery enhancement.

### Water and Sewage Management

The government plans to connect Godavari water to Hyderabad's twin reservoirs and has established a comprehensive sewage drainage system. Sewage plants along the Musi River have also been set up to ensure clean water and prevent sewage overflow onto roads.

### Metro Rail and Urban Planning

Despite previous setbacks, the metro rail will soon extend to Hyderabad's old town, enhancing public transport options. A master plan is being prepared for all towns in Telangana to support rapid urbanization. Minister Babu assured citizens that the government is working to protect the interests of all families while adhering to legal frameworks, emphasizing their vision for cleaner air and water in Hyderabad.

## Forest Permissions Approved for RRR

continued from P-1

The approval covers a total of 72,3536 hectares of forest land across three districts: 35,5882 hectares in Medak, 28,2544 hectares in Siddipet, and 8,511 hectares in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri. These lands are essential for the construction of the HRRR, which will be implemented by the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) Gajwel under NHAI. Minister Komatireddy stated that the Ministry of Environment had been informed about the need for land acquisition, which will proceed in compliance with relevant rules. He confirmed that once the forest permissions are in place, the process of calling tenders and initiating work can begin. With 90 percent of the land acquisition already completed, the minister expressed confidence that minor legal issues will be resolved soon. He thanked Union Minister for Forest and Environment, Bhupender Yadav, for supporting the project and facilitating the necessary approvals.

## Panic Grips Komuram Bheem District After Tiger Attacks

Tiger Attacks Spark Fear in Komuram Bheem District

Fatal Incident Leads to Protests and Promises of Compensation

Intensive Search Operations Underway to Capture Roaming Tiger



**TPN , Komuram Bheem District:** A series of tiger attacks in the forests of Komuram Bheem have left local residents in fear. The tiger, believed to be roaming in the Itikyala forest area near Kagaznagar, has already attacked two people, including a fatal attack on a young woman. The victim, Mohirle Lakshmi, was attacked while working in a cotton field in Nazrul Nagar on Friday morning. Despite being rushed to the hospital, she succumbed to her injuries. In the wake of the incident, locals protested in front of the forest department, demanding action. The authorities have promised an ex-gratia of Rs. 20 lakh, five acres of land, and a job for a family member.

As the search for the tiger continues, forest officials are utilizing drones and trap cameras to locate it. Ten special

teams are on the ground, but so far, only the tiger's footprints have been found, with no photos captured. Officials are analyzing the tiger's movements, speculating that if it is identified and its behavior understood, they may be able to safely capture or relocate it.

Meanwhile, restrictions have been imposed in 15 villages in the affected areas, with Section 144 in place to prevent farmers and workers from going to the fields. The tiger's increasing attacks have heightened tension, with locals blaming the forest department for failing to identify the tiger's movements earlier. Another attack occurred within 24 hours of the fatal incident when a farmer, Suresh, was injured in Dubbaguda by the same tiger. The search operations continue, but the fear among residents remains palpable.

## Harish Rao Denies Phone Tapping Allegations

Harish Rao Slams Allegations as Politically Motivated

FIR Filed Against BRS Leader Over Phone Tapping Claims

Rao Vows to Continue Fighting for Justice Amid Baseless Charges

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Senior Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader and Siddipet MLA, T Harish Rao, on Tuesday, December 3, strongly dismissed the FIR filed against him in the phone tapping case, calling it "false" and "baseless." The former health minister made the statement following the registration of a case against him by the Punjagutta police under various sections, including Section 120(B) (Criminal conspiracy), 386 (Extortion), 409 (Criminal breach of trust), 506 (Criminal intimidation), and Section 66 of the Information Technology Act.

Harish Rao alleged that the charges were a politically motivated conspiracy by the Congress-led government. He expressed his frustration on social media, claiming that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his government were fabricating cases against him because



they could not tolerate being questioned. "You (CM Revanth Reddy) are making illegal cases against me because you can't tolerate being questioned. You are exposing your true nature at every step," he stated.

The complaint against Har-

ish Rao was filed by businessman G Chakradhar Goud, who alleged harassment, threats, and unlawful surveillance of his phone. Goud, a prominent figure in charitable activities, claimed that Harish Rao had developed a grudge against him due to his financial support for

families of farmers who committed suicide. Goud further accused Rao of exploiting his political power for personal vendettas.

In his latest post on X (formerly Twitter), Harish Rao refuted the allegations, calling the case filed at Begum Bazar police station another "false" claim. He also mentioned an unrelated cybercrime case filed against him, based on a social media post shared by someone else.

Harish Rao emphasized his determination to continue his questioning of the government, despite what he referred to as attempts to silence him. "No matter how many false cases you file, I will not stop questioning on behalf of the people. I will continue until justice is served, and you are held accountable by a public verdict in the court of the people," he wrote.

## Revanth Reddy Inaugurates Key Projects at HMDA Grounds

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, along with Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka and Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Sridhar Babu, visited the stalls set up under the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department as part of the "Hyderabad Rising" celebrations on NTR Marg.

During the event, CM Revanth Reddy inaugurated several initiatives aimed at improving Hyderabad's infrastructure. He highlighted the ongoing construction of water-holding structures to prevent water-logging on roads, a project stemming from his vision of addressing the city's drainage issues. The Chief Minister also praised the past efforts by Congress governments, which brought water to Hyderabad through the Godavari phases.

Reddy emphasized the revival of the Musi River, asserting that its restoration would improve the city's global image and offer a better future to those living along the riverbed.

The Chief Minister also introduced an Electric Vehicle (EV) policy aimed at reducing



pollution in the city. This policy, effective until December 2026, will see the phased introduction of electric buses in Hyderabad's RTC fleet to help combat pollution. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar criticized the

Union Government for neglecting Hyderabad's development, accusing Union Minister Kishan Reddy of failing to bring funds for the city's growth.

## Komatireddy Venkat Reddy Supports MBBS Students



**TPN , Hyderabad:** Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has pledged to ensure that no talented student in Telangana is forced to discontinue their education due to financial difficulties. Expressing deep concern

for students facing such challenges, the Minister emphasized the importance of supporting talented individuals to contribute positively to society. In a heartwarming gesture, Minister Komatireddy assisted

three students from Nalgonda district who had secured MBBS seats but were unable to continue their studies due to financial constraints. The students—Gunde Yugender, Antaati Shashi Prakash, and Rudrarapu Kaveri—received Rs. 65,000 each as immediate financial aid.

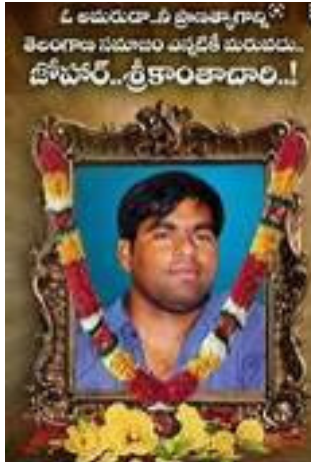
Furthermore, the Minister assured them that he would take care of their education fees for the next five years through the Pratik Foundation and provide assistance for other study-related expenses. He encouraged the students to excel in their studies and promised them a bright future, emphasizing the value of serving society as doctors.

The students expressed their gratitude for the Minister's support, saying his timely intervention filled them with immense hope and courage. They praised Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for understanding their struggles and for standing by their side during such a critical time. The Minister's gesture has been widely appreciated as a significant step toward making education accessible to deserving students, regardless of their financial backgrounds.





### KTR and Harish Rao Pay Tribute to Srikanthachari on His Death Anniversary



TPN , Telangana: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) and senior MLA Harish Rao paid tribute to Srikanthachari, the first martyr of the Telangana movement, on the 15th anniversary of his death. KTR, recalling Srikanthachari's sacrifice, said the activist committed suicide due to the intense crackdown on Telangana supporters and the arrest of KCR by the Congress government. KTR emphasized that Srikanthachari's act galvanized the movement and left an indelible mark on Telangana's fight for statehood. He clarified that the people of Telangana would never forget his sacrifice.

Harish Rao also honored Srikanthachari, acknowledging his bravery during the Malidasa movement. He noted that Srikanthachari, even while being set on fire, shouted "Jai Telangana," symbolizing his unwavering commitment. Both leaders expressed their deep respect and praised Srikanthachari's contribution to the Telangana cause, reaffirming their dedication to upholding his legacy.

### Kaushik Reddy: Resistance is BRS's Response to Oppression



TPN , Telangana : Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy strongly criticized the Congress government for filing illegal cases against BRS leader Harish Rao, accusing the ruling party of undemocratic actions. Reddy condemned the attempt to intimidate Harish Rao, who, over the past year, has exposed the government's failures with evidence. He stated that such actions were partisan and unjust.

Reddy emphasized that if oppression was the Congress party's policy, resistance would be the BRS's response. He pointed out that restrictions and oppressive measures had become a routine under Congress rule. The BRS, he assured, would not back down and would continue to hold the government accountable for its governance failures.

A case was recently filed against Harish Rao at the Panjagutta police station based on a complaint by Chakradhar Goud of Sidipet. Goud alleged that his phone had been tapped. The police registered the case under sections related to criminal conspiracy, cybercrime, and the IT Act. Additionally, a case was filed against Radhakishan Rao, a former task force member.

However, BRS social media convener Satish Reddy revealed that Chakradhar Goud had multiple criminal cases against him, including charges for criminal conspiracy, cyber fraud, and even attempted rape. Reddy criticized the Congress government for conspiring to frame individuals like Goud and using him to target opposition leaders.

### Congress Must Clarify SC Classification Policy: NVSS Prabhakar

TPN , Telangana : BJP leader and former MLA NVSS Prabhakar criticized the Congress government for its unclear stance on SC classification, pointing out that despite Revanth Reddy's promises, no progress has been made. He mentioned that Revanth had pledged to implement the classification within hours of the Supreme Court's verdict, but no action has been taken. Prabhakar accused the Congress of neglecting the Madiga community politically and weakening the sub-plan. He called out the contradiction in Congress leaders' actions, with some celebrating while others fail to address critical issues.

Prabhakar further questioned whether Revanth Reddy would discuss the implementation of the sub-plan for the year and criticized KCR for failing to fulfill his promise of making a Dalit the Chief Minister. He stated that Congress will struggle to answer the BJP's charge sheet and claimed that BRS has no moral authority to file one.



# Komatireddy Warns Against Student Suicides, Offers Support



TPN , Telangana: Telangana Minister Komatireddy Venkata Reddy has strongly condemned the recent suicides of three intermediate students across the state within ten days. The minister, acting on the instructions of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, emphasized the importance of seeking help rather than resorting to drastic measures.

Expressing his sorrow over the tragic deaths of Banoth Tanush Nayak from Narayana College, Kaushik Raghava from Sri Chaitanya Junior College, and Pragna Reddy from NSR Impulse College, Komatireddy appealed to students to refrain from suicide and contact his office for assistance if they are facing difficulties.

The minister warned private college managements against putting undue pressure on students and assured legal action against those responsible for creating a stressful environment. He encouraged students to call his office at 8688007954 or email minister.randbc@gmail.com for support. Minister Komatireddy urged students not to be discouraged by their challenges and assured them that a bright future awaits if they remain hopeful and seek help. He reminded students that suicide is never the solution, and the government is committed to addressing their concerns.

## BRS Doesn't Want Musi Area's Development: Bhatti Vikramarka



TPN , Telangana: During the Telangana Rising Festival at Knuckles Road, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka criticized the BRS, accusing them of neglecting the development of the Musi catchment area. He challenged BJP leader Kishan Reddy to live in a hut in the Musi area for more than one day, questioning the authenticity of his claims about the region. Bhatti stated that the BRS, which has governed for 10 years, has failed to invest in the area's development.

He highlighted that Hyderabad's growth occurred under the Congress government, emphasizing that the current administration is focused on transforming Musi into a clean, living river. Bhatti assured that the public government is committed to making Hyderabad a pollution-free city, ensuring it does not face issues like those in Delhi. He also mentioned plans to turn Hyderabad into a world-class city, one that the country can be proud of.

## Tammineni Slams Revanth on Unfulfilled Promises

TPN , Telangana: Tammineni Veerabhadram, senior leader, raised concerns over the Congress government's handling of public issues, questioning its priorities during a recent statement. He remarked that while it is fine for the Congress government to hold festivals, it has failed to address the real problems faced by the people. He pointed out the lack of clarity on the farmer loan waiver and farmer assurance schemes, emphasizing that six of the promised guarantees remain unimplemented.



Tammineni criticized Revanth Reddy's leadership, accusing him of not fulfilling his promises. He stated that, aside from putting women on buses, nothing significant has been done to implement the commitments made during the election. The promises made to farmers and women, he said, have not been addressed, and the government is using politics to divert attention from these failures. On the issues surrounding Hydra and Musi, Tammineni stressed that while cleaning efforts are necessary, modernization should not come at the expense of the poor. He

opposed the introduction of harmful chemicals into Hyderabad and called for proper purification factories. Additionally, he criticized the government's actions against the poor, accusing officials of evicting people from their homes in the middle of the night.

Tammineni concluded by accusing Revanth Reddy of practicing oppression rather than democracy, claiming that Revanth's words promise democracy, but his actions reflect the opposite.

## BRS Supports Caste Census, Says Srinivas Goud

TPN , Telangana: At the 3rd National Conference of the All India Federation for Social Justice held at Maharashtra Sadan, former Telangana Minister Srinivas Goud expressed support for the caste census, emphasizing the need for greater justice for OBCs, who make up 60% of the country's population. Goud pointed out the paradox of having an OBC Prime Minister yet no separate ministry for BCs, stressing the need for a dedicated ministry for BCs in the government.

He criticized the inadequate representation of BCs in Telangana's cabinet, with only two BC ministers, and advocated for minorities to be given vacant ministries. Goud also highlighted that people in Telangana are wary of the caste census but clarified that BRS is not opposed to it. The conference, which included MPs and BC leaders from across India, focused on caste census, women's rights, and reservations as pillars of social justice.

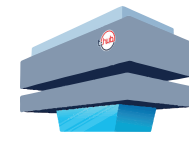


## Telangana High Court Dismisses Petition to Stop Release of Pushpa-2



TPN , Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court has dismissed a petition filed by Sararapu Srisailam, who sought to halt the release of the movie \*Pushpa-2\*, alleging that it encourages red sandalwood smuggling. The court, led by Justice Mousami Bhattacharya, ruled that the film's release cannot be stopped based on speculative claims. The Deputy Solicitor General, representing the Censor Board, confirmed that the movie had been cleared for release after required modifications. The court also imposed a fine on the petitioner for wasting court time, directing the amount to be given to women victims of trafficking and child welfare organizations.





## Friend Brutally Murdered Over Loan Dispute in Hyderabad

TPN , Hyderabad : A shocking murder occurred in Hayatnagar police station limits, where a man named Kasirao was brutally killed by his friend Shekhar. The incident took place after Kasirao, a resident of Bhagyalatha Arunodaya Colony, went to Shekhar's flat to demand the repayment of a loan amounting to four lakh rupees.



Shekhar, who works as a Swiggy delivery boy, became enraged during the confrontation and slit Kasirao's throat with a knife. Kasirao, who was seriously injured, died at the scene. Shekhar fled after the murder.

Kasirao's wife discovered blood stains on him as he went out, and upon checking, found him lying in a pool of blood. She immediately alerted the police, who arrived at the scene, collected evidence, and sent the body to Osmania Hospital for postmortem.

The police have initiated an investigation based on a complaint from Kasirao's wife. Special teams have been formed to apprehend Shekhar, who remains on the run. Authorities are investigating whether financial differences over the loan were the motive behind the murder or if there were other factors involved.

## Pension Hike for Disabled Soon: Seethakka



TPN , Telangana : Minister Seethakka announced that the Telangana government is committed to the welfare of the state's 10 lakh disabled individuals, with plans to increase their pensions soon. Speaking at an event on World Disabled Day at Rabindra Bharathi in Hyderabad, Seethakka emphasized that the disabled should not feel limited by their disabilities, but instead recognize their talents and abilities.

She highlighted the government's initiatives, including Rs. 50 crore allocated for the welfare of the disabled, the creation of a special job portal, and job opportunities in the private sector. Additionally, scooters will be provided to assist disabled individuals with self-employment opportunities. Seethakka criticized the central government for not increasing pensions for the disabled in the last decade and pointed out that the Modi government continues the pension scheme introduced by the UPA government.

## Governor Celebrates Disabilities Day with Empathy



TPN , Hyderabad : The Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Sri Jishnu Dev Varma, graced the International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebrations held at the Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad. The event was marked by traditional fervor and gaiety, with the Governor participating as the Chief Guest.

tial, the Governor remarked, "Disability is merely a state of mind. It does not prevent you from pursuing your aspirations. True success lies in fulfilling the highest and most truthful expression of yourself as a human being. The future is accessible to all who persevere."

In his address, the Governor praised the confidence and resilience of persons with disabilities, stating, "I salute your resilience and ability to overcome challenges to serve as role models in society. Your excellence speaks volumes, and I have no words to express my admiration." He emphasized the importance of raising awareness to address issues related to intellectual disabilities, stressing that doing so could help reduce their prevalence.

The event also featured captivating cultural performances by children from schools for the hearing-impaired, visually impaired, and other special needs groups, which the Governor highly commended. The Governor distributed assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, tricycles, and hearing aids to those in need. A lunch was also hosted for the invitees.

Encouraging individuals with disabilities, or Divyangjan, to view themselves as having divine poten-

The ceremony was attended by Special Chief Secretary to Governor, Sri B. Venkatesham, Padma Shri Awardee Dr. Sai Baba Goud, Sri Koli Nageshwar Rao, President of Disabled Rights, and other dignitaries.

## Ministers Meet Governor Jishnu Dev Varma Ahead of Event Launch



TPN , Hyderabad : Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar, Sridhar Babu, and Seethakka paid a courtesy call on Governor Jishnu Dev Varma at Raj Bhavan. During the meeting, the ministers invited the Governor to the upcoming launch of the Indira Mahila Shakti Bazaar program, scheduled for December 5. The program aims to empower women and promote self-reliance. The ministers discussed the event's significance and sought the Governor's participation to highlight its importance.

## Tributes Paid to Srikanth Chari at Telangana Youth Day



TPN , Hyderabad : On the death anniversary of Amarudu Srikanth Chari, Telangana Jana Samithi organized a Telangana Youth Day conference at Basheer Bagh Press Club. The event was graced by Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupalli Krishna Rao, who paid tribute to Srikanth Chari's portrait for his significant role in the Telangana movement.

During the event, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized Srikanth Chari's contribution to igniting the Telangana movement, stating that the aspirations of the people will be fulfilled as per his vision. He further praised the struggle for Telangana's formation, highlighting efforts like the RTC and Singareni strikes.

Minister Prabhakar also addressed the challenges faced by activists, expressing the government's commitment to provide land and jobs to those who fought for Telangana's statehood. The conference also focused on progress made under the current government, including the filling of teacher positions, promotion opportunities, and financial relief to government employees.

## High Court Orders Action on Mulugu Encounter Adjoins Hearing to December 5

TPN , Hyderabad : The Telangana High Court continued hearings on the Mulugu encounter case today, where the petitioner's lawyer argued that the deaths were a result of a fake encounter. The lawyer pointed out multiple injuries on the bodies, calling for a re-postmortem of the preserved bodies.



In response, the High Court directed the state government to take further action, including providing the postmortem report. The court ordered that Mallaiah's body be preserved until Thursday, while the remaining bodies should be handed over to their respective families. The next hearing was scheduled for December 5.

In the previous hearing, the High Court had already ordered the preservation of the bodies. During today's proceedings, the petitioner's lawyer emphasized concerns over

the postmortem process, claiming it had been conducted in the dark and without proper documentation. He called for a re-postmortem, citing these irregularities.

On the other hand, the government's lawyer defended the original postmortem, stating that it had been conducted following NHRC guidelines and with the involvement of eight medical experts. He also claimed

that the deaths occurred in crossfire, dismissing the allegation of a fake encounter. The lawyer further stated that the bodies needed to be released to prevent any law and order issues.

The court, while acknowledging the petitioner's concerns regarding potential poisoning and subsequent killings, decided to wait for the postmortem examination (PME) report before making further judgments. It ordered the submission of the PME report along with details of the encounter and actions taken afterward. The next hearing will focus on these submissions, and the court will decide further action based on the findings.

## BGUS to Protest Violence Against Hindus in Bangladesh



TPN , Hyderabad : The Bhayanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi (BGUS) has announced a protest against the rising violence targeting Hindus in Bangladesh. The dharna will take place at Dharna Chowk near Indira Park on Wednesday, December 4, from 10 am to 1 pm.

BGUS is strongly condemning the recent attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh and is calling for swift justice for the victims. The primary demand of the protest is the immediate and unconditional release of Swami Chinmoy Krishnadas, who has been imprisoned

in Bangladesh under controversial circumstances.

The Samithi is also appealing to the international community to intervene and ensure the safety and protection of the rights of minority communities in Bangladesh. The protest will bring attention to the rising intolerance and violence faced by Hindus in the neighboring country, urging for decisive action to safeguard their rights. BGUS has called on all concerned citizens and organizations to join the protest and show solidarity with the victims.



## Public Administration Victory Celebrations Held in Manuguru

TPN , Telangana : Bhadradi Kothagudem: The Public Administration Victory Celebrations were held with grandeur in Manuguru Mandal, organized by the Municipal Department. MLA Payam Venkateswarlu attended as the chief guest, with local women's groups, students, Congress leaders, and activists joining in a rally from Telangana Chowrastra to Ambedkar Center.



During the event, Payam Venkateswarlu distributed cheques totaling Rs 2 crore

to 15 self-help groups under the Urban Poverty Alleviation Organization (MPMA). He emphasized the Congress government's commitment to the welfare of the people, highlighting the allocation

of Rs 17 crore for the development of Manuguru and completion of flood-prevention work, including bund and canal dredging.

He also mentioned the finan-

cial aid of Rs 16,000 provided to 2,500 families affected by untimely rains. Payam highlighted several welfare initiatives, including free bus travel for women, gas subsidies, free electricity, and loan waivers for farmers. Additionally, he accused BRS leaders of being involved in food poisoning incidents in welfare hostels. He praised the Congress government for its continuous support to farmers and women, particularly through 100% loan provisions for women's self-help groups.

## Leopard Hit by Car on National Highway Near Chandrayanpalli

TPN , Nizamabad: A leopard was seriously injured after being hit by a car on the national highway near Chandrayanpalli in Dichpalli mandal. The incident caused panic among passing motorists as the injured leopard lay on the road. Authorities are on-site to assist and ensure the safety of both the animal and commuters. Further details on the leopard's condition are awaited.



## CPI Calls for Judicial Inquiry into Maoist Encounter in Mulugu



TPN , Hyderabad: The Communist Party of India (CPI) has raised serious concerns over the recent encounter involving Maoists near Chalpaka in Mulugu district, demanding a judicial inquiry into the incident. CPI State Secretary and Kothagudem MLA, Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao, described the encounter as a "complete sham" and questioned the involvement of Telangana police in the operation.

Speaking at the CPI state office in Hyderabad, Kunamneni questioned

the motive behind Union Minister Amit Shah's announcement that the Maoists would be wiped out by 2026. He also raised concerns about the freedom of expression, asking whether those who oppose the government would be silenced through violence. He emphasized that while Maoists may be limited in number, the broader communist ideology promotes the right to question, and he warned against silencing dissent.

Rao specifically questioned whether the Telangana government was aware of the encounter, especially considering it occurred near the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border. He demanded that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy take responsibility and review the situation. The CPI leader further appealed to the judiciary to take suo motu action to protect human rights and address the police-Maoist exchange of fire incidents, expressing concerns about the erosion of human rights in the country.

## Farmer's 46-Year Struggle for Land Title Ends at Prajavani Program



TPN , Hyderabad: After a relentless 46-year battle, Kommanaboina Picchaiah, a farmer from Errasanigudem village in Nalgonda district, finally received the title deed

for his one-acre land. The long-awaited moment came on December 3 during the Prajavani program held at Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad. Since 1978,

Picchaiah had been seeking a pattadar passbook for his land in survey number 215/3, facing numerous obstacles along the way. With hope in the Prajavani program, he filed a petition in July 2024, requesting ownership of his property.

During the event, Picchaiah received his pattadar passbook from Divya Devarajan, the state's nodal officer for Prajavani, and Dr. G Chinna Reddy, vice-chairman of the state planning board. Expressing gratitude, Picchaiah

thanked the state government for conducting the program, which provided a solution after decades of struggle. The program received a total of 430 applications, with 126 from the minority welfare department, 114 from the panchayat raj and rural development department, 54 from the energy department, and others from various departments, further demonstrating the public's reliance on the Prajavani initiative for resolving long-standing issues.

## Food Poisoning in Nalgonda Government School

Ongoing Negligence in Education Sector



TPN , Telangana: A series of food poisoning incidents in government schools has raised serious concerns about the management and safety standards during the Congress regime. Recently, three students at the PA Pally Model School in Nalgonda district fell seriously ill after consuming the mid-day meal. Their condition was critical, prompting an immediate transfer to Devarakonda

Government Hospital for treatment.

This incident has further highlighted the ongoing negligence in the management of government schools, which continues to affect students' safety and well-being. Despite repeated incidents, there seems to be no significant improvement in the oversight of food quality and hygiene standards in these institutions.

Opposition leader Revanth Reddy has criticized the lack of accountability, stating that the government's failure to address such issues is a "curse" for students. The food poisoning incident at the Nalgonda school is just one example of the broader systemic neglect under the current administration.

## MLA Sanjay Condemns Case Against Harish Rao



TPN , Telangana: Korutla MLA Dr. Kalvakuntla Sanjay has strongly condemned the legal case filed against former minister Harish Rao by the Telangana government, alleging it was politically motivated. Sanjay criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for using political bias to target Harish Rao,

who has consistently raised questions on public issues. He reminded that Harish Rao is a leader who fought for the Telangana cause without fear, even filing numerous cases against the injustices of the Congress government in the united state.

Sanjay expressed defiance, stating that they were not afraid of Revanth Reddy's actions and would continue to question the government's evasions. He referred to the cases as "illegal" and ridiculed the idea that these would intimidate them. "If you think filing cases will scare us, it's your foolishness," Sanjay said.

This comes after a case was registered against Harish Rao at Panjagutta police station on Tuesday, following a complaint by Chakradhar Goud of Siddipet. The complaint alleged phone tapping, prompting the police to file charges under various sections of the IPC and IT Act against Harish Rao and his associate Radhakishan Rao. Sanjay vowed to continue fighting for the people, irrespective of the government's tactics.

## Telangana Men Go Missing in Thailand, Families Seek Help



TPN , Telangana: Two men from Telangana, Shanigarapu Aravind and Konda Sagar, have gone missing in Thailand after traveling there on visiting visas for job opportunities. The families allege that they paid a recruiting agent, Sammeta Raju, Rs 2 lakh for travel arrangements and job placements. The men arrived in Bangkok on November 11, and their last contact was on November 21.

The families have filed a complaint with the Pravasi Prajavani program on December 3, seeking help from

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Indian Embassy in Thailand to trace the men. They also requested assistance in filing a police case against the recruiting agent.

Records from the Ministry of Home Affairs reveal that between January 2022 and May 2024, nearly 30,000 Indians, including those from Telangana, have gone missing in Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Cambodia, after traveling on visiting visas.

## Singareni Aims for 2.5 Lakh Tons of Coal Daily

TPN , Telangana: In response to the increasing demand for electricity, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) CMD N. Balaram has issued key directives to ramp up coal production and transportation. The company aims to produce and transport 2.5 lakh tons of coal per day to supply thermal power plants with sufficient fuel.

During a review meeting on Tuesday with the General Managers of all areas, CMD Balaram emphasized the importance of removing 16 lakh cubic meters of overburden daily to ensure smooth coal production. He stressed that every minute counts in the remaining 120 days of the financial year and called for strict adherence to production timelines.

Balaram also ordered that mine managers and project officers should be present at the mines by 7 AM, ensuring strict discipline and effective leadership to maintain smooth operations. Additionally, he highlighted the need to maximize machinery usage to at least 18 hours a day, while prioritizing safety



and quality in production.

The CMD also outlined plans for launching new projects like the VK OC

in Kothagudem and Rompedu OC in Il-landu within the next three months, reinforcing the company's commitment to meeting its coal supply targets.





## Winter Session of Parliament: Deadlock, Distractions, and Unanswered Questions

As Parliament enters its second week of the Winter Session, the first week was largely unproductive due to a deadlock between the Opposition and the Union government. The Opposition, including parties like the Trinamool Congress and the Samajwadi Party, is demanding discussions on critical national issues such as price rises, unemployment, the situation in the North East, especially Manipur, the deprivation of funds from states, and the violence in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh. The Congress, the principal Opposition party, has also called for a discussion on alleged financial irregularities involving the Adani group. However, a deadlock remains.

Recent media reports suggest that the deadlock might be resolved with an agreement between the government and the Opposition, according to which a discussion on the Constitution will take place in mid-December, almost two weeks from now. While an agreement on future discussions is important, it raises questions. Why wait for two weeks to implement an agreement made now? Why not start the discussions immediately instead of further delaying parliamentary proceedings? The Modi-led NDA coalition appears to be delaying important debates, causing frustration among those demanding urgent attention to pressing issues.

Historically, the BJP has downplayed the significance of active and productive parliamentary sessions. As BJP stalwarts like Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj have noted, sometimes the obstruction of Parliament can serve democracy. However, the Modi government's track record in Parliament speaks volumes. In the 15th Lok Sabha (2009-14), seven out of ten bills were sent to committees for scrutiny, whereas, in the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-24), only two bills were sent for scrutiny. Furthermore, numerous bills are rushed through with minimal discussion,

often with zero or incomplete consultations.

Adding to the dysfunction, not a single notice from the Opposition has been accepted for discussion under Rule 267 in the Rajya Sabha for the past eight years. The Prime Minister has also failed to answer any questions in Parliament, undermining the principles of accountability and transparency. This behavior raises concerns about the current government's willingness to engage in meaningful debates.

On the topic of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC), Opposition parties have demanded its formation to investigate alleged financial irregularities. However, given the ruling party's dominance in Parliament, the credibility of any JPC is in question. The committee's composition is determined by the ruling party's strength, and key decisions—such as choosing witnesses and approving reports—would be controlled by the Treasury benches, compromising its independence. Historical JPCs, such as those during the Bofors scandal and the Harshad Mehta scam, have been marred by boycotts and dissent, as the Opposition's views were consistently sidelined. Even when JPCs issue recommendations, they are often ignored or diluted. The 2001 JPC on the stock market scam and the 2011 JPC on spectrum allocation both saw crucial reforms overlooked, highlighting the inefficacy of such committees in delivering tangible results.

In conclusion, the Winter Session of Parliament has been largely dominated by distractions and deadlock, while pressing issues like high food prices, youth unemployment, and the government's handling of states are left unaddressed. The Opposition remains frustrated by the BJP's reluctance to engage in meaningful discussions, leaving many important questions unanswered.

## National Pollution Control : Turning Talk into Action for a Sustainable Future



National Pollution Control Day serves as a critical reminder for individuals, businesses, and communities to move beyond discussions about sustainability and take meaningful steps toward reducing pollution. It calls for actionable solutions to mitigate the environmental impact we face daily, fostering a healthier and more sustainable future for all.

According to a study published by the BMJ, air pollution is responsible for 8.34 million deaths globally each year. Among the worst affected are countries like India and China, which together account for 55 percent of these deaths. In 2021 alone, India saw approximately 2.1 million air pollution-related fatalities, while China reported 2.3 million. This stark reality emphasizes the pressing need for change, as air pollution remains a significant public health crisis in many parts of the world.

In India, where pollution levels often reach hazardous levels, National Pollution Control Day becomes an opportunity to take stock of current environmental challenges and recognize the urgent need to address them. The day calls for action to reduce pollution at all levels, from individual behaviors to industry-wide practices. It encourages everyone—from citizens to corporations—to rethink their environmental footprint and take responsibility for contributing to a cleaner, healthier planet.

This day also serves as a crucial call to action for governments and communities to implement practical solutions. One example is the use of anti-smog guns, which spray water droplets to curb air pollution. Such technology is being deployed in areas like Raisina Hills in New Delhi to help reduce the impact of air pollution on residents and visitors alike. This practical approach showcases how technology can be used to address pressing environmental concerns and improve air quality.

The focus of National Pollution Control Day is on translating complex sustainability concepts into real-world applications. Sustainability is often discussed in technical terms that may seem distant or overwhelming, but the day emphasizes that making a difference starts with small, tangible actions. Whether it's reducing waste, opting for cleaner energy sources, or improving urban planning to reduce pollution, every effort counts.

Ultimately, National Pollution Control Day is about inspiring change. It urges individuals, businesses, and governments to take responsibility for the environmental challenges we face and to focus on solutions that lead to a healthier, more sustainable future. By turning talk into action, we can all contribute to ensuring a cleaner world for generations to come.

## Manipur Crisis: A Call for Political Initiative and Healing

Manipur stands as a stark example of mishandling an internal security problem. The state is grappling with a complex mix of ethnic tensions, insurgencies, drug trafficking, and cross-border infiltration from Myanmar. Unfortunately, instead of easing, the situation has only worsened, reflecting a deepening crisis that demands a strategic, multi-dimensional response.

In the past, India has shown considerable expertise in addressing internal security challenges. The successful tackling of terrorism in Punjab, the containment of Northeast insurgencies, the near-suppression of the Maoist rebellion, and the management of cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir all stand as commendable achievements. However, the situation in Manipur remains an unsolved puzzle.

The central government's approach has been to treat the violence primarily as a law and order issue, sending in additional forces to restore peace. Recently, 90 more companies of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) were dispatched to the state, and the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) was imposed in certain areas. Despite this military response, Manipur requires more than just an increased presence of security forces—it needs a political solution and a healing touch.

The ethnic violence between the Meiteis, a majority in the Imphal Valley, and the Kuki-Zo tribals, who reside in the surrounding hills, erupted on May 3, 2023. Since then, 258 people have died, and



over 60,000 have been displaced. The situation is marked by the destruction of religious structures, further deepening the divisions between the communities.

The recent escalation, including the deaths of 10 militants from the Hmar tribe in November, and protests against the state government's failure to restore order, highlight the increasing volatility. On November 17, the National People's Party (NPP), a key ally of the BJP-led Manipur government, withdrew support, citing the government's inability to address the growing crisis.

The Government of India has failed to learn the critical lesson in handling tribal unrest. While military action is essential to curbing violence, it must be paired with significant political initiatives to address the underlying grievances. This could involve forming peace committees, initiating dialogue between rival groups, and establishing confidence-building measures.

## The Essence of Life: Embracing Impermanence and Living Fully

Life's value is shaped by how we choose to live it. The very fact that life is not endless and that there is only one life to experience as we know it makes each moment precious. It is our responsibility to live this life to the fullest, embracing both its challenges and its joys.

The law of impermanence is the cornerstone of existence—nothing lasts forever. It is precisely this fleeting nature of life that gives it meaning. The awareness of our eventual mortality makes it all the more essential to live well and make the most of the time we have. This pursuit of a full life can take many forms, whether through achieving excellence in different fields, cultivating meaningful relationships, or simply appreciating the daily wonders around us.

In the simplest moments of life, we find richness. The sunrise and sunset, the warmth of daylight and the tranquility of nightfall, the vastness of the twinkling stars above, and the joy of birdsong—these are everyday miracles that we often take for granted. It is in these small, natural wonders that life offers its greatest treasures. We should learn to savour these moments, appreciating the modest comforts that come our way, and

revel in the beauty and intricacy of the universe, which gives us so much for free.

Living fully does not mean living without imperfection. The present is never perfect, and life is a constant journey through the imperfect. It's like walking along a forested path, where we must clear the weeds and obstacles as we go, allowing the sunlight to shine through. While this process can be arduous, it is also deeply enriching. As we navigate the imperfections, we learn to see the good behind what seems bad and recognize the hidden kindness behind what appears to be indifference.

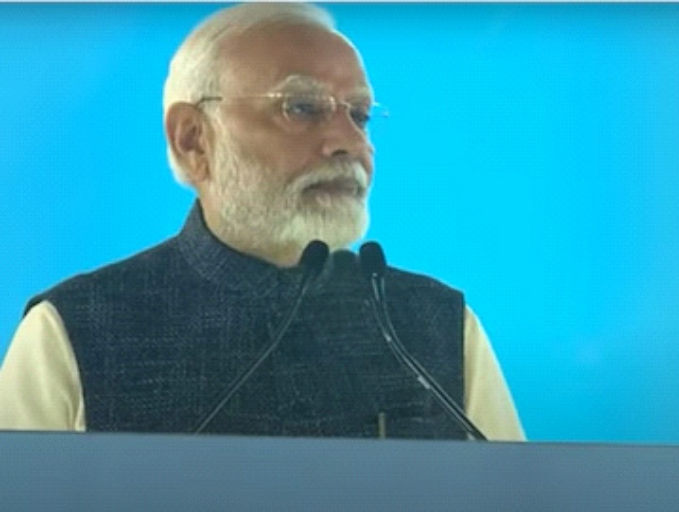
Life is not just about the daily burdens we carry but also about facing deeper tragedies. Grief and pain are inevitable parts of the human experience, yet staying connected to them allows us to find deeper meaning and growth. By embracing both the joy and the sorrow, we become more fully aware of the richness life offers, even in its most challenging moments.

Thus, the key to living well lies in embracing impermanence, appreciating the simple miracles of life, and learning to navigate its imperfections with grace.





## PM Modi Hails New Criminal Laws as Milestone for Justice System



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday celebrated the successful implementation of three new criminal laws, calling it a significant step toward a transparent and efficient legal system. Addressing an event in Chandigarh, he emphasized that the laws are a concrete move to realize the ideals envisioned by the Indian Constitution.

The new laws—Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA)—mark a modern shift in India's criminal justice system. The Prime Minister highlighted that these reforms are aligned with the democratic values outlined in the Constitution, focusing on delivering justice rather than punishment.

PM Modi expressed gratitude to the Supreme Court and judges for their role in the lawmaking process, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to bringing about this change. He stated that the previous criminal laws, which were over 160 years old, were designed under British rule to control and subjugate Indians. In contrast, the new laws were created with the Indian citizens' interests at heart, reflecting a post-independence approach to justice.

The Prime Minister further emphasized the significant transformation in the legal framework, including the removal of the sedition charge and the establishment of the position of 'Director of Prosecution' to address corruption. He explained that the new laws aim to build a legal system that is not only efficient but also serves to empower citizens rather than penalize them. PM Modi also expressed his satisfaction over the implementation of the laws, noting that the impact would be felt nationwide within the next three years. He stressed that the laws were developed with inputs from numerous judicial bodies and experts, ensuring their relevance and effectiveness in today's context. The successful rollout in Chandigarh is seen as a milestone, with the aim to extend the reforms across India in the coming years.

## Harbhajan Singh Issues Stern Warning to Pakistan

Former Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh has delivered a strong message to Pakistan, suggesting that the country's absence from future ICC events in India will not have significant consequences. His remarks come amid rising tensions and debates surrounding the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, with Pakistan's refusal to participate in the tournament unless a hybrid model is introduced.



Pakistan has been adamant about its demand for a hybrid model for all ICC events hosted in India until 2031, following India's stance on not traveling to Pakistan for the 2025 Champions Trophy. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has emphasized the need for the hybrid model, which would allow matches to be played in neutral locations, due to the ongoing political tensions between the two countries.

However, Harbhajan Singh, known for his outspoken views, made it clear that Pakistan's absence would not affect the success or prestige of any tournament hosted in India. "If Pakistan doesn't come to India, it won't make much of a difference," Harbhajan said. He pointed out that India is more than capable of hosting successful cricket events without Pakistan's participation.

Harbhajan further added that while cricket fans in both countries cherish the rivalry, the sport must continue regardless of any political disputes. His comments underline the fact that India has hosted and will continue to host major international events with or without Pakistan's involvement.

# Amit Shah Congratulates Chandigarh, First City To Implement Criminal Laws

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday congratulated Chandigarh for becoming the first city in India to fully implement three significant new criminal laws: the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA). These laws, Shah stated, will be implemented across the entire country within the next three years.

Addressing a program to dedicate these laws to the nation, Shah called it a "golden day for the Indian criminal justice system," as Chandigarh became the first jurisdiction to fully adopt the comprehensive legal framework. The laws are now operational across police, judicial, prosecution, jail, and forensic departments.

Shah criticized the previous colonial-era laws, such as the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Evidence Act, which were enacted by the British Parliament. He emphasized that these laws were designed to protect British interests rather than those of the Indian people. In contrast, the new laws are crafted by Indians, aiming to deliver justice, not punishment. Shah assured that the new laws, which focus on fairness and justice, will be implemented nationwide in three years.

Among the significant changes, Shah highlighted the creation of the post of Director of Prosecution to combat corruption, as well



as the replacement of the term "sedition" with "treason" in the legal framework. Additionally, Shah revealed that over 11 lakh FIRs had been filed under the new system, with nearly 9,500 cases already resolved within just four months.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who also spoke at the event, reiterated the historical context of the old criminal laws, designed by the British to subjugate Indians. He un-

derscored that these laws were meant to control and oppress, not protect the citizens of the nation. The new laws, Modi said, reflect the democratic spirit of "Of the People, By the People, For the People."

The new criminal laws, which came into effect on July 1, 2024, are intended to modernize India's legal system, making it more transparent, efficient, and responsive to the needs of contemporary society.

## CM M.K. Stalin Condoles Loss in Tiruvannamalai Landslide, Announces Compensation

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin expressed his condolences following a tragic landslide incident in Tiruvannamalai on December 1, which claimed seven lives. The disaster occurred when a massive boulder and mudslide collapsed onto a house on 11th Street in V.O.C. Nagar, following heavy rainfall in the region. In response to the loss, Stalin announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh each to the families of the victims.

The victims, identified as Rajkumar (36), Meena (27), R. Gowtham (9), R. Iniya (7), S. Ramya (7), M. Vinothini (14), and S. Maha (7), tragically lost their lives despite rescue efforts by about 40 personnel from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). In the aftermath of the incident, over 500 residents from the nearby areas were safely relocated to community halls for protection.

The region, part of the Tiruvannamalai range, is home to seven Reserved Forests (RFs), including Chippakadu, Athipakkam, Adinamalai, and Sorakolathur. These forests cover an area of 13,000 hectares and are prone to natural hazards due to their hilly terrain, with the Annamalai Hills in particular rising to 2,668 feet above sea level.



Experts have raised alarms about the potential for future landslides in the area, especially given the encroachments near the hills. Retired IIT Chennai professors Mohan, Narayana Rao, and Bhoominathan inspected the site following the incident on the Chief Minister's request. They advised that while light rainfall may not pose a significant threat, heavy rainfall could trigger further landslides. They also recommended that individuals planning construction near the hills consult qualified engineers to ensure safety.

A detailed report, outlining rescue operations and future mitigation strategies, will be submitted to the state government shortly, according to the experts.

## Cool Drinks Classified as 'Sin Goods' Alongside Cigarettes

The Group of Ministers (GoM) on GST rate rationalization, headed by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, has proposed a significant tax hike for products categorized as 'Sin Goods,' including tobacco, tobacco products, and aerated drinks. Currently subject to a 28% GST rate, the proposed slab would increase this to 35%, effectively aligning cool drinks with tobacco and alcohol in terms of taxation.

Sin taxes are levied on goods deemed detrimental to society, such as liquor, tobacco products, and gambling. Aerated drinks already face an additional 12% compensation cess, bringing their total tax burden to 40%. With the new GST hike, this could rise to a staggering 47%. Critics argue that while these taxes are justified as a deterrent for harmful consumption, governments continue to permit the sale of these products, reaping significant revenues under the guise of public health concerns.

If the GST Council approves these recommendations, the cost of aerated drinks, popularly known as cool drinks, will likely soar. These beverages, which are often

criticized for their high sugar content, have been linked to severe health issues such as obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and even infertility. India's status as the global leader in obesity and diabetes only underscores the gravity of the problem.

Despite these health concerns, the affordability of aerated drinks remains a critical issue. Small bottles can cost as little as ₹20, while larger 2.25-liter bottles are priced around ₹100-₹110, with online platforms and supermarkets offering hefty discounts. This widespread availability and low pricing have fueled massive consumption, evidenced by the Indian carbonated soft drink market's revenue of \$18.25 billion in 2022, with a consumption volume of 9.29 billion liters.

Industry stakeholders are now advocating for a tax system based on sugar content rather than a blanket hike. Several countries, including the UK, France, and Thailand, have adopted a sugar-tiered tax approach, which incentivizes companies to reduce sugar levels in their products.



## Parliament On Saturday And Sunday Also

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday issued a stern warning to Members of Parliament (MPs) regarding further disruptions in the House. He stated that if adjournments continue, he would have no choice but to extend the proceedings over the weekend to compensate for lost time. Birla's statement came in the wake of ongoing protests and adjournments that have marred the smooth functioning of the House.

The warning follows an agreement between the government and opposition parties to end a week-long deadlock in Parliament. This breakthrough paved the way for a much-awaited discussion on the Constitution, marking its 75th year of adoption. The Lower House will conduct the discussion on December 13 and 14, while the Upper House will take up the debate on December 16 and 17.

"If the adjournments continue, we will have to hold the proceedings on Saturday and Sunday to make up for the time lost," Birla said, adding that he had not approved any adjournment notices for the day. His comments came shortly after the Question Hour, which had been disrupted due to protests by opposition MPs on various issues.

In recent days, the Lok Sabha proceedings had been severely disrupted due to protests related to the Adani indictment issue, violence in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal district, and other matters raised by opposition members. These disruptions resulted in a washout of the House's functioning for several days last week.

With the new announcement, Birla emphasized the importance of maintaining the decorum of Parliament and ensuring that the legislative work is completed without further delays. The government and opposition have agreed to resume discussions, and the Speaker's warning highlights the urgency of using the available time effectively to address key issues.



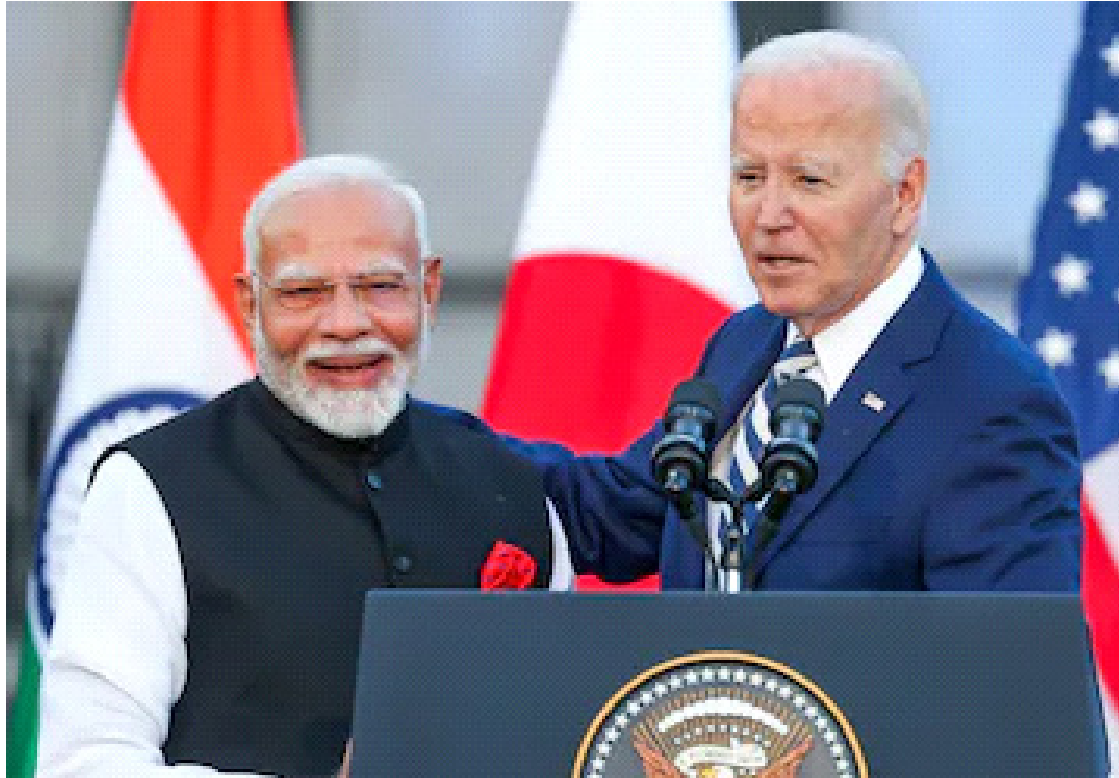
# Biden Administration Approves \$1.17 Billion Helicopter Equipment Sale to India

The Biden administration has approved the sale of significant defense equipment to India, weeks before the completion of its four-year term. The U.S. government notified Congress on Monday about its decision to approve the sale of MH-60R Multi-Mission Helicopter Equipment and related systems, valued at approximately \$1.17 billion.

According to the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), the proposed sale is aimed at enhancing India's defense capabilities, specifically in the area of anti-submarine warfare. The MH-60R helicopters, which are versatile, multi-mission aircraft, will help India strengthen its maritime security and ability to deter both current and potential future threats in the region.

The sale of these helicopters is expected to significantly bolster India's naval forces, allowing for advanced capabilities in anti-submarine operations, search and rescue missions, and overall maritime security. The MH-60R helicopters are designed for a variety of roles, including surveillance, reconnaissance, and combat operations, making them a critical asset for India's defense strategy.

The U.S. government has emphasized that the sale aligns with the ongoing defense partnership between the two countries and supports their shared interests in promoting peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific re-



gion. India has been increasingly strengthening its military ties with the United States as part of efforts to counterbalance growing regional security challenges, particularly from China.

This approval marks another step in the deepening defense relationship between the U.S. and India, with both countries working closely on strategic defense and security

initiatives. The sale also reflects a growing trend of U.S. support for India as a key partner in maintaining regional stability in the face of geopolitical shifts.

As the sale moves forward, it signals continued cooperation between the U.S. and India in strengthening defense capabilities, and further solidifies their strategic partnership in the Indo-Pacific.



## In pivot from India, Nepal PM visits China to seek investment

Nepal's veteran communist politician, K P Sharma Oli, has returned as the country's prime minister for the fourth time this year, and his first foreign visit since taking office in July was to China. Oli aims to revive momentum for planned infrastructure projects between the two nations during his days-long visit. This visit marks a shift from Nepal's usual diplomatic focus on India, with which Kathmandu shares centuries-old ties.

During his visit, Oli is set to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang for detailed discussions about strengthening ties and advancing key infrastructure projects. Xi Jinping had previously expressed China's commitment to helping Nepal transform from a landlocked nation to a "land-linked" one. This is part of China's broader ambition to expand its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which aims to build infrastructure and promote trade across Asia and beyond.

Although India remains Nepal's dominant trade partner, accounting for two-thirds of its international trade, China has been increasing its influence. Currently, China holds 14 percent of Nepal's foreign trade share, but it has also emerged as a significant creditor. According to World Bank data, China has lent more than \$310 million to Nepal, surpassing India by \$30 million in two-way loans. These loans are part of China's growing presence in Nepal, particularly through infrastructure projects like highways, hydropower plants, and airports.

Oli's visit is expected to focus on boosting economic cooperation and securing funding for several key infrastructure projects. The discussions with Chinese leadership will explore new avenues for bilateral cooperation, with the goal of improving Nepal's connectivity and reducing its dependence on India for trade. This visit signals Nepal's broader strategic effort to balance its relationships with both China and India, especially as Beijing's influence continues to grow in the region.

## South Korean President Declares Martial Law to Protect Nation Amid Political Crisis

In an unprecedented late-night address broadcast on YTN television, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol declared martial law on Tuesday, citing a need to protect the country's democratic order amidst escalating political tensions. Yoon explained that opposition parties had effectively "taken hostage" the parliamentary process, driving the nation to a critical juncture.

President Yoon emphasized that his decision was made to safeguard the free and constitutional order of the Republic of Korea. He voiced concerns over growing threats from North Korean communist forces and alleged domestic pro-North Korean anti-state groups, which, according to him, were undermining the nation's freedom and security.



"I declare martial law to protect the free Republic of Korea from the threat of North Korean communist forces, to eradicate the despicable pro-North Korean anti-state forces that are plundering the freedom and happiness of our people," Yoon declared. His speech, which was broadcast to the nation, portrayed the political deadlock as an existential crisis for South Korea, necessitating extreme measures to restore stability.

The announcement of martial law is an extraordinary step, as such measures have not been taken in South Korea in recent decades. The country has long prided itself on its democratic principles and the protection of civil liberties. However, with tensions rising both domestically and from North Korea, President Yoon justified his decision as a necessary action to preserve the country's democratic integrity.

Yoon's remarks reflect heightened political polarization within South Korea, where opposition parties have accused the government of overreach and authoritarianism. While the full scope of martial law has not been disclosed, the measure is expected to lead to significant political and social ramifications in the coming weeks. The international community will be watching closely as South Korea navigates these turbulent waters.

## Trump Warns Hamas: Release Hostages or Face Severe Consequences

US President-elect Donald Trump issued a stern warning to Gaza militants on Monday, threatening severe consequences if hostages taken during the October 7, 2023 attack are not released before his inauguration on January 20, 2025. The threat follows diplomatic efforts by outgoing President Joe Biden's administration that have yet to yield a breakthrough in securing a hostage release or ending the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict.

On his Truth Social platform, Trump stated, "If the hostages are not released prior to January 20, 2025, the date that I proudly assume office as President of the United States, there will be ALL HELL TO PAY in the Middle East, and for those in charge who perpetrated these atrocities against Humanity." He further vowed that those responsible for the attacks would face the harshest retaliation, asserting that "those responsible will be hit harder than anybody has been hit in the long and storied History of the United States of America."

The hostage situation has become a focal point in the aftermath of Hamas's deadly assault on Israel, which resulted in over 1,200 deaths, primarily civilians. During the attack, Hamas militants took 251 hostages, with 97 still held in Gaza. Tragically, some of the hostages have died during their captivity, while the remaining victims continue to endure harsh conditions.

Israel's retaliatory airstrikes in Gaza have led to a devastating toll on the region, with more than 44,000 reported deaths, according to Gaza's health ministry, a figure considered reliable by the United Nations.

Trump, a staunch supporter of Israel, has voiced frustration with Biden's diplomatic handling of the situation. He has previously promised to pursue bold actions and a stronger stance in securing the release of hostages and bringing an end to the ongoing conflict in Gaza.



## At COP16, Saudi Arabia Bets On Climate Tech To Make Deserts Bloom

Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in green technologies to transform its desert landscapes, but its efforts are being met with skepticism, with some critics accusing the country of greenwashing. The Gulf nation is hosting the United Nations COP16 conference on drought and desertification, issues that are particularly relevant to the kingdom, which aims to restore 40 million hectares of degraded land. However, while Saudi Arabia is a major investor in climate tech, its continued defense of oil and critics' claims of limited environmental benefits raise concerns about the sincerity of its green initiatives.



mate technology start-ups, according to a report by PwC. However, the majority of this investment is focused on energy solutions, with \$363 million channeled into climate-friendly energy technologies—nearly ten times the amount allocated to innovations in food, agriculture, and land-use.

One notable project in the kingdom is a wastewater treatment facility at the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST). The facility uses microorganisms to reduce the energy cost of wastewater treatment and generates energy from methane produced in the process. The purified water can be used to irrigate plants, combat desertification, or produce feed for livestock.

In addition, Saudi Arabia's Middle East Green Initiative aims to plant 10 billion trees and rehabilitate 74 million hectares of land. However, experts like Himanshu Mishra at KAUST believe efficient water and soil management are crucial to these goals.

In 2023, Saudi Arabia accounted for nearly 75% of Middle Eastern investment in cli-



## Pak Ex-PM Imran Khan Placed on 14-Day Judicial Remand in Seven New Cases

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan has been placed on a 14-day judicial remand by the Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in connection with seven new cases, as reported on Monday. The ATC hearing, presided over by Judge Amjad Ali Shah, resulted in the court approving Khan's remand in the New Town police station case and six other cases related to protests held on September 28, October 4, and October 5, 2023.

Currently held in Adiala Jail, Imran Khan's arrest follows his previous bail in the Toshakhana 2.0 case. His legal troubles stem from protests organized by his party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), which resulted in multiple charges. Despite requests for physical remand in six other cases from the protests during the mentioned dates, the court decided to send Khan to jail on judicial remand.

In addition to these cases, Imran Khan faces further legal battles, including 28 cases linked to the November 24 protest, for which no arrests have been made as of now. The ATC is also set to hear 13 cases related to the May 9, 2023, violence, alongside the remand of 1,494 PTI workers arrested during the November 24 protest march in Islamabad.

The ATC proceedings continue, with PTI lawyers planning to appear in the Adiala Jail for the hearing of Imran Khan's case. The hearing is expected to be followed by a visit from the judge to Adiala Jail for further remand proceedings. Imran Khan's sister, Aleema Khan, might also attend as Imran has not been able to meet with his lawyers or family in the past 10 days.



# Markets Rally on Global Cues, RBI Action

Sensex Gains 597 Points, Nifty Above 24,450

Domestic stock markets surged for a second straight session on Tuesday, driven by positive global cues and the Reserve Bank of India's intervention to stabilize the rupee after it touched a lifetime low against the dollar. The rally was bolstered by gains in energy, metals, and banking stocks, with the Nifty breaching the crucial 24,350 resistance level. The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,248 on Monday, opened higher at 80,529 and touched an intraday low of 80,244 before climbing to a high of 80,949. It closed at 80,845, up 597 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 24,367, hit a low of 24,280 and a high of 24,481, before settling at 24,457 with a gain of 181 points. The Bank Nifty rose 586 points to close at 52,695.



Among the Nifty50, 41 companies advanced, while 9 declined. Adani Ports, NTPC, Adani Enterprises, Axis Bank, and SBI were the top gainers, while Bharti Airtel, Hero Moto, ITC, HDFC Life, and Sun Pharma were the top losers. Sectorally, FMCG and pharma indices posted marginal gains, while banking, finance, media, and metal indices showed mixed performance. Across the NSE, 2,057 of 2,907 stocks advanced, while 774 declined. Notably, 108 stocks hit 52-week highs, and 12 recorded 52-week lows. In other highlights, Torrent Power reached an 11-week high, and ICICI Insurance climbed to a five-month high. HSBC gave Bajaj Finance a "buy" rating with a target price of ₹7,740, while Citi maintained its "buy" rating on M&M with a target of ₹3,520. DMart shares rose significantly, and Nazara Technologies acquired a 60% stake in Funky Monkeys Play Center. Meanwhile, Punjab National Bank saw 48 lakh shares change hands in two block trades, and Vakrangi surged 5% after partnering with the

Central Bank of India for banking services. The rupee ended at 84.69 against the dollar.

## Recommended Stocks:

### Union Bank

Union Bank continues to strengthen its position with robust performance in retail and corporate lending. Strategic partnerships, digital initiatives, and increased focus on MSME sectors are driving customer acquisition and operational efficiency. Its emphasis on green banking and sustainable financing also enhances its long-term growth



prospects.

### Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)

Bharat Dynamics Limited, a prominent player in the defense sector, benefits from increased government defense budgets and rising export opportunities. Its advanced missile systems and expanding R&D capabilities ensure strong domestic and international demand. Collaborations with global defense companies further boost its strategic edge.



### Tata Motors

Tata Motors is a leader in the EV market, offering innovative models that cater to both domestic and global markets. Strong performance in passenger and commercial vehicles, coupled with expanding green mobility solutions and strategic investments in technology, underpins its robust long-term growth potential.



### Jio Financial Services (JioFin)

Jio Financial Services leverages Reliance's vast digital ecosystem to revolutionize fintech in India. With a strong focus on consumer lending, wealth management, and insurance services, it positions itself as a disruptive player. Its innovative solutions and wide reach ensure scalability and significant market impact.



### Punjab National Bank (PNB)

Punjab National Bank demonstrates steady recovery post-merger, with rising profitability and improved asset quality. Aggressive loan disbursement strategies, digital banking advancements, and customer-centric initiatives boost engagement. Its focus on strengthening rural and retail banking ensures sustainable growth in the competitive financial landscape.



## Home price index rises by 4.3% amid high interest rates, inflation: RBI

Home prices in India are continuing to rise, even amid the challenges posed by high interest rates and inflation. According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the All-India Home Price Index (HPI) increased by 4.34% to 322 in September 2024, compared to 308.6 in the same month of the previous year. This upward trend in prices has been observed across major metropolitan areas, signaling a persistent rise in property values.



Over the past decade, the HPI has surged by nearly 67%, rising from 193.05 in the 2014-15 period. Despite ongoing economic pressures such as the pandemic, high inflation, and elevated interest rates, the real estate market has shown resilience.

However, the annual growth of home prices has varied considerably across different cities. Bengaluru led the pack with an impressive 8.76% increase in home prices, while Kanpur saw a decline of 2% during the same period. These figures highlight the regional disparities in property market performance.

On a sequential basis, the All-India HPI showed a slight decline of 0.1% in the September 2024 quarter compared to the previous quarter. However, certain cities bucked this trend, recording increases in home prices. Ahmedabad, Lucknow,

Kolkata, and Chennai saw sequential rises, suggesting that some regions are continuing to experience strong demand for real estate.

The continued rise in home prices in India, despite economic challenges, reflects a complex real estate market where demand remains robust in certain areas, and buyers continue to invest in properties despite the financial pressures. The market's resilience indicates that while interest rates and inflation may temper the pace of price growth in the short term, the long-term trend remains upwards in many regions of the country.

## Windfall gains tax on domestic crude production, export of petrol, diesel, ATF scrapped



In a significant move, the Indian government has officially withdrawn the windfall gains tax on domestic crude oil production and the export of diesel, petrol, and aviation turbine fuel (ATF). The Finance Ministry issued notifications on Monday to remove the special additional excise duty (SAED) on crude oil production and the road and infrastructure cess (RIC) on fuel exports, with immediate effect.

The windfall gains tax was introduced nearly two and a half years ago, during a period of high global oil prices, in a bid to tap into the unexpected profits of oil producers. However, with crude oil and fuel prices softening in recent months, the tax was no longer generating significant revenue. As a result, the levies had effectively become nil, leading to concerns from the industry about the continued imposition of the tax.

The government's decision to withdraw the windfall tax provisions comes after months of reduced tax collection, owing to the global decline in fuel prices.

Despite the taxes still being technically enforceable, they were largely ineffective in raising revenue. The withdrawal of these provisions has been welcomed by industry stakeholders, who had long raised concerns over the impact of the tax on their operations.

The move reflects the government's recalibration of fiscal policy in response to changing global market conditions, including the softening of crude oil prices. By removing these taxes, the government aims to ease the burden on fuel exporters and domestic oil producers, potentially boosting the sector's growth and stability.

With the windfall gains tax now officially repealed, the oil and gas industry in India can expect greater clarity and less uncertainty in their operations, with the removal of the special excise duties expected to provide some relief. This decision also underscores the government's ongoing efforts to create a more conducive environment for business in the energy sector.

## Banking Law Amendments to Strengthen Governance and Investor Protection: FM Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday introduced The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 in the Lok Sabha, outlining key measures designed to address regulatory and operational challenges in India's banking sector. The proposed amendments aim to enhance transparency, improve customer satisfaction, and strengthen investor protection within the industry.



In her opening statement, Sitharaman highlighted the significance of these amendments in reinforcing the banking sector's governance framework. The bill is part of the government's ongoing efforts to create a more robust financial system that is better equipped to handle emerging challenges and protect the interests of both customers and investors.

The Finance Minister emphasized that the changes would ensure a more trans-

parent and accountable banking environment, which is crucial for fostering investor confidence and promoting financial stability. By addressing operational hurdles, the bill seeks to improve the overall functioning of banks, ensuring that they operate more efficiently and in line with global best practices.

Among the key provisions of the amendment are measures aimed at enhancing

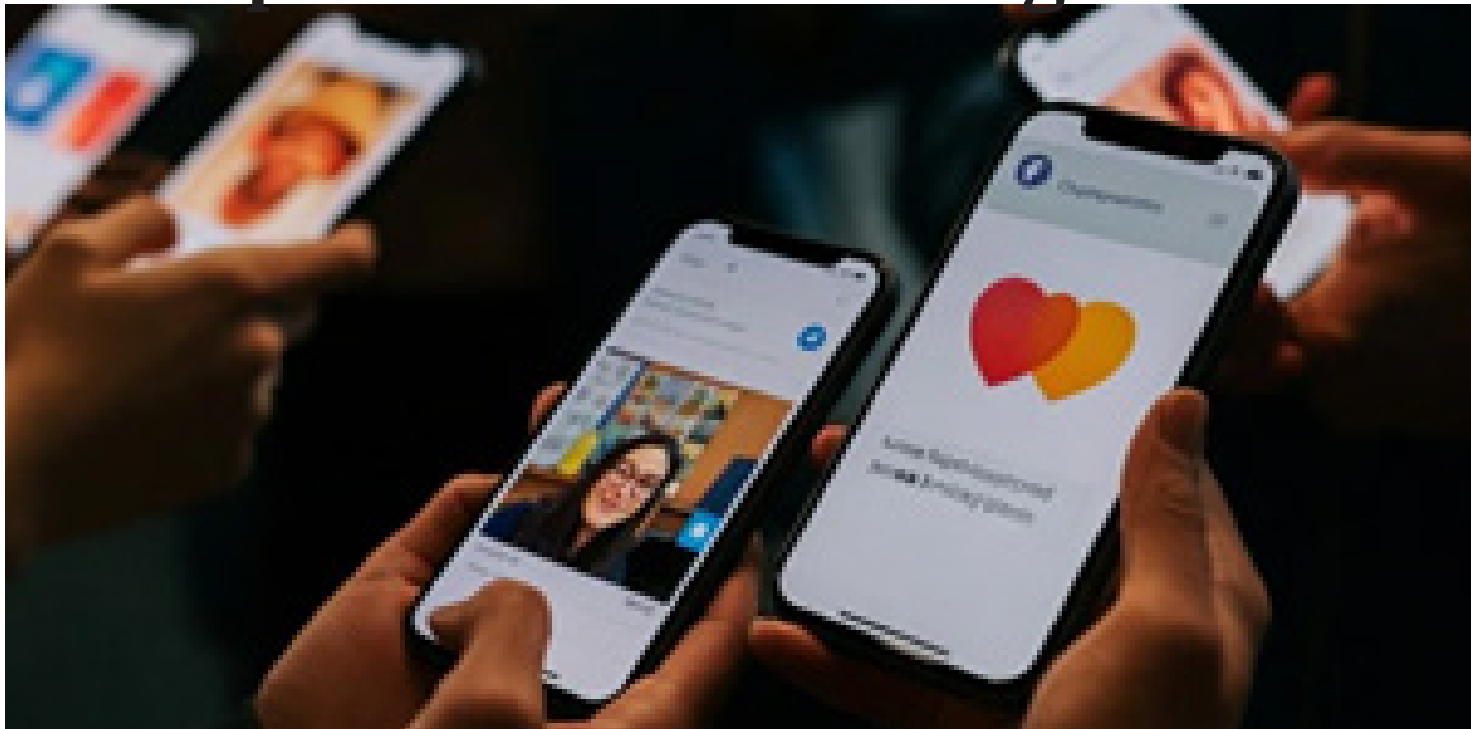
regulatory oversight, strengthening the resolution process for failing banks, and improving the framework for mergers and acquisitions within the banking sector. These changes are designed to protect the interests of stakeholders and contribute to the long-term growth of India's financial sector.

Sitharaman also stressed that the proposed changes would not only safeguard the interests of investors but also provide greater consumer protection, ensuring that customers' rights are upheld in an increasingly complex banking environment.

With these amendments, the government aims to address both current and future challenges in the banking sector, providing a solid foundation for sustainable growth and stability. The bill is expected to have a lasting positive impact on the financial sector, benefiting investors, customers, and the economy as a whole.



## Detoxing from Social Media: Practical Steps for a Healthier Digital Life



Last week, the Australian Parliament passed a law to ban social media usage for individuals under 16, sparking global debate. Critics argue that the decision was rushed and could lead teenagers towards the dark web or further isolation. While the law remains controversial, it underscores a growing concern about the addictive nature of platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Reddit, and X. These platforms can be highly addictive, leading to dependency when used without moderation, and negatively affecting mental well-being, productivity, and real-life relationships.

If you're feeling overwhelmed by your social media usage, the good news is that there are ways to detox and regain control over your digital life. Taking time to disconnect from social media can help you better understand

its impact on your productivity and emotional health. Here are some practical steps to help you detox your smartphone and social media habits:

**Set Boundaries:** Start by setting specific time limits for social media use each day. Many smartphones have built-in features that allow you to monitor and limit screen time, helping you avoid mindless scrolling.

**Declutter Your Feed:** Unfollow accounts that don't add value to your life or contribute positively to your mental health. Curate your social media experience to focus on content that inspires and uplifts you.

**Use Digital Detox Apps:** There are several apps designed to help you break free from social media addiction. These apps track your usage and can

even block access to specific platforms during certain times of the day.

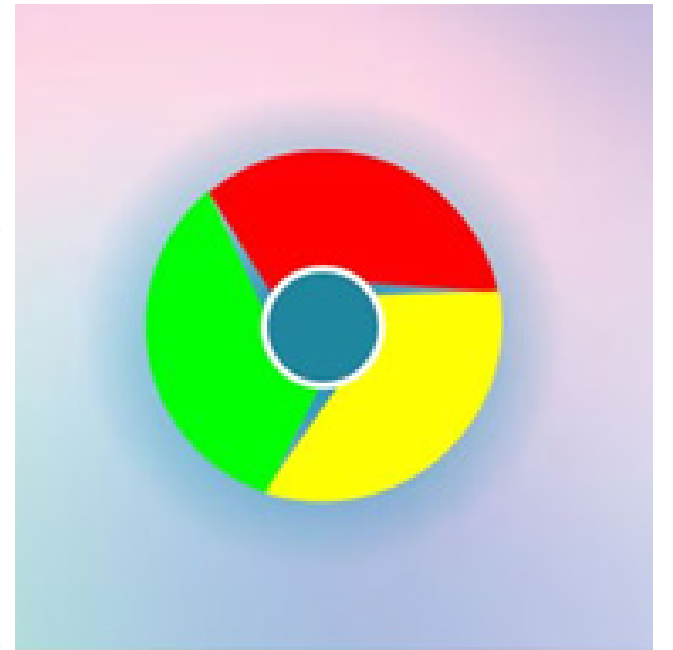
**Engage in Offline Activities:** Reconnect with real-world experiences by reading, exercising, or spending quality time with loved ones. These activities provide meaningful fulfillment that social media often cannot.

**Turn Off Notifications:** Constant notifications can keep you tethered to your devices. Disable non-essential alerts to reduce distractions and regain focus.

Detoxing from social media is not just about reducing screen time—it's about reclaiming your time and well-being. By consciously using these tools and strategies, you can develop a healthier relationship with technology and improve your overall quality of life.

## Google Chrome to Introduce AI-Powered Website Trust Reviews

Google Chrome, the world's most widely used browser, is set to introduce a new feature that will help users quickly assess the trustworthiness of a website. This feature, currently in development, is powered by AI and aims to provide users with a summary of reviews from trusted independent platforms like Trust Pilot, Scam Advisor, and more.



The new feature, called "Store Reviews," is designed to enhance the browsing experience by allowing users to easily verify the credibility of websites before interacting with them. According to a report from tipster Leopeva64 on X (formerly Twitter), the feature will be accessible via the site settings button, located to the left of the URL in the address bar.

When users click on the site settings button, they will see a summary of reviews from various trusted sources. These reviews will be generated by Chrome's AI, which will pull data from well-known platforms such as Trust Pilot and Scam Advisor to offer insights into the website's reputation. This feature aims to give users more confidence when navigating unfamiliar sites, helping them avoid potential scams and unreliable platforms.

At this stage, the feature appears to be in the early stages of development. When accessed, the functionality currently opens a blank floating panel with a message at the bottom stating that Chrome will use AI to generate a summary of the website's reputation. While the feature is still being refined, its potential impact on online security and user experience is clear.

With the increasing risks associated with browsing the internet, including scams and phishing attacks, Chrome's new "Store Reviews" feature could play a vital role in helping users make informed decisions. Once fully rolled out, this tool will be another step forward in enhancing online safety and building trust in the digital space.

## New Clues Point To Possible Alien Life Beneath Mars' Surface



Mars, once a warm and wet world, may still hold the potential for life deep beneath its surface. A team of scientists led by Andrea Butturini believes that microbial life, particularly methanogens, could be lurking in the subsurface of the ancient Martian plain, Acidalia Planitia. This area, located in the northern hemisphere of Mars, has piqued the interest of researchers as a possible haven for life.

By analyzing data from various Mars missions, including orbiters and rovers, the team identified a subsurface zone between 4.3 and 8.8 kilometers deep that may harbor conditions suitable for microbial activity. This environment, shielded from the planet's harsh surface conditions, could retain remnants of ancient water and geothermal heat—two crucial ingredients for life. While the idea of Martian microbes may seem speculative, this discovery fuels hope and provides a compelling reason to continue searching for extraterrestrial life.

Acidalia Planitia, a vast 3,000-kilometer-wide plain,

seems to offer the right conditions for methanogens—bacteria that produce methane. The researchers suggest that these microbes could thrive in the deep subsurface, where they would be protected from the planet's extreme surface temperatures and radiation. The findings provide a promising target for future missions aimed at searching for evidence of life on Mars.

However, uncovering evidence of life on Mars is no small feat. The researchers note that to verify the existence of microbial life, future missions would likely need to drill several miles beneath the Martian surface. Despite the challenges, this discovery opens up exciting new possibilities for the search for life on Mars and could reshape our understanding of extraterrestrial biology.

As space exploration continues, this research adds to the growing body of evidence suggesting that Mars may still harbor the potential for life, sparking new interest and enthusiasm for the Red Planet's exploration.

## Scientists Discover New Deep-Sea Mollusc After Two Decades of Research

A team of researchers from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) has officially identified a new species of sea slug, known as *Bathydevius Caudactylus*, or more commonly, the "mystery mollusc." The discovery, published in the journal *Deep-Sea Research*, marks the culmination of over 20 years of research.

The mystery mollusc was first spotted in February 2000 during a research mission using the remotely operated vehicle (ROV) Tiburon. Since then, the elusive creature has intrigued scientists, but its true nature remained a mystery. Thanks to continued observations and extensive research, the team was able to classify it as a species of nudibranch, a type of sea slug. What sets this species apart is that it is the only known nudibranch to live at such extreme depths, between 1,000 and



4,000 meters beneath the ocean surface. The mollusc, roughly the size of an apple,

was found in deep-sea environments, a region that has long been difficult for researchers to explore due to its challenging conditions. The team used MBARI's advanced ROVs to observe the creature and collect samples for analysis. This discovery not only sheds light on the biodiversity of deep-sea ecosystems but also highlights the importance of continued exploration in the world's oceans.

The *Bathydevius Caudactylus* is a significant find in the study of marine life and deep-sea ecology. Its unique characteristics and habitat make it a valuable subject for further research. The discovery is an exciting addition to the knowledge of the many unknown species that thrive in the depths of the world's oceans, offering insight into the adaptability of life in extreme environments.

## E-Commerce Platform Meesho Was Defrauded Of ₹ 5 Crore By Fake Seller

In a major breakthrough, the cyber police have uncovered a fraud that caused a loss of over ₹5 crore to the popular e-commerce platform Meesho. Three individuals have been arrested in connection with the scam, which involved posing as fake sellers and placing fraudulent orders on the platform.

According to the cyber police, the suspects operated under the name "OM Shree Enterprises," a fake company based in Surat. They used fake names and addresses to place orders on Meesho, only to later claim refunds by alleging that the products were damaged. To support their claims, they sent videos of the damaged goods to the company. Once the products were returned due to the fraudulent addresses, the criminals replaced them with damaged items and collected refunds.

The scam operated between January and July of this year, during which the fraudsters managed to siphon off ₹5.5 crore through



various bank accounts. The scale of the operation prompted Meesho's nodal officer to file a complaint with the cyber police in July, leading to the investigation and the formation of a special team to track the culprits.

The cyber police traced the bank accounts and mobile numbers used by the suspects, eventually leading to their arrest in Surat on November 21. During questioning, the suspects confessed to their involvement in the fraud and revealed the identities of their associates. Efforts are now underway to locate the other members of the group.

The suspects were also found to have been involved in a similar fraud case in 2023, which further highlights the sophistication and scale of their operations. The police are continuing their investigation into the matter, with plans to further investigate the extent of the fraud and bring all involved to justice.



## Urvil Patel Shatters T20 Records with Back-to-Back Centuries in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy



Gujarat's Urvil Patel made history once again on Tuesday, smashing his second T20 century in just six days during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy against Uttarakhand at the Emerald High School Ground. Patel's blistering knock came in just 36 balls, leading Gujarat to an impressive eight-wicket victory in just 13.1 overs. This achievement makes him the first batter in T20 cricket history to score two centuries in fewer than 40 balls.

Chasing a target of 183, Patel produced an explosive display of batting, remaining unbeaten on 115 off just 41 balls. His innings featured 8 boundaries and 11 massive sixes, as he took apart the Uttarakhand bowlers with ease. Gujarat achieved the target comfortably, reaching it with 41 balls to spare.

This remarkable feat follows Patel's record-breaking 28-ball century just a week ago against Tripura on the same ground. In that match, Patel had scored an unbeaten 113

off 35 balls, helping Gujarat to chase down a target of 156 in just 10.2 overs. His 28-ball century set a new record for the fastest T20 century by an Indian, with a blistering strike rate of 322.86, the second-highest in the format, just behind Estonia's Sahil Chauhan.

Patel's rapid scoring is not a new phenomenon. A year ago, he had set the record for the second-fastest List A century in Indian cricket, reaching the milestone in just 41 balls against Arunachal Pradesh.

At 26 years old, Patel had a brief stint with the Gujarat Titans in the IPL 2023 season, where he was bought for ₹20 lakh. However, despite his impressive performances, he was released ahead of the IPL 2024 auction. Patel entered the IPL 2025 Mega Auction with a base price of ₹30 lakh but went unsold, leaving many wondering when his explosive batting will catch the attention of franchise scouts once again.

Zimbabwe's dismal batting performance earlier in the day set the tone for their defeat. They were bundled out for a mere 57 runs, with Pakistan's bowlers dominating the proceedings. The hosts' batting collapse came despite favorable conditions, and they never managed to build any partnerships. Zimbabwe's struggle to reach even a competitive total made it an uphill task for their bowlers, and they were left with little hope once the Pakistani openers took charge.

For Pakistan, this victory showcased their clinical approach in both departments, underlining their dominance in the series. With the 2-0 lead, they have sealed the series, leaving Zimbabwe with a mountain to climb in the final T20I. The win also highlighted Pakistan's strength in chasing down small targets, with their top-order finishing the game in rapid fashion. Zimbabwe will need to regroup quickly and look for improvements in both batting and bowling ahead of the final match.



## PSG Drawn Against Lens in French Cup as Defenders Face Challenging Start

Paris Saint-Germain (PSG), the defending champions of the French Cup, will face a tough challenge in the last 64 after being drawn away to Ligue 1 rivals Lens. The match, which is part of the December 20-22 round, will be a tricky start to PSG's quest for a record 16th French Cup title.

In other notable matchups, Marseille will take on Saint-Etienne in an all-Ligue 1 encounter, while Bordeaux, who were relegated to the fourth tier and filed for bankruptcy in the summer, will face Rennes, now coached by former Argentina national team boss Jorge Sampaoli. The match is a significant one for Bordeaux, as they look to rebuild after a tumultuous season.

There will also be some intriguing matchups featuring lower-league teams. Union Saint-Jean, playing in the sixth division, will meet Monaco, who currently sit third in Ligue 1. Another sixth-tier side, Still Mutzig, will host Ligue 1 team Reims. These fixtures highlight the potential for upsets in the early rounds of the competition, as lower-league clubs aim to make their mark.

Two overseas clubs have also made it



into the draw. Saint-Joseph of Martinique will travel to Corsica to face Bastia, while Saint-Denis from Reunion will play against a team from the fifth tier, Dives-Cabourg. These international matchups add an exciting dynamic to the competition, showcasing the diverse range of teams involved.

The final of the French Cup will take place at the iconic Stade de France on May 24. PSG, who have won the competition a record 15 times, will be eager to defend their title, but with several challenging fixtures ahead, the road to victory promises to be competitive.

## Venkata Datta Sai: PV Sindhu's Soon-To-Be Husband and Tech Executive

Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu is set to marry Hyderabad-based Venkata Datta Sai on December 22, 2024, in Udaipur. The announcement comes shortly after Sindhu ended a long trophy drought by winning the Syed Modi International title. The wedding events will begin on December 20, with a reception in Hyderabad on December 24. The couple's families had known each other for some time, but the marriage was finalized just a month ago, as Sindhu's busy schedule required a suitable window before the new season starts.

Venkata Datta Sai is a prominent figure in the tech and finance sectors. He completed his Diploma in Liberal Arts and Sciences from the Foundation of Liberal and Management Education, followed by a BBA in Accounting and Finance from Flame University in 2018. He furthered his education



His career trajectory also includes serving as the Managing Director of Sour Apple Asset Management since 2019 and holding the position of Executive Director at Posidex Technologies.

At Posidex, Sai has been instrumental in solving complex problems in the finance and tech sectors. His work involves using proprietary technology to provide solutions for major banks like HDFC and ICICI, particularly in areas like credit scoring and financial services. Known for his expertise in data science and machine learning, he focuses on developing innovative solutions that drive operations for some of the biggest institutions.

with a Master's degree in Data Science and Machine Learning from the International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore.

Sai has an extensive professional background. He worked as a summer intern and in-house consultant with JSW, an experience he mentioned on LinkedIn, where he remarked on the valuable lessons learned while managing an IPL team.

Venkata Datta Sai's diverse career, his deep involvement in tech, and his connection to high-profile industries mark him as an accomplished individual poised to support Sindhu as they begin this new chapter together.

## Pakistan Dominant 10-Wicket Victory Over Zimbabwe in Second T20I

Pakistan delivered a clinical all-round performance to thrash Zimbabwe by 10 wickets in the second T20I of their three-match series, taking an unassailable 2-0 lead. Chasing a modest target of 58, Pakistan's openers made light work of the chase, completing the task in just six overs.

Saim Ayub led the charge with a blistering 36 off 18 balls, showcasing his aggressive intent from the start. Omair Yousuf provided solid support, contributing 22 runs. The pair showed no mercy to Zimbabwe's bowlers, reaching the target effortlessly. With the game firmly in Pakistan's grasp, the Zimbabwe bowlers had little to offer, unable to challenge the Pakistani openers.

## India to host first ever women's T20 World Cup for blind in 2025

The inaugural Blind Women's T20 World Cup will feature a hybrid model for the first time, with Pakistan set to play its share of matches in either Nepal or Sri Lanka. This decision was finalized at the World Blind Cricket Council's (WBCC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Multan. The move comes after India, the original host of the tournament, expressed concerns over security issues related to Pakistan's participation, similar to the controversy surrounding the men's T20 Blind Cricket World Cup.

The hosting rights for the women's event were awarded to India in 2023, and the decision was reaffirmed at this year's AGM, where representatives from 11 member countries were present. Notably, India, England, and New Zealand participated in the meeting virtually.

During the AGM, it was also decided that should any visa-related issues arise preventing the Pakistan team from traveling to India, the hybrid model would come into effect. As a result, matches involving Pakistan will be held in either Nepal or Sri Lanka, ensuring the tournament can proceed as scheduled. This arrangement aims to



avoid disruption while maintaining the integrity of the event.

India's withdrawal from the men's T20 Blind Cricket World Cup in Pakistan, due to security concerns, cast a shadow over the planning of the women's event. However, the hybrid model provides a solution that ensures all teams can participate while addressing logistical challenges.

The inaugural Blind Women's T20 World Cup will be an important milestone for the sport, and the finalization of the hybrid model ensures the tournament remains inclusive, regardless of the geopolitical challenges involved. The full schedule and further details will be revealed closer to the event date, as the cricketing world eagerly anticipates this historic competition.





## Pawan Shares 'Veeramallu' Picture on Instagram, Resumes Shooting

Powerstar Pawan Kalyan, known for his significant political presence, has recently made headlines with a rare update about his movie career. After a long hiatus from the film industry due to his political engagements, Pawan Kalyan took to social media to announce his return to the sets of *'Hari Hara Veera Mallu'*. The actor shared a picture of himself from the movie's shooting schedule, accompanied by a heartfelt message.



In his Instagram post, Pawan Kalyan wrote, "After a hectic Political schedule finally I'm able to give a few hours of my time for long pending work!" The image showcases the actor in full costume as Veeramallu, a brave warrior on an adventurous mission to steal the legendary Koh-i-Noor diamond. With a clean-shaven face and his signature swirled mustache, Pawan Kalyan looks every bit the character he is portraying, captivating fans with his powerful presence.

Directed by AM Jyothi Krishna, *'Hari Hara Veera Mallu'* marks an exciting phase for the actor as it takes him back to the big screen in a larger-than-life role. The film is set in a historical backdrop and is expected to be a high-octane action entertainer. Initially

helmed by Krish Jagarlamudi, the project was later taken over by AM Jyothi Krishna, who is now steering the vision forward. The film is being produced by AM Rathnam under the banner of Mega Surya Productions.

The highly anticipated movie is slated for release on March 28, 2025. With the last schedule now in progress, fans are eagerly waiting to see Pawan Kalyan back in action on the silver screen. The actor's return to work after a long political break has sparked immense excitement among his followers, adding to the anticipation for what promises to be an epic cinematic journey.

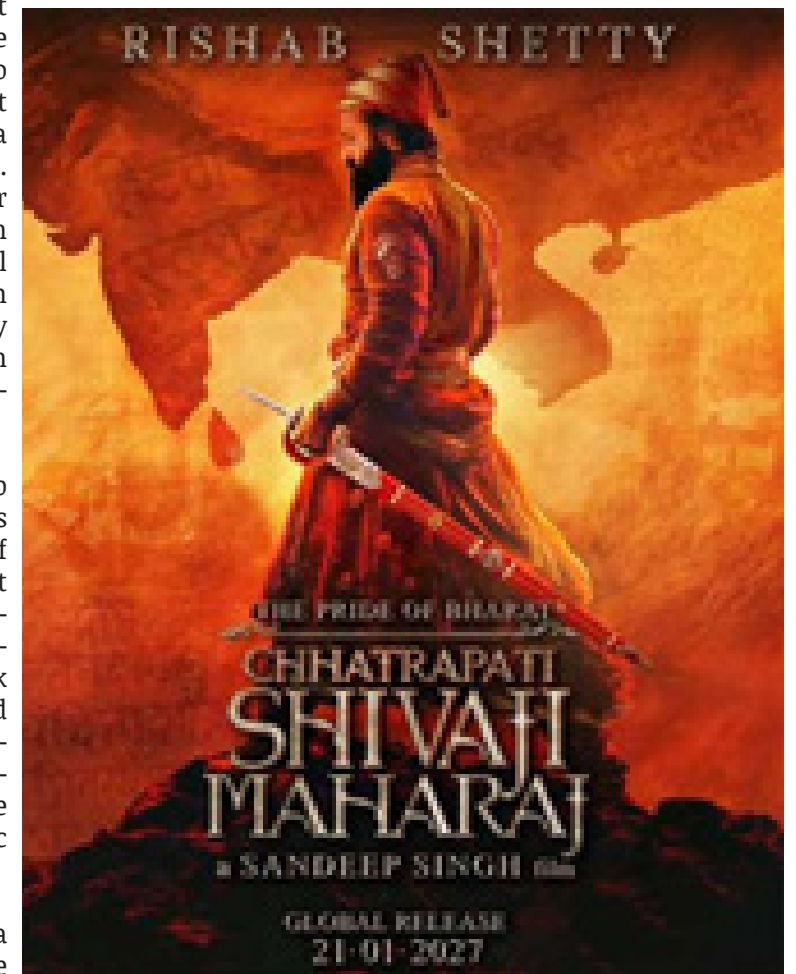
## Rishab Shetty to Star in Epic Historical Drama on Shivaji Maharaj

Rishab Shetty, a multifaceted talent known for his bold and creative approach to filmmaking, is set to star in a grand historical drama that will celebrate the legendary Maratha warrior, Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Having already garnered attention for his dual role as actor and director in *'Kantara: Chapter 1'* and his portrayal of Lord Hanuman in the Telugu film *'Jai Hanuman'*, Shetty is now ready to take on a new challenge as both lead actor and producer in this ambitious pan-Indian project.

Teaming up with director Sandeep Singh, Shetty's upcoming film aims to honor the extraordinary legacy of Shivaji Maharaj, one of India's most revered historical figures. The announcement of the project was accompanied by a striking first-look poster, showcasing the grandeur and scale of the film. The makers have revealed that the film is slated for release on January 21, 2027, setting the stage for an unforgettable cinematic experience.

"This is more than just a film; it's a tribute to a warrior who overcame immense odds, defied the Mughal Empire, and created an enduring legacy," the filmmakers expressed in a heartfelt statement, emphasizing the significance of the project.

The film is being planned on an epic scale, with a monumental budget allocated to bring the story of Shivaji Maharaj's valor to life. The film promises to showcase his heroic feats and strategic brilliance, offering a vivid and dramatic portrayal of his fight for independence and his impact



on Indian history.

While details about the cast and specific production updates are still under wraps, fans are eagerly anticipating what promises to be a visual spectacle. With Shetty's proven directorial and acting skills, and a story of such immense cultural importance, the film is sure to be a defining addition to Indian cinema, building excitement in the months leading up to its release.

## Pushpa 3 Officially Titled 'Pushpa 3: The Rampage' – A Major Surprise for Fans

The excitement surrounding the *'Pushpa'* franchise continues to soar as the makers have officially announced the title of the much-awaited third installment. After the massive success of *'Pushpa: The Rise'* and with *'Pushpa 2: The Rule'* set to release globally on December 5, fans are already eagerly looking ahead to *'Pushpa 3'*. The third chapter of the franchise will be titled *'Pushpa 3: The Rampage'*, a thrilling addition to the saga of Allu Arjun's iconic character, Pushpa Raj.



Directed by Sukumar, *'Pushpa'* has become a pan-India sensation, breaking box office records and captivating audiences with its raw action and compelling storytelling. Allu Arjun's portrayal of Pushpa Raj has gained immense popularity, and the franchise has garnered a massive fan following across the country. The announcement of *'Pushpa 3: The Rampage'* adds even more

excitement, ensuring that the Pushpa Raj mania will continue for years to come.

Ahead of the release of the second film in the series, there were already rumors about the third installment. Sukumar had previously hinted at the possibility

of *'Pushpa 3'* during a pre-release event, suggesting that after *'Pushpa 2'*, the team would dive into the next chapter. Now, with the official announcement, fans can look forward to more of Pushpa Raj's journey.

In a surprise move, the makers revealed the title and shared a glimpse of the film's logo, set against the backdrop of a music sitting studio. The buzz surrounding the third installment has only intensified, with speculations that a teaser for *'Pushpa 3'* might even be included at the end of *'Pushpa 2'*. This teaser would serve as a perfect teaser for what's to come in the next chapter of the action-packed saga.

With *'Pushpa 2'* gearing up for release and *'Pushpa 3'* now officially announced, the Pushpa Raj saga is far from over, and fans can expect the thrilling journey to continue for years to come.

## Siddharth's Romantic Comedy 'Miss You' Reschedules Release to December



Siddharth, the versatile actor known for his varied roles, is all set to star in *'Miss You'*, a romantic comedy drama directed by N. Rajasekar. The film, which was initially slated for release on November 29, had to be postponed due to the cyclone that affected Tamil Nadu. However, the makers have now confirmed the new release date for the much-anticipated film, which is set to hit theaters on December 13, a week after the release of *'Pushpa 2'*.

In a bid to share the updated release date, the makers launched a fresh poster featuring the lead pair, Siddharth and Ashika Ranganathan. The poster showcases their on-screen chemistry and adds to the excitement surrounding the film's upcoming debut. Amazon Prime Video has already secured the streaming rights for *'Miss You'*, ensuring that audiences will soon have access to the film after its theatrical run.

Ashika Ranganathan, a popular Kannada actress, plays the female lead in the film, bringing her charm and talent to the romantic comedy. *'Miss You'* is produced by 7 Miles Per Second Productions and also features Karunakaran, Bala Saravanan, and Jayaprakash in supporting roles, promising a well-rounded and engaging storyline.

Music for the film has been composed by Ghibran, known for his soulful and impactful music in Indian cinema. The film will be released in both Tamil and Telugu, aiming to reach a wide audience across South India.

With a fresh release date, *'Miss You'* is expected to capture the hearts of moviegoers with its light-hearted story and strong performances. Fans of Siddharth and the genre are eagerly awaiting the film's release, which promises to be an entertaining addition to the holiday season lineup.

## Surya Kanguva Set for OTT Release: Streaming Date Confirmed

The much-anticipated film *'Kanguva'*, starring Kollywood superstar Suriya, is gearing up for its digital debut. Directed by Siva, this period action drama was released on November 14, 2024, in multiple languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam. While the film has garnered a mixed response from audiences and critics, it is now set to reach a broader audience through OTT.



According to recent reports, *'Kanguva'* will premiere on the popular OTT platform Amazon Prime Video on December 12, 2024. This marks a rapid transition from its theatrical release, as it will be available for streaming just under a month after its release in theaters. Although an official announcement from the makers is still awaited, this news has sparked excitement among fans who missed the film in theaters.

*'Kanguva'* features Bollywood actress Disha Patani in a significant role alongside Suriya, while actor Bobby Deol takes on the role of the antagonist. The film is produced under the banners of Studio Green and UV

Creations, with Rockstar Devi Sri Prasad composing the music and providing the background score.

The film was released in eight languages, including French, Spanish, and English, reflecting its ambition to appeal to a global audience. Its combination of historical drama and action, along with a strong cast and high production values, has contributed to the film's wide release.

For those who have been waiting to watch *'Kanguva'* but missed it in theaters, the OTT release provides a great opportunity to enjoy the film from the comfort of their homes. With its digital release scheduled for December 12, fans of Suriya and action dramas can look forward to a new viewing experience.