



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

Major Projects Worth ₹1,024 Cr Launched

Empowering Youth: Over 54,000 Jobs Created in One Year
Skill Enhancement: Young India Skill University Takes Center Stage
A Commitment to Welfare: Congress Counters Misinformation with Action

TPN , Peddapalli : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy emphasized his government's commitment to providing employment opportunities and skill development for the youth during the **Youva Vikasam Sabha** held on Wednesday as part of the **Prajapalana Vijayotsavam** celebrations.

The event featured special stalls showcasing welfare schemes and initiatives launched by the Congress government. Prominent participants included organizations such as **Operation Garuda, Young India Skill University, DEET, ALEAP, TASK, NSIC, NYAK, TOM COM, Youth Sports Department,** and the **Singareni Organization**, which were inspected by the Chief Minister.

On this occasion, CM Reddy also laid the foundation stone for various development projects worth **₹1,024.90 crore**, marking a significant investment in the region's growth.

Highlighting the efforts of his government, the Chief Minister credited the Congress for creating over **54,000 job opportunities** within the first year of its administration. He noted that the establishment of the **Young India Skill University** is a significant step toward enhancing the professional skills of Telangana's youth.

Reddy stated that Telangana was achieved through the struggles of many unemployed youth, and the Congress government is determined to fulfill their aspirations by bringing



opportunities closer to them. He criticized the previous **BRS government** for its ten years of neglect, alleging it failed to create jobs and only provoked the youth.

"The development of Telangana is our goal, no matter who creates obstacles. Our welfare schemes and employment initiatives are the answers to misinformation being spread against our government on social media," Reddy remarked.

During the event, the Chief Minister personally handed over ****Group-4 appointment letters**** to selected candidates, symbolizing his government's dedication to empowering the unemployed.

He was accompanied by several key leaders, including **Joint Karimnagar District In-charge Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, BC Transport Minister Ponnampalapati Prabhakar, IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, State Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy.** Other attendees included government advisors, whips, MLAs, MLCs, and state-level officials.

The **Youva Vikasam Sabha** served as a platform to underscore the Congress government's focus on employment, skill development, and welfare, reinforcing its vision for a prosperous Telangana.

DELHI, BIHAR ELECTIONS WILL BE TYPICAL THIS TIME

CHANAKYA MUKESH



TPN | Exclusive: **HYDERABAD** : Mr. Mukesh of Chanakya Strategies has opined that predicting the political scenario of Delhi as well as Bihar is a complicated task. Chanakya Strategies, which had assessed Maha Yuti's victory before the results, is now going to work on Delhi and Bihar elections. Mr. Mukesh said, "We are planning to start the work in Delhi next week. Already, our team is on the ground."

Chanakya Strategies is well known as a psephology organization for the last decade. In 2023, Chanakya released surveys and exit polls that accurately assessed the Congress victory. It also witnessed great success in assessing accurate results in Telangana.

Though Mr. Mukesh has worked and continues to work for many politicians, some of whom became Ministers, he has maintained a low profile. When asked about this, he replied, "There is no need for exposure for us. Our work will be observed by the politicians of all the parties. A politician may achieve success without guidance, but we know our limitations. That is why we don't want to expose ourselves openly. We are not limited to any single party. We work for politicians individually." Mr. Mukesh of Chanakya Strategies is famous for tackling crisis management. Whenever a candidate faces a challenging situation, he knows how to find a positive solution.

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Google to Establish Safety Engineering Centre in Hyderabad

Hyderabad Hosts India's First GSEC, Fifth Worldwide
 A Cybersecurity Hub Focused on AI-Driven Solutions and Skill Development
 Future Collaborations with Telangana, Including Smart Traffic Systems



TPN , Hyderabad: In a significant boost to India's cybersecurity ecosystem, Google is set to establish a **Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC)** in Hyderabad. This will be the first such facility in India, the second in the Asia-Pacific region after Tokyo, and the fifth globally, joining Dublin, Munich, and Malaga.

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KTR Demands White Paper on Congress Failures

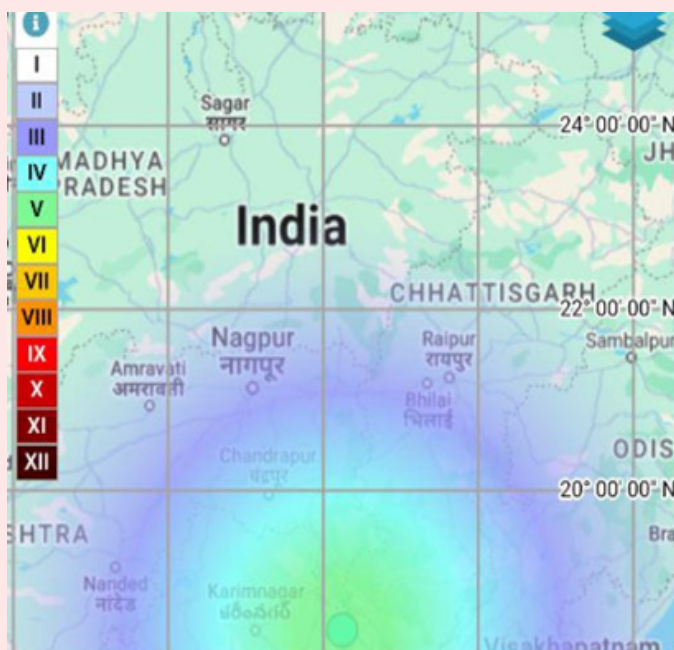
Allegations of Debt Mismanagement and Family Corruption
Industries Stalled Under Revanth's Leadership, Says KTR
BRS Vows to Fight for Telangana's Welfare



TPN , Hyderabad : BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, challenging him to release a white paper on his government's alleged failures and unfulfilled promises. Speaking at a media conference organized at Telangana Bhavan, KTR criticized Revanth Reddy for mismanagement, rising debts, and failing to deliver on his promises. "Not the debt figures, tell the numbers of promises fulfilled," KTR demanded, accusing the Congress government of misleading the public and tarnishing Telangana's reputation. He alleged that during Revanth Reddy's one-year rule, the state had incurred massive debts worth lakhs of crores, with no tangible benefits for the people.

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5.3 Magnitude Earthquake Jolts Telangana



Tremors Felt in Hyderabad

Strongest Earthquake in Telangana Since 1969, Say Experts
Seismic Zone III Under Scrutiny for Future Preparedness

TPN , Hyderabad: A 5.3 magnitude earthquake struck Telangana on Wednesday morning, with tremors felt in Hyderabad and neighboring regions. The epicenter was identified in Mulugu, approximately 300 kilometers from Hyderabad, according to the National Center for Seismology (NCS).

The quake occurred at 7:27 a.m. at a depth of 40 kilometers, with coordinates at latitude 18.44°N and longitude 80.24°E. Mild tremors were also reported in parts of Andhra Pradesh. Fortunately, no casualties or significant property damage have been reported. Seismologists note that this is the first earth-

Epicenter Identified in Mulugu, Tremors Reach Andhra Pradesh

quake of such magnitude in Telangana in 55 years. Dr. Shri Nagesh, former chief of the NCS Seismology Department in Hyderabad, stated that a similar earthquake occurred in the Bhadrachalam region in 1969. The Bhadrachalam-Medaram area, situated in seismic Zone III, has experienced frequent low-intensity quakes over the past decade, but this is the strongest since the 1969 event.

Telangana generally falls under seismic Zone II, indicating low earthquake risk. However, eastern areas like Mulugu lie in Zone III, where moderate seismic activity is more common. The region's seismicity is continu-

ously monitored by NGRI due to its geological sensitivity. Earthquakes between magnitudes 5.0 and 6.9 are classified as moderate, often felt widely but rarely causing severe damage. Wednesday's earthquake serves as a reminder of the importance of disaster preparedness, even in areas considered low-risk.

The NCS urged residents to stay informed and suggested downloading the **BhooKamp** app for updates on seismic activity.

For more details, visit the official NCS website or follow their updates on social media.



TYPICAL THIS TIME

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There are many examples of such instances that occurred earlier. He said, "Yes. As psephologists, we are used to identifying the negative points of the candidate first. In SWOT analysis, we focus first on 'T,' meaning threats. By reducing that threat, the candidate can strive toward victory. Using the right strategy, we can reduce the threat within days. That has happened earlier in Karnataka and Telangana as well."

Mr. Mukesh hails from Khammam. Being a Telugu man, he is now working across India. Recently, he worked in Maharashtra and assessed the BJP team's victory. He explained, "Eknath Shinde became an advantage for their alliance. Being a Maratha, he pulled votes from that community in many constituencies. Otherwise, Marathas were against BJP regarding reservations. But Shinde neutralized the issue and secured victory for the alliance. That is why he is now demanding the CM post."

Revealing his future plans, he said, "We are going to work in Delhi, Bihar, and also in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. We have spread our network all over India except in the northeastern states. We are planning to expand there as well in the coming days."

KTR Demands White Paper on Congress Failures

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"What comes to mind during Revanth's rule are debts, brutal attacks, and mistakes," KTR remarked, adding that the CM's leadership had lowered the dignity of his office. KTR also targeted Revanth's family, alleging financial gains under his administration. "The Anumula brothers have risen to the level of giving Rs. 1,000 crores in investments to the state. People think they might even feature on the Forbes list next year, surpassing Adani," he said sarcastically.

The BRS leader accused the Congress government of stalling industrial growth and job creation, claiming existing industries were being destroyed. "Instead of 'Telangana Rising,' it should be called 'Anumula Brothers Rising' and 'Telangana Falling,'" he quipped.

Reflecting on the BRS's challenges over the past year, KTR highlighted narrow defeats in elections, cases against party leaders, and internal setbacks. He expressed gratitude to BRS workers and leaders for their unwavering support during difficult times. "This is a test of resilience. Despite the odds, we stood by the people and fought for their rights," he stated.

KTR accused Revanth Reddy of employing diversion tactics, focusing on debt discussions instead of addressing critical issues like employment, governance, and the six guarantees promised by the Congress. He alleged that Revanth's government was engaging in media management to cover up its failures. Concluding his fiery remarks, KTR emphasized the BRS's commitment to fighting for Telangana's welfare. "BRS is the true guardian of Telangana, and our fight against the Congress will continue vigorously," he declared, urging party workers to remain steadfast in their efforts. KTR's remarks underscore the escalating political tensions in Telangana, with both parties trading barbs ahead of future elections.

Engineering Centre in Hyderabad

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The Telangana government signed a strategic agreement with Google LLC as part of a broader partnership. GSEC will function as a specialized international cybersecurity hub, focusing on advanced security solutions, AI-driven safety tools, and collaborative research. It aims to enhance India's cybersecurity capabilities, foster skill development, and generate employment opportunities.

Hyderabad already hosts Google's largest campus outside the US, a 3-million-square-foot facility under construction in Gachibowli, expected to be completed by early 2026. This 7.3-acre site was acquired by Google in 2019. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy expressed pride in Hyderabad's selection for GSEC, calling it a testament to the city's reputation as a global IT and innovation hub. "Hyderabad is home to five of the most valuable tech companies in the world — Alphabet (Google), Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, and Meta (Facebook) — and continues to lead in IT and digital development," he said.

Royal Hansen, Vice President of Engineering at Google, highlighted Hyderabad's potential to become a global hub for safety engineering, particularly in cyber and digital security. He also hinted at future collaborations, including a possible Intelligent Traffic Management System powered by Google. Industries and IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu, along with Google representatives, attended the event, marking a new milestone in the city's technological journey.

Bandi Sanjay Slams Congress Celebrations

TPN , Hyderabad: Union Minister Bandi Sanjay launched a scathing attack on the Congress party, questioning the basis of their recent celebrations marking one year in power. In a strongly worded statement, he accused the Congress of turning failures into so-called victories, referring to their actions as "perverted celebrations."

Sanjay alleged that the Congress has failed on multiple fronts, particularly in addressing critical issues faced by the public. "In the eyes of Congress, giving children worm-infested food is a victory. Their deaths are a celebration. Not providing jobs to the youth is a victory, and chaining them is a celebration," he tweeted.

He further accused the Congress of betraying farm-

ers by failing to deliver on promises and exacerbating their plight. "Cheating farmers, slaughtering girls, and demolishing homes are being portrayed as achievements. Breaking promises to waive loans and issuing debt notices are celebrations for Congress," he added.

Sanjay questioned whether a year of alleged anarchy and public suffering under Congress rule could be considered a victory. He urged citizens to reflect on the governance provided by the party and its impact on the people.

The remarks have sparked intense political debate, highlighting the ongoing rivalry between the BJP and Congress in the region.



KTR Warns Against Altering Telangana Thalli Statue Design



TPN , Hyderabad : BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao has strongly opposed any attempt to alter the design of the Telangana Thalli statue, set to be installed in the State Secretariat on December 9. He warned Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy against making changes to the design, emphasizing its sentimental and historical significance to the people of Telangana.

Speaking at a book exhibition inaugurating Deeksha Diwas celebrations at Telangana Bhavan, Rama Rao drew parallels to other iconic statues like Bharat Mata, Telugu Thalli, and Kannada Matha, whose designs remained unchanged despite political transitions. "Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, even with BJP in power, did not alter the Bharat Mata design unveiled by Indira Gandhi. Such symbols transcend politics," he noted.

KTR urged the Chief Minister not to let political rivalry with former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao influence decisions regarding Telangana's cultural icons. He warned, "History and the people of Telangana will not forgive such a mistake," and vowed that if the BRS returns to power, the original Telangana Thalli statue would be reinstated, replacing the statue of former PM Rajiv Gandhi near Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat.

Highlighting the importance of preserving Telangana's culture, KTR announced plans for an 11-day annual literary and cultural festival starting next year.

The festival, set to take place across Hyderabad and erstwhile district headquarters like Warangal and Karimnagar, will celebrate Telangana's heritage through arts and literature. Two expert committees will oversee the event.

Rama Rao called on writers and poets to document Telangana's history and statehood movement, stressing, "If lions do not document their legacy, hunters' stories will become history." He also praised the BRS's decade-long commitment to Telangana's identity, citing initiatives like officially celebrating Bathukamma and Bonalu and naming irrigation projects after local deities to honor the state's heritage.

Congress Focuses on Work, Not Campaigns- Bhatti

TPN , Peddapalli: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu addressed a massive gathering at Peddapalli on Wednesday, reaffirming the Congress government's commitment to development and welfare. He announced plans to construct thermal power projects in Ramagundam and Jaipur, areas with deep emotional ties to the community. Bhatti stated that Singareni and GENCO would jointly construct the power plants, and groundbreaking ceremonies would be held soon.

Criticizing the TRS government's decade-long rule, Bhatti accused it of neglecting the region's power infrastructure and failing to provide a single job while amassing debts of ₹8 lakh crore.

"We are paying ₹64,000 crore in interest on loans taken by the TRS government in just 11 months. Despite this, we are implementing six guarantees and launching transformative welfare schemes," he said.



Highlighting achievements, Bhatti stated that the Congress government has created 56,000 jobs within 11 months and deposited ₹21,000 crore in farmers' accounts under the loan waiver scheme. He also emphasized efforts to strengthen youth through 65 advanced technology centers and provide ₹1 crore insur-

ance for Singareni workers. Bhatti pointed out that free bus travel for women, ₹500 gas cylinders, 200 units of free electricity, and bonuses for small grain farmers were initiated despite financial constraints. He criticized TRS for promoting superficial development while Congress focused on meaningful progress, such as achiev-

ing record grain production through Sripada Yellampally, SSRS, Kadem, and Devadula projects, without relying on the Kaleshwaram project. "People entrusted us with power for jobs and dignity, and we are delivering. The Congress government will accumulate wealth and spend it for the welfare of the people," Bhatti concluded.

CM Revanth Pays Tribute to Late Konijeti Rosaiah



TPN , Hyderabad: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy called on citizens to work towards the economic progress of Telangana while paying tribute to former united Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Konijeti Rosaiah on his third death anniversary. Speaking at

the event organized by the Konijeti Rosaiah Memorial Forum, the CM lauded Rosaiah's exemplary 50-year political career.

Reddy highlighted Rosaiah's contributions as Finance Minister, Chief Minister, and

Governor, describing him as a key problem-solver for governments of his time. He noted Rosaiah's discipline, talent, and commitment to the party, which earned him respect across political spectrums. "Rosaiah Garu never sought positions; his dedication and abilities naturally brought them to him," he said.

The CM assured that steps would be taken to install a statue of Rosaiah in Hyderabad, following the Arya Vaishya representatives' request, with plans to complete it before the fourth death anniversary.

Recalling Rosaiah's eloquence and depth in legislative assemblies, Reddy lamented the absence of such spirit in today's assemblies. He urged leaders to emulate Rosaiah's dedication and values.

The event witnessed participation from several public representatives and dignitaries from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, who joined in paying homage to the late leader.



Kavitha Challenges CM on Mahalaxmi Scheme



TPN , Hyderabad: BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha, also the president of Telangana Jagruti, has strongly criticized the Congress government for failing to implement its promises, particularly under the Mahalaxmi scheme. Kavitha addressed the leaders of Telangana Jagruti from Warangal and Nalgonda at her residence on Wednesday, accusing the Congress party of coming to power on false promises.

She pointed out that under the Mahalaxmi scheme, Congress promised to provide Rs. 2500 per month to every girl child but has not delivered even after a year in office. Kavitha claimed that the CM owes each woman Rs. 30,000 at the rate of Rs. 2500 per month and added that the promised Rs. 2000 increase in pensions has not materialized either. She urged the public to hold the government accountable for these unfulfilled promises.

Kavitha also criticized the Congress government for its political tactics, including its handling of the Nagarjuna Sagar project. She challenged CM Revanth Reddy to take action against the Andhra Pradesh government's diversion of Krishna water through the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme.

Kavitha reiterated the commitment of Telangana Jagruti to continue advocating for women's issues and political representation for backward classes. She also reminded the gathering of the organization's pivotal role during the Telangana movement and in achieving significant social milestones, including the installation of Ambedkar's statue in the Assembly and supporting the Women's Reservation Act.

Minister Ponguleti Announces Key Details for Indiramma Houses Scheme



TPN , Telangana: Telangana Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy made a significant announcement regarding the Indiramma Houses scheme on Wednesday. The government has decided to build houses for all eligible poor families in the state, making the long-awaited dream of homeownership a reality.

Minister Ponguleti shared that the beneficiary selection process for the Indiramma House Scheme will begin on December 6. As part of the initiative, each beneficiary will receive financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh, which will be disbursed directly into their bank accounts in four phases.

The government aims to construct 20 lakh houses over the next four years. In the first phase, priority will be given to individuals with a plot of land, especially the disabled, single women, and widows. The minister assured that efforts to overcome the obstacles in implementing the housing scheme have been expedited, ensuring its swift execution.

This initiative is a significant step in fulfilling the aspirations of the poor in Telangana, providing them with a secure and dignified place to live.

Jupally Highlights Debt, Calls for Palamuru Development



TPN , Hyderabad: Minister Jupally Krishna Rao has raised concerns over the escalating debt of Telangana, claiming that in the ten years since the formation of the state, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government has incurred a debt of Rs. 8 lakh

crore. He compared this to the Rs. 70,000 crore debt accumulated during the 64 years of Congress rule, emphasizing the significant increase in borrowing under the current administration.

Addressing a gathering at the oath-taking ceremony of the Amanagallu Agricultural Market Committee, where MLA Kasireddy Narayan Reddy and Rajesh Reddy were also present, Jupally praised the state government's efforts in waiving off loans for farmers. He stated that no government had previously offered such comprehensive loan waivers, highlighting the Rs. 2 lakh loan waiver provided to eligible families.

The minister further criticized the lack of development in Palamuru district during the past decade under BRS rule, pointing out the need for greater focus on the region's growth. He called on Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) to explain his contributions as the MP for Mahabubnagar. Jupally assured the people of Palamuru that under the leadership of CM Revanth Reddy, substantial funds were being directed toward the district, paving the way for significant development and progress.

MLA Rakesh Reddy Sensational Remarks on Komatireddy



TPN , Telangana: BJP MLA Paidi Rakesh Reddy sparked controversy with his bold comments targeting Telangana Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. Rakesh Reddy accused Venkat Reddy of being a "drunkard" who speaks incoherently in the afternoon. He further questioned why Congress leader Revanth Reddy appointed Venkat Reddy as a minister despite his behavior.

In a heated statement, Rakesh Reddy challenged Venkat Reddy, saying, "If you have more money, fold it and keep it close. You survived because of the Komatireddy name. I challenge you to resign from Nalgonda, and I will resign from Nizamabad. Let's contest and see who wins." He added that "a mad dharma" was spreading from South to North Telangana, urging Venkat Reddy to back up his claims with action.

Rakesh Reddy's remarks have escalated tensions between political figures, drawing significant attention to the ongoing political rivalries in the region.

CPI MLA Slams Telangana's Public Administration



TPN , Telangana: CPI MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao has raised serious concerns about the inefficiency of the Telangana government's public administration system. In a sensational remark, he stated that ministers and officials have become unresponsive, even refusing to pick up the phone when MLAs call. Rao expressed frustration with the government's inability to deliver services efficiently, stating that the system, which was once established with high expectations, has become a "laughing stock."

Rao emphasized that the situation needed immediate rectification, warning that if the administration continues to function in this manner, "no one can do anything they want." His comments have added fuel to the ongoing political discourse surrounding the government's accountability and responsiveness to public issues. The opposition is now calling for urgent reforms in how ministers and officials handle their duties.

Vivekanand Defends Harish Rao, Slams Congress Over False Case

TPN , Hyderabad: Qutbullapur MLA KP Vivekanand has strongly responded to the registration of a false case against former minister Harish Rao. Speaking out against the Congress government's actions, Vivekanand accused them of deceiving the people with unfulfilled promises, including the waiver of Rs. 2 lakh farmer loans. He stated that despite the government's claims of implementing six guarantees during the election campaign, the Congress party has failed to deliver on its commitments, leading to frustration among the public.

Vivekanand criticized the registration of the case against Harish Rao, stating that it was done without evidence or court orders, under the influence of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He questioned the credibility of the person who filed the case, pointing out that the government should not act on baseless accusations.

Vivekanand demanded the immediate withdrawal of the fake case against Harish Rao, asserting that such actions are a distraction from the Congress government's inability to address the people's concerns. He emphasized that BRS leaders should not be silenced and accused Revanth Reddy of engaging in partisan activities instead of answering valid questions from the opposition.



Harish Rao Questions Rahul Gandhi Over Lagacharla Incident

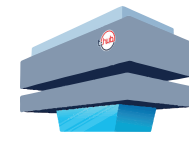
TPN , Telangana: BRS senior MLA Harish Rao expressed strong criticism against Congress and questioned the denial of access to BRS leader Madhusudanachari to visit Lagacharla. Taking to social media platform X, Harish Rao compared the incident to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's visit to Sambhal, questioning whether constitutional values only apply selec-

tively in Congress-ruled states.

Harish Rao tweeted, "If Rahul Gandhi, as Leader of the Opposition, has the right to visit Sambhal, doesn't Madhusudanachari have the same right to visit Lagacharla? Why was he stopped and arrested? This shows the lack of respect for constitutional principles in Congress-led

states."

Rao described the incident as "shameful" and criticized Congress for what he alleged was an attempt to suppress democratic rights. The remarks highlight ongoing tensions between the BRS and Congress in Telangana.



Two New RTC Bus Depots Sanctioned in Telangana



TPN , Hyderabad: Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnambhakhar announced the sanction of two new RTC bus depots in Telangana after a gap of 10-15 years. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) is being revitalized, with efforts to turn the previously loss-making corporation profitable.

lished in ****Eturu Nagaram**** and ****Peddapalli****, located in the Mulugu district and Peddapalli district headquarters, respectively. Minister Prabhakar highlighted that the initiative includes reforms in RTC operations, the procurement of new buses, and the welfare of workers, reflecting the government's commitment to improving public transportation.

Officially issued, with Minister Seethakka overseeing the Mulugu depot and Minister Sridhar Babu along with local MLA Vijayaraman Rao coordinating the Peddapalli depot. The depots aim to enhance convenience for passengers in the regions and facilitate better connectivity for border areas of neighboring states.

bhakar credited District Minister Sridhar Babu and MLA Vijayaraman Rao for their efforts. He congratulated the residents of the two districts, affirming that the construction of the depots will commence shortly to improve transit services.

The new depots will be estab-

Orders for the depots were of-

Acknowledging the need for infrastructure in the industrial hub of Peddapalli, Minister Pra-

Minister Ponnambhakhar and Special Secretary Vikas Raj handed over the order copy sanctioning a bus depot for Mulugu district to Minister Seethakka.

CM Lays Foundation for Forest and Eco-Tourism Office

TPN , Hyderabad: Marking one year of Congress rule in Telangana, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy participated as the chief guest at the 'Praja Jaalan - Praja Vijayotsavalum' event organized by the Forest Department at Kotla Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy Botanical Garden on Wednesday. The event included a series of foundation stone-laying ceremonies and inaugurations of key development projects.



The CM laid the foundation stone for the Forest and Eco-Tourism Development Office, signifying a renewed focus on ecological preservation and tourism. Virtually, he

inaugurated the Kothagudem-Pal-

Complex, the Sathupalli Divisional Manager Office Complex, the tree

introduction field, and Wildlife Safari and ARVR buildings.

The Forest Development Corporation also launched new vehicles during the program to enhance its operational efficiency. CM Revanth was accompanied by Minister Konda Surekha, MLA Arikepudi Gandhi, Mayor Gadwala Vijayalakshmi, and CM Special Secretary Chandrasekhar Reddy.

The initiative underscores the Telangana government's commitment to promoting sustainable development, forest conservation, and eco-tourism in the state.

Sri M. Dana Kishore Charge as Principal Secretary to Governor



TPN , Hyderabad : Sri M. Dana Kishore, IAS, has officially taken over the charge as Principal Secretary to the Governor (FAC) at Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad. He succeeded Shri B. Venkatesham, IAS, who served as Special Chief Secretary to the Governor (FAC). Following his appointment, Sri Dana Kishore paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Governor, marking the beginning of his tenure in the new position. As the Principal Secretary to the Governor, he will play a key role in assisting the Governor in administrative and official matters for the state of Telangana.

BJP MLA Rakesh Reddy Criticizes Pushpa 2

TPN , Hyderabad: Armor BJP MLA Rakesh Reddy has made strong remarks about the upcoming movie ***Pushpa 2***, set to release tomorrow. He accused the film of promoting fictional portrayals that could incite further destruction of forests, especially in Andhra Pradesh. Rakesh Reddy alleged that the movie's depiction of illegal red sandalwood trade and deforestation is misleading, and he urged the director and lead actor, Allu Arjun, to clarify the fictional nature of the content in a public statement.

Reddy claimed that the first ***Pushpa*** movie contributed to the destruction of half of the forest in Andhra Pradesh, and ***Pushpa 2*** would likely exacerbate the issue. He criticized the portrayal of business without licenses and inflated prices for red sandalwood in the film, accusing it of encouraging illegal activities. The MLA also expressed concern over the increasing ticket prices for ***Pushpa 2***, calling it a "cruel" move. Despite his criticism, Reddy revealed that he had watched the first ***Pushpa*** movie but would opt to watch ***Pushpa 2*** on OTT rather than in theaters.



Patnam Narender Reddy as Quash Petition Gets Dismissed



TPN , Hyderabad: BRS leader and former Kodangal MLA Patnam Narender Reddy has faced a significant setback in the case related to the Lagacharla incident. His recent petition to quash the remand issued by the Kodangal court was dismissed by the Telangana High Court.

The case dates back to an attack on Vikarabad District Collector Prateek Jain, who was in Lagacharla to assess the land acquisition for Pharmacy. Narender Reddy was named as the primary accused (A1) by the police, who claimed he had conspired with others in the attack on the officials. During the proceedings, it was revealed that Narender Reddy had communicated with Bhogamoni Suresh, the second accused (A2), over 89 times. The government's lawyer argued that Suresh had provided both financial and moral support to the other accused, encouraging the attack.

In light of the evidence, the High Court dismissed Patnam Narender Reddy's quash petition, dealing a blow to his defense in the ongoing case.

Case Filed Against BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy

TPN , Hyderabad: The Banjara Hills police have registered a case against Padi Kaushik Reddy, BRS MLA from Huzurabad, and 20 others on charges of obstructing police duties and issuing threats. Inspector Raghavendra lodged the complaint, stating that Kaushik Reddy interfered with his work and pressured him into accepting a petition under duress.

Incident Details

Kaushik Reddy reportedly visited the police station to file a complaint about alleged phone tapping. As the CI was preparing to leave for official duties, the MLA insisted that the complaint be accepted immediately. Despite the CI explaining that he had urgent tasks and would address the matter upon his return, Reddy and his supporters blocked his car and raised slogans, causing a commotion.

The CI eventually accepted the petition but later filed a formal complaint against the MLA, accusing him and his followers of obstructing his duties and creating a hostile environment.



Legal Action

The police have registered a case against Kaushik Reddy and 20 others involved in the incident. Investigations are underway to determine the sequence of events and address the allegations. This incident has sparked political tension, with opposition parties criticizing the BRS for alleged high-handedness and misuse of authority.

High Court Orders Former MLA Shakeel's Son to Appear for Questioning

TPN , Telangana: The Telangana High Court has directed Sahil, son of former Bodhan MLA Shakeel, to appear before the Punjagutta police on the 16th of this month. Sahil is facing a case related to a crash into barricades in front of Praja Bhavan, which occurred recently.

After the case was filed, Sahil left for Dubai, but the court ruled that he must return and cooperate with the police investigation. The court emphasized that Sahil should fully comply with the questioning process. Allegations have surfaced suggesting that Panjagutta CI Durga Rao attempted to exclude Sahil from the case and instead accused the driver, Asif. In response, the CI was suspended by higher authorities. The Bodhan police have also added Prem Kumar as an accused in the case.



HYDRA to Accept Public Complaints on Encroachments Every Monday



TPN , Hyderabad : The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRA), known for its efforts in demolishing illegal structures in Greater Hyderabad, has announced a new initiative to accept complaints regarding encroachments. Starting next year, HYDRA will receive public grievances every Monday at Buddha Bhavan, focusing on issues related to illegal encroachments on ponds, drains, parks, roads, and other government lands.

HYDRA, which has expanded its responsibilities to include disaster management, has already acted on complaints, such as a recent case in Badangpet Municipality where park land was encroached. Upon receiving the complaint, HYDRA Commissioner Ranganath swiftly took action, saving the park land and earning the appreciation of local residents.

The public is encouraged to submit complaints about encroachments within the city. After receiving the complaints, HYDRA will investigate and take appropriate action. This move is seen as part of the agency's ongoing commitment to safeguarding public resources and enhancing the city's environment.

Horrific Accident on Hyderabad's ORR: Lorry Driver Burnt Alive



TPN , Telangana: A tragic road accident occurred on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) in Hyderabad on Tuesday at midnight, claiming the life of a lorry driver. The lorry, which was transporting garbage from Miyapur to Bandlaguda, lost control near Gowdavelli and plunged off the bridge. The vehicle caught fire upon impact, trapping the driver inside the cabin.

Despite efforts to rescue, the driv-

er, identified as 27-year-old Sandeep, could not escape the flames and was burnt alive along with the lorry. He was reportedly wearing an Ayyappa mala at the time of the accident.

Local authorities were quickly notified, and police inspected the scene. A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway to determine the cause of the accident.

Assembly Winter Sessions to Begin on December 9



TPN , Hyderabad: The winter sessions of the Telangana Assembly have been finalized and are set to begin on December 9. The sessions of both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council will commence at 10:30 AM on Monday. State Governor Jishnu Dev Varma has issued a formal notification regarding the upcoming assembly sessions.

These sessions will cover a range

of legislative business and discussions, addressing various state matters.

Lawmakers and state officials are expected to participate in the proceedings, with important bills and issues on the agenda. The sessions will be held in the presence of the Governor, who will oversee the opening of the winter session. This will mark a significant period of governance and legislative activity in the state.

Only 0.95% of Rainwater Absorbed in Hyderabad: HYDRA Commissioner

TPN , Hyderabad: Despite receiving an average annual rainfall of 89 centimeters, only 0.95% of the rainwater is absorbed into the ground in Hyderabad, according to Ranganath, Commissioner of the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRA). Speaking at the Geo Smart India Summit on disaster management and climate change, he highlighted the challenge of making the city flood-free.

Ranganath attributed urban flooding to rapid urbanization, the encroachment of ponds and canals, and insufficient drainage systems. He stressed that HYDRA has prioritized the restoration of ponds and the removal of encroachments to mitigate these issues.

A notable success story is the Aminpur pond, which has been revived by HYDRA. The return of a 12-centimeter red-breasted plover from Eastern Europe to the pond underscores the environmental



benefits of these restoration efforts.

The Commissioner emphasized the need for improved weather prediction systems, revealing that the city currently has one weather radar and 157 automatic weather stations. He called for increasing this infrastructure to provide

accurate rainfall forecasts, enabling better disaster management.

The Geo Smart India Summit, held at Hitex, focused on leveraging technology to address challenges like flooding and climate change, with Ranganath advocating for data-driven solutions.

30 Injured in RTC Bus-Lorry Collision in Mulugu

TPN , Mulugu: At least 30 passengers were injured, with several critically hurt, when an RTC bus collided with a lorry at Jalaganancha Bridge, located in a suburb of Tadwai mandal, on Wednesday.

Reports indicate that the RTC bus, traveling from Eturnagaram to Hanamkonda, collided head-on with the lorry coming from the opposite direction as the bus approached the bridge. Fifteen passengers sustained serious injuries, while others were also hurt in the crash. The injured were promptly shifted to Mulugu Area Hospital for treatment.

The accident caused a significant traffic jam on the Mulugu-Warangal highway, taking over an hour to clear. A case has been registered, and investigations are ongoing to determine the cause of the crash.

Six Missing Children Reunited with Families

TPN , Hyderabad: Six children who had been missing for several years were successfully traced and reunited with their families, thanks to the diligent efforts of the Telangana police. In the first case, Mohd Khaleel Ghouri, who went missing from Kanchanbagh in 2014 at the age of 12, was located in Uttar Pradesh with the help of an Aadhaar card. Khaleel had been placed in a children's home by railway police and later adopted by a man from Kanpur. The Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) traced him using a mobile number linked to his Aadhaar card. He was safely returned to his parents in Hyderabad.

In another case, a girl missing since 2015 was located in Nizamabad after nine years. She was found to be married and a mother of two children. Additionally, three children who went missing from Chandrayangutta in 2017 were traced in Bengaluru. Shikha Goel, Director General of the Women Safety Wing, Telangana Police, shared that special teams were dedicated to solving long-standing missing persons cases. So far, 27 such cases have been resolved, contributing to a success rate of 84.25% in 2024, with 22,780 missing persons reported, 19,191 of whom have been traced.

Women's Commission Issues Notices to Narayana Colleges



TPN , Telangana: The Telangana Women's Commission has issued notices to Narayana colleges following a series of suicides involving female students. The commission expressed deep concern and anger over the tragic deaths, particularly the recent suicide of 16-year-old Anusha, a first-year Inter student at Bachupalli Narayana College in Hyderabad, who

took her life by hanging. Just days after this incident, another student from Madhapur Narayana College also committed suicide in a similar manner.

The government has voiced its dissatisfaction, especially with corporate colleges like Narayana and Sri Chaitanya, where such incidents have been reported. Many parents have also voiced concerns, stating they will refrain from enrolling their children in these institutions going forward.

The Telangana Women's Commission has taken a serious stance on the matter, questioning the management of Narayana colleges regarding the circumstances that led to these suicides. The notices demand an explanation for the alarming incidents and call for urgent measures to address student welfare and mental health within the institutions. Investigations into the suicides are underway.

Harish Rao Moves HC to Quash Phone Tapping Case

TPN , Hyderabad: Senior Bharat Rashtia Samithi (BRS) leader and former minister T. Harish Rao has moved the Telangana High Court, seeking to quash the phone tapping case filed against him. The petition was submitted on December 4, following a First Information Report (FIR) registered at the Panjagutta police station in Hyderabad. The case stems from a complaint by G Chakradhar Goud, a real estate businessman and Congress leader from Sidipet. Goud alleged harassment, threats, and unlawful phone surveillance during the last Assembly elections. According to the complaint, Harish Rao, along with retired police officer Radhakishan Rao, was accused of tapping Goud's phone and those of his family members.



The complainant further claimed that Harish Rao held a grudge against him due to his charitable activities, including providing financial assistance to the families of farmers who committed suicide. Goud also alleged fabricated cases, threats, and unauthorized surveillance by the BRS leader and his associates. Harish Rao, however, vehemently denied the accusations, claiming that the case was a retaliatory move by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Rao blamed the CM for being unable to tolerate his criticisms and stated that even if faced with multiple false cases, he would continue to question the government's injustices. Rao cited multiple cases filed against him across the state, including for remarks he made about the Chief Minister's failure to fulfill promises.

The FIR includes charges under sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including criminal conspiracy, extortion, criminal breach of trust, and criminal intimidation, as well as Section 66 of the Information Technology Act. Goud alleged that Harish Rao tapped his phone and those of 20 family members using the help of Praneeth Rao, an accused in the case.

Parents Assault Telangana Teacher Over Misbehavior with Student

TPN , Hyderabad: The parents of a female student at the Government High School for Girls in Mancherial town thrashed a Telugu teacher on December 3 for allegedly misbehaving with their daughter. The incident unfolded after the student complained about the teacher's inappropriate behavior. In response,

the girl's relatives confronted the teacher on the road and assaulted him with footwear.

Following the incident, the parents reported the matter to the District Education Officer (DEO), urging immediate action against the teacher involved. The DEO has been asked

to investigate the matter thoroughly and take appropriate measures. This incident highlights growing concerns about student safety and the need for stronger accountability in educational institutions. Authorities are expected to address the issue swiftly to prevent such incidents in the future.

Vikarabad Hosts Large Rally Against Attacks on Minorities in Bangladesh

TPN , Hyderabad: Hindu organizations organized a large rally in Vikarabad town on Wednesday to protest the ongoing attacks on minorities in Bangladesh. The rally, which began at the Hanuman temple, saw a significant turnout as it moved through the town. Participants wore black badges to express their anger over the alleged persecution of minorities under the current government in Bangladesh.

Simultaneously, the Bhayanagar Ganesh Utsav Committee organized a protest at Dharna Chowk, Indira Park, in Hyderabad. The protest was attended by several leaders from right-wing parties, who expressed

solidarity with the cause. The protests reflect growing concerns over the treatment of religious minorities in neighboring Bangladesh.





India Navigates US Trade and BRICS Currency Disputes Amid Tariff Threats

India's position in global trade is under scrutiny as former US President Donald Trump threatens drastic tariffs on BRICS nations, including India. Trump's proposed 100% tariffs on exports from countries like India, if implemented, could disrupt the nation's economic landscape, particularly given India's growing trade ties with the US. In fiscal year 2024, bilateral trade between the US and India surpassed \$120 billion, making the US India's largest trading partner.

The Challenge of BRICS Currency and De-Dollarisation

Trump's threats come amid ongoing discussions within the BRICS group about creating a common currency to reduce reliance on the US dollar. While the de-dollarisation movement has been gaining momentum, the implementation of a BRICS currency remains highly contentious. Many BRICS members are frustrated with the US dollar's dominance in global trade, but creating a unified currency is complicated by economic and political differences among the member states.

India, a key BRICS member, has expressed caution over the idea of a common currency. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has highlighted the need for significant alignment in fiscal, monetary, and political policies for such a currency to work, noting that BRICS nations are far from achieving these necessary conditions.

India's Pragmatic Approach Amid Global Tensions

India's reluctance to embrace a BRICS currency stems from both economic and strategic concerns. The US dollar remains integral to India's trade and financial systems, and a drastic move away from it could harm



India's economic stability. India is particularly wary of China's growing influence within BRICS, fearing that a shared currency could further enhance Beijing's geopolitical power at the expense of other member nations.

Moreover, India's robust trade ties with the US present a significant challenge. Trump's tariff threats could severely impact Indian exports, particularly in industries such as pharmaceuticals, IT services, and textiles. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which rely heavily on exports to the US, would be hit hardest by such tariffs, threatening India's export-driven growth.

India's Strategic Autonomy and Future Prospects

India's strategy focuses on maintaining its strategic autonomy by balancing its relations with the US and its participation in BRICS

discussions on alternatives to the dollar. India supports the concept of de-dollarisation but is cautious about antagonizing its most important trading partner.

By advocating for greater use of local currencies in bilateral trade, India seeks to minimize its dependence on the US dollar without provoking conflict with Washington. This approach reflects India's broader aim to play a leading role in shaping the future of global trade while safeguarding its economic interests.

In the face of Trump's protectionist rhetoric, India's measured response underscores its commitment to economic stability and its long-term vision of a multipolar world order. While the future of the BRICS currency remains uncertain, India is determined to navigate global challenges pragmatically, ensuring it charts its own course in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.



BJP Set to Challenge AAP's Stronghold in Delhi Assembly Elections

The upcoming Delhi Assembly elections are shaping up to be a pivotal moment for both the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), with the latter determined to make inroads in the capital after years of AAP dominance. Arvind Kejriwal's AAP has held a tight grip on Delhi since 2015, but with the BJP's growing confidence following significant victories in Haryana and Maharashtra, the saffron party is prepared to challenge AAP's position.

The stakes are high, particularly for AAP, as a third consecutive victory in Delhi would strengthen Kejriwal's political clout and possibly set the stage for his aspirations on the national stage. Kejriwal, known for his ambition to expand beyond Delhi, has already made waves by contesting against Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Varanasi during the 2014 general elections. A win in Delhi would significantly bolster his profile as a leader capable of challenging Modi in the 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

Currently, the Delhi Assembly consists of 70 seats, with AAP holding a dominant 58, while the BJP holds just seven. Five seats remain vacant. The Congress, which governed Delhi for 15 years before AAP's rise, has no representation in the assembly. AAP has successfully ousted both the BJP and Congress in the capital, further cementing its influence in local politics.

To counter this dominance, the BJP plans to capitalize on AAP's freebie politics, a strategy that has already proven effective in other states. The BJP has been successful in turning the tide by highlighting the freebies offered by AAP, including free electricity, water, and various welfare schemes. The BJP is expected to deploy this tactic in Delhi as part of a concerted effort to sway voters, particularly in light of AAP's declining popularity in other regions.

For the BJP, a victory in Delhi is seen as a critical step in denying Kejriwal a potential national foothold, particularly as he seeks to broaden his influence. The BJP will focus on portraying AAP's governance as unsustainable and its freebies as electoral bribes. By positioning themselves as the responsible alternative, the BJP hopes to tap into voter concerns over fiscal discipline and long-term policy impacts.

In conclusion, the Delhi Assembly elections will be a fierce contest with both parties vying for control. While AAP aims to maintain its reign in the capital, the BJP is determined to challenge its dominance and prevent Kejriwal from gaining national momentum. This election will undoubtedly shape the future political landscape in Delhi and beyond.

Team India's Confidence Shines in Australia: A Force to Reckon With

Over the years, Australia has been a fortress for its cricket team, making it one of the toughest places for any visiting team to win a Test series. From 1993-94 to 2008-09, the Aussies remained unbeaten at home in 28 consecutive Test series. With a win percentage over 80 in the last three decades, Australia's dominance on home soil seemed unmatched. However, India's recent performances in Australia have shattered the myth of invincibility.

The Rise of Self-Belief in Team India

From the historic 2018-19 series win to the 2020-21 triumph, India has increasingly shown that they are no longer intimidated by the mighty Australians. The self-belief within the Indian squad is palpable, and they now go into every Test match in Australia with the expectation to win, not just to compete. This newfound confidence was evident in their recent victory in Perth, where they secured a comprehensive 295-run win in the first Test, a feat they couldn't achieve on their 2018-19 tour. The team managed to do this without key players like Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, and Mohammed Shami, showcasing their growing depth and resilience.

The Turning Point in India's Approach

The turning point for India began during the 2014-15 tour, despite losing the series 0-2. The team showed glimpses of their potential by drawing two Tests in Melbourne and Sydney after being on the verge of defeat in Adelaide and Brisbane. This inspired belief that they were closing in on defeating Australia on their own turf. The confidence continued to build, leading to India becoming the first Asian team to win a series in Australia in 2018-19. In 2020-21, India's historic win in Brisbane, despite numerous injuries and setbacks, proved that they could go toe-to-toe with Australia and come out on top. The Indian players' determination, particularly in the final Test, where they chased down a daunting target of 328, showed their readiness to challenge Australia's might on their home ground.



Young Talent Driving India's Success

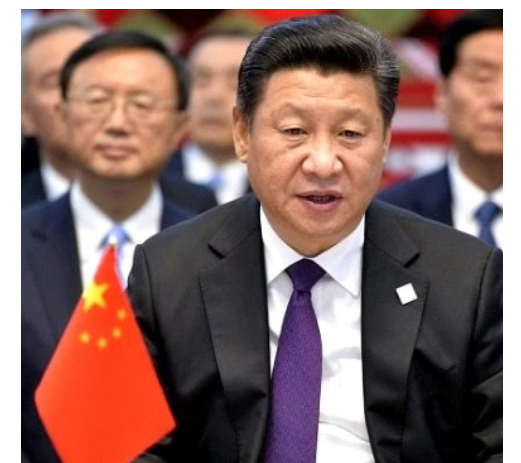
A key factor in India's rise has been their ability to identify young, fearless talent. On the 2020-21 tour, players like Shubman Gill, Rishabh Pant, Mohammed Siraj, and Washington Sundar played crucial roles in India's success. The ongoing series also sees young players like Yashasvi Jaiswal, the current leading run-scorer, and Harshit Rana making significant impacts. The IPL's role in nurturing young talent has allowed them to face the best pacers without fear, showing that they are no longer inferior to any opposition, even Australia's elite fast bowlers.

Changing Conditions and Mindsets

India's changing domestic pitch conditions, with more grass on the tracks, have also contributed to the rise of fast bowlers capable of thriving in Australian conditions. The country's preparation and aggressive mindset have combined to create a team that is ready to challenge the best in any format, anywhere. With India on the brink of achieving a historic hat-trick of series wins in Australia, their confidence and self-belief continue to grow, making them a force to be reckoned with in world cricket.

Xi's Anti-Corruption Campaign: A Double-Edged Sword for China's Military and Governance

China's ongoing anti-corruption campaign, under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, has targeted not only government officials but also the country's powerful military. This phase of the campaign, which traces its roots to the fall of former Politburo member Bo Xilai, has seen the military face a "zero tolerance" approach to corruption. Since the 18th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), the purge has resulted in investigations into numerous high-ranking military officials, including 14 generals and 85 major generals, highlighting the breadth of the effort.



ize opposition and potential political rivals.

Last week, Miao Hua, a senior figure in the Military Commission, was placed under investigation, continuing a pattern of high-profile military figures being scrutinized. Meanwhile, former Foreign Minister Qin Gang's whereabouts remain unclear, fueling further speculation about possible purges within the CCP. Additionally, reports suggest that Defence Minister Dong Jun is facing corruption charges, following the dismissal of his predecessor, Li Shangfu, on similar grounds. These developments raise critical questions about the trustworthiness of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and whether there is growing discontent or internal rifts within its ranks.

Corruption within China's government and military is not a new phenomenon. Historical anti-corruption campaigns date back to the early days of the People's Republic of China (PRC), such as the 1951-1952 crackdown that targeted over 100,000 cadres. However, the issue became more pronounced following Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms. Under Xi, the campaign has evolved into a broader tool not only to tackle corruption but also to neutral-

Chinese citizens largely support the anti-corruption efforts, viewing them as necessary for national security and dignity. There is widespread agreement that corruption, especially within the government and military, needs to be addressed. However, opinions diverge on whether Xi's campaign-style approach is the right solution.

While there is public support for the idea of cleaning up corruption, critics argue that Xi's campaign approach may not be sustainable. Some Chinese commentators suggest that corruption will resurface once the focus on individual purges fades. A more institutional approach, they argue, is necessary to address the systemic links between power and wealth, which enable corruption to thrive. Without structural reforms, these critics warn, anti-corruption campaigns will remain superficial.

Despite these concerns, Xi's anti-corruption campaign is unlikely to significantly alter China's foreign or military policies, as decisions are ultimately made by him.

Devendra Fadnavis Elected BJP Leader, Set to Become Maharashtra CM for Third Term

TPN CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI, DECEMBER.5

Devendra Fadnavis will be sworn in as Maharashtra's Chief Minister for the third time on Thursday, December 5, following his unanimous election as the leader of the BJP legislature party. The announcement came after intense discussions and negotiations within the Mahayuti alliance. The oath-taking ceremony will take place at Azad Maidan in Mumbai at 5 pm, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi attending, alongside around 40,000 supporters and nearly 2,000 VVIPs.

The event will also be graced by central ministers, governors, and prominent figures from across Maharashtra. In keeping with the state's diverse cultural heritage, the ceremony will also feature religious leaders, artists, and writers. Fadnavis thanked the alliance leaders, including Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, for their support, emphasizing the historic nature of the recent election victory.

Fadnavis, who previously served as CM in 2014 and 2019,



now returns to power after the BJP secured a significant 132 seats in the 288-member Maharashtra assembly. Despite the Shiv Sena's earlier insistence on Eknath Shinde continuing as CM, Shinde has accepted the deputy CM position, clearing the way for Fadnavis's leadership.

This marks a remarkable political comeback for Fadnavis, who had faced a tumultuous period after the 2019 power struggle with the Shiv Sena and his brief stint as deputy CM after Shinde's defection. The ceremony will be carefully monitored, with extensive

security measures in place due to the expected large crowd.

Fadnavis's third term as CM is expected to reinforce the strength of the Mahayuti alliance and usher in a new phase of governance in Maharashtra.

Assam Bans Consumption Of Beef In Hotels, Public Places

TPN CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI
DECEMBER.5

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced on Wednesday that the state will enforce a ban on the serving and consumption of beef in restaurants, hotels, and public places. This decision follows a cabinet meeting where amendments were made to the Assam Cattle Preservation Act of 2021 to incorporate these new provisions.

While beef consumption is not illegal in Assam, the Assam Cattle Preservation Act of 2021 already regulates the transportation, slaughter of cattle, and the sale of beef and beef products. The law aims to protect cows and regulate the beef trade, with specific restrictions in place to safeguard religious sentiments.

"We had earlier introduced a bill to protect cows, and we have been successful," Sarma said, referring to the legislation passed by the state assembly in 2021. "Going forward, we have decided that beef will not be served in any hotels or restaurants in the state. It will also not be served during any public function or



in any public place."

The existing law bans cattle slaughter and beef sale in areas with a majority Hindu, Jain, or Sikh population, as well as within a five-kilometre radius of temples or satras (Vaishnavite monasteries). Sarma further revealed that the government has decided to expand these restrictions to additional areas beyond the five-kilometre radius.

The Assam Cattle Preservation Bill was passed in the state assembly in August

2021 through a voice vote, despite objections from the opposition, who called for the bill to be sent to a Select Committee for further discussion. Under the provisions of the bill, violations could result in imprisonment ranging from three to eight years, along with a fine between ₹3 lakh and ₹5 lakh.

The new ban on beef consumption in public spaces is expected to have significant implications for the state's culinary and cultural landscape, impacting both local communities and the tourism sector.

Indian Foreign Secretary to Visit Bangladesh

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.5

Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Mirri is expected to visit Bangladesh next week for a Foreign Secretary-level meeting, amid growing tensions between the two nations following the recent political changes in Bangladesh. The meeting, which is part of the Foreign Office Consultation (FOC), is scheduled to take place in Dhaka on December 9 or 10, according to Bangladesh's Foreign Adviser Md Touhid Hosain.

This will mark the first high-level visit by a senior Indian government official to Bangladesh since the interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, assumed power on August 8. Yunus' government came into power after the ousting of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, a move that has strained diplomatic relations between the neighboring countries.

Hosain, speaking at the Foreign Ministry, reiterated Bangladesh's desire for a strong relationship with India, emphasizing that the two nations must work



towards building ties on a reciprocal basis. "It is very clear that we want a good relationship with India," he stated, while highlighting the need for both sides to commit to mutual cooperation and respect.

Despite the current tensions, the scheduled meeting offers a glimmer of hope for mending ties between the two South Asian nations. The discussion will likely focus on various bilateral issues, includ-

ing trade, security, and regional cooperation, with an emphasis on resolving ongoing challenges. The visit is seen as an important step towards ensuring that both nations can navigate the complexities of their relationship in a constructive manner. It also comes at a crucial time when India and Bangladesh are seeking to manage regional concerns, including security and economic challenges, while ensuring stability in their bilateral relations.



Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya Arrives in India

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.5

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya arrived in India on Tuesday for an official visit aimed at further enhancing the multifaceted relationship between India and Kuwait. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) extended a warm welcome to the visiting dignitary, emphasizing the significance of his trip in strengthening the long-standing ties between the two nations.

"Further strengthening India-Kuwait multifaceted relations. Warm welcome to FM Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya MoFA Kuwait as he arrives in India on an official visit," the MEA stated on the social media platform X. Dr. S. Jaishankar, India's External Affairs Minister, also welcomed Al-Yahya's arrival in New Delhi, expressing anticipation for productive discussions during the visit.

According to an official press release, the visit will include a series of high-level meetings, starting with a call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday at the PM's residence. The Kuwaiti foreign minister will also meet with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar at Hyderabad House in the national capital before concluding his visit and departing for Kuwait the same evening.

The bilateral relationship between India and Kuwait is historically strong, rooted in centuries of trade and cultural exchanges. Even before Kuwait's independence in 1961, India played a pivotal role in its economy, with the Indian Rupee being its legal tender. Maritime activities like shipbuilding, pearl diving, and trade flourished between the two nations, with India exchanging spices, textiles, and wood for pearls, dates, and Arabian horses from Kuwait.

The Indian community in Kuwait, now numbering over a million, is the largest expatriate group in the country. Indians contribute significantly to various sectors, including engineering, IT, medicine, and business. The economic ties are further solidified by Indian business interests in Kuwait, with major brands like Lulu Hypermarket and Centre Point finding a place in the Kuwaiti market. Additionally, over 200 Indian associations in Kuwait organize events to promote cultural exchange and support the expatriate community.



Kejriwal alleges many forces involved in attack on Sukhbir Badal

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.5

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convenor and former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday alleged that multiple forces were involved in the attack on former Punjab Chief Minister Sukhbir Singh Badal. The incident occurred when a shooter, identified as Narain Singh Chaura, fired a bullet at Badal during his visit to the Golden Temple in Amritsar. The bullet missed Badal and struck the wall behind him, allowing the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader to escape unharmed.

While addressing the Delhi Assembly, Kejriwal condemned the attack and emphasized that it was part of a larger conspiracy aimed at defaming Punjab and its people. "A big incident was averted today. Someone tried to shoot at Sukhbir Singh Badal, but he is safe. There is a big conspiracy behind this to malign Punjab. There are several forces involved in it," said Kejriwal.

The incident occurred when Badal was undergoing 'tankhah' (religious penance) as instructed by the Sikh clergy. He was performing the penance by washing utensils, cleaning shoes, and attending to other chores as part of the punishment prescribed by the Akal Takht.

Kejriwal also praised the swift response of the Punjab Police, acknowledging their role in averting a potential tragedy. "The Punjab Police did exemplary work in preventing the incident. However, questions are being raised about the law and order situation in Punjab. What about Delhi's law and order situation?" Kejriwal remarked.

South Korean Opposition Moves to Impeach President Yoon After Martial Law Declaration

On Wednesday, South Korea's opposition coalition filed a motion in Parliament to impeach President Yoon Suk Yeol, following his unexpected imposition of martial law, which triggered mass protests across the nation. The opposition Democratic Party (DP) submitted the impeachment motion after lawmakers clashed with security forces in an attempt to block the controversial decree.

Kim Yong-min of the DP announced that the impeachment motion had been prepared urgently, though the exact timing of the vote is yet to be decided. The motion could be put to a vote as soon as Friday. The opposition currently holds a majority in South Korea's National Assembly, which has 300 seats, and needs a two-thirds majority to pass the motion. If President Yoon is removed or resigns, Prime Minister Han Duck-soo would temporarily assume presidential duties, according to the South Korean constitution.

The opposition has also indicated plans to file charges of "insurrection" against President Yoon, his defense and interior ministers, and key figures in the military and police involved in the martial law imposition. The move has sparked



widespread political unrest, with even Yoon's own party leader calling the martial law declaration "tragic" and urging accountability for those involved.

The political chaos has had significant economic repercussions. South Korean stocks tumbled, with the Kospi index falling over 1% and dipping by as much as 2.3% at one point. The country's currency, the won, also hit multi-year lows. In response, the South Korean finance ministry and the central bank

promised to provide financial stability and liquidity to reassure markets.

Despite the political upheaval, life in Seoul returned to normal on Wednesday, with people going about their daily routines, although many residents expressed confusion and fear after the martial law was announced and later rescinded. Thousands of protesters gathered in the streets demanding Yoon's resignation and the reversal of the martial law order.

French Government Risks Falling In No-Confidence Vote

On Wednesday, France's government, led by Prime Minister Michel Barnier, faced a no-confidence vote that could mark the end of his brief administration, plunging the country into political turmoil. If toppled, Barnier's government would be the shortest-lived in France's Fifth Republic, lasting only three months, and President Emmanuel Macron would face the difficult task of finding a viable successor.

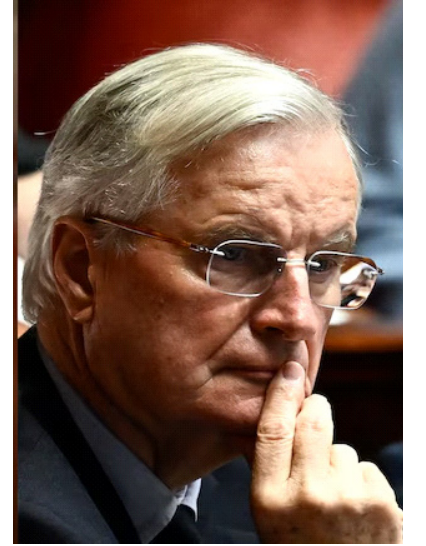
The National Assembly was set to debate two no-confidence motions, presented by the far-left and far-right factions, over next year's budget. Tensions escalated after Barnier pushed through a social security financing bill without a vote, which further deepened the rift with opposition parties. The far-right National Rally (RN), led by Marine Le Pen, is expected to support the motion brought forward by the left, giving it enough backing to pass.

Barnier, speaking on French television, expressed hope that his government could survive, citing a "higher interest" in overcoming political divisions. However, analysts largely predict that the government is doomed, given the unlikely alliance between the far-left and the far-right.

This crisis follows a snap election in the summer called by Macron, which failed to stop the rise of the far-right and resulted in a fractured parliament with no clear majority. Barnier's government has been held hostage by the RN, which has the power to bring it down at any time. With no new elections possible within a year of the previous legislative polls, Macron's options are limited.

Macron, currently on a state visit to Saudi Arabia, rejected calls for his resignation, dismissing them as "political fiction." He expressed confidence in his mandate, having been elected twice by the French people, and vowed to serve his full term until 2027.

Should the government fall, the uncertainty facing the French people before Christmas would only increase. Opposition figures, including Socialist party leader Olivier Faure, have urged Macron to address the nation directly. The outcome of the no-confidence vote could reshape France's political landscape as Macron's leadership is increasingly questioned.



Nepal and China Sign Nine Agreements, No Major BRI Mention



During Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's official visit to Beijing on Tuesday, Nepal and China signed nine agreements aimed at strengthening bilateral ties. However, the absence of any significant mention of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in these agreements has raised questions, suggesting that internal political conflicts within Nepal may have influenced the nature of the agreements.

The signing of these memorandums of understanding (MOUs) followed a meeting between Prime Minister Oli and Chinese Premier Li Qiang. The two leaders discussed various aspects of Nepal-China cooperation, including infrastructure, trade, and development. Despite the broad range of topics covered, there was no major reference to the Belt and Road Initiative, which is a key part of China's global strategy to expand trade and infrastructure connections across Asia and beyond.

The lack of focus on the BRI is notable, especially considering that Nepal had previously shown interest in joining the initiative, which would have included significant investments in infrastructure projects like roads, railways, and energy systems. However, internal political divisions within Nepal's ruling coalition, particularly between the two major political parties, have led to a more cautious approach towards the initiative. These divisions may have contributed to China's decision to limit the scope of the agreements, avoiding the inclusion of BRI-related projects that could provoke further political controversy in Nepal.

Zelensky Urges Strengthened Defenses as Russia Makes Gains in Eastern Ukraine



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has called for urgent reinforcement of Ukraine's defenses along the eastern front, where Russian forces have been making steady gains in recent months. Zelensky's appeal came after Russia's Defense Ministry reported capturing two more frontline villages—one in the Donetsk region and the other in the Zaporizhzhia region.

In his nightly video address, Zelensky emphasized the critical need for increased support, particularly in the Donetsk region, where the fighting has been most intense. He stressed that Ukraine's military success depends heavily on timely and consistent weapon supplies from Western allies. "The Donetsk directions require significant reinforcement, particularly the supply of weapons from our partners," Zelensky stated. He added that strengthening Ukraine's firepower and technological capabilities is essential to countering Russia's offensive potential and safeguarding Ukrainian soldiers.

Zelensky specifically highlighted the need for enhanced long-range capabilities, advocating for increased domestic weapons production to bolster Ukraine's defense. This comes after the United States, the largest supplier of military aid to Ukraine, announced a \$725 million military assistance package on Monday. However, Ukraine remains concerned about the future of its weapon supplies, particularly with the uncertainty surrounding President-elect Donald Trump's stance on the war.

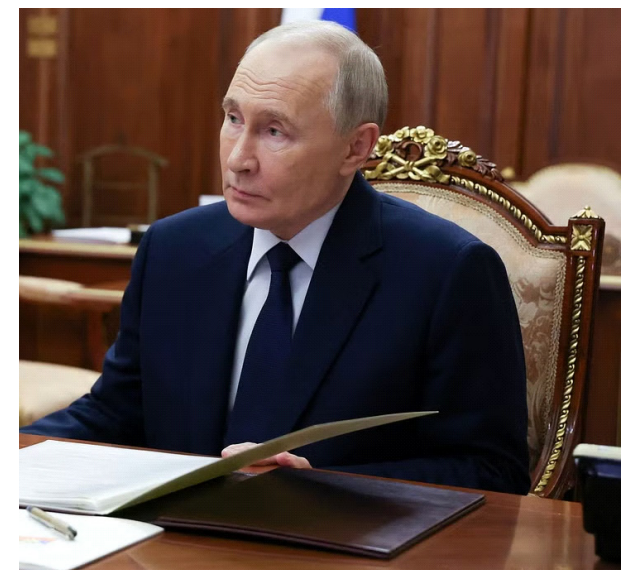
Yale Report Links Putin to Forced Adoption of Ukrainian Children

A new report from Yale University has accused Russian President Vladimir Putin and senior Kremlin officials of authorizing a program to forcibly foster and adopt Ukrainian children during the ongoing war in Ukraine. The investigation, led by Yale's Humanitarian Research Lab, provides compelling evidence that these actions were carried out under direct orders from top Russian leaders, including Putin himself.

The report, released Tuesday, strengthens the case for war crimes charges against Putin and other Russian officials. It reveals that at least 314 Ukrainian children have been placed in Russian institutions or adopted by Russian families as part of a systematic program designed to forcibly separate them from their homes and families. According to the findings, this program was not only a response to the ongoing conflict but part of a larger effort to assimilate these children into Russian society.

The Yale report exposes a disturbing level of state involvement in the practice, implicating Russian authorities at the highest levels. The researchers suggest that the adoption program goes beyond the initial understanding of Russia's war crimes and reveals a more sinister aspect of the conflict. This discovery could strengthen the case against Putin and Russia's Commissioner for Children's Rights, Maria Lvova-Belova, both of whom have been named in an arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in March 2023 for their roles in the forced deportation of Ukrainian citizens.

In response, the Kremlin has denied any involvement in war crimes, insisting that the program is part of a humanitarian effort to protect children from the dangers of war. However, Ukrainian officials, along with members of the Yale research team, are scheduled to present their findings to the UN Security Council on Wednesday. The case has drawn significant international attention, further increasing pressure on Russia and its leadership as evidence of war crimes continues to mount.



Swedish PM Postpones Visit to South Korea Amid Political Tensions

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson has postponed his planned visit to South Korea, originally scheduled for this week, in light of recent political developments. The decision was confirmed by his spokesperson on Wednesday, following a tense situation in South Korea.

Kristersson had been set to meet with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to discuss bilateral relations and key issues. However, the visit was put on hold after South Korean President Yoon declared martial law on Tuesday. The controversial decision was later overturned after the South Korean parliament rejected the martial law move,



leading to heightened political uncertainty in the country. In a statement, Kristersson's spokesperson explained the rationale behind the postponement, saying, "Given the recent developments, we have decided to postpone the visit. We have been in contact with South Korea this morning and will now work together to find a new time for the visit in the future."

The Swedish government remains committed to strengthening diplomatic ties with South Korea, but due to the ongoing political instability in Seoul, officials felt it would be prudent to reschedule the visit. The move follows growing concerns

over political stability in South Korea, where President Yoon's declaration of martial law sparked criticism and raised fears of escalating tensions within the country. Although martial law was lifted quickly, the incident has caused some unease, prompting foreign leaders like Kristersson to reconsider travel plans.

The new date for the visit is yet to be announced, and it remains to be seen how South Korean politics will evolve in the coming weeks. Both Sweden and South Korea have expressed interest in maintaining strong ties, and once the political situation stabilizes, Kristersson's visit is expected to be rescheduled.

Markets Close Flat as Investors Await RBI Policy Decision

Indian stock markets closed flat on Wednesday amid cautious trading ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee meeting. While indices opened strong and posted significant early gains, they hit daily lows later in the session as investor sentiment turned mixed due to global market signals and low expectations of a repo rate cut.

Despite this, banking and finance stocks rallied on speculation that the RBI might reduce the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR). The BSE Sensex closed at 80,956, gaining 110 points after hitting an intraday high of 81,245 and a low of 80,630. The NSE Nifty rose 10 points to settle at 24,467, having touched a high of 24,573. The Bank Nifty surged 571 points, closing at 53,266. Among the Nifty50, 20 stocks gained while 30 declined. Top gainers included HDFC Life, HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Apollo Hospitals, and NTPC, while Bharati Airtel, Cipla, Bajaj Auto, Tata Motors, and Adani Ports were the top losers. Auto, FMCG, Metal, Pharma, and Oil & Gas indices closed in the red, while banking, finance, PSU banks, and realty stocks performed well.

The rupee weakened further, settling at ₹84.73 against the dollar, as foreign institutional investors (FIIs) pulled funds amid a strengthening dollar index.

On the corporate front, KEC International shares surged 12%, while IOB recorded its best performance in six months. Adani Group began evaluating the acquisition of Star Cement for expansion in Northeast India. Meanwhile, Zomato received an "outperform" rating from CLSA with a target price of ₹370. Analysts suggest short-term opportunities in IREDA, IDBI, RBL Bank, Finecables, and Jindal Steel as markets await consolidation and clarity on RBI's policy decisions.

Recommended Stocks:



MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM
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IREDA, a government-owned financial institution, focuses on promoting renewable energy projects across India. Recently, it reported a 36% year-on-year increase in net profit for Q2 FY25, amounting to ₹387 crore.

IDBI Bank is a prominent Indian financial institution offering a range of banking and financial services. It has been undergoing strategic transformations to enhance operational efficiency and profitability.



RBL Bank is a private sector bank in India, providing services across retail and corporate banking segments. The bank is focusing on expanding its digital offerings to cater to a broader customer base.

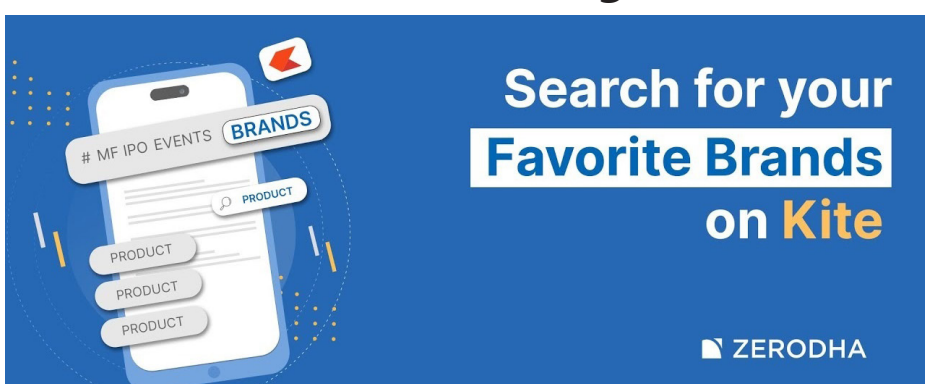


JSPL operates in the steel, mining, and infrastructure sectors both domestically and internationally. In Q2 FY25, the company reported a net profit of ₹50.65 billion, reflecting its strong position in the industry. Please note: Investing in the stock market involves risks. It's advisable to conduct thorough research or consult a financial advisor before making investment decisions.



Finolex Cables is a leading manufacturer of electrical and telecommunication cables in India. The company continues to innovate in its product offerings to meet the evolving demands of the market.

Zerodha Launches 'Search by Brands' Feature on Kite Trading Platform



Zerodha, India's leading discount brokerage, has introduced a new 'Search by Brands' feature on its popular trading platform, Kite. This innovative addition enables users to search for stock details by simply entering brand names, making it easier for investors to find relevant information.



P. Dinesh | Analyst

shot showcasing how a search for the brand name 'Bullet' brought up details of *Eicher Motors*, the parent company of the iconic motorcycle brand.

This feature is expected to simplify stock searches for investors who may be more familiar with popular brand names rather than their parent companies. The enhancement is part of Zerodha's continuous efforts to improve user experience and accessibility for traders and investors on its platform.

The new tool aligns with Zerodha's goal to make trading more intuitive and user-friendly for its growing base of retail investors. By bridging the gap between brand recognition and stock market knowledge, Zerodha's 'Search by Brands' feature could set a new standard for trading platforms.

The feature was announced by Zerodha's co-founder and CEO, *Nithin Kamath*, in a post on X (formerly Twitter). Currently available on the Kite web platform, Zerodha plans to extend this functionality to its mobile app soon.

"We just added the Search by Brands feature on @zerodhaonline. Currently available on Kite web and soon on mobile," Kamath wrote in his tweet. He also shared a screen-

India Poised to Benefit from Shift in Global Manufacturing Away from China

India has emerged as a key destination for companies seeking to diversify their manufacturing bases away from China. With rising geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions, and China's growing trade challenges, businesses are looking to relocate their operations to countries that offer a more favorable business environment. India, with its large consumer market, skilled workforce, and competitive manufacturing costs, has become an increasingly attractive alternative.

As global businesses seek to minimize their dependence on China, the prospect of Donald Trump returning to the White House in 2025 could further accelerate this trend. Trump's potential re-election may lead to a more aggressive stance in the ongoing trade war with China, as he has previously taken strong measures to curb Chinese imports and reduce trade deficits. If trade tensions escalate, companies may intensify their efforts to relocate their manufacturing operations to countries outside of China, and India could stand to gain significantly.

India has already taken proactive steps to capitalize on this shift. The government's "Make in India" initiative, designed to promote manufacturing and attract foreign investment, has already shown promising results.

OECD Raises India's Growth Forecast to 6.8% for 2024-25

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has upgraded India's economic growth forecast for 2024-25, increasing it to 6.8% from the previously predicted 6.6% in May. This upward revision is attributed to strong investments and robust agricultural performance.

The OECD's revised outlook highlights India's resilience amid global uncertainties, with the country continuing to demonstrate strong growth despite external challenges. According to the OECD, investment in both infrastructure and private sectors has been a key factor in supporting this economic expansion. Additionally, India's agricultural sector has seen solid growth, further contributing to the country's overall economic performance.

The OECD's report underscores the importance of India's ongoing reforms in improving its investment climate. Policies aimed at enhancing ease of doing business, infrastructure development, and attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) have played a significant role in sustaining growth. Furthermore, the agriculture sector, buoyed by favorable monsoons and government



support, has helped maintain food security and rural income levels.

While India's growth trajectory remains strong, the OECD also cautioned about potential risks. Global economic slowdowns, especially in key trading partners, could affect India's export sector. However, the report suggests that India's diversification of trade partners and growing domestic consumption could mitigate some of these

external risks.

The revised forecast of 6.8% places India as one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world, despite challenges such as inflationary pressures and geopolitical tensions. The OECD's optimism regarding India's growth outlook reflects confidence in the country's economic resilience and its capacity to navigate global uncertainties while driving domestic growth.

India's External Debt Rises by USD 31 Billion in 2023, Interest Payments Surge

India's external debt has seen a significant increase of USD 31 billion, reaching a total of USD 646.79 billion in 2023, according to the World Bank's International Debt Report. This rise in debt highlights the growing financial obligations of the country on the international stage.

The report reveals that India's external debt burden has been steadily climbing, driven in part by rising interest payments. In 2023, the country's interest payments on external debt surged from USD 15.08 billion in 2022 to USD 22.54 billion, marking a substantial increase. This jump in interest payments reflects both the rise in the total debt as well as potentially higher borrowing costs in the global market.

While the increase in debt and interest payments might raise concerns, it also points to India's ongoing efforts to



finance large-scale infrastructure projects and its growing economy. However, the rising cost of servicing this debt could have long-term implications for India's fiscal health, especially if global interest rates continue to remain elevated.

The World Bank report does not speci-

fy the exact causes behind this rise, but it is widely understood that developing countries like India have been borrowing more from international lenders to finance their economic development, address trade imbalances, and tackle the financial aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

India's government will need to carefully manage this growing external debt to ensure that it does not become a burden that impacts the country's economic stability. Efficient debt management strategies and an increase in domestic revenue will be essential to mitigate the risks associated with rising interest payments. As the country navigates these financial challenges, it is also likely to focus on diversifying its sources of funding and seeking favorable terms for future borrowings to reduce the impact of rising global interest rates.

New Patent Suggests Action Button Could Expand to iPhone, iPad, and Mac

Apple's innovative Action Button, first introduced on the iPhone 15 Pro and iPhone 15 Pro Max, is set to make its way to more devices in the future, according to a recent patent filing. Initially exclusive to the iPhone 15 series, this button has since been expanded to all iPhone 16 models. Now, a new report from Patently Apple, based on a recently published patent application, reveals that Apple is exploring the possibility of incorporating the Action Button into future versions of the iPhone, iPad, and Mac.



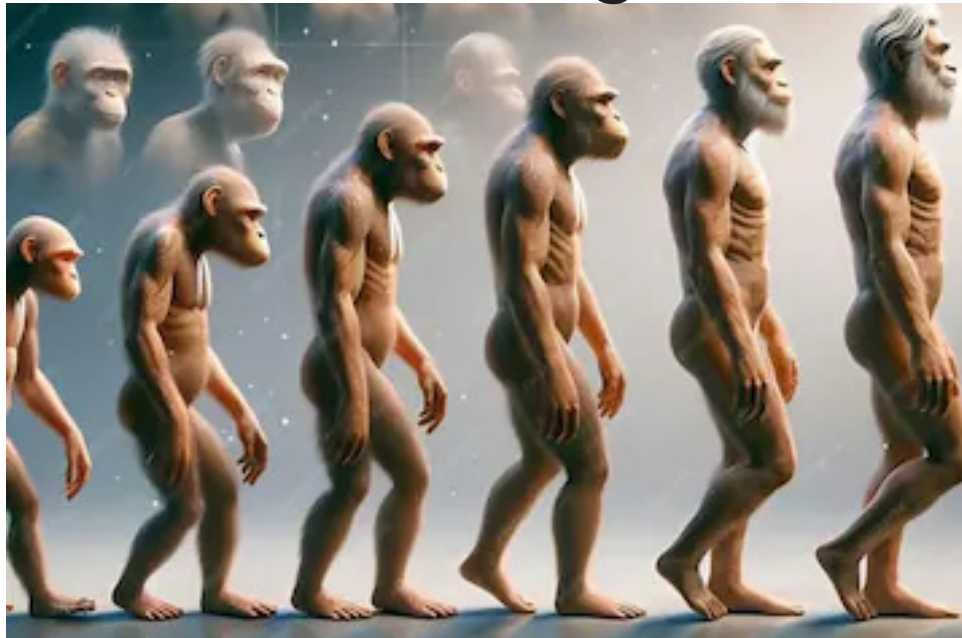
The patent suggests that not only will the Action Button make its way to future Apple devices, but multiple Action Buttons could also be featured in upcoming models. In addition to the new Action Button, the patent indicates that even the volume rockers on future iPhones may serve as programmable buttons, adding a new layer of functionality. These buttons would be customizable, allowing users to assign different tasks or shortcuts to suit their preferences.

One of the key features outlined in the patent is the integration of haptic motors within these new buttons. This would provide tactile feedback when the buttons are pressed, en-

hancing the user experience with a more satisfying, responsive interaction. Haptic feedback has become a hallmark of Apple devices, and incorporating it into the Action Button and other programmable buttons could make the new features even more immersive and intuitive.

While this new button functionality is exciting, it is unlikely that we will see these changes implemented in the near future. Although the patent includes plans for expanding the Action Button to devices like the iPad and Mac, the timeline for its widespread rollout remains uncertain. Nevertheless, with Apple's consistent innovation, these potential upgrades could be part of a future generation of devices, bringing even more customization and ease of use to Apple's ecosystem.

Direct Evidence Found of Early Human Species Coexisting 1.5 Million Years Ago



A groundbreaking discovery in Kenya has provided direct evidence of two ancient human species coexisting 1.5 million years ago. Published in *Science* magazine, the study analyzes ancient footprints found at the Koobi Fora site in East Turkana. Discovered in July 2021, the footprints belong to two different hominin species: *Homo erectus* and *Paranthropus boisei*. The close proximity of the prints suggests that these species walked the same lakeshore area within hours or days of each other.

"This is the first snapshot we have of these two species living on the same immediate landscape, potentially interacting with one another," says Kevin Hatala, a paleoanthropologist at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, and co-author of the study.

The mud-preserved footprints offer an extraordinary insight into the lives of early humans, revealing intricate details like foot arch heights, toe shapes, and walking patterns. These findings give scientists an unprecedented view into the physical traits and behaviors of these species.

Tracy Kivell, a paleoanthropologist at the Max Planck Institute, described

the discovery as "a snapshot in time" that helps researchers piece together human evolution. Although prior studies suggested that different hominin species lived alongside each other, this is the first direct evidence of their coexistence.

"These fossilized footprints are as close as we are going to get to having a time machine to take us back to an eastern African lakeshore 1.5 million years ago," said Bernard Wood, a paleoanthropologist at George Washington University.

The study employed 3D X-ray imaging to analyze the footprints, revealing significant differences in foot structure compared to modern humans. The site also contained footprints from 30 relatives of cattle, three horse-like animals, and 61 bird species, including the extinct giant stork, *Leptoptilos falconeri*, providing further context about the environment during that period.

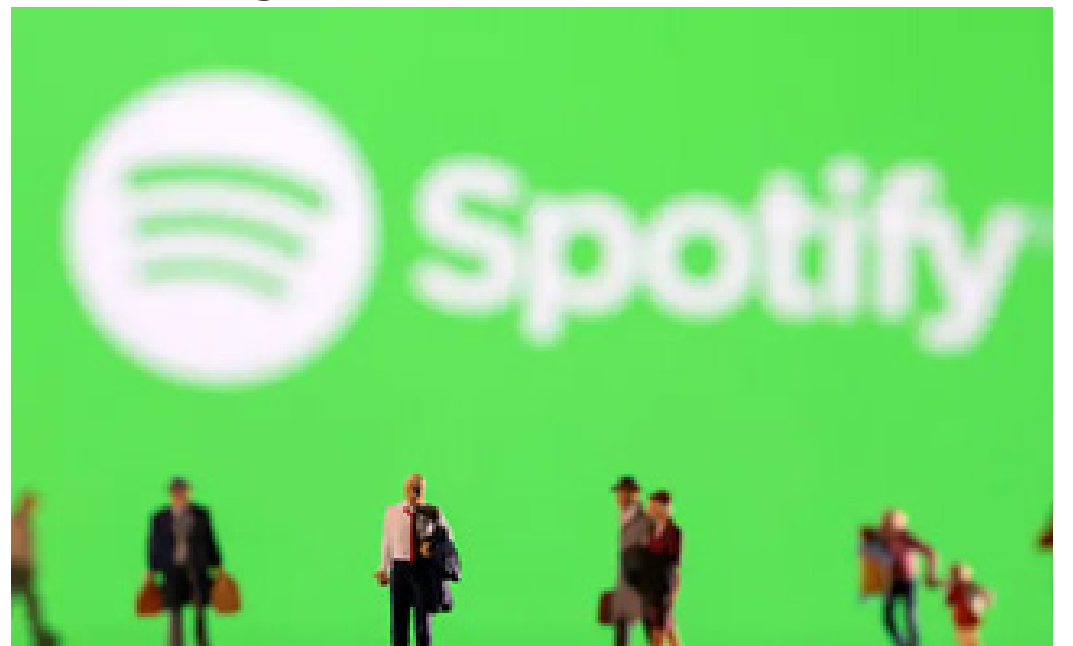
Researchers hope that combining data from these footprints and other fossils will provide a more detailed understanding of early human life and the ecosystems they inhabited.

Spotify Wrapped 2024 Is Almost Here, And The Internet Can't Wait: "Actually Terrified"

The excitement surrounding Spotify Wrapped 2024 is reaching new heights as music lovers eagerly anticipate their personalized year-in-review. The annual feature, which offers users a detailed snapshot of their listening habits, is known for highlighting top artists, tracks, genres, and total streaming minutes. While Spotify has not confirmed the exact release date, reports suggest that Wrapped 2024 will drop on December 4 (Wednesday).

The buzz around Wrapped began intensifying when Spotify France's official TikTok account teased an event titled "On predict vos Wrapped 2024" ("We predict your Wrapped 2024"). The live event is set to run from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. on December 4 in France, which translates to 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. in India, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. EST on December 3, and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. PST. Fans across various time zones are eagerly anticipating the release, with many sharing their excitement on platforms like X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram.

One user commented, "Happy Spotify Wrapped day," while another shared their nerves with, "Actually terrified for my Spotify Wrapped, I know it's



gonna be so random." Some users, however, have expressed frustration over the delay, with one posting, "If you don't drop Spotify Wrapped by the end of the week, I'm moving to Apple Music, I don't care."

Spotify Wrapped first launched in 2015 as a "Year in Music" feature, offering users insights into their most-played artists and songs. In 2016, it was rebranded as "Spotify Wrapped," quickly becoming a yearly tradition. Over the years, Spotify has enhanced the feature with engaging visuals and interactive storytelling, making

it more immersive each time. Users also enjoy sharing their Wrapped highlights on platforms like Instagram and TikTok, and playlists like "Your Top Songs 2024" provide an easy way to revisit their favorite tracks from the year.

Though Wrapped 2024 is a bit delayed compared to previous years—Wrapped 2023 was released on November 29, 2023, and earlier editions arrived in late November—the anticipation is palpable as fans eagerly await their personal music recap.

Denmark Introduces World's First Belch and Manure Tax to Combat Climate Pollution

Denmark, renowned for its creative restaurants and cutting-edge design studios, is about to make headlines for something far more basic: the world's first tax on belches and manure. This groundbreaking move comes in response to the country's agricultural sector, which is responsible for a significant share of Denmark's climate pollution.

With a population of just over 5 million people, Denmark has more pigs and cows than people—nearly five times as many. Two-thirds of the country's land is dedicated to farming, making agriculture the largest contributor to the nation's climate emissions. These emissions primarily come from methane, a potent greenhouse gas produced by the animals through their manure, farts, and burps.

In response, Denmark's coalition government, consisting of three parties from across the political spectrum, has agreed to introduce a tax aimed at curbing methane emissions from livestock. This tax will target the planet-heating gases expelled by animals and is part of a larger strategy to tackle agricultural pollution.

Rasmus Angelsnes, 31, a Copenhagen resident, expressed support for the measure, saying, "I think it's good. It's kind of a nudge to make different choices, maybe more climate-friendly choices." The tax is expected to encourage more sustainable farming practices and consumption choices, nudging both farmers and consumers towards



greener alternatives.

This new tax is part of a broader environmental package designed to address Denmark's agricultural pollution. The government also plans to restore some farmland to its natural state, particularly peatlands, which are highly effective at sequestering carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

While the belch and manure tax may seem unusual, it highlights Denmark's commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and tackling one of the lesser-discussed sources of climate change. As the world's first such tax, it is likely to inspire other nations to consider similar measures in the fight against climate change.

WhatsApp to Stop Supporting Older iPhones Starting May 2025

WhatsApp users with older iPhone models may soon be unable to access the app, as the messaging service is updating its policy to require a more recent version of iOS. This change will impact several older devices, which will no longer be compatible with WhatsApp starting in May 2025.

As reported by WABetaInfo, iPhone models such as the iPhone 5s, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus will be affected by the update. These models, which are limited to iOS 12.5.7, the last software version they received, will no longer support WhatsApp's latest features and updates.

WhatsApp frequently updates its app to improve security and add new features, and this policy change is in line with its ongoing efforts to ensure us-



ers benefit from the latest updates. As newer versions of iOS are released, older devices become increasingly unable to support the app's advanced functionalities. With iOS 12.5.7 being the final update for these older iPhones, users of these devices will need to upgrade to a newer iPhone model to continue using WhatsApp.

This move follows similar decisions

made by other app developers, who have phased out support for older operating systems in favor of more recent versions. While this may affect a portion of WhatsApp's user base, it is also a step toward ensuring that the app remains secure and reliable for all users, especially as new technologies and security measures emerge.

For iPhone users with affected models, upgrading to a newer device will be necessary to keep using WhatsApp beyond May 2025. Users are encouraged to check their iPhone's compatibility with future software updates to avoid interruptions in service. This shift marks another chapter in the evolving landscape of smartphone technology, where app compatibility is increasingly tied to the latest operating systems.

Heinrich Klaasen to Lead South Africa in T20I Series Against Pakistan



Heinrich Klaasen has been named captain of South Africa's T20I team for the upcoming three-match series against Pakistan, starting on December 10. Klaasen steps in for regular captain Aiden Markram, who is occupied with the two-match Test series against Sri Lanka. Markram, who will feature in the second Test from December 5, has been rested from the T20Is due to the tight schedule, which includes the third Test and the T20I series.

Along with Markram, several key players will also miss the T20I series due to their involvement in the ongoing Test series. Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj, Kagiso Rabada, and Tristan Stubbs are all unavailable for selection. Despite these absences, South Africa's T20I squad still has a wealth of talent and experience.

Anrich Nortje and Tabraiz Shamsi return to the T20I setup for the first time since the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024. Their return bolsters the bowling unit, adding depth to both the pace and spin departments. Another exciting addition to the squad is all-rounder George Linde, who makes a return after a three-year absence. Linde, who

was in outstanding form during the CSA T20 Challenge, scoring 171 runs at a strike rate of 178.12 and taking nine wickets at an average of 18.33, will bring balance to the team as a spinning all-rounder.

Rob Walter, South Africa's white-ball head coach, expressed confidence in the squad, saying, "All 15 players are capped, and we are looking to build on the experience within the group as we continue to grow as a unit." He further praised Klaasen's leadership and Linde's return, highlighting the importance of experience and balance in the team.

The three-match T20I series against Pakistan will kick off on December 10 in Durban, followed by the second match on December 13 in Centurion, and the final T20I on December 14 in Johannesburg.

****Squad:**** Heinrich Klaasen (captain), Ottneil Baartman, Matthew Breetzke, Donovan Ferreira, Reeza Hendricks, Patrick Kruger, George Linde, Kwena Maphaka, David Miller, Anrich Nortje, Nqaba Peter, Ryan Rickelton, Tabraiz Shamsi, Andile Simelane, and Rassie van der Dussen.

England Announce Unchanged XI for 2nd Test Against New Zealand

England has confirmed an unchanged playing eleven for the second Test against New Zealand, which is scheduled to begin on December 6 at Basin Reserve in Wellington. The decision comes after England's dominant eight-wicket victory in the first Test at Hagley Oval in Christchurch, giving them a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.



Vice-captain Ollie Pope will continue in his role as the stand-in wicketkeeper for the second Test, with left-handed batter Jacob Bethell retaining his position at number three in the batting order. Pope impressed in the first Test, not only with his solid wicketkeeping performance but also with a crucial knock of 77 after moving down to number six in the batting order.

Bethell also played a key role in England's victory, scoring an unbeaten fifty off just 37 balls to complete the team's chase of 104 runs in 12.4 overs. Despite uncapped wicketkeeper-batter Ollie Robinson joining the squad after Jordan Cox was ruled out due to a broken finger, England have opted to keep the same winning combination for

the second Test.

S e a m - b o w l i n g all-rounder Chris Woakes praised Pope's performance, saying, "They always say when you don't notice a keeper he's done a good job, and Ollie certainly did that. He stepped up at short notice and did the job fantastically, and to score runs just shows his character."

Captain Ben Stokes will also be available for the Wellington Test despite a back injury that limited his role in the Christchurch game. As an all-rounder, Stokes is set to play an important role for England in the upcoming match.

A victory in Wellington would give England their first away series win in two years, further cementing their strong form under Stokes' leadership.

England's playing XI: Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Jacob Bethell, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ollie Pope (WK), Ben Stokes (C), Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Brydon Carse, Shoaib Bashir.

Djokovic to compete in Brisbane International for first time since 2009

The 2025 Brisbane International has unveiled a stellar lineup of 61 professional tennis players, headlined by 24-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic, ahead of its December 29 kickoff at Pat Rafter Arena. Djokovic, who has won 99 career titles and is aiming for his 100th, will compete in Brisbane for the first time since the tournament's inaugural year in 2009.



"I'm excited to be kicking off my Australian swing at the Brisbane International and to compete again at Pat Rafter Arena. I am looking forward to experiencing the incredible support from the Australian fans and making this tournament one to remember," said Djokovic, who has dominated the Australian Open with 10 titles.

Djokovic will headline the ATP 250 event, which also features defending champion Grigor Dimitrov (No. 10), Holger Rune (No. 13), and Frances Tiafoe (No. 18). The Australian contingent will be strongly represented by Nick Kyrgios (PR 21), Alexei Popyrin (No. 24), and Jordan Thompson (No. 26), alongside ris-

ing stars such as Sebastian Korda (No. 22), Matteo Berrettini (No. 34), and Gaël Monfils (No. 55).

The WTA 500 event will showcase an equally impressive lineup, with world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka leading the women's field. Joining Sabalenka are three other top-10 players: Jessica Pegula (No. 7), Emma Navarro (No. 8), and Daria Kasatkina (No. 9). Former Brisbane champion and two-time Australian Open winner Victoria Azarenka (No. 20) will also make her return, adding further prestige to

the event.

With 15 of the top 20 male and female players confirmed, this year's tournament promises to be one of the most exciting in its history. Brisbane International Tournament Director Cam Pearson expressed his enthusiasm for the star-studded lineup, noting that the presence of highly ranked Australians will inspire the next generation of tennis fans. Fans can look forward to an unforgettable event filled with world-class tennis right here in Brisbane.

277 Runs, 1 Century: Virat Kohli's Record In Pink-Ball Tests For India



As India prepares for the second Test of the ongoing series against Australia in Adelaide, which will be a day-night affair with a pink ball, Virat Kohli's remarkable record in pink-ball Tests remains a key highlight. India has played four pink-ball Tests so far, and Kohli has been a part of each of them, establishing himself as the team's leading run-scorer in this format.

India's first-ever pink-ball Test came against Bangladesh in 2019, and since then, the team has had a mixed but mostly successful record in these day-night matches. Of the four pink-ball Tests India has played, they've won three, includ-

ing a memorable victory against Australia in Perth in 2021. In that game, Kohli played a crucial role with an unbeaten century in the second innings, helping India secure a commanding 295-run win.

Kohli's consistency in pink-ball Tests has been impressive, and he remains the only Indian cricketer to score a century in these matches. His contributions have been vital for India's success, with his steady presence at the crease making him a key player for the team in these unique conditions. As India heads into the day-night Test against Australia at the Adelaide Oval, all eyes will be on Kohli, hoping for another solid performance

under the lights.

India's last pink-ball Test came in March 2022 against Sri Lanka, where they secured a dominant win. Since then, the Indian team has not played any more day-night Tests, making the upcoming match against Australia all the more significant.

As Virat Kohli continues to build on his legacy, his performances in pink-ball Tests add another impressive chapter to his career. With India looking to extend their strong record in day-night Tests, Kohli's form will be crucial in the upcoming encounter against the Aussies.

India Dominates UAE by 10 Wickets to Secure Semi-Final Spot

India made a dominant statement in their final group game in Sharjah, securing a commanding 10-wicket victory over UAE to qualify for the semi-finals. Chasing a modest target of 137, India's openers Vaibhav Suryavanshi and Ayush Mhatre put on a clinical performance, chasing down the total in just 16.1 overs. Suryavanshi remained unbeaten on 76, while Mhatre supported him with a solid 67*, as they added an unbroken 143-run partnership to see India across the line.

Earlier in the match, UAE, opting to bat first, struggled against India's disciplined bowling attack. They were bowled out for

137 in just 44 overs, with six overs remaining. Muhammad Rayan was the top scorer for the UAE, contributing 35 runs, while Akshat Rai provided valuable support with a knock of 26. India's bowlers were in excellent form, with Yudajit Guha leading the charge, taking three wickets. Chetan Sharma and Hardik Raj also played key roles, claiming two wickets each to stifle UAE's batting lineup.

The match was crucial for both teams, as a win was needed to secure a spot in the semi-finals, and India's comprehensive victory ensured their progression. With the bat, the Indian openers made light

work of the chase, exhibiting excellent form and putting the result beyond doubt in no time. This commanding performance serves as a statement ahead of the semi-final, showcasing India's all-round strength.

As India now looks forward to the semi-final, the team's focus will be on continuing this dominant form and ensuring a strong finish to the tournament. The semi-final match promises to be a thrilling contest, with India brimming with confidence after this resounding win.





Megastar Chiranjeevi to Collaborate with Director Srikanth Odela for Upcoming Film

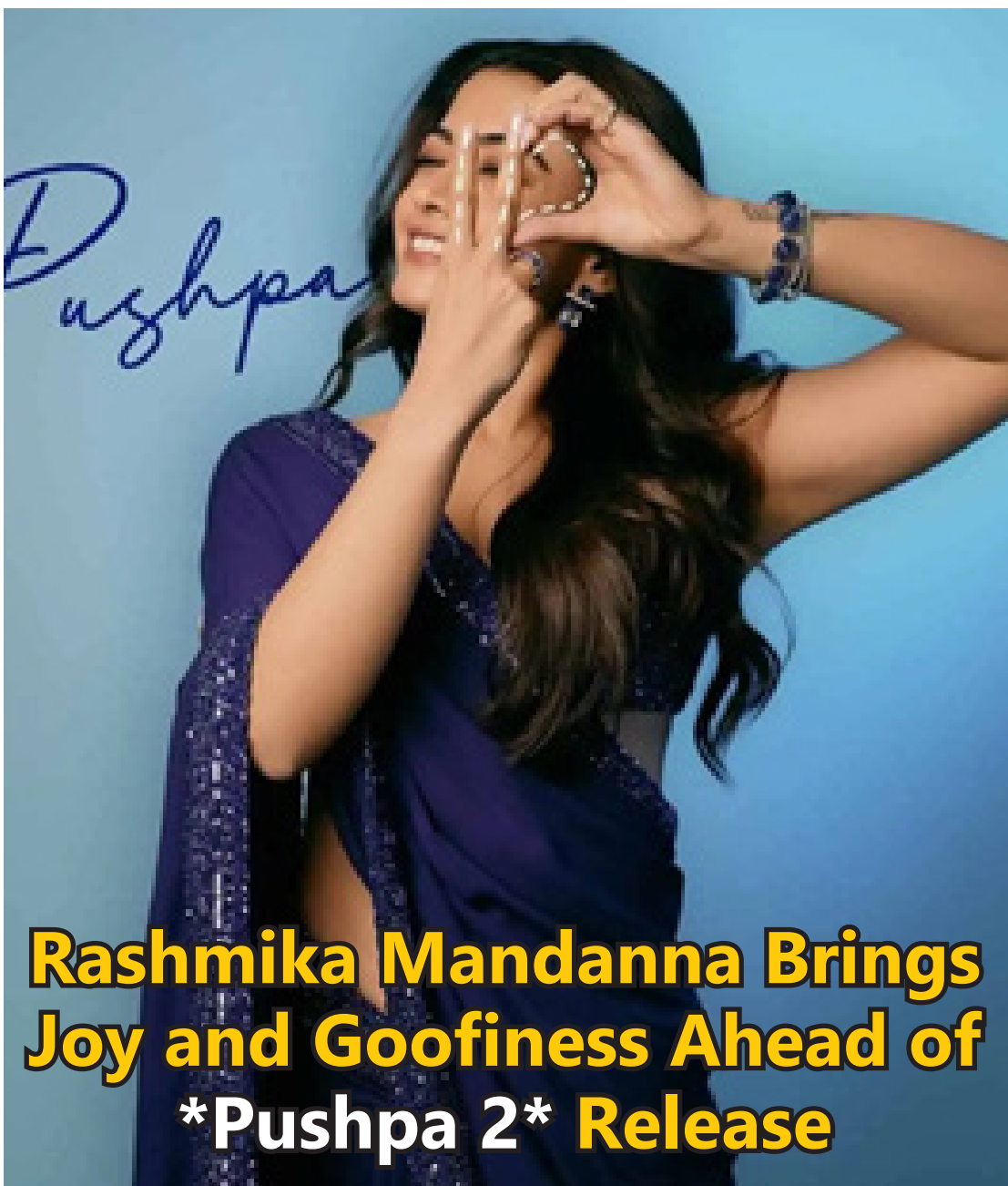
In an exciting turn of events, the long-standing rumors have now been confirmed, sending waves of excitement through the film industry and fans alike. It is officially announced that the highly anticipated collaboration between Megastar Chiranjeevi and director Srikanth Odela, the man behind the blockbuster hit **Dasara**, is now a reality.

This marks a significant milestone in Indian cinema as two big names from different realms of the industry come together for what promises to be a monumental film. Srikanth Odela, who made an impactful debut with **Dasara** and earned widespread recognition for his storytelling, will helm this project with Chiranjeevi playing the lead role. The director's success with **Dasara** has already set high expectations for this upcoming film, and fans are eager to see what magic he will create with the Megastar.

What makes this combination even more special is that **Natural Star** Nani, known for his impeccable acting skills and keen production sense, is stepping into the producer's role for the first time under his production house, Unanimous Productions. He will be producing the film alongside Sudhakar Cherukuri, who is a well-established producer in the industry and will bring his experience to the project under the banner of SLV Cinemas. With two well-respected producers backing the film, the project is already generating massive buzz and anticipation.



While further details about the film's storyline, cast, and other key members are yet to be revealed, the union of Chiranjeevi, Srikanth Odela, Nani, and Sudhakar Cherukuri has already created a storm of excitement. Movie lovers are now eagerly waiting to see this dynamic team in action and what promises to be one of the most awaited releases in the near future.



Rashmika Mandanna Brings Joy and Goofiness Ahead of **Pushpa 2** Release

As **Pushpa 2: The Rule** gears up for its much-awaited release tomorrow, the excitement around the movie is palpable, and the entire team is buzzing with anticipation. Among the cast, Rashmika Mandanna, who plays the beloved character Srivalli, is spreading cheer in her unique, playful way.

Rashmika, known for her bubbly personality, recently took to social media to share her excitement with fans. In a fun and light-hearted post, she posted a series of happy, goofy photos of herself, offering her followers a break from the usual glamorous content that floods social media. Rashmika can be seen posing joyfully in a custom-made saree emblazoned with the words "Pushpa Srivalli," further reinforcing her connection to the iconic character. She donned a beautiful blue saree, radiating positivity and excitement, perfectly matching the mood of the moment.

In her caption, Rashmika expressed her bubbling joy as she wrote, "I am so happyeee PUSHPA 2 is coming out in 2 days And hence only my happyeee poses on camera today. Giving a lil break to your timelines of all the glamorous and informative content with a lil goofy content of mine! Pushpa and Srivalli coming to you in just 2 days guyssss."

Rashmika's infectious energy is sure to make her fans even more eager for the release of **Pushpa 2**, a sequel to the highly successful **Pushpa: The Rise**. Her goofy, unfiltered poses are a refreshing change from the usual glamorous posts and showcase her down-to-earth personality.

As the film's release draws closer, fans are eagerly anticipating the return of Pushpa and Srivalli to the big screen. With Rashmika's playful spirit, it's clear that the excitement surrounding **Pushpa 2** will only continue to grow in the days ahead.

Raid 2 Release Date Postponed Set to Clash with Rajinikanth's Coolie

The much-awaited sequel to the blockbuster **Raid**, titled **Raid 2**, is making waves in the film industry, and fans are eagerly awaiting its release. The original **Raid**, starring Ajay Devgn and Ileana D'Cruz in the lead roles, was a massive success at the box office. Directed by Raj Kumar Gupta, the film was based on real-life incidents and garnered praise for its compelling story and intense performances. The film was later remade in Telugu as **Mr. Bachchan**, adding to its widespread popularity.



plays a crucial role, adding excitement to the storyline.

The film was initially scheduled to release on November 15, 2024, but due to a significant reshuffling in Bollywood releases, the film's release was postponed to February 21, 2025. However, in a new update, **Raid 2** is now confirmed to release on May 1, 2025. This move is expected to make the film a major contender at the box office, but it will also face stiff competition. **Raid 2** is set to clash with **Coolie**, starring

ring Rajinikanth and directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, which is also slated for release on the same day.

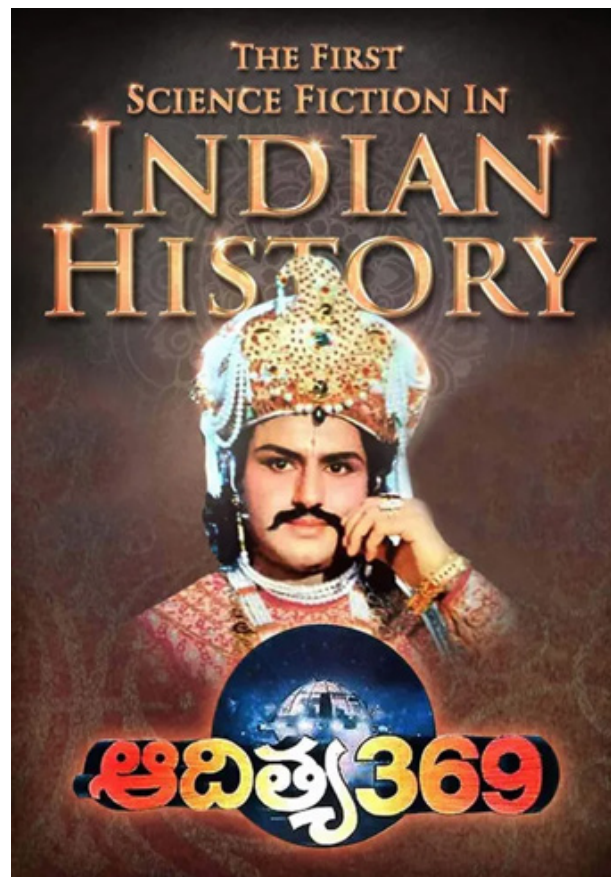
Now, after much anticipation, **Raid 2** is set to hit theaters, reuniting the original team for another high-stakes, gripping story. The sequel is once again directed by Raj Kumar Gupta, who will bring his signature style to continue the thrilling narrative. Ajay Devgn will reprise his role, and this time, **Raid 2** introduces new faces to the cast. Ritesh Deshmukh will portray the antagonist, while Vaani Kapoor

Produced by T-Series, **Raid 2** promises to deliver the same level of excitement and action that made the first film a hit. With the combination of a gripping story, powerful performances, and high-octane drama, **Raid 2** is bound to be one of the most talked-about films of 2025.

Balakrishna Confirms Sequel to Aditya 369: Aditya 999 with Son Mokshagnya

Nandamuri Balakrishna is gearing up for an exciting year with the upcoming grand release of **Daaku Maharaaj** during Sankranti 2025, directed by Bobby Kolli. As fans eagerly await the film, Balakrishna continues to captivate audiences as the host of **Unstoppable with NBK** Season 4, which remains a huge hit.

Among his many iconic films, the sci-fi classic **Aditya 369** (1991) holds a special place in the hearts of fans. For years, rumors about a potential sequel have circulated, and now Balakrishna has officially confirmed that the much-awaited sequel, **Aditya 999**, is in the works. The announcement has set the stage for a new chapter in this beloved franchise.



Mokshagnya, in the lead role, adding an extra layer of excitement for fans of the family legacy. In addition to this exciting news, Balakrishna will also reprise his iconic role from **Aditya 369** in the episode, making it a must-watch for fans.

Set to stream exclusively on Aha on December 6, 2024, the episode promises to offer a sneak peek into the making of **Aditya 999**, with Balakrishna's return to his iconic character generating immense anticipation. Fans of both Balakrishna and **Aditya 369** are thrilled to see the continuation of this cult classic, with the legacy of the original film now passed on to the next generation with Mokshagnya at the helm.

The exciting reveal came during the promo for Episode 6 of **Unstoppable with NBK**, where Balakrishna confirmed that **Aditya 999** is progressing. The sequel will feature Balakrishna's son, Nandamuri

Stay tuned for more updates as the **Aditya 999** journey unfolds, and get ready for a thrilling new chapter in Indian cinema's sci-fi history.

Netflix to Celebrate Roshan Family Legacy with New Documentary Series

Honoring the legacies of iconic cinematic families has become a growing trend, with recent projects shedding light on the contributions of Bollywood legends. Following Netflix's **The Romantics**, which explored the life and work of Yash Chopra, and Amazon Prime Video's **Angry Young Men**, which highlighted the impact of Salim-Javed, the spotlight now shifts to the celebrated Roshan family.

Netflix has officially announced **The Roshans**, a documentary series dedicated to the remarkable legacy of the Roshan family, featuring the lives and work of Roshan Lal Nagrath, Rakesh Roshan, Rajesh Roshan, and Hrithik Roshan. This series will explore the family's contributions to Indian cinema, spanning several decades and showcasing their creative journey, artistic vision, and innovation.

Directed by Shashi Ranjan, who also serves as the co-producer, **The Roshans** will take viewers through a fascinating narrative of the family's impact on the film industry. Produced in collaboration with Rakesh Roshan, the series promises to offer an intimate look into their personal and professional lives, shedding light on their enduring influence in shaping the Indian entertainment landscape.

While the official premiere date is still under wraps, it is expected that **The Roshans** will be released on January 10, 2025. Fans of the family and cinema en-



thusiasts alike are eagerly awaiting the documentary, which will undoubtedly provide fresh insights into the pioneering work of this influential family.

As anticipation builds for the series, audiences can look forward to discovering how the Roshans, spanning generations, have continuously redefined Bollywood, leaving an indelible mark on its history. Stay tuned for further updates on this exciting project.