

POINT

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 33° C L 25° C	H 35° C L 26° C	H 36° C L 26° C

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AP Govt and Google Sign Landmark Agreement to Boost AI Development

- Google to train 10,000 people in AI skills.
- Startups to get mentorship and support.
- AI projects to enhance governance services.
- Focus on making services mobile-accessible.



TPN CORRESPONDENT AMARAVATI, DEC-6

In a significant step toward embracing cutting-edge technology, the Andhra Pradesh government has signed a key agreement with Google to advance artificial intelligence (AI) innovations. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed at the State Secretariat in the presence of IT, Electronics, and RTG Minister Nara Lokesh, marking a crucial milestone in the state's digital transformation journey. The MoU was signed by Google Maps India General Manager Lalita Ramani and AP Real Time Governance (RTG) Secretary Suresh Kumar. The collaboration aims to introduce advanced AI-based solutions across sectors such as education, healthcare, sustainability, and

governance, while also fostering skill development and startup growth. Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized the government's commitment to making services more accessible to citizens. He stated, "Ease of Living is the primary policy of our government. Our goal is to enable people to access essential services through their mobile devices, eliminating the need to visit government offices for certificates and other necessities." He expressed optimism that this partnership would provide the youth with international-level AI training, creating immense opportunities and advancing Andhra Pradesh in the field of technology. Google's Lalita Ramani commended the vision of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to leverage AI for efficient governance and faster service delivery. She remarked that the part-

nership would serve as a catalyst for introducing AI-driven solutions that benefit society at large. As part of the agreement, Google will provide skill training programs to 10,000 individuals, focusing on AI applications in daily life and productivity enhancement. The initiative will also extend support to startups, offering mentorship, technical training, and business assistance to foster innovation. Furthermore, AI-driven projects will address challenges in urban planning, disaster management, healthcare, and agriculture. This collaboration is expected to transform Andhra Pradesh into a hub of AI excellence, paving the way for technological advancements that improve governance and empower the youth.

Home Minister Anita Serious on Issuance of NOCs

- Fire Department arbitrarily issues No Objection Certificates (NOCs).
- Home Minister says irregularities in the issuance of NOCs will not be ignored.
- Minister Anita warns during a review meeting with Fire Department officials.



TPN CORRESPONDENT AMARAVATI, DEC-6

Fire Department officials in Andhra Pradesh have been accused of arbitrarily issuing No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to buildings that do not comply with National Building Code guidelines and safety standards. Reports suggest that NOCs have been issued to more than 2,500 buildings without proper inspections. In response, AP Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita expressed her strong displeasure with the officials' approach. On Wednesday, the minister held a review meeting with officials from the Fire Department, Prisons Department, and Disaster Management Department at the State Secretariat. During the meeting, she issued strong warnings and urged the officials to change their attitude. She made it clear that irregularities in the issuance of NOCs would not be tolerated and announced that a follow-up review would be conducted soon. Minister Anita warned that strict action would be taken if the behavior of the officers did not improve by then. She also gave several suggestions during the meeting. In a related announcement, she shared a positive message for the families of affected police officers. Minister Anita revealed that the government has increased the immediate assistance provided to the families of police martyrs to ₹1 lakh. She further stated that orders had been issued to increase the assistance for families of police officers who die in the line of duty due to accidents, sudden deaths, or illnesses to ₹1 lakh.

Vikrant Reddy is a Young Man...

Can He Threaten a Broker Like KV Rao?

TPN CORRESPONDENT AMARAVATI, DEC-6

- Allegations against Vijayasai Reddy in the Kakinada Port affair.
- Lookout notices issued.
- "KV Rao is a broker... A pawn of Chandrababu," says Vijayasai Reddy.



YSRCP MP Vijayasai Reddy has expressed outrage over allegations made by TDP leaders linking him to the Kakinada Port issue and the issuance of lookout notices against him. Speaking to the media this evening, he strongly refuted the accusations. TDP leader Anam Venkataramana Reddy alleged that YV Subbareddy's son, Vikrant Reddy, along with Sarath Reddy (involved in the liquor scam) and Vijayasai Reddy, threatened KV Rao. The allegations claim that KV Rao was coerced into selling Kakinada SEZ lands worth ₹2,000 crore for just ₹12 crore, and Kakinada Sea Port shares valued at ₹2,689 crore were sold for ₹494 crore. Vijayasai Reddy dismissed these accusations as baseless. "KV Rao was allegedly threatened by Vikrant Reddy. Vikrant Reddy is a young man, and KV Rao is a seasoned businessman. How could someone like Vikrant Reddy threaten KV Rao? It doesn't make sense. If Vikrant Reddy really threatened him, was KV Rao afraid? KV Rao spends six to seven months a year in the United States and has his headquarters in Singapore. He operates as a broker on a global scale. Can anyone believe that Vikrant Reddy could intimidate such a person? Moreover, two char-

tered accountant firms are accusing me of being a nominee. Allegedly, I called this broker KV Rao in May 2020 and said Vikrant Reddy would meet him to discuss Kakinada Sea Port. Has Chandrababu lost his mind? Chartered accountant firms don't have nominees. If Chandrababu doesn't even understand basic banking terms, what else can we expect from him? The reality is that Kakinada Port was established with funds from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Chandrababu handed over a project that should have been in the government sector to private entities. It was promoted that the son of the then Malaysian Prime Minister was purchasing the port, but under that guise, it was handed over to KV Rao, who was made CMD. To understand what really happened in the Kakinada Port affair, the developments since 1997 must be investigated by the CBI. Chandrababu labels everyone else as criminals, but he himself is the true criminal. This broker KV Rao is merely a tool for Chandrababu. If KV Rao was genuinely wronged, why didn't he approach the court back then? Now, they are making baseless allegations against me and issuing lookout notices. What justification is there for this? I am considering filing a defamation suit against Chandrababu and KV Rao for tarnishing my reputation," Vijayasai Reddy warned.

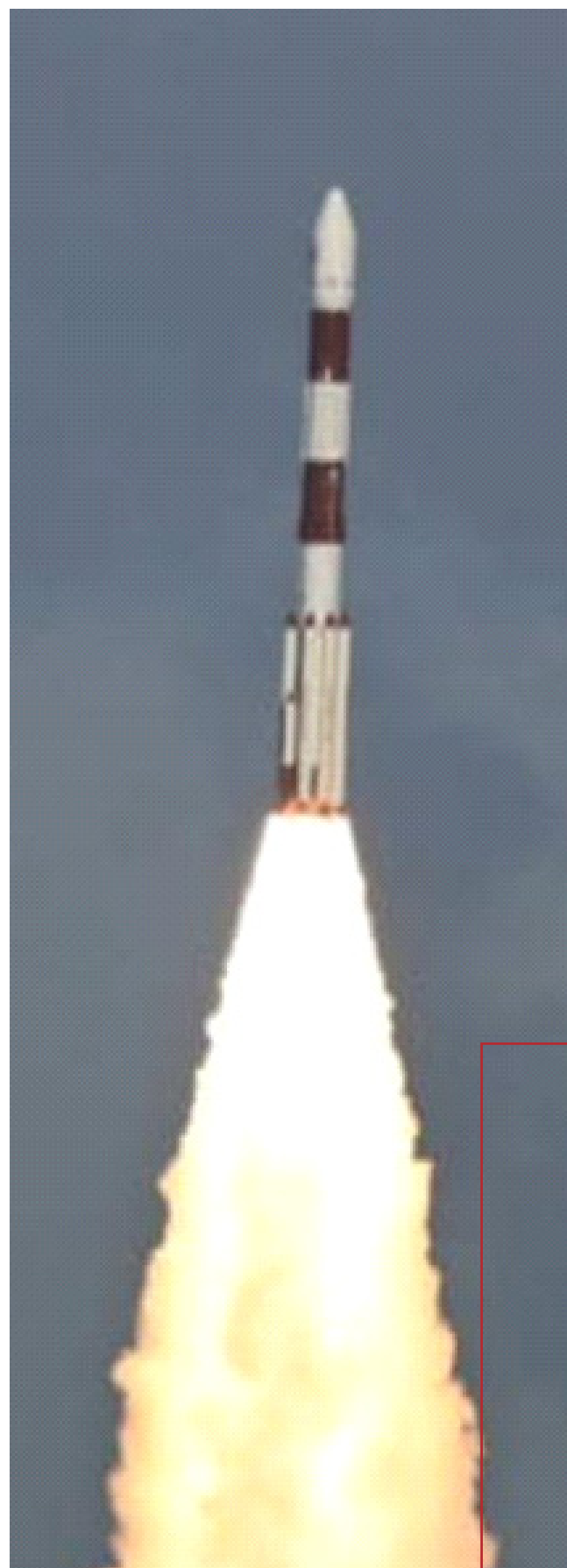
PSLV-C59 Successfully Launches European Satellites from Sriharikota

TPN CORRESPONDENT Sriharikota, DEC-6

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the PSLV-C59 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre today at 4:04 PM, marking another milestone in India's space exploration journey. The rocket, carrying several European satellites, soared into space amidst a spectacular display of flames. The highlight of this

mission is the deployment of the European Space Agency's Proba-3 satellites. These cutting-edge satellites are designed to study the sun's corona, the outermost part of its atmosphere. The corona, being the brightest region of the sun, presents unique challenges for observation. However, the Proba-3 satellites have been meticulously designed to overcome these difficulties. One of the standout features of Proba-3 is its capability to simulate artificial solar eclipses. By creating these eclipses, the

satellites can block the sun's bright light and focus exclusively on the corona, enabling scientists to conduct unprecedented research into the sun's mysteries. The successful launch of PSLV-C59 underscores ISRO's continued collaboration with international space agencies and its growing reputation as a reliable partner for satellite launches. This mission not only highlights India's prowess in space technology but also contributes significantly to global scientific research.



CM Intervenes in Krishna District Farmers' Agitation

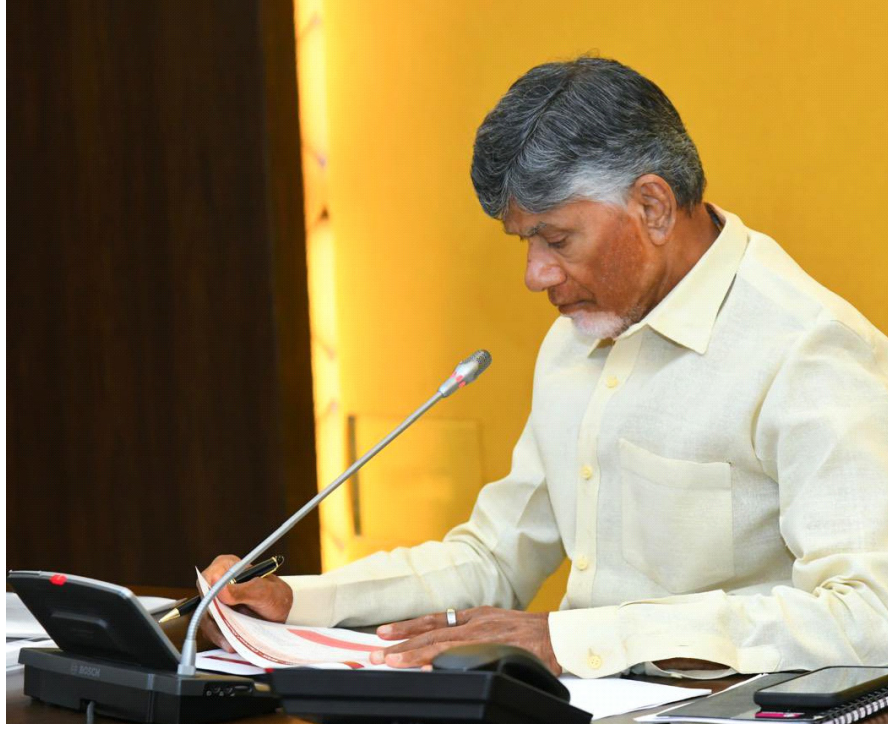
Grain Procurement Issue Sparks Protests in Valluripalem

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

Farmers in Valluripalem, Krishna district, staged an agitation over issues related to grain procurement, prompting swift action from Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The matter was brought to the Chief Minister's attention by media representatives, following which he took immediate steps to address the situation.

CM Chandrababu held a conversation with the Krishna District Collector, directing him to investigate the issue and take appropriate action if official negligence was found to be the cause. He emphasized the importance of adhering to government policies in grain procurement and instructed officials to monitor the process closely to prevent any further disruptions.

Acting on the Chief Minister's orders, the Krishna District Collector promptly visited Valluripalem and assured the protesting farmers that their concerns would be resolved and that they would not suffer any losses due to the procurement issues. The swift response has brought hope to the agitating farmers, highlighting the government's commitment to addressing their grievances.



Vikrant Reddy Files Anticipatory Bail Petition in High Court

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

- Allegations in the Kakinada Port and SEZ case.
- YV Subbareddy's son, Vikrant Reddy, named as A1.
- Clarifies that he has no connection to the matter.

Allegations have been made against YV Subbareddy's son, Vikrant Reddy, along with Sarath Reddy and Vijayasai Reddy, claiming they forcibly acquired 41 per cent shares in Kakinada Port and SEZ. A case has been registered in this matter, with Vikrant Reddy named as A1.

In this context, Vikrant Reddy recently approached the High Court, filing a petition seeking anticipatory bail to avoid arrest. He clarified that he has no connection to the Kakinada Port and SEZ issue.

Varra Ravindra Reddy Remanded for 14 Days

A Narsipatnam court has remanded YSRCP social media activist Varra Ravindra Reddy to 14 days in connection with his social media posts. A case was registered against him for morphing photos and posting them online. Following the court's remand, the police transferred him to Visakhapatnam jail.

Parthasarathy Urges Farmers Not to Sell Grain at Low Prices, Assures Govt Support

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

Minister Parthasarathy assured farmers that the Andhra Pradesh government will procure grain with a moisture content of 17% to 25%, urging them not to sell their produce to private buyers at low prices. He emphasized that the government is committed to purchasing every grain and safeguarding farmers' interests. During a visit to Vemuru constituency, accompanied by Minister Gottipati Ravikumar, Parthasarathy met with local MLA Nakka Anandbabu and inspected grain procurement centers. He reassured farmers that the gov-



ernment has streamlined procurement processes and warned rice millers against exploiting farmers by citing high moisture content. "If millers harass farmers, their

rice mills will be seized," he cautioned, stressing that millers must collaborate with officials at farmer assurance centers to ensure smooth operations. Parthasarathy highlighted the coalition government's efficiency, contrasting it with the previous YSRCP regime. "Under the former government, farmers had to wait six to seven months for payments. Now, payments are credited to farmers' accounts within 24 hours," he stated. The ministers' visit aimed to boost confidence among farmers and reinforce the government's commitment to transparency and timely support.

Crackdown on Ration Mafia – Minister Nadendla

729 Arrested, 1,066 Cases Filed, 62,000 Tons of Rice Seized

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Visakhapatnam, Dec-6

The Andhra Pradesh government has intensified its crackdown on the illegal transportation of ration rice, with Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar announcing significant progress during a press conference in Visakhapatnam. Manohar revealed that 1,066 cases have been registered and 729 individuals have been arrested as part of a state-wide operation to curb illegal activities. Additionally, 102 vehicles and 62,000 metric tons of illegally transported rice, valued at approximately ₹240 crore, have been seized. Highlighting the seriousness of the issue, he confirmed that

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has ordered a CB-CID investigation into the racket. "We are closely monitoring illegal rice movements and acting on the Chief Minister's directives. The raids have exposed large-scale smuggling operations, including 13 godowns in Kakinada, where 51 lakh metric tons of rice were seized," Manohar stated. He also criticized the previous government for its alleged complicity in allowing illegal activities through a "green channel." Manohar emphasized the government's commitment to transparency and accountability, noting that more revelations are expected through the CB-CID investigation. He called on rice millers to cooperate with the govern-



ment and urged journalists to help expose corruption. Grain Procurement Drive
Discussing grain procurement, Manohar outlined the government's achievements in purchasing 10.59 lakh metric tons of grain from 1.51 lakh farmers this Kharif season, with payments totaling ₹2,331 crore. He assured farmers of timely payments within 48 hours and highlighted measures taken to support them, distinguishing the current administration's efforts from the past. "The coalition government stands by farmers and ensures they face no difficulties in grain procurement," he added, underscoring the government's focus on integrity and farmer welfare.

Stampede at Pushpa-2 Premiere

Case Filed Against Sandhya Theater, Allu Arjun Team

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Hyderabad, Dec-6



The Chikkadapalli police have registered a case against the Sandhya Theater management and Allu Arjun's team following a tragic stampede at RTC Cross Roads in Hyderabad during the premiere show of Pushpa-2. The case has been filed under Sections 105 and 118 of the BNS Act, citing security negligence by the theater and failure by Allu Arjun's team to notify authorities about the actor's arrival.

Central Zone DCP disclosed details of the

incident, stating that the Pushpa-2 premiere was scheduled at Sandhya Theater at 9:40 PM. Neither Allu Arjun's team nor the theater management informed the police about the actor's presence. Additionally, the theater management failed to arrange advance security measures or deploy private security at entry and exit points to manage the crowd.

According to the DCP, when Allu Arjun arrived at the theater, security personnel attempted to control the overwhelming crowd, which had already gathered in and around the venue. The resulting cha-

os led to a scuffle among attendees. Tragically, Revathi, a woman who had come from Dilsukh Nagar with her family, fell and was fatally injured. Her 13-year-old son, Sriteja, was also caught in the incident but was given CPR and rushed to the hospital. The case was registered based on a complaint from Revathi's family. The DCP assured that strict action would be taken against those responsible for the incident, including the theater management and Allu Arjun's team, for their negligence in ensuring adequate security arrangements.

Anam Alleges Jagan Reddy's Role in Kakinada Port Controversy

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

AP Aqua Culture Development Authority Chairman Anam Venkataramana Reddy has demanded the immediate arrest and questioning of Andhra Pradesh Former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of orchestrating a large-scale scam involving Kakinada SEZ and Kakinada Sea Port. Speaking at a press conference at the TDP central office, Anam alleged that Jagan and his associates used threats and coercion to acquire valuable assets at throwaway prices.

Anam claimed that Jagan Reddy's group sold lands worth ₹2,000 crores in the Kakinada SEZ for just ₹12 crores and shares worth ₹2,689 crores in Kakinada Sea Port for ₹494



crores. He alleged that industrialist KV Rao was forced to part with these assets under threats involving knives and guns. "We called Jagan a pickpocket, but no one believed us then. Now, the CID has filed a charge sheet confirming our

claims," he said.

The press meet highlighted that YV Subba Reddy's son, Vikrant Reddy, Sarath Reddy, and Vijayasai Reddy were involved in intimidating KV Rao. Anam questioned why auditors from Chennai were hired for an audit when local auditors could have done the job, implying that it was part of a plot to pressure Rao into surrendering his shares.

Anam emphasized that the mastermind behind these activities is Jagan Reddy and demanded that he be named as the prime accused (A1) in the FIR. He urged the DGP and CID to investigate thoroughly and reveal the truth behind the illegal transactions.

"Jagan Reddy must be held accountable, and the public deserves to know the facts," Anam concluded.

Minister Atchannaidu Challenges YSRCP on Agriculture Performance

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

TDP leader and former minister Atchannaidu lashed out at the YSRCP government, accusing it of damaging the agricultural sector and its allied institutions. Speaking to reporters, Atchannaidu questioned whether YSRCP leaders have the courage to engage in a discussion about the state of agriculture under their governance.

He alleged that the YSRCP's mismanagement has left farmers struggling and claimed that his coalition government is now working to revive and strengthen the sector.



"There was a time when farmers couldn't even get their grain collect-

ed. Now, our coalition government is ensuring that even grain damaged by natural disasters is being procured," he said.

Atchannaidu reassured farmers that the coalition government stands firmly by their side. He emphasized the commitment to providing support and assistance to farmers, especially in times of crisis, and vowed to address their concerns without delay.

The former minister's remarks come amid ongoing debates about agricultural policies and support mechanisms for farmers in Andhra Pradesh.

Yanamala Accuses Jagan of Creating Law and Order Issues in AP

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

TDP senior leader and former minister Yanamala Ramakrishnudu has criticized Former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of orchestrating agitations to divert attention from public issues. Speaking to the media, Yanamala described Jagan's call for protests as "ridiculous" and alleged that he is attempting to shift blame for past mistakes onto the current government.

"Jagan, who emptied the state treasury, cannot live without power," Yanamala said, adding that the public rejected his "anarchic rule" in recent elections. He asserted that people still remember the hardships they endured under the YSRCP government.



Yanamala further alleged that Jagan is conspiring to create a law and order problem through YSRCP-led agitations, drawing parallels to similar actions taken by the YSR family during the Chenna Reddy regime. He emphasized that expediting investigations into Jagan's cases would deliver justice to the people.

The TDP leader also demanded that a case be registered against KV Rao, accusing him of acquiring lands from small and medium farmers under the guise of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) during the YSRCP government.

Yanamala concluded by urging the public to remain vigilant and called for accountability in governance. "The people deserve justice and transparency," he stated.

YS Sharmila Demands Probe into Adani Solar Deal with Jagan Reddy

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

APCC Chief YS Sharmila has filed a complaint with the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), demanding an investigation into a controversial solar power deal involving Adani and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Speaking at a press conference, Sharmila alleged that Jagan Reddy had struck a corrupt deal with Adani in 2021, leading to significant financial losses for the state.

Sharmila revealed that a charge sheet with substantial evidence has been filed and that investigations have commenced in the

United States. She questioned the absence of institutions in India capable of exposing corruption at such a scale. "If corruption in Andhra can be exposed in America, why not here?" she asked.

Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav also voiced concerns, claiming he had submitted over 1,300 pages of evidence to the AP High Court regarding the alleged scam. He criticized the solar power agreement, stating that Jagan Reddy agreed to pay ₹2.49 per unit when it was available for ₹1.99 in neighboring states.



Keshav further noted that while solar power prices have dropped drastically, the agreement locks the state into a 25-year contract. He accused Jagan Reddy and Adani of exploiting the deal for personal gain, highlighting that the issue was raised in Parliament by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. Sharmila urged the ACB to conduct a transparent investigation and called on Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to ensure the bureau functions independently. "The people deserve answers and accountability," she concluded.

Somireddy Accuses Jagan Government of Ambulance Rent Scam Benefiting Aurobindo

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Nellore, Dec-6

MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy has alleged that the Jagan Mohan Reddy government inflated ambulance rental costs to benefit Aurobindo Pharma, leading to a financial loss of ₹175 crore for the state treasury. Speaking at the Nellore district TDP office, Somireddy accused the Aurobindo organization of looting ₹400 crore through the operation of 104 and 108 ambulance services.

Somireddy claimed that the increased costs and mismanagement under Aurobindo's control contributed to the loss of lives. "Life imprisonment and death penalties are given for a single death. What punishment should be given to those responsible for thousands of deaths?" he questioned, referring to key figures including Vijayasai Reddy and his associates. He called for a CID investigation into the matter.

Highlighting the hike in ambulance rentals, Somireddy stated that the cost per ambulance rose from ₹1.30 lakh under GVK's management in 2019 to ₹2.28 lakh for old vehicles and ₹1.78 lakh for new ones under Auro-



bindo. He further pointed out that 104 ambulances were leased at ₹1.80 lakh per month. Somireddy expressed concern over the failure to transport 17.80 lakh patients during the critical "golden hour," resulting in numerous fatalities. He also revealed that out of 731 ambulances, 150 were often sidelined daily due to poor maintenance, depriving many of life-saving services.

In a scathing remark, Somireddy criticized Jagan Reddy on social media, labeling him a "brand ambassador for new corruption" and accusing him of "grabbing" Kakinada Port. He urged the government to take action and ensure accountability.



Ambati Rambabu's Take on Pushpa 2: "Not Wildfire, But World Fire"

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh, Dec-6

Former Andhra Pradesh minister and YSRCP leader Ambati Rambabu gave an interesting twist to the meaning of Pushpa 2, starring Allu Arjun, Rashmika Mandanna, and Fahadh Faasil. As the much-awaited film, directed by Sukumar, garners positive reviews and excites fans worldwide, Rambabu's comments on social media have caught attention.

Responding on the platform X Vedika, Rambabu clarified that Pushpa does not mean "Wildfire" but rather "World

Fire." "Did you think Pushpa meant Wildfire? No. It's World Fire," he posted, accompanied by a fire emoji. His comment reflects the global anticipation and success surrounding the movie. The former minister has been vocal about his support for Pushpa 2, defending it against alleged negative campaigns. He had previously criticized what he called deliberate trolling efforts and asserted that nothing could stop the film's success. Rambabu also praised Allu Arjun as an "international star," emphasizing the actor's growing global appeal.

Pushpa 2, featuring a stellar cast including Jagapathi Babu, Sunil, Anasuya, and Rao Ramesh, released to widespread acclaim on Thursday. Fans have taken to social media to celebrate Allu Arjun's performance, which many consider another blockbuster in his career.

Ambati Rambabu, a self-proclaimed fan of the movie, hinted at plans to watch it soon, expressing excitement over its success. His enthusiastic remarks have added to the buzz around Pushpa 2, further elevating its status as a cinematic spectacle.

Bonda Uma Emphasizes Resolution of Land Issues in Upcoming Revenue Conferences



TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec 6

Government Whip and Central Constituency MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao has emphasized that the upcoming revenue conferences, scheduled from December 6, 2024, to January 8, 2025, will provide a platform for resolving all types of land-related issues. Speaking ahead of the revenue conference to be held at the village level under the leadership of NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshminsha, Bonda Uma urged the public to take full advantage of this initiative. He reiterated that the government's goal is to solve land disputes, particularly issues related to Section 22A, and to address problems arising from land encroachment. "The revenue conferences are being or-

ganized with the aim of resolving land issues and ensuring a hassle-free process for the people," said Bonda Uma. He assured that the government has taken all necessary steps to resolve land-related grievances and re-survey issues swiftly. The conferences will be held in every village and city across the state, providing an opportunity for the people to voice their concerns and seek resolutions.

Bonda Uma encouraged residents to actively participate in these meetings, ensuring that their land disputes are addressed in a transparent and timely manner. He highlighted that the government's commitment is to create land dispute-free villages and guarantee that people receive the justice they deserve.

AP Govt Whip Urges Farmers to Sell Cotton at CCI Centers

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec 6

AP Government Whip and MLA Mrs. Tangirala Soumya has urged farmers to sell their cotton at the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) procurement centers to receive the support price of Rs. 7,521 per quintal, as announced by the government.

At the inauguration of a CCI procurement center at Kanchikacharla Market Yard in Nandigama Constituency, Soumya emphasized the importance of farmers bypassing middlemen to avoid being cheated. She addressed concerns over the unreasonable suggestion that farmers take cotton from Nandigama to Guntur for selling, which had been raised in a district review meeting with the Collector.

Highlighting the government's commitment to supporting farmers, Soumya assured that the coalition government is working to ensure that the cotton procurement process remains free from irregularities. She directed officials to act responsibly and ensure that farmers benefit from the support price, without any hindrances. Soumya further advised farmers to dry their cotton to a low moisture content, clean it, and sell it at the procurement



center to get the full support price. She also ensured that farmers who do not sell at the CCI centers are not at a disadvantage when it comes to private purchases.

The MLA directly inspected the process at the center, including the moisture content check, weighing, and the Aadhaar linkage system for the farmers, ensuring transparency in the transaction process. She also inquired about the timely deposit of payments into the farmers' accounts. Farmers, coalition leaders, and various officials participated in the program, emphasizing the coalition government's farmer-friendly initiatives.

Krishna Dist Police Organize Awareness Seminar on Cyber Crimes

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec 6

In an effort to promote awareness about various issues affecting youth, Krishna District Police, under the leadership of SP R. Gangadhara Rao IPS, conducted a special seminar at Sri Krishnaveni College in Tadigadapa. The seminar was organized by Penamaluru Women SI Mrs. K. Usharani and members of the Shakti Team, focusing on critical topics such as cyber crimes, minor driving, marijuana use, and more.

During the seminar, college students were educated about the dangers of cyber crimes and the importance of using social media responsibly. The harms caused by minor driving and the long-term health and future consequences of marijuana use were also discussed. Additionally, the program covered the laws related to eve teasing and the significance of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The session also included information on how to use Dial 112 services for



emergency assistance, and students were given an opportunity to clear any doubts regarding these topics.

Boys and girls participated in separate sessions, where they gained valuable insights into their legal responsibilities, the importance of following laws, and the precautions they should take in their daily lives. The seminar aimed to empower students with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions and stay safe in the digital and physical world.

Farmers Protest on Vijayawada-Avanigadda Embankment Over Paddy Prices in Krishna District

TPN CORRESPONDENT

Vijayawada, Dec 6

Farmers in Krishna district, specifically from Vallur Palem and Thotlavalur (M), staged a protest on the Vijayawada-Avanigadda embankment demanding a remunerative price for the paddy they had grown. The protest centered on their demand for the purchase of a specific variety of paddy, known as 1262, which they claimed was being overlooked by government authorities.

The farmers expressed frustration, stating that when they approached the Farmer Service Centers, they were told that there were no instructions to purchase the 1262 type of paddy. Instead, they were informed that the matter would be handled online



after discussions with the millers, which did little to reassure them. The situation escalated as the protesting farmers gathered in large numbers, but the protest was called off after the Tahsildar arrived at the

scene and provided assurances that the issue would be addressed. The farmers expressed their hope that their concerns regarding the procurement and fair pricing of their crops would be resolved soon.

Passenger Found With Bullets at Gannavaram Airport

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec 6

A passenger, identified as Arya, a second-year B.Tech student from KL University, was found with two bullets in his bag at Gannavaram Airport. Arya had arrived at the airport in the morning to board a flight to Delhi with Air India.

During routine security checks at the entrance, airport authorities discovered the bullets in his bag and promptly seized them. Arya, who



hails from Panipat, Haryana, explained that the bullets were from a revolver owned by his father, who has a valid permit for the weapon.

protocols. The bullets have been taken to the Gannavaram Police Station for further examination. The investigation is ongoing.

He further clarified that his father had packed the bag when they traveled from Haryana last July.

The Gannavaram police, led by Circle Inspector B.V. Siva Prasad, are investigating the matter to determine if there was any lapse or violation of security

Strict Action Against Irregularities in Grain Procurement

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Machilipatnam, Dec 6

District Collector DK Balaji has issued a stern warning to officials and staff of the Agriculture and Revenue Departments, stating that strict action will be taken against those found negligent or involved in irregularities during the grain procurement process.

In a video conference held on Thursday afternoon with tehsildars, village agricultural assistants, and other revenue staff, the Collector reviewed the measures to ensure smooth and transparent grain procurement. Joint Collector Geetanjali Sharma also attended the meeting. The Collector emphasized that no grain bags should be sent to the mills without prior authorization from the Rythu Seva Kendra (RSK).



He cautioned that any violations or involvement of middlemen in the procurement process would lead to criminal cases against the responsible officials and staff. "We have received reports that some technical assistants and village agricultural assistants are supporting middlemen, and if these allegations are found true, strict action will be taken," he stated.

He further clarified that the moisture content recorded at the Rythu Seva

Kendra should be considered final, and there should be no disputes over this at the mills. He directed officials to ensure that farmers are not exploited during the procurement process.

With over 1.2 lakh metric tons of harvested grain still to be procured and transported to mills, the Collector urged farmers to delay harvesting to manage the pressure on grain procurement during favorable weather conditions, ensuring they receive the full support price.

District Agriculture Officer N Padmavati, Civil Supplies Officer V Parvathy, Civil Supplies Corporation District Manager Padma Devi, and others participated in the meeting.

CPM Led Dharna Demands Reduction of Electricity Charges

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec 6

The Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPM) organized a dharna at Bandiri Doddi Center in Mogalrajapuram, Vijayawada, to protest the rising electricity charges imposed on the people under the new True Up and Adjustment charges. The protest, led by CPM State Committee Member Donepudi Kashinath and Eastern City Secretary P. Krishna, aimed to highlight the growing financial burden on citizens in the name of the Electricity Regulation Commission (ERC) charges.

Kashinath and Krishna criticized the state government for imposing a heavy financial burden on the public, amounting to approximately Rs. 15,500 crores. While the previous government imposed a Rs. 6,072 crore charge, the new government is set to collect an additional Rs. 9,412 crore starting January. They pointed out that, despite decreased electricity consumption, residents in the area are facing a rise in their bills—from



Rs. 350 to Rs. 450. They claimed that six additional charges are being levied, unfairly burdening the citizens. The CPM leaders expressed their outrage over the government's failure to fulfill its election promise of not increasing electricity charges. Kashinath emphasized that the current government's actions contradict the assurances made before elections, which were instrumental in bringing them to power. He compared the government's actions to those of the previous government, highlighting that while the previous regime imposed Rs. 20,000 crores over five years, the current government has added Rs. 15,500 crores within just five months. The protesters also questioned the

government's relationship with the Adani Group, accusing it of awarding contracts to companies with alleged connections to corruption. They demanded an investigation into the allegations and called for the immediate cancellation of the increased electricity charges and the smart meter installation plan. The CPM leaders warned the government that if these issues are not addressed, public protests similar to the Basheer Bagh struggle in the past could intensify. CPM city leaders and other members, including Gundimeda Kranthi, Patamata Murahari, and others, participated in the demonstration, pledging to continue the fight for the rights of the people.

Speaker Ayyannapatru Inaugurates VMR Multiplex Theaters in Visakhapatnam



TPN CORRESPONDENT Visakhapatnam : In a step towards further development of Visakhapatnam as a major industrial hub, AP Legislative Speaker Chintakayala Ayyannapatru inaugurated the newly built VMR multiplex theaters on Aganampudi Steel Plant Road. The event marks another milestone in the city's growth, which is expanding rapidly across various sectors.

Ayyannapatru expressed his confidence that Visakhapatnam would continue to develop in all areas, emphasizing the importance of entertainment infrastructure in the city's overall progress. The VMR multiplex theaters are expected to cater to the growing demand for modern cinema facilities in the region.

During the event, Ayyannapatru also addressed ongoing concerns related to the Visakhapatnam Dairy. He stated that, in response to allegations of corruption, a House Committee will visit Visakhapatnam on the 9th of December to investigate the dairy's operations. The committee will inquire into the working conditions and gather feedback from workers, after which a report will be submitted to the government. Ayyannapatru assured that appropriate action would be taken based on the findings of the report.

In conclusion, Ayyannapatru reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring that any difficulties faced by farmers would be thoroughly addressed by the government, promising not to rest until their concerns were resolved.

Kakinada Fishermen Protest Over Environmental and Economic Issues

TPN CORRESPONDENT Kakinada : Fishermen in the Konapapet area of Pithapuram constituency staged a massive protest, blocking the roads with their boats, to highlight their grievances. The fishermen are protesting against the environmental damage caused by a nearby factory, which they claim is releasing polluted water into the sea, severely affecting the local fisheries. The protesters are demanding monthly compensation due to the impact on their livelihoods. They have raised their concerns with Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, seeking attention to the issue. The fishermen argue that the polluted waters are destroying marine life, which is essential to their work and sustenance.

Former TDP MLA and Pithapuram TDP in-charge, SVSN Verma, also joined the protest, expressing solidari-



ty with the fishermen. As the protest grew, Kakinada RDO Mallibabu visited the site and assured the protesters that a meeting would be held on the 20th of this month with both parties, in the presence of the District Collector, to discuss potential solutions.

Demolition of Illegal Structures in Srikalahasti and Renigunta

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Tirupati : In a significant move to reclaim government land, officials in the Srikalahasti and Renigunta areas have successfully demolished several illegal structures. The demolition drive, which took place on government land, involved the use of JCB machines to clear the encroachments.

One of the key actions was the removal of a shed constructed on government land in Jyoti Nagar, Renigunta. The authorities took swift action following reports of encroachment, and the shed, which had been built illegally, was demolished to restore the land to its rightful use.

This drive is part of the ongoing efforts by the admin-

istration to curb illegal land grabbing and ensure that public resources are utilized for their intended purposes. The local authorities have emphasized their commitment to addressing such issues and taking necessary action against illegal encroachments.



Visakhapatnam District Revenue Conferences and Parent-Teacher Meetings

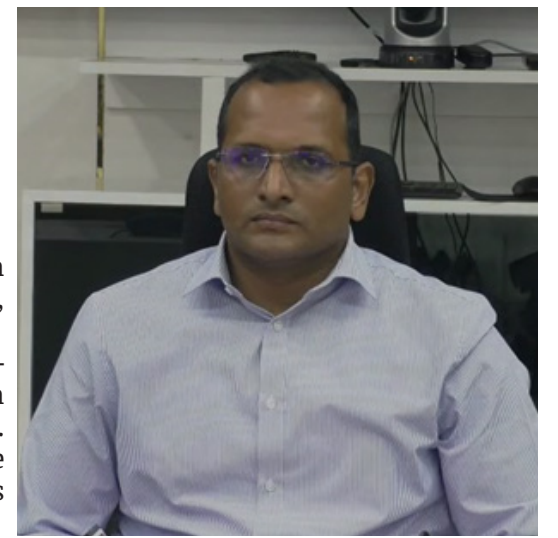
TPN CORRESPONDENT, Visakhapatnam : District Collector Harindra Prasad announced the commencement of revenue conferences in Visakhapatnam, starting from today. These conferences, following the orders of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, aim to bring government services directly to the people, allowing them to resolve land and revenue-related issues at the village level.

Tehsildars, Revenue Inspectors, VROs, and other departmental officials will participate in these conferences. The objective is to quickly resolve complaints without requiring the people to travel to government offices.

The government plans to actively collect data on government lands allocated to private companies in each village, with a focus on addressing any

land grabbing issues. If any illegal land acquisition is found, cases will be registered under the PD Act, and action will be taken.

In addition to the revenue conferences, the district will also hold parent-teacher conferences in 595 government schools on the 7th of this month. These conferences will focus on discussing the children's education, health, and overall standards of education in the schools.



AP Govt Prioritizes Safety and Protection of Women and Children

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Andhra Pradesh : The Andhra Pradesh government is committed to ensuring the safety and protection of women and children, particularly those from vulnerable backgrounds or subjected to various forms of violence. This was the focus of the "Two-day State Level Workshop on Safety and Protection of Women and Girls in Andhra Pradesh," organized by the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare in collaboration with HELP, as part of the United Nations' 16 Days Campaign against Gender-Based Violence.

Smt. A. Surya Kumari, IAS, Principal Secretary of the Department, emphasized the state's leadership in food security for women and children through Anganwadi services. She called for identifying women and girls at risk of violence, including sexual harassment and trafficking, and ensuring they receive appropriate services for their protection. She highlighted the importance of skill development for department staff to meet the psycho-social, economic, and health needs of these individuals.

Smt. Surya Kumari also underlined the need to promote foster care for abandoned children and prevent illegal adoptions. She advocated for rehabilitation services for those rescued from human trafficking, including shelter homes, counseling, and skill training, in coordination with other government departments.

Smt. Y. Shailaja, Joint Director of the Women and Child Welfare Department, emphasized the immediate response through shelter homes and the rehabilitation of human trafficking victims. She stressed providing socio-economic support to help victims recover and reintegrate into society.

Ram Mohan, Secretary of HELP, discussed the challenges in existing laws related to human trafficking and rehabilitation. He called for stronger efforts for rehabilitation through the Community-Based Rehabilitation model and better coordination between government and non-governmental organizations.

The workshop was attended by officials, NGOs, and members of the Vimukthi Collective from 26 districts, all working toward improving the safety and empowerment of women and children in the state.



Revenue Meetings to Resolve Land Disputes in NTR District - Collector

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Vijayawada : NTR District is gearing up for a series of revenue meetings aimed at resolving long-standing land disputes and revenue issues, set to take place from December 6 to January 8. District Collector G. Lakshmi Shastri announced the initiative, emphasizing its focus on serving the public interest and addressing unresolved issues. A coordination and preparation meeting for these revenue meetings was held at the Collectorate on Thursday, with public representatives and officials in attendance. Among those present were Joint Collector Nidhi Meena, Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswar Rao, Thiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, and various other key officials. The meeting outlined the action plan, including special teams from various departments, awareness programs for villagers, and the appointment of officers such as



tehsildars and revenue inspectors to visit the villages.

Lakshmi Shastri explained that the meetings aim to resolve land and revenue issues efficiently, including long-standing court cases. She added that feedback would be collected from villagers, and unresolved matters would be reviewed. Petitions will be registered online, ensuring timely resolutions within the prescribed period.

MLA's Support for the Program
Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswar Rao praised the initiative, calling it a significant step towards quickly addressing land issues. He highlighted that previous programs like the Re-Survey had left some unre-

solved problems, which will be tackled in these meetings. Thiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao appreciated the transparency of the program and assured that issues like land under Section 22(A) will be addressed. He encouraged the public to participate actively in the meetings.

Minister's Virtual Address
District In-charge Minister Satyakumar Yadav, speaking virtually, expressed his gratitude to the Chief Minister for organizing the initiative. He emphasized that the officials will visit the people to solve their land problems directly, ensuring justice is served quickly. Jaggayyapet MLA Sriram Rajagopal Tatayya also attended the meeting virtually and stressed the importance of resolving issues in a transparent and accountable manner while being careful not to create new problems during the process.

Kakani Govardhan Reddy's Tour in Podalakur Mandal Highlights Local Issues

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Nellore : Former Minister and YSR Congress Party leader Kakani Govardhan Reddy recently visited the Lingampalli and Podalakur Mandal Centers in Sarvepalli Constituency, highlighting several concerns affecting the region.

During his visit, Kakani expressed disappointment over the lack of development in the area, attributing the situation to factional gains rather than genuine progress. He pointed out that sand exploitation in the sand reaches of Sarvepalli Constituency, particularly in Podalakur Mandal, remains rampant but is going unchecked due to a shortage of officials.

Kakani also raised concerns about fraudulent practices among farmers, with reports of bills being collected without proper irrigation work being under-

taken. He lamented the hardships faced by farmers and reiterated the need for immediate action on their issues, including the release of education and accommodation benefits and addressing the increase in electricity charges. Reflecting on the past, Kakani emphasized that Sarvepalli, once a symbol of development during the YSR Congress Party's tenure, has unfortunately turned into a hub of corruption. Despite these challenges, he assured the people of Sarvepalli that he would continue to be available to address their issues, whether in power or not.

In addition to addressing these concerns, Kakani visited the families of the late YSR Congress leader Tenali Siddaiah and Gunti Mastanayya, father of Podalakur Bit-IV MPTC member Gunti Srinivasulu, offering his condolences for their recent losses.

Devendra Fadnavis Returns as Maharashtra CM Amid BJP's Historic Win



In a remarkable turn of events, Devendra Fadnavis, the leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has returned as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra after leading the party to a historic victory in the state assembly elections. His victory, marked by the BJP securing a record 132 out of 288 seats, solidifies his position as the natural choice to lead the government again, despite the complexities of coalition politics that delayed the announcement.

Fadnavis's reappointment comes after the BJP swept through the state, and while his leadership was always the party's first choice, political alliances required careful navigation. The victory is seen as a direct result of Fadnavis's leadership and the broader influence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The BJP's strong mandate reflects the successful efforts of its cadre, particularly from the RSS, to mobilize voters across Maharashtra. Fadnavis acknowledged the role of the party's volunteers, even though he refrained from naming the RSS directly in his speech.

In his address, Fadnavis focused on the party's triumph under the banner of Hindutva, highlighting the BJP's overwhelming support base across the state. Prime Minister Modi's emphasis on quick governance further underscored the urgency for the new government to begin addressing key development issues.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, present at the meeting of BJP legislators, emphasized the significance of the Maharashtra victory as part of the larger vision of "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India). Sitharaman spotlighted the potential of major projects such as the Wadhwan port and efforts to make Mumbai the fintech capital, reinforcing the state's economic future.

However, the issue of caste remains an undercurrent in the state's politics. Fadnavis, a Brahmin from Vidarbha, faces questions about whether his return could reignite caste-based divisions, especially in regions like Marathwada and Vidarbha. BJP and RSS leaders, however, insist that caste lines have become increasingly irrelevant in the state, with voters focusing more on development and economic opportunities. They argue that the party's success transcends caste, as demonstrated by their performance across various regions. Looking ahead, sources within the BJP suggest that Maharashtra's political landscape could undergo a major shift after the 2024 elections. Speculation is rife about potential realignments, with the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray) and the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) possibly joining forces. Meanwhile, Sharad Pawar's NCP is believed to have faltered in its outreach, losing support due to a lack of a clear, positive vision for the state's future.

Revanth Reddy led Congress: A Year of Challenges and Achievements

In early July 2015, a rally began at Chanchalguda Jail in the heart of Hyderabad, winding its way through the city to the affluent Jubilee Hills. The slogans of 'Tiger Revanth Anna' echoed along the route, marking the return of Revanth Reddy, then a Telugu Desam Party (TDP) MLA, after he was released on bail following his 30-day imprisonment in a bribery case. Despite media ridicule of the event, it marked a significant political moment for Revanth Reddy and his rise in Telangana's political landscape.

Fast forward almost a decade, and it is worth revisiting this moment in the context of the Reddy-led Congress government, which is celebrating its first year in office. The tenure, however, has been far from smooth. While the government took office with much fanfare, it faced numerous challenges that hampered its ability to govern effectively for a full year. The biggest obstacle came in the form of the Lok Sabha election code of conduct, which halted many development and welfare initiatives temporarily.

Despite these hurdles, the Congress government, led by Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's close ally, Revanth Reddy, has managed to achieve significant milestones within its first year. One of the first major promises fulfilled by the government was the introduction of free bus travel for women in Telangana. This initiative, aimed at empowering women and



easing their mobility, was a landmark step for the administration.

Financially, the government claims a revenue generation of Rs 18,500 crore per month. However, it has also had to make significant financial commitments to meet its promises. In the past year, the state spent around Rs 21,000 crore to waive off loans for 2.5 million farmers, a gesture that has been well-received among the agrarian community. This move aims to alleviate the financial burden on farmers and bolster their trust in the government's leadership.

Another notable achievement of the Reddy-led government has been the provision of over 55,000 jobs for the youth of Telangana. This promise of employment was a key campaign point, and the administration has made strides in addressing the state's growing unemployment issues.

Despite the challenges and setbacks, the Congress government has made significant contributions in its first year. As it moves forward, these accomplishments are bound to play a crucial role in shaping its future and in securing continued support from the people of Telangana.



Crisis: President Yoon's Drastic Measure Faces Backlash

A stunning announcement sent shockwaves across South Korea. President Yoon Suk Yeol declared martial law, an unprecedented move in a country where democratic values have been long cherished. The decision, which stunned many South Koreans, prompted lawmakers to rush to the National Assembly, where the opposition led by Lee Jae-myung rejected the martial law in a heated session that lasted for six hours. The imposition was lifted by 4:40 am on December 4, after the assembly's defiance.

Though the announcement was shocking, some had speculated that such an extreme measure could occur, especially given the political turmoil surrounding Yoon's administration. Accusations of corruption, mismanagement, and public dissatisfaction have plagued his presidency, particularly after his handling of the Itaewon crowd disaster and doctors' protests. Further pressure mounted after the opposition gained a majority in the National Assembly in April, which

hindered the government's ability to pass legislation and carry out effective governance.

In his martial law declaration, Yoon justified the move by accusing the opposition of creating a "legislature dictatorship" and paralyzing government functions. He claimed the martial law was necessary to protect South Korea from "North Korean communist forces" and to eliminate "pro-Pyongyang antistate forces" that threaten the nation's freedom. His speech also reflected his frustrations with the opposition's increasing demands for accountability over his wife's alleged corruption.

Yoon's decision likely stemmed from intense pressure from multiple fronts, including the opposition, his own party, and his declining popularity. His leadership had already been challenged within his own party by figures like Han Dong-hoon, who urged Yoon to take action. Faced with growing political and public resistance, Yoon

turned to martial law as a desperate attempt to preserve his presidency.

Following the lifting of martial law, the cabinet resigned en masse, and the ruling People Power Party (PPP) issued a public apology for the crisis. The opposition, however, has not backed down, vowing to initiate impeachment proceedings against Yoon. The impeachment process, requiring support from two-thirds of the National Assembly, could take time but is expected to proceed quickly given the opposition's determination.

This political drama, lasting only six hours, has raised serious questions about South Korea's democratic resilience. The president's future now appears uncertain, and the implications for his party's reputation and political prospects are significant. How the PPP navigates this crisis, particularly if it chooses to support or distance itself from Yoon, will determine the future course of South Korean politics.

REUTERS

Imran Khan vs a broken system: what's going on in Pakistan

In the early hours of November 26, Islamabad's D-Chowk became a volatile flashpoint of political unrest as thousands of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supporters gathered, undeterred by the looming threat of state repression. Tear gas and baton charges could not sway the determined crowds, who were united by one demand—the release of their leader, Imran Khan.



the growing discontent with the ruling coalition.

The protests were sparked by Khan's powerful call for nationwide demonstrations, urging Pakistanis to take to the streets to resist what he claimed was an illegitimate political system. Khan, who was recently ousted as Prime Minister, called the electoral process a "stolen mandate" and accused the government of arbitrary arrests and heavy-handed tactics to consolidate power. His grievances were further exacerbated by the controversial 26th Constitutional Amendment, which he argued entrenched a "dictatorial regime" in the country.

Khan's supporters voiced their frustrations not only with the political situation but also with the broader governance issues that they believed were undermining Pakistan's democratic institutions. The demonstrations came after months of political upheaval, which saw Khan's government ousted by a no-confidence vote earlier in the year. Since then, the former prime minister has become a rallying figure for those disillusioned by the political establishment.

As security forces moved in to disperse the crowds, tensions escalated, and violent clashes between police and protesters broke out. The situation remains fluid, with both sides entrenched in their positions. For PTI supporters, this is a fight for the future of democracy in Pakistan, while for the government, it is a battle to maintain control in the face of increasing political volatility.

At D-Chowk, a symbolic site of political resistance, PTI supporters raised their voices against the government's actions, echoing Khan's accusations of election manipulation and the systematic erosion of democratic norms. Clad in party colors and waving banners calling for Khan's release, the protesters were steadfast in their belief that their leader's imprisonment was a politically motivated move aimed at silencing opposition. Despite the government's efforts to quell the unrest, the protests quickly spread across the country, reflecting

Imran Khan's call to action has ignited a powerful wave of resistance, and the protests in Islamabad are just the beginning.

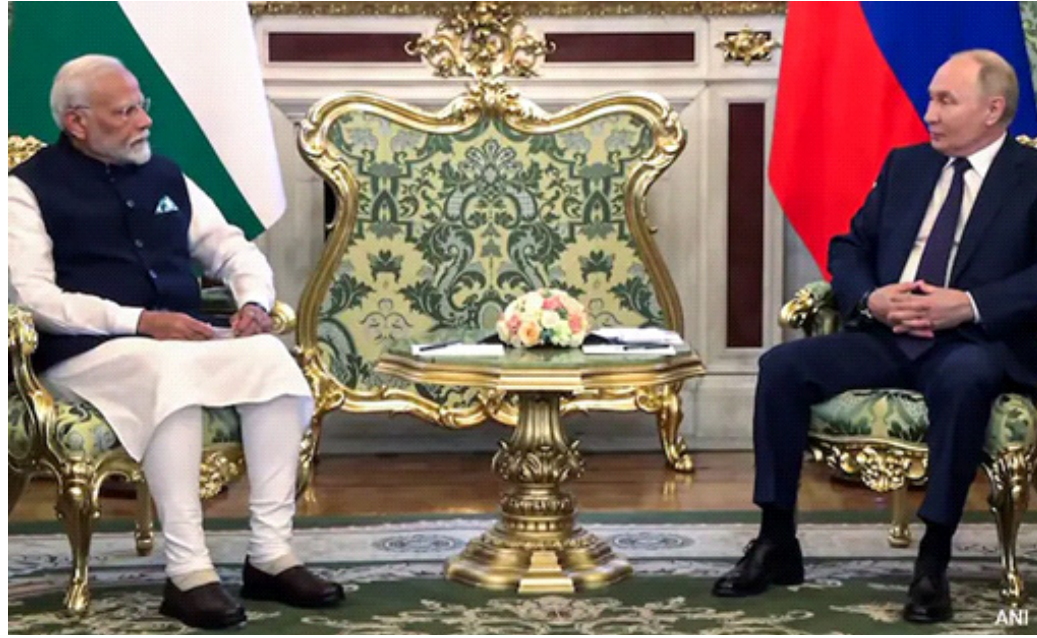
Putin Praises Modi's 'Make in India' and Signals Russia's Interest in Manufacturing in India

TPN CORRESPONDENT MOSCOW
DECEMBER.6

Putin Praises PM Modi's Policies, Says Russia Will Now 'Make In India' Russian President Vladimir Putin said, "We are also ready to set up our manufacturing operations in India. The Indian government, under the Prime Minister's leadership, has been creating stable conditions, driven by a policy of putting India first. We believe that investing in India is profitable."

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed strong support for India's economic initiatives, particularly Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Make in India" program, during his speech at the 15th VTB Russia Calling Investment Forum in Moscow. The forum, which began on Wednesday, focused on fostering economic growth and investment opportunities between Russia and other nations.

Putin praised India's "India-first" policy and noted how both Russia and India are pursuing similar goals through their respective economic strategies. He drew comparisons between India's "Make in India" initiative and Russia's import substitution program, highlighting the shared objectives of bolstering domestic manufacturing and attracting foreign investments. He also announced that Russia is eager to establish manufacturing operations in India, seeing it as a profitable venture due to the stable conditions created by the Indian govern-



ment. Putin further emphasized Russia's substantial investments in India, citing the \$20 billion investment by Russian oil giant Rosneft in recent years. This move aligns with the growing trend of Russian companies looking to strengthen their economic ties with India, particularly in sectors such as energy, consumer goods, IT, and high-tech industries.

The Russian president also underscored the importance of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in both nations' economic growth. He praised India's efforts to foster a conducive environment for SMEs, which he believes plays a crucial role in driving economic prosperity. As part of the BRICS evolution, Putin advocated for closer cooper-

ation between member countries to support the growth of SMEs and streamline business transactions within the group.

Looking ahead, Putin called on BRICS nations to identify key areas for collaboration at the upcoming summit in Brazil. He highlighted the potential of Russia's investment platform, which aims to support the economies of the Global South and East, as an important tool for boosting economic development across BRICS countries.

Putin's remarks signify the growing partnership between Russia and India, with both nations looking to strengthen their economic ties in a rapidly changing global landscape.



Fadnavis sworn in as Maharashtra CM; Shinde, Ajit Pawar take oath as deputies

TPN CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI
DECEMBER.6

Devendra Fadnavis was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra for the third time on December 5, marking a significant political moment in the state's leadership. The ceremony took place at Mumbai's historic Azad Maidan, with prominent political figures, business tycoons, and Bollywood stars in attendance.

Alongside Fadnavis, Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar were sworn in as deputy chief ministers, solidifying the power-sharing arrangement within the state government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with senior BJP leaders, attended the ceremony to show their support for the new administration. Bollywood icons such as Shahrukh Khan and Salman Khan also graced the occasion, symbolizing the blend of politics and glamour at the event. Additionally, business moguls like Mukesh Ambani were present, underlining the connection between the political and business spheres.

Fadnavis's reappointment as the chief minister comes after months of political maneuvering and negotiations among the state's political parties. His leadership has been a crucial element in maintaining stability in Maharashtra, especially after the alliance with Shiv Sena and NCP. The new government faces the task of addressing pressing issues like economic recovery, infrastructure development, and governance reforms.

Fadnavis, who previously served as Maharashtra's CM in 2014-2019, has a strong political presence in the state, and his third term is expected to steer Maharashtra through challenging political and economic waters. The oath-taking ceremony, with its star-studded audience and significant political symbolism, marks the beginning of what promises to be another pivotal chapter in the state's political landscape.

'Nothing Is Safe': Arvind Kejriwal On Delhi Metro Cable Theft

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.6

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) National Convener Arvind Kejriwal took to social media on Thursday to criticize Union Home Minister Amit Shah following a cable theft on the Delhi Metro's Blue Line, which caused significant disruptions for commuters. In a post on X, Kejriwal raised concerns about the safety situation in the capital, saying, "Amit Shah ji, what is happening in Delhi? Even the cable of Delhi Metro has been stolen. Nothing is safe. Do something."

The incident occurred in the early hours of Thursday, when the theft of cables between Moti Nagar and Kirti Nagar stations led to service interruptions on the Blue Line, one of the busiest corridors of the Delhi Metro. Passengers experienced delays as trains were forced to operate at restricted speeds, causing inconvenience during peak hours.



The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) issued a statement acknowledging the disruption. According to the DMRC, the theft occurred in a section where train services were impacted. They clarified that the situation would be resolved only after operational hours at night, meaning repairs would not be completed during the day. The DMRC's statement also advised commuters to plan their journeys accordingly, as delays were expected throughout the day due to the restricted speed on the affected section. The Blue Line, which connects Dwarka to Noida and Vaishali in Uttar Pradesh, serves several key areas, including Rajiv Chowk, Yamuna Bank, and Mayur Vihar Phase 1, all of which are hubs of business and office activity. As such, the disruption created a significant ripple effect on the daily commute for thousands of passengers.

The Blue Line's importance to the daily functioning of Delhi's transport network makes incidents like these particularly impactful. Kejriwal's comments reflect the growing frustration with the current situation and demand stronger security measures for the city's metro system.

The Blue Line's importance to the daily functioning of Delhi's transport network makes incidents like these particularly impactful. Kejriwal's comments reflect the growing frustration with the current situation and demand stronger security measures for the city's metro system.

MUDA Case: Notice issued on Karnataka CM's appeal against single bench order

TPN CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU
DECEMBER.6

The Karnataka High Court on Thursday issued a notice to the state government and other respondents regarding an appeal filed by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. He is challenging the single judge bench's decision that upheld the Governor's approval for an investigation into his involvement in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) site allotment scam.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice N V Anjaria and Justice K V Aravind, posted the case for further hearing on January 25, 2025.



On October 24, Siddaramaiah filed an appeal against the September 24 order by a single judge bench, which had dismissed his petition. The single judge had upheld the approval granted by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot for an investigation into the alleged irregularities in the allotment of 14 sites to Siddaramaiah's wife, Parvathi B M, by MUDA.

Siddaramaiah is accused of illegalities in the allotment of these sites, which are located in a prime locality in Mysuru. The controversy centers around the allotment of these 14 sites under a compensatory scheme intended for land losers. Parvathi allegedly had no legal title over the land exchanged for these sites. Despite the allegations, Parvathi requested MUDA to cancel the allotments, and MUDA complied.

Following the single judge bench's ruling, a Special Court ordered a Lokayukta police probe into the case, directing the investigation report to be submitted by December 24, 2024. An Enforcement Directorate (ED) investigation has also been initiated, based on the Lokayukta police FIR filed on September 27.

Yogi Adityanath Compares Violence in Sambhal to Historical Divisive Forces

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.6

In the midst of ongoing political controversy surrounding the violence in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath drew a parallel between the western Uttar Pradesh town, Ayodhya, and Bangladesh, highlighting the threat of divisive elements in society. Speaking at the Ramayan Mela in Ayodhya, Adityanath emphasized that Lord Ram's efforts had united society, but warned that conspiracies to divide it had historical roots.

"If we had foiled the conspiracies to divide society, this country would never



have been colonized. Our places of worship would not have been desecrated," Adityanath stated, alluding to the destruction of temples during Muslim rule.

He added that the elements causing divisions were still active, with their "genes" continuing in modern-day politics. In a veiled reference to the opposition parties advocating for a caste census, Adityanath criticized those attempting to create divisions in society along caste lines.

The Chief Minister also made a direct comparison between the situation in Sambhal and the recent violence in Bangladesh, where Hindu minorities have faced persecution. He said, "What a general of Babar did in Ayodhya, what happened in Sambhal, and what is happening in Bangladesh today have the same nature and DNA."



PM Modi running away from discussion on Adani issue in Parliament: Priyanka Gandhi

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI
DECEMBER.6

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government of avoiding discussions in Parliament regarding the alleged "Adani mega scam." Gandhi, along with other opposition leaders from the INDIA bloc, participated in a protest demanding a joint parliamentary probe into the issue.

In an unusual form of protest, several opposition leaders wore black jackets with stickers reading "Modi Adani Ek Hai" and "Adani Safe Hai." They raised slogans inside the Parliament premises, calling for a thorough investigation into the alleged corruption involving the Adani Group, a matter that has been a point of contention in Indian politics. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Priyanka Gandhi criticized the government's stance on the issue, saying, "The people of the country want the Adani mega scam to be discussed in Parliament. All the parties of the INDIA bloc are demanding a discussion in Parliament, but Narendra Modi and the government are constantly running away from the discussion." She further added, "The way the prime minister is defending Adani's corruption by breaking all decorum is extremely shocking. Today, along with fellow MPs, I demonstrated on this issue in Parliament premises."

Priyanka Gandhi also participated in the protest wearing a similar black jacket with the protest stickers. Along with her, other opposition MPs staged a march within the Parliament complex, showing their collective demand for a debate on the Adani issue.

The protest stems from allegations of financial misconduct and improper dealings involving the Adani Group, which has been under scrutiny for its ties to the government. The opposition parties, particularly the Congress, have been vocal in demanding an investigation into these allegations, accusing the Modi government of shielding the business conglomerate from scrutiny.

Kuwait Foreign Minister Hails PM Modi as One of the Wisest Global Leaders

Kuwait's Foreign Minister Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya has praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling him "one of the wisest persons worldwide." During his official visit to India, Al-Yahya highlighted the strong relationship between India and Kuwait, stating that the West Asian nation values India as a "very important partner."

In his opening remarks at a delegation-level meeting with India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi on Wednesday, Al-Yahya expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to meet Prime Minister Modi. He emphasized that under Modi's leadership, India has elevated its global stature, contributing significantly to its international relations. Al-Yahya also expressed confidence that Modi's continued leadership would further enhance India's position on the world stage.

During his visit, Al-Yahya arrived in India late Tuesday and made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Modi at his residence before meeting with Jaishankar at Hyderabad House. The visit aims to further strengthen the multifaceted ties between the two nations, which include cooperation in trade, energy, and



welfare initiatives.

Prime Minister Modi reciprocated the sentiments, expressing appreciation for Kuwait's support of Indian nationals residing in the country. On social media, PM Modi shared, "Glad to receive Foreign Minister of Kuwait Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya. I thank the Kuwaiti leadership for the welfare of Indian na-

tionals. India is committed to advancing our deep-rooted and historical ties for the benefit of our people and the region."

This visit marks a significant step in the ongoing partnership between India and Kuwait, with both countries committed to enhancing their cooperation for mutual prosperity.



French Prime Minister Michel Barnier Resigns After No-Confidence Vote

French Prime Minister Michel Barnier has announced his resignation after facing a no-confidence vote that saw support from both far-right and left-wing lawmakers. The vote, held on Wednesday evening, comes amid a growing political crisis that has deepened uncertainty in France, the second-largest economy in the eurozone. Barnier, who was also the European Union's Brexit negotiator, will step down on Thursday, December 5, making him the shortest-serving prime minister in modern French history.

The vote of no confidence was triggered by Barnier's controversial attempt to push through an unpopular budget in a divided and fragmented parliament. The budget, which proposed 60 billion euros (\$63 billion) in savings, was seen as deeply unpopular among many lawmakers, especially those from the left and the far right. Barnier's decision to attempt to pass the budget without a proper vote, further alienating members of parliament, contributed to the backlash.

Barnier's resignation marks a significant political shift, as no French government has lost a no-confidence vote in over 50 years. Despite his experience in European politics, Barnier was unable to overcome the parliamentary challenges in France, where his government's ability to pass legislation was increasingly under threat from multiple factions. The situation reflects the ongoing fragmentation of French politics, where deep divisions over budgetary policies and the future direction of the country have created gridlock.

As Barnier prepares to hand in his resignation, the future of the French government remains uncertain. His departure highlights the ongoing difficulties faced by President Emmanuel Macron's administration in managing a deeply divided parliament. With the resignation of Barnier, political observers now turn their attention to what will come next, and how the French government will navigate its way out of this crisis.

South Korea's President Yoon Faces Impeachment After Martial Law Incident



South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's presidency has been marred by scandals and political turmoil, and now he faces impeachment after a dramatic incident where he imposed martial law and deployed troops and helicopters to parliament. The country's return to military rule lasted just a few hours, as protests erupted and forced Yoon to reverse his decision in the early hours of Wednesday.

The opposition filed an impeachment motion, accusing the 63-year-old president of "gravely violating the constitution and the law" in a bid to avoid investigations into alleged illegal actions involving him and his family. Yoon, once hailed as a prosecutor and anti-corruption advocate, is now struggling to maintain his grip on power.

Yoon's political career has been marked by controversy. Born in 1960, just before a military coup, Yoon rose to prominence as a public prosecutor, playing a key role in the impeachment of former President Park Geun-hye in 2016. In 2022, he won the presidency by the narrowest margin in South Korean history, but his time in office has been fraught with issues.

Critics have pointed to his administration's handling of the 2022 Halloween crowd crush, food inflation, economic struggles, and increasing restrictions on freedom of speech. He also faced backlash for using presidential vetoes, including blocking a bill that would have investigated alleged stock manipulation by his wife, Kim Keon Hee. His wife later became embroiled in a scandal over receiving a designer handbag, further tarnishing Yoon's reputation. Despite these challenges, Yoon has maintained a tough stance against North Korea and strengthened ties with the United States. However, his attempts to improve relations with Japan have not been well-received domestically.

"Voted In Favour Of 10, Abstained From 3 Gaza Resolutions": S Jaishankar

In a statement delivered in Parliament today, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar reaffirmed India's long-standing support for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict, emphasizing the establishment of a "sovereign, independent, and viable Palestinian state" alongside Israel. Jaishankar responded to claims made during the Rajya Sabha's Question Hour that India had abstained from all United Nations resolutions on Gaza.



Since the onset of the Israel-Hamas conflict on October 7 last year, 13 resolutions concerning Palestine were brought before the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Jaishankar explained. India voted in favor of 10 of these resolutions and abstained from three. He stressed that India's support for Palestine remained unwavering and consistent throughout the ongoing crisis.

India has also provided significant humanitarian aid to Palestine amidst the ongoing conflict. Since the conflict began, India has delivered approximately 70 metric tonnes of aid,

including 16.5 metric tonnes of medicines and medical supplies in two separate consignments. Furthermore, India allocated \$5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in 2024, mirroring a similar contribution made in 2023.

Jaishankar reiterated that India's foreign policy towards Palestine has always advocated for a negotiated two-state solution, calling for the establishment of a sovereign and independent Palestine within secure and recognized borders. He emphasized that India believes both nations should live side by side in peace.

Hasina Accuses Yunus of Genocide and Minority Persecution

In a strong statement delivered virtually from New York, ousted Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina accused the country's interim leader, Muhammad Yunus, of perpetrating "genocide" and failing to protect minorities, particularly Hindus. Hasina's comments, made during an event, added fuel to the already volatile political situation in Bangladesh, where tensions between the government and opposition have escalated in recent months.



Hasina, who was forced to resign in August amid massive anti-government protests, has not been publicly vocal until now. She took shelter in India following her resignation, but her address shed light on the intense political climate she faced in Bangladesh. In her remarks, Hasina alleged that Yunus had not only failed to protect minorities but had also been directly involved in actions that led to the persecution of these communities.

Additionally, Hasina claimed there were plans to assassinate her and her sister, Sheikh Rehana, in a manner similar to the assassination of their father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in 1975. Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh's founding father, was killed in a coup,

and Hasina's statement pointed to the ongoing threats her family faces from political factions.

Hasina also recounted the events leading up to her departure from the prime minister's residence, Ganabhaban, during the August protests. She described how armed protesters stormed the residence and how, in the face of escalating violence, she was forced to flee the scene. Hasina urged her security guards not to use force, as tensions mounted and the situation threatened to spiral out of control.

The speech marks Hasina's first public address on the crisis since her resignation, and her accusations against Yunus have further polarized the political landscape in Bangladesh.

"Breaking Glass Ceiling": Netumbo Namibia's First Woman President



Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Namibia's first woman president, declared that her election victory last week had shattered a "glass ceiling" for women in the country. Nandi-Ndaitwah, who has served as vice president since February 2024, won just over 57 percent of the vote, far ahead of her main opponent from the opposition Independent Patriots for Change (IPC), who garnered 25.5 percent. However, the IPC has rejected the results, citing numerous irregularities during the election process.

At her first press briefing after the results were announced, the 72-year-old leader acknowledged the significance of her achievement, calling it a breakthrough for Namibian women. She also recognized Liberia's former president, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, as an inspiration, noting that Sirleaf was the first female president in Africa in 2006. "Equal responsibility for women and men in society is a reality," she said, reinforcing her stance on gender equality.

Despite her victory, the election has been mired in controversy. Voters faced long delays and frustrations due to logistical issues, including a shortage of ballot papers that led to people waiting for hours, with some giving up after waiting up to 12 hours. The IPC claimed these issues were intentional and designed to frustrate voters, and it has vowed not to accept the results. The Electoral Commission of Namibia admitted to its failures in managing the vote, including problems with the voting tablets and ballot paper shortages.

In her speech, Nandi-Ndaitwah promised a "radical shift" in how the country is governed. She vowed to focus on addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable communities and the downtrodden, signaling a new direction for the country's future leadership. She will officially take office on March 21, 2025.

While her victory marks a significant milestone for women in leadership, it remains clouded by questions regarding the fairness and transparency of the election process.

Markets Rally on Rate Cut Speculation and Global Cues

Sensex Gains 890 Points, Nifty Tops 24,700



TODAYS RECOMMENDED STOCKS:

Trent Limited
Part of the Tata Group, Trent operates Westside, Zudio, and Star stores. It focuses on fashion retail and has been rapidly expanding its footprint. : Positive due to aggressive expansion plans, a growing customer base, and diversification into new retail formats.



Titan Company Limited
A Tata Group company, Titan is known for its watches (Titan, Fastrack), jewelry (Tanishq), and eyewear. Sustained growth expected from jewelry and upcoming segments like smartwatches and fragrances.



Castrol India Limited
A market leader in automotive and industrial lubricants with strong brand recognition. Positive, backed by rising vehicle usage and industrial growth.



Likhitha Infrastructure Limited
Provides pipeline infrastructure for oil and gas, with a focus on rural and urban distribution projects.: Stable due to its role in expanding India's energy infrastructure.



BSE Limited
Asia's oldest stock exchange, offering financial services, data, and platforms for various trading segments. Positive, driven by diversification into mutual funds, data services, and commodity trading platforms.



Domestic stock markets closed with huge gains today on expectations that the Reserve Bank of India will reduce the repo rate by 50-100 basis points. Another reason was the positive signals from global markets and the gain in IT and banking shares. The indices, which started with moderate gains in the morning, rose sharply in the afternoon. Although they suddenly fell to daily lows, they rose again in the last hour due to buying. It is noteworthy that the Nifty closed above the crucial 24700 level. On the other hand, Bitcoin also reached the one lakh dollar mark.



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lost. Trent, Infi, TCS, Titan, Dr Reddy's were the top gainers. SBI Life, HDFC Life, Bajaj Auto, NTPC, Grasim were the biggest losers. PSU Bank and Realty indices rose marginally today. Bank, Finance, FMCG, IT, Metal, Private Bank, Healthcare, Consumer Durables, Oil and Gas indices were mixed.

Market breadth in NSC favors buyers. Out of 2882 stocks traded, 1495 advanced and 1310 ended in losses. 109 stocks hit 52-week highs and 8 stocks hit 52-week lows. Rupee settled at 84.73 against the dollar. Indraprastha Gas to consider bonus share issue. CLSA has given a buy rating to Juniper Hotels with a target price of Rs 430. Tania Constructions has received an order worth Rs 151 crore. Vimta Labs CFO Rama Narhai Naidu has resigned. Nifty IT index crossed the 45000 mark. Nomura expects RBI to cut interest rates by 100 basis points. Zen Technologies extends partnership with AVT Simulation. Muthoot Microfin cuts interest rates on loans by 25 basis points. Vishal Mega Mart to go public on December 11. NBCC bags Rs 599 crore worth of orders. Citi maintains Buy rating on Indus Towers with a target price of Rs 485. CDSL rises 8% to touch all-time high on heavy volume.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,956 in the previous session, opened at 81,182. It touched an intraday low of 80,467. It reached an intraday high of 82,317. Finally, it closed at 81,765 with a gain of 890 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,539 on Thursday, touched a low of 24,295 and a high of 24,857. It closed at 24,708, up 240 points. The Bank Nifty rose 336 points to settle at 53,603.

41 companies in the Nifty50 gained while 9

China's Finished Steel Imports to India Surge, Straining Local Producers

India's imports of finished steel from China have reached an all-time high in the first seven months of the current financial year, according to provisional government data reviewed by Reuters. The surge in imports has raised concerns among small Indian steel manufacturers, already grappling with financial strain.

From April to October, China, the world's largest steel producer, exported 1.7 million metric tons of finished steel to India, marking a significant 35.4% increase compared to the same period last year. This sharp rise in imports has intensified the challenges faced by Indian steel producers, who are already dealing with the pressure of cheaper Chinese steel flooding the market.



The influx of Chinese steel has worsened the financial situation for many Indian producers, as they are forced to contend with falling domestic steel prices, despite strong demand spurred by India's rapid economic growth and increasing infrastructure spending. While demand has remained robust, the rise in Chinese imports has pushed prices down, further squeezing the margins of local steel-makers.

Indian steel producers have expressed concerns about the impact of cheap imports on their bottom line, with many

citing an inability to compete with the lower costs of Chinese steel. The situation has intensified calls for stronger protectionist measures to safeguard the interests of domestic manufacturers.

As the trade imbalance widens, the Indian government faces increasing pressure to address the rising imports and its effects on the local steel industry. While the country continues to see growing demand for steel, the surge in imports from China threatens to undermine the long-term sustainability of India's steel sector.

Sensex, Nifty Continue Winning Streak on IT Stocks Surge and Foreign Inflows

Benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty, extended their rally on Thursday, rising by 1 per cent, driven by strong gains in IT stocks, a positive US market performance, and fresh foreign fund inflows.



For the fifth consecutive day, the BSE Sensex surged by 809.53 points, or 1 per cent, to close at 81,765.86. The index touched an intra-day high of 82,317.74, up by 1,361.41 points or 1.68 per cent. The NSE Nifty gained 240.95 points, or 0.98 per cent, settling at 24,708.40.

The rally was mainly led by a surge in IT stocks, with key gainers including Tata Consultancy Services, Infos-

ys, HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, and Bajaj Finance. Other stocks such as Titan and Bharti Airtel also contributed to the bullish trend. On the other hand, NTPC and Asian Paints were among the few laggards.

The positive momentum in the Indi-

an market was supported by a rally in the US markets on Wednesday, which boosted investor sentiment globally. In addition, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers of equities, purchasing shares worth Rs 1,797.60 crore, according to data from the stock exchanges.

Market experts are optimistic about the continued upward momentum, with strong buying activity in key sectors, particularly IT, which has been a major contributor to the rally. The consistent inflows from FIIs and the recovery in global markets are expected to support the positive outlook for Indian equities in the near term.

Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao Highlights Sustainability Goals at FICCI's Event

TPN CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABD, DEC-6

Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada, Chairman and Managing Director of Bondada Engineering, emphasized the critical importance of sustainability while addressing the "Sustainable Future" event organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) in Hyderabad. In his thought-provoking speech, he highlighted both personal and corporate responsibilities in tackling climate change and advancing renewable energy initiatives.



Dr. Bondada began by thanking FICCI for hosting the event, stating, "Sustainability is the future, and we have to save this Earth. Everyone talks about global warming and carbon emissions, but the change has to start at home, with our kitchens." He urged individuals to adopt habits like waste segregation to contribute to the sustainability movement.

Speaking about Bondada Engineering's contributions, Dr. Bondada revealed the company's significant impact on reducing carbon emissions through its solar power initiatives. "So far, we have contributed to a reduction of 7.5 lakh tons of carbon emissions through our solar power projects," he stated. He shared Bondada Engineering's ambitious goal of implementing 10 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2030, aligning closely with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mission of achieving 500 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity.

Dr. Bondada expressed pride in being part of this national initiative, saying, "If we achieve our target of 10 gigawatts, we will reduce about 5 mil-

lion metric tons of carbon emissions. That is our ultimate goal." He also announced the company's expansion plans into other renewable sectors, including wind energy, battery energy storage systems, and green hydrogen. "We have the technology in place and are ready to contribute further to sustainability," he said.

Highlighting the business potential in sustainability, Dr. Bondada remarked, "Sustainability is big business now, and brilliance in business is happening in the field of sustainability." His vision underscores the role of the private sector in driving global efforts to combat climate change.

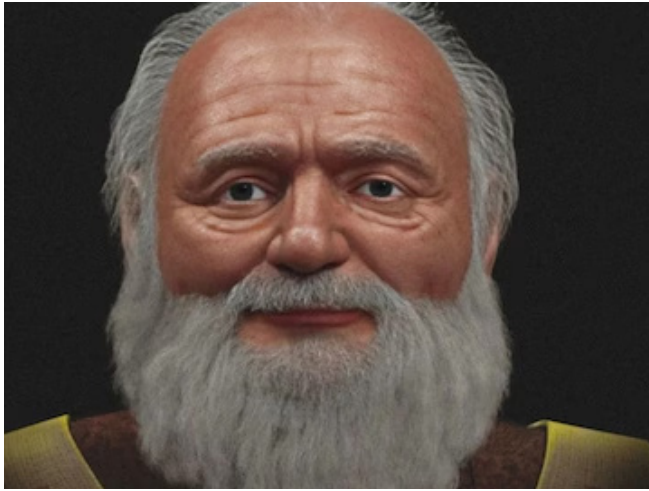
Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada's speech resonated with the audience, showcasing a blend of personal commitment and corporate ambition in the sustainability sector. His leadership and Bondada Engineering's initiatives serve as a testament to the transformative potential of renewable energy in creating a sustainable future.

Santa Claus's Real Face Revealed: Scientists Recreate the Face of Saint Nicholas

As December ushers in the holiday season, the magic of Christmas is once again in the air, with the beloved figure of Santa Claus at the forefront of festive traditions. For centuries, Santa has captivated the hearts of people worldwide, but now, for the first time in nearly 1,700 years, scientists have revealed the face of the man who inspired this iconic figure.

Researchers have used advanced forensic techniques to create a facial approximation of Saint Nicholas of Myra, the real-life bishop who lived in the 4th century. Known for his generosity and kindness, Saint Nicholas was a beloved figure in his time and is the inspiration behind the modern-day Santa Claus. By using data obtained from the skull of Saint Nicholas, researchers were able to recreate his appearance, offering a glimpse into the face of the man who became a legend.

The forensic reconstruction process involved detailed analysis of the skull's shape, as well as other physical features, to ensure accuracy. The result is a face that is remarkably different from the jolly, bearded image of Santa Claus most people are familiar with today. The scientific recreation of Saint Nicholas offers an intriguing look at the real person behind the myth, showing him as a more solemn, older man with distinct features that re-



fect his age and era.

Saint Nicholas's legacy has long been associated with kindness and the giving of gifts, qualities that were eventually adopted in the modern portrayal of Santa Claus. Over time, the figure of Santa evolved into the cheerful, red-suited character who brings joy to children around the world during Christmas.

This new revelation has sparked interest among historians, scientists, and Christmas enthusiasts alike, as it offers a fascinating connection between the real Saint Nicholas and the modern figure of Santa Claus. With the holiday season in full swing, this historical discovery adds a unique layer of magic to the Christmas celebrations, reminding us of the enduring spirit of generosity that continues to define the season.

Internet Shocked as Brazilian Influencer Spends Rs 16 Lakh to "Become a Virgin Again"

Brazilian influencer and model Ravena Hanniely, 23, has decided to undergo a controversial and costly vaginal rejuvenation procedure, spending more than \$19,000 (approximately Rs 16 lakh) to "become a virgin again." The procedure, known as hymenoplasty, involves surgically restoring the hymen by stitching the torn edges together with dissolvable stitches, essentially mimicking the pre-bleed state of the hymen.

Hanniely, who has a significant social media following, sees the procedure as a way to mark a "fresh start" in both her personal and professional life. For her, the hymenoplasty holds deep symbolic value. In an interview with Jam Press, she shared, "The procedure holds a special meaning for me. I want to become a virgin again. This is for my self-esteem and for personal reasons."

Hymenoplasty has sparked considerable debate due to its controversial nature. While some view it as a personal choice, others criticize the societal pressures that often lead individuals to seek such pro-

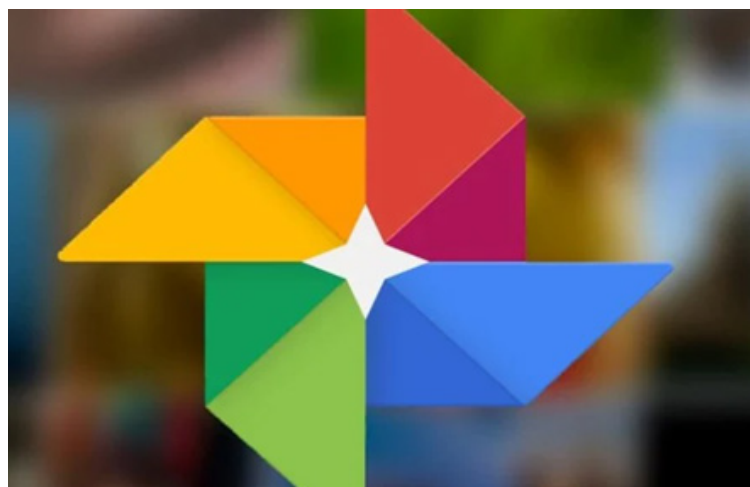


cedures. The hymen, often mistakenly associated with virginity, has become a symbol tied to personal identity, especially in certain cultural contexts. Hanniely's decision to undergo the surgery has drawn mixed reactions, particularly because it reinforces the outdated notion that virginity is something to be "restored."

Doctors, however, have cautioned against such procedures. Many warn that hymenoplasty, although safe when performed by qualified professionals, carries potential risks like any surgical procedure. Experts also argue that the societal pressure to "prove" virginity can have harmful psychological and emotional effects.

Despite these warnings, Ravena Hanniely remains confident in her decision, viewing the procedure as an empowering choice. She believes it will help her regain confidence, both in herself and in her public image. Her choice has garnered significant attention, fueling ongoing discussions about beauty standards, body autonomy, and the cultural implications of virginity in modern society.

Google Photos Introduces "Undo Device Backup" Feature to Manage Cloud Storage



Google Photos, the popular cloud storage solution used by millions worldwide, has introduced a new feature called "Undo Device Backup." This addition offers users greater control over their media and how it's stored in the cloud. With this feature, you can now remove photos and videos from your Google Photos backup without deleting them from your device itself, offering more flexibility in managing your cloud storage.

The "Undo Device Backup" feature is designed for users who want to clear up space in their Google Photos backup but wish to retain their media files on their device. Previously, removing items from Google Photos would result in them being deleted from both the cloud and the device, causing frustration for users who simply wanted to stop backing up certain files. Now, with the new option, users can disconnect their files from Google Photos while keeping them safely stored on their phone or tablet.

However, there is an important note to keep in mind: Once you choose to remove your media from the Google Photos backup, the feature will automatically disable the backup for that specific device. This means that any new photos or videos taken with the device will not be backed up unless the feature is manually re-enabled.

This update is particularly helpful for users who want to maintain privacy or simply don't want certain photos or videos stored in the cloud. It also helps those who are looking to optimize their cloud storage without losing access to their personal media. The feature ensures that photos and videos stay accessible on the device while still providing users with the ability to manage their cloud space more efficiently.

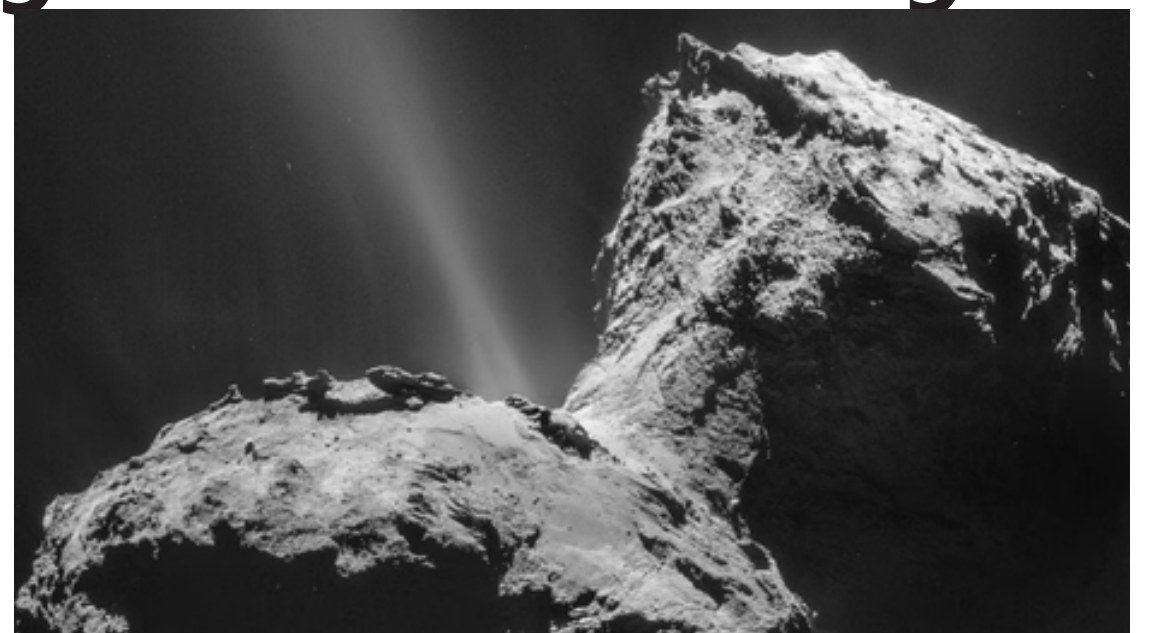
Overall, Google's "Undo Device Backup" feature provides a more convenient way for users to manage their media storage preferences without worrying about accidental deletions, making Google Photos even more user-friendly for millions of people across the globe.

Water Found on Comet 67P, Challenging Earth's Water Origins

The Earth, often described as the "pale blue dot" by renowned astronomer Carl Sagan, is the only known planet in our solar system capable of sustaining life. One of the primary factors enabling life on Earth is the presence of water in a habitable state. However, the origins of Earth's water have long been a subject of scientific debate.

In a groundbreaking discovery, scientists have detected water on Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, a member of the Jupiter family of comets. This significant finding could challenge long-standing theories about the origins of water on Earth and its connection to comets.

Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, which was closely studied by the European Space Agency's Rosetta mission, has now been shown to contain water. This discovery is particularly noteworthy because it offers new insights into the role comets may have played in supplying water to Earth in its early history. Previous research had questioned whether Jupiter family comets like 67P could have been the source of Earth's water, with some scientists suggesting that the isotopic signature of water found on these comets did not match that of Earth's oceans.



However, the latest findings, based on detailed analysis of the comet's water content, provide a new perspective. The composition of the water on Comet 67P appears to be more closely aligned with that of Earth's water than earlier studies suggested, potentially overturning previous doubts about the connection between these comets and the delivery of water to our planet.

This discovery opens up new possibilities about the delivery of water to Earth during its formative years and how it may have contributed to the conditions necessary for life. The research also highlights the fascinating complexity of the cosmos, where the mysteries of our own planet's past continue to unfold in unexpected ways.

UK Bans Daytime TV Ads for Sugary Foods in Fight Against Childhood Obesity

In a significant move to combat childhood obesity, the UK government has announced a ban on daytime TV advertisements for sugary foods such as granola, muffins, and other popular breakfast items. Under the new regulations, ads promoting "less healthy" food and drinks will only be allowed after the 9:00 pm watershed starting in October next year.

This decision follows increasing concerns over the rising obesity rates among children in the UK. According to the National Health Service, one in 10 four-year-olds is now classified as obese, while one in five five-year-olds suffers from tooth decay linked to excessive sugar consumption. The government's new restrictions aim to address these alarming trends.

The banned list includes popular items like



pre-packaged sugary breakfast foods such as croissants, pancakes, waffles, granola, and muesli, which have been categorized based on a scoring system that evaluates sugar, fat, and salt content. In addition to breakfast cereals, other products like energy drinks, hamburgers, chicken nuggets, and snacks made from chickpeas, lentils, and seaweed are also targeted.

However, healthier alternatives like natural porridge oats and unsweetened yogurt are exempt from the ban, as they meet the government's criteria for nutritious options.

Health Secretary Wes Streeting emphasized the importance of taking action to protect children's health. "Obesity robs our kids of the best possible start in life, sets them up for a lifetime of health problems, and costs the NHS billions," Streeting said. "This government is taking action now to end the targeting of junk food ads at kids, across both TV and online."

The government hopes that the new measures will help prevent around 20,000 cases of childhood obesity each year, marking a significant step in tackling the ongoing public health crisis.

Kevin Shines as Manchester City End Seven-Game Winless Streak with 3-0 Victory

Kevin De Bruyne played a pivotal role in Manchester City's 3-0 victory over Nottingham Forest, helping the team snap a seven-game winless streak in the Premier League. The Belgian midfielder, making his first start in nearly three months, was instrumental in City's much-needed win, which saw them move back into the top four and reduce the gap to Premier League leaders Liverpool to just nine points.



games. The return of De Bruyne was crucial, as he reminded fans and critics alike of his immense talent and leadership. Guardiola made several changes to the starting lineup, including bringing in Doku, Josko Gvardiol, and Jack Grealish, in response to Sunday's 2-0 loss at Liverpool.

City controlled the game after their three goals, with goalkeeper Stefan Ortega making a crucial save to deny Morgan Gibbs-White. Despite

De Bruyne set up Bernardo Silva for the opening goal in the eighth minute, heading Ilkay Gundogan's cross back towards goal, where Silva was in the right place to tap it home. De Bruyne then doubled City's lead in the 31st minute, collecting a pass from Jeremy Doku and finishing coolly into the top corner. Doku added a third for City, cutting inside and firing into the far corner after being assisted by Erling Haaland.

The win came after a difficult run of form for City, which included six defeats in their previous seven

failing to score in his last three Premier League matches, Haaland was involved in the third goal, playing a vital role in Doku's strike.

De Bruyne nearly added to his tally with a free-kick that narrowly missed, and was denied a second goal by Forest's goalkeeper Matz Sels. He received a standing ovation when substituted 15 minutes from time. The victory provided a much-needed boost for Manchester City, restoring confidence after recent struggles, while Nottingham Forest remains in sixth place, four points off the top four.

Megan 5-Wicket Haul Leads Australia to Win Over India in Women's ODI Series

Megan Schutt's brilliant five-wicket performance helped Australia to a commanding 5-wicket win over India in the opening match of the Women's ODI series. The match, held on Thursday, saw India put up a dismal batting display, being bowled out for just 100 in 34.2 overs. Schutt was the star of the show for Australia, dismantling India's batting lineup with her exceptional pace and accuracy.

After winning the toss and opting to bat, India struggled right from the start. Schutt took full advantage of the conditions and bowled an outstanding spell, finishing with figures of 5/19. Her sharp and well-executed deliveries reduced India to a fragile state, with only three Indian batters managing to reach double figures. The collapse was rapid, and India's innings never got going, with their last wicket falling at 100, giving Australia a low total to chase.

In reply, Australia faced no significant trouble in their pursuit of the target, comfortably chasing down the 101-run total with five wickets in hand. India's bowlers fought hard, but Australia's batting was steady, guided by the experienced hands of their top-order. Despite a few wickets falling, Australia's chase was always under control, and they wrapped up the win with ease.

Megan Schutt's exceptional performance with the ball was the highlight of the match, as Australia stamped their authority in the series opener. With India's batting collapse, the five-wicket win has given Australia an early advantage in the series. As they head into the next match, Australia will be confident, while India will need to regroup and improve their performance with the bat to stay competitive.



Mohamed Salah's Double Not Enough as Liverpool Draw 3-3 at Newcastle

Mohamed Salah's brace was not enough to secure victory for Liverpool, as they were held to a thrilling 3-3 draw at Newcastle United on Wednesday. Despite Salah's two goals, a last-minute equalizer from Newcastle defender Fabian Schar saw the match end level, cutting Liverpool's lead at the top of the Premier League to just seven points.

Liverpool appeared to be on course for a 12th win in their opening 14 league matches, with Salah's goals putting them in a strong position. The Egyptian forward opened the scoring in the first half, before netting again after the break to give his team a 3-2 lead. However, disaster struck for Liverpool in the final moments of the match. With the game ticking into injury time, Liverpool's backup goalkeeper Caoimhin Kelleher made a mistake, allowing Schar to pounce and score the equalizer, leaving the match drawn at 3-3.

The result saw Liverpool's lead at the top

reduced to seven points, with Manchester City, Arsenal, and Chelsea keeping up the pressure. Elsewhere, Chelsea and Arsenal secured convincing victories. Chelsea demolished 10-man Southampton 5-1 away from home, while Arsenal defeated Manchester United 2-0, handing their new manager Ruben Amorim his first defeat.

Meanwhile, Manchester City ended a seven-match winless streak with a 3-0 win over Nottingham Forest, restoring some confidence. Everton eased away from the relegation zone with a 4-0 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers, while Aston Villa returned to winning ways with a 3-1 triumph.

Liverpool will now look to bounce back from their late heartbreak, but Newcastle's resilience and Schar's dramatic equalizer have thrown a wrench into their pursuit of the Premier League title.



Araijeet's Four-Goal Haul Guides India to 5th Men's Junior Asia Cup Title

Araijeet Singh Hundal's incredible performance, scoring four goals, led defending champions India to a thrilling 5-3 victory over arch-rivals Pakistan in the final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup on Wednesday. With this win, India claimed their fifth title in the prestigious continental tournament, having previously triumphed in 2004, 2008, 2015, and 2023.

India's dominance in the final was largely due to Araijeet's clinical finishing. The young forward netted three penalty corners at the 4th, 18th, and 54th minutes, showcasing his impeccable skill under pressure. In addition, Araijeet added a field goal in the 47th minute to complete his remarkable tally. Dilraj Singh also contributed, scoring India's fifth goal in the 19th minute, helping the team maintain control of the match.

Pakistan fought back fiercely, with Sufyan Khan scoring twice from penalty corners in the 30th and 39th minutes, while Hannan Shahid opened the scoring for Pakistan with a field goal in the 3rd minute. Despite Pakistan's efforts to close the gap, India's relentless attack and solid defense kept them ahead.

This victory marks India's fifth Men's Junior Asia Cup title, cementing their dominance in



junior hockey in Asia. The tournament, which was not held in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, saw India assert their supremacy once again in the continental competition. The win also highlights the impressive performances of young players like Araijeet, who have stepped up to the big stage and contributed to India's rich history in the tournament.

India's triumph in the final has not only added another trophy to their cabinet but also reinforced their position as a powerhouse in Asian junior hockey.

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 excel-

lent 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.



Pushpa 2 : A Thrilling Mass Entertainer That Lives Up to the Hype

"Pushpa 2" has taken the country by storm, breaking records even before its release. With massive pre-release bookings and setting a new benchmark for Telugu films, the film was eagerly awaited. After a three-year wait, did the sequel live up to the enormous expectations? Let's dive into the review of "Pushpa 2: The Rule", which continues the story of Pushparaj (Allu Arjun), the fierce leader of the sandalwood smuggling syndicate.

The film picks up with Pushparaj firmly established as the dominant figure in the red sandalwood trade. His peaceful life with his wife, Srivalli (Rashmika Mandanna), takes a hit when the Chief Minister humiliated him in front of the public. This insult triggers Pushparaj's ego, and he decides to unseat the current power structure and challenge the system to get the respect he deserves. His journey to raise the necessary funds and confront the government leads to several intense sequences, all while he is pursued by the determined Police Officer Shekhawat (Fahadh Faasil).

The first half of the film focuses on Pushpa's rise and his growing power, brilliantly showcasing his raw aggression and determination. The CM photo incident adds depth to Pushparaj's character and sets the tone for the escalating conflict. Allu Arjun's performance is electrifying, with the actor elevating the mass appeal of his character through sharp dialogue delivery, intense action, and high-energy dance moves.

The second half is where the action reaches its zenith, especially in the highly anticipated fair episode, which delivers a spectacular blend of intense drama and action, capturing the essence of the film's commercial appeal. Though the story occasionally seems driven by episodes rather than narrative flow, director Sukumar's craft brings it all together, ensuring the audience remains hooked.



Allu Arjun's portrayal of Pushparaj is a career milestone. His presence on-screen is magnetic, and the character's mass appeal is stronger than ever. Rashmika Mandanna shines in her role, with the chemistry between Pushparaj and Srivalli providing a heartwarming contrast to the intense action. Fahadh Faasil adds weight to his role, with his rivalry with Pushparaj forming the crux of the film's conflict.

Overall, "Pushpa 2" delivers a high-octane cinematic experience filled with powerful performances, gripping action, and mass-appeal moments. The wait for the film has indeed been worth it, and it sets the stage for an even more intense "Pushpa 3".

Naga Chaitanya and Shobitha Wedding: A Grand Celebration at Annapurna Studios

On Wednesday night, the much-awaited wedding of Naga Chaitanya and Shobitha Dhulipala took place in a grand and lavish ceremony at Annapurna Studios in Hyderabad. The marriage marked the beginning of a new chapter for the couple, who were surrounded by their closest friends, family, and industry peers on their special day.

The wedding, held at the Akkineni family's residence, was an event to remember, with the who's who of the film and political worlds gracing the occasion. A host of prominent celebrities including Chiranjeevi, Subbarami Reddy, Hero Karthi, Ram Charan, Rana Daggubati, Nani, and the renowned music composer Keeravani were present to bless the couple and celebrate their union.

The venue, Annapurna Studios, was decked out in stunning decor, setting the perfect backdrop for the traditional ceremony. The couple looked radiant as they exchanged vows in front of their loved ones. Naga Chaitanya, known for his charm and elegance, was dressed in a stylish outfit, while Shobitha Dhulipala, who has been gaining recognition for her acting talent, stunned in a beautiful ensemble that complemented her graceful personality.

The wedding ceremony was filled with emotions, laughter, and joy, as the couple embarked on this new journey together. The celebrations reflected the rich cultural heritage of the families involved, and the atmosphere was one of love, warmth, and togetherness.

Fans of Naga Chaitanya and Shobitha Dhulipala were thrilled to see glimpses of the event, with



Annapurna Studios sharing exclusive photos from the ceremony. These images captured the love, elegance, and grandeur of the wedding, adding to the excitement surrounding the couple's union.

This star-studded wedding has already generated much buzz on social media, with fans and well-wishers pouring in their congratulatory messages for the newlywed couple. As Naga Chaitanya and Shobitha Dhulipala begin their married life, their fans eagerly await more updates on their journey together.

Pawan Kalyan's "Seize the Ship" Creates Buzz, Registered as Film Title



Andhra Pradesh's deputy CM, Pawan Kalyan, known for his enigmatic persona, recently became the center of a social media storm with his now-famous phrase "seize the ship." This moment unfolded during an inspection at the Kakinada Port, where Pawan Kalyan took decisive action, dramatically seizing the Stella cargo ship allegedly involved in smuggling the state's Public Distribution System (PDS) rice.

The video of Pawan Kalyan commanding "seize the ship" went viral, sparking widespread discussions on social media, and the phrase quickly became a trending topic on Twitter India for an entire day. The viral nature of this phrase has now led to an interesting development—the title "Seize the Ship" has been officially registered with the Telugu Film Chamber.

A production house named R Films Factory+ Production has successfully secured the rights to the title for one year, making

it exclusive for their upcoming project. This clever marketing move capitalizes on the title's sudden popularity, given how widely the phrase has resonated across social and offline media platforms.

The registration of this title could signal the possibility of a film or project titled "Seize the Ship" being in the works, drawing inspiration from Pawan Kalyan's dramatic moment. Titles that capture public attention can often become key to a film's initial success, and thanks to Pawan Kalyan's viral moment, this one is already well known among audiences.

With the catchy and already viral title in hand, R Films Factory+ Production stands to benefit from the buzz surrounding the phrase. As this development unfolds, it will be interesting to see how the production house uses the viral momentum to its advantage, potentially turning Pawan Kalyan's "seize the ship" moment into the cornerstone of a new project.

Ram Pothineni's Rapo 22: New Updates and Exciting Developments

Tollywood's energetic star Ram Pothineni is all set to captivate audiences with his upcoming film "Rapo 22", a project that has already stirred significant excitement in the film industry. Directed by P. Mahesh Babu, renowned for his work on "Miss Shetty Mr. Polishetty", the movie also features Bhagya Sri Borse, who gained popularity with "Mr. Bachchan", as the female lead. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, the film was recently launched with a grand puja ceremony, signaling the start of a highly anticipated project.

In a bid to keep fans engaged, the "Rapo 22" team has been sharing frequent updates. One of the most recent teasers revealed a glimpse of Ram Pothineni riding a bicycle, hinting at an exciting aspect of his character. This visual update, scheduled to be officially shared on December 6 at 10:08 AM, has further raised expectations for the film, suggesting that Ram is prepared to take on a serious and engaging role in this project.



The film also marks a significant milestone for the crew involved. Cinematographer Madhu Neelakandan, known for his work across multiple languages including Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada, is making his Tollywood debut with "Rapo 22". The film's music is being composed by the popular Kollywood duo Vivek-Mervin, known for their work in films like "Mary Christmas" and "Malaiakkottai Valiban", which has added to the growing anticipation surrounding the project. Additionally, the film is set to benefit from the expertise of Akkineni Srikar Prasad, a National Award-winning editor, further elevating expectations for visually and narratively impressive film.

With every a new development, "Rapo 22" continues to gather momentum, and fans are eagerly awaiting more updates as the film progresses. Ram Pothineni's new venture is shaping up to be a thrilling addition to Tollywood's lineup, promising both entertainment and a fresh experience for moviegoers.

Alia Bhatt's "Jigra" Set for OTT Release on Netflix

Bollywood star Alia Bhatt's latest action thriller, "Jigra", which failed to impress at the box office, is now making its way to Netflix. Directed by Vasanth Meenu, "Jigra" follows the gripping journey of a sister on a desperate mission to rescue her brother from a foreign prison. Despite its promising plot and star power, the film struggled to make a significant impact in theatres, leaving fans and critics disappointed.

Now, "Jigra" is set to debut on the OTT platform Netflix, where it will be available for streaming starting December 6, 2024. The movie will be released in its original Hindi version, with no dubbed versions planned for international audiences. This move hopes to provide the film with a second chance, enabling it to reach a wider global audience and gain more appreciation.

The film features an ensemble cast alongside Alia Bhatt, in-



cluding Vedang Raina, Manoj Pahwa, and Rahul Ravindran, each playing pivotal roles that add depth to the narrative. The music for the film is composed by Achint Thakkar and Manpreet Singh, contributing to the overall atmospheric tension of the film.

Produced by Karan Johar, Alia Bhatt, Apoorva Mehta, Shaheen Bhatt, and Somen Mishra, "Jigra" had high hopes for a successful theatrical run, but with its digital release, it now aims to find its audience in the ever-expanding world of online streaming.

With Netflix's global reach, "Jigra" will have an opportunity to find the viewers who may have missed it in cinemas. Alia Bhatt's performance and the gripping storyline could still resonate with audiences, giving the film a chance for a revival in the digital realm. Fans are now hopeful that "Jigra" will finally get the recognition it deserves through this new platform.