

Weather Forecast

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

My Father Was Already a Teacher for the Entire State



- **Nara Lokesh's Interesting Comments in Bapatla**
- **We will complete the DSC in six months!**
- **It seems like Sankranti has come early**
- **We have given orders to remove those useless apps**

TPN CORRESPONDENT
BAPATALA, DEC-8

State Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh attended the program held at Bapatla Municipal High School as part of the mega parents-teachers meeting. During the event, Lokesh made some interesting comments and shared childhood memories with the students. "After seeing you, I remembered my school days. When I was a child, my mother used to come to our school whenever there was a parent-teacher meeting. My father was already a state teacher, so he didn't have time to come

to my school. I see God in children. All the children seem like my son Devansh. My father is from Hyderabad and I am from Amaravati. I cannot even play with him," Lokesh said. He further expressed, "No matter how stressed I am or how much work I have, if I see children, I stop. I play with them for a while to have fun. I am lucky to be the Education Minister who shapes the golden future of children. Teachers are the ones who shape them, no matter what profession they take up. I have great respect for teachers. As the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, said, our government strongly believes that social change is possible only through

education. Honorable Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, with his visionary ideas, is helping us bring the Andhra model to make our education system an ideal one for the country." "We announced the Mega DSC with 16,347 posts as soon as we came to power. We will complete the process of filling teacher posts in six months. We will conduct the Mega DSC process transparently," Lokesh promised. Lokesh said, "Looking at the Mega Parents-Teachers Meeting, it seems like the Sankranti festival has come early. Through Mega PTM, the bond between government schools, teachers, students, and parents is strengthened. If

a system is to improve, everyone must participate in it." He further mentioned, "The CM said that social participation is essential for the education system to be ideal. With the Chief Minister's instructions and suggestions, there is a need for the future of the school to be studied by the children, their parents, the teachers who teach, the headmasters who guide, the school management committees, donors, alumni, and voluntary organizations." Lokesh emphasized, "Teachers should only teach education. It is not their responsibility to take photos of toilets and meals. We have already given orders on

this. In the state, teachers should only focus on teaching education and we have decided to remove useless apps. We are creating the Andhra Model of School Education. I am responsible for making children lightning bolts. We are changing the KG to PG curriculum." Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh had lunch with the students during the parent-teacher meeting at Bapatla High School. Despite being the CM and the minister, both sat on the floor and ate without any pomp. After the meal, Nara Lokesh himself took the plate that his father, Chandrababu, had used and put it aside, which impressed everyone.

They are the real heroes... Respect them



TPN CORRESPONDENT
KADAPA, DEC-8

As part of the state-wide Mega Parents-Teachers Meet initiative, AP Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan participated in the program at Kadapa Municipal Corporation High School. The event, aimed at fostering communication between teachers and parents in government schools, saw a grand welcome for Pawan Kalyan, who arrived from Begumpet Airport and traveled by road to the school, receiving a police salute on arrival. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan displayed his generosity by offering financial support for the improvement of Kadapa Municipal Corporation High School. He pledged to personally contribute funds from his trust to modernize the school's kitchen and provide awards and certificates for students excelling in

competitions. Pawan made this commitment during his visit to the school as part of the government's "parent-teacher meeting" initiative. Addressing the gathering, he highlighted that Rayalaseema is home to the highest number of libraries in the state and praised the region for producing great figures like Annamayya, Vemana, Puttaparthi Narayanacharyulu, KV Reddy, and Uyyalawada Narasimha Reddy. He said, "The collector informed me about the need to upgrade the kitchen, and I will personally fund this from my trust." Additionally, Pawan assured that he would provide financial aid for the distribution of prizes and certificates for the school's girl students. He stressed the importance of education in shaping the state's future and stated that without proper education, progress would remain unattainable. Pawan emphasized the

role of consistent communication between parents, teachers, and students to solve problems and ensure the students' overall development. During the meeting, he addressed the audience, emphasizing Rayalaseema's historical significance in education and its once-thriving library system. He also recalled his involvement in the Uddanam issue, which was addressed with a Rs. 61 crore project under then-CM Chandrababu Naidu. On the issue of water scarcity in Kadapa, Pawan Kalyan expressed his surprise at the ongoing water crisis despite the region having produced two chief ministers. He assured that Rs. 45 crore had been allocated for the Pulivendula drinking water project and promised to work towards resolving the water issues in the area.

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Invitation

The Governing Body & Trustees of the
ROYAL SERVICE TRUST

Vijayawada, Regd. 240/2017
(A Charitable Service Organisation)

Cordially solicit your gracious presence on the occasion of the
Annual Scholarships Programme for the Academic Year 2024-25
on Sunday, the 8th December, 2024 at 4.00 pm at
Makineni Basavapunniah Vignana Kendram
Akulavari Street, Near Raghavaiah Park, Governor Peta, VIJAYAWADA

Chief Guest
Hon'ble Justice Sri **AKULA VENKATA SESA SAI**
former Judge & acted as Chief Justice of AP High Court, Amaravathi.

Guest of Honour
Dr. Prof. Sri **KOPPIREDDY PADMA RAJU**
former member, APPSC & Vice Chancellor of
Adikavi Nannaiyah University, Rajamahendravaram

Distinguished Guest
Dr. Sri **CHINAMILI SATYANARAYANA**
National President: Royal Clubs Association, Narasapuram

Special Invitees
Sri. **THULASI RAMACHANDRA PRABHU**
Chairman : M/s Tulasi Group of Industries, Guntur.
Sri. **BONDADA RAGHAVENDRA RAO**
Managing Director : M/s Bondada Engineering Ltd. Hyderabad.

The Function will be Presided Over by
Sri. **SEETHALAM RAMBABU**
Jt. Commissioner GST(Retd)
Chairman : Royal Service Trust, Vijayawada.

Programme:

- ▶ Welcoming the guests
- ▶ Lighting the lamp
- ▶ Prayer
- ▶ Introduction of Chief Guest & Felicitation
- ▶ Messages of Guests
- ▶ Distribution of Scholarships
- ▶ Vote of Thanks & National Anthem
- ▶ Dinner

Ri.Thota Padmanabha Rao (Krishna)
General Secretary
Ri.Ankem Rama Sai Prasad
Treasurer



Union Minister Launches AP-Indhiana Samarthya Program-Urjaveer

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-8

Union Power, Housing, and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar inaugurated the AP-Indhiana Samarthya Program-Urjaveer at the Murali Resort Convention in Poranki on Saturday. This joint initiative by the Union Power Department, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), and the Andhra Pradesh State Government aims to promote en-

ergy efficiency and economic empowerment. Addressing the gathering, Minister Khattar expressed his admiration for Andhra Pradesh's progressive vision under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. "Sustainability, energy efficiency, and economic empowerment are no longer aspirations but realities. The Urjaveer program represents a revolution for the people, fostering economic oppor-

tunities, reducing energy consumption, and alleviating electricity costs," he said. He praised the three programs launched as part of the initiative, calling them transformative steps toward a brighter, greener, and more prosperous future. Khattar emphasized the importance of such programs in the journey toward a sustainable and energy-efficient era. State Power Minister Gottipati Ravikumar highlighted the program's signif-

icance in reducing electricity bills for citizens and promoting the use of energy-efficient appliances. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring energy sustainability across Andhra Pradesh. The event saw participation from prominent dignitaries, including Ministers Kolu Parthasarathy, P. Narayana, and Kollu Ravindra, along with Government Chief Whip P. Anuradha, RTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana,

and several MLAs, such as Bode Prasad, Venigandla Ramu, and Kagita Krishna Prasad. Senior officials, including Fuel Department Secretary Vijayanand, Krishna District Collector Balaji, and representatives from both Central and State governments, were also present. The program marked a significant step in Andhra Pradesh's mission to lead the way in energy efficiency and sustainability.



Minister Nadendra Manohar Inspects Paddy Fields in Parvathipuram Manyam Dist

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Parvathipuram, Dec-8

Civil Supplies Minister Nadendra Manohar visited Parvathipuram Manyam district on Saturday to inspect paddy fields and assess the ongoing paddy procurement process. During his visit, the minister toured the fields in Pedha Bondapalli, Parvathipuram Mandal, and reviewed the paddy procurement equipment at the Rythu Seva Kendra in the village. Engaging directly with farmers, the minister emphasized the need for innovative agricultural policies and reforms to enhance productivity and farmer income. He assured farmers

of the government's commitment to addressing their challenges, despite financial constraints. "The government has introduced subsidies on tarpaulins for farmers and is working tirelessly to ensure their needs are met. The Chief Minister is committed to making every drop of water count through the interlinking of rivers and other irrigation initiatives," said the minister. He urged farmers to trust in the government's efforts and future plans. Farmers expressed satisfaction with the current paddy procurement system, highlighting that payments are now made within 24 hours, a stark improvement from the previous system

where they had to wait for a year. The farmers also requested the completion of the Janjhavathy project, which they believe will provide a permanent solution for irrigation in the region. Accompanying the minister were Parvathipuram MLA Bonela Vijaya Chandra, Joint Collector Smt. SS Shobika, Parvathipuram ITDA Project Officer Ashutosh Srivastava, District Agriculture Officer K. Robert Paul, and other officials. The visit underscored the government's dedication to supporting the agricultural sector and ensuring that farmers receive the resources and support they need for a prosperous future.



Central Govt Pledges Full Support for AP's Development - Union Minister

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-8

Union Housing, Urban Affairs, and Energy Minister Manohar Lal Khattar assured full support from the Central Government for Andhra Pradesh's development in housing, municipal administration, urban development, and energy sectors. The Union Minister conducted a detailed review of these departments on Saturday at the Novotel Hotel in Vijayawada. The meeting was attended by State Housing & Civil Affairs Minister Kolu Parthasarathy, Municipal Administration & Urban Development Minister P. Narayana, and Energy Minister Gottapati Ravikumar. Officials presented the state's performance and sought enhanced Central cooperation through a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation. Speaking at the review, Union Minister Khattar praised the efforts of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, highlighting the state's achievements in the housing, urban development,

and energy sectors. He assured that the Center would extend its full support to accelerate development. Minister Kolu Parthasarathy emphasized the need for infrastructure development in housing layouts under PMAY Urban 2.0, launched by the coalition government. He urged the quick release of Central funds, pointing out that the previous administration neglected infrastructure in these layouts, leaving many without homes. Khattar responded positively to these proposals. Municipal Administration Minister P. Narayana requested the swift approval of Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam Metro Rail projects and sought support for the continued implementation of the Amrut 2 scheme, which had been stalled for five years. The Union Minister assured cooperation on these requests. Later, Union Minister Khattar was felicitated by Ministers Kolu Parthasarathy, P. Narayana, and Gottapati Ravikumar with a memento and traditional honors.

Weather Alert, Heavy Rains Expected in Telugu States for Three Days

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-8

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a warning for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, forecasting heavy rains due to a newly formed low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal. This comes as the effects of Cyclone Fengal begin to diminish. The IMD reported that a surface circulation at an altitude of 3.1 km above sea level has developed into a low-pressure area in the southeast Bay of Bengal. This system is expected to move west-northwestwards and intensify further by December 12. As a result, heavy rains are predicted in several districts of Andhra Pradesh, including Alluri Sitarama Raju, East Godavari, Kakinada, Konaseema, Palnadu, NTR, Prakasam, West Godavari, Nellore, and Chittoor. On Saturday, light to moderate rainfall was already reported in Parvathipuram Manyam, Srikakulam, Anakapalle, Kakinada, and Visakhapatnam. Gusty winds



and significant downpours are also expected in Yanam and South Coastal Andhra Pradesh over the next two days. In Telangana, heavy rains are forecasted for districts such as Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, and Nalgonda. Light rains have been observed in parts of Hyderabad, with the sky remaining overcast and temperatures dropping across the state. Both states are experiencing an intensified cold wave, with nighttime

temperatures falling due to winds from the south and southwest. Severe cold has been reported in areas like Nirmal, Adilabad, and Hyderabad in Telangana, as well as Parvathipuram Manyam, Visakhapatnam, and nearby regions in Andhra Pradesh. Residents are advised to stay indoors during heavy rains, monitor weather updates, and prepare for potential disruptions caused by strong winds and rainfall. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and will provide timely updates to ensure public safety.

They are the real heroes...

Continued from page 1

Later, Pawan Kalyan joined students for lunch to inspect the quality of the Dokka Seethamma mid-day meal scheme, further connecting with the community. The science experiment by class 10 students impressed Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. The experiment was designed to assist the elderly, people suffering from paralysis, and those with disabilities, aiming to alleviate the difficulty of crossing platforms at railway stations. The Deputy Chief Minister specially congratulated the students for coming up with such a brilliant idea at such a young age. Pawan Kalyan revealed that there is a reason why he chose Kadapa for the parent-teacher meeting, noting that it is a place rich in libraries and described it as a land of education. He pointed out that while film dialogues and re-recordings may be altered—whether it's a lion scratching its beard or a hero walking—there can be no re-recordings for those who died in Kargil or for teachers. He emphasized that soldiers and teachers are the real heroes and urged everyone to respect them. He advised students to look for heroes in their teachers, not in film stars. Pawan Kalyan expressed his sincere wish that the day would come when teachers would receive higher salaries. Although unsure of how feasible this is, he promised to work toward it. He also highlighted the importance of nutritious food for teachers, acknowledging their physical and mental exhaustion from teaching. Additionally, he stressed that it is the responsibility of parents to monitor their children's social media usage, ensuring that smartphones are used for educational and developmental purposes rather than leading them down harmful paths. Pawan Kalyan assured that the government is sincere about addressing the issues faced by students and schools, and would strive to find solutions even within limited budgets. He warned that any encroachment on school premises would result in legal action under the Goonda Act.

Minister Anagani Satyaprasad Praises Lokesh for Reviving Education System

Criticized the YCP Govt

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Cherukupalli, Dec - 8

Revenue Minister Anagani Satyaprasad has lauded Minister Nara Lokesh for his efforts in correcting the education system that, he claimed, was mismanaged during the previous YSRCP government. Speaking at a mega Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) held at Cherukupalli High School, the minister criticized the policies implemented by Jagan Mohan Reddy's administration, which he alleged caused significant damage to the education sector over the last five years.

Minister Satyaprasad highlighted the declining pass percentage in the tenth grade as a key issue, attributing it to the pressure imposed on students through the introduction of English medium instruction without adequate preparation. He emphasized that the current administration, under the leadership of HRD Minister Lokesh, is focused



on creating a cheerful and supportive learning environment for students.

"Parent-Teacher Meetings of this scale are unprecedented and a significant step toward fostering collaboration between schools and families," said Satyaprasad. He urged parents to use these meetings as an opportunity to ensure their children attend school regularly and receive quality education.

The minister further remarked that such initiatives not only boost morale among students but also bridge the gap between parents and teachers, fostering accountability in the education system. He expressed confidence that the reforms being introduced by Lokesh will restore confidence in the state's educational institutions and improve overall student outcomes.

Yanamala Ramakrishnudu Letter to CM Chandrababu

Protection to BC Farmers and Fishermen from Corporate Exploitation

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec-8

Senior Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader and former minister Yanamala Ramakrishnudu has written a detailed letter to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, highlighting the plight of BC farmers and fishermen affected by the Kakinada Special Economic Zone (SEZ). He appealed for immediate measures to ensure justice for the communities that have suffered due to land acquisition and environmental degradation.



In the letter, Yanamala pointed out that prominent companies, including Divis, have profited significantly from the Kakinada SEZ and port, while the original landowners have faced severe losses. He alleged that KV Rao purchased lands at low prices from small farmers and later sold them to GMR companies for massive profits. He further claimed that the lands were eventually sold to Aurobindo, a benami company, for approximately ₹4,000 crore under the YSRCP regime. Yanamala expressed grave concerns over the loss of

nearly 10,000 acres of land by poor BC communities, resulting in displacement, as well as severe sea and air pollution affecting their livelihoods. He accused YSRCP ministers and local MLAs of exploiting the situation by coercing farmers into selling their lands at low prices.

To address these issues, Yanamala proposed forming a committee comprising members from the Pollution Control Board, National Green Tribunal (NGT), and other relevant departments. He urged the government to conduct a thorough investigation into the land transactions, cancel illegal registrations, and return the lands to their rightful owners. The senior leader emphasized the need for democracy to protect vulnerable communities and reiterated that justice must prevail for the BC farmers and fishermen. He also revealed that letters had been sent to the NGT in Chennai, the Union Environment Ministry, and the AP Pollution Board to resolve the ongoing issues.

Anantapur Police Take YSRCP Supporter Borugadda Anil into Custody



TPN CORRESPONDENT
Anantapur, Dec - 8

The Anantapur Fourth Town police have taken Borugadda Anil, a YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) supporter, into custody from the Rajahmundry Central Jail. Borugadda is accused of posting abusive and obscene content on social media targeting Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, and other coalition leaders.

Several cases have already been registered against Borugadda under various sections for his alleged offensive posts. The Anantapur police filed a petition in court seeking his custody for three days to investigate further into the matter. After reviewing the petition, the court granted permission, and Borugadda is being transferred to Anantapur. The Fourth Town Police Station in Anantapur has registered fresh cases against him, adding to the numerous allegations of misuse of social media platforms to defame political leaders. Authorities are expected to interrogate him regarding his activities and gather more evidence related to the obscene posts.

The police action underscores their intent to crack down on defamatory and abusive behavior online, particularly against public figures. The investigation is ongoing, and further updates are awaited.

YS Sharmila Demands Investigation into Bribes and Solar Power Contracts

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 8

Congress state president Y.S. Sharmila has launched a scathing attack on the Andhra Pradesh government, questioning the lack of investigation into alleged bribes in solar power contracts during the YSRCP regime. She accused the government of negligence and demanded a fast-track inquiry into the alleged corruption, which reportedly involves ₹1,750 crore in bribes.



Sharmila praised the government for forming a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to tackle ration rice smuggling but questioned the selective focus on issues. "Why is there no investigation into the solar power contracts signed under YSRCP? Are the reports provided by U.S. investigative agencies, alleging that Chief Minister Jagan took bribes, being ignored?" she asked.

Highlighting alleged favoritism, Sharmila pointed to Adani's involvement, demanding clarity on "illegal contracts" and whether fear of potential arrests for Jagan and Adani is influencing the lack of action. She criticized the government's reluctance to investigate the allegations despite earlier accusations by the TDP, which claimed massive corruption in solar energy agreements signed with SECI. Sharmila reminded the public that

the TDP had previously protested against inflated rates in solar power purchases, alleging bribes and corruption. "The previous government procured solar power at ₹2.49 per unit when it was available for ₹1.99. Why is this not being revisited?" she asked, emphasizing the need for justice.

A case in the High Court seeking the cancellation of the deal involving Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav was also brought to light. Sharmila accused Jagan of selling out to Adani, reiterating Congress' demand for Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to initiate a thorough investigation into the alleged bribery and cancel the controversial solar power agreements.

Dec 13th on Behalf of YCP We are Conducting Dharna at Anantapur to Support Farmers

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Anantapur, Dec - 8

The Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YCP) is organizing a rally in Anantapur district on December 13 to highlight the plight of farmers. Former MLA and YCP district president Anantha Venkatrami Reddy announced the program, stating that farmers in the district are facing severe challenges due to a combination of excessive rains and drought during the Kharif season.



Speaking about the dire situation, Venkatrami Reddy expressed concern that farmers who have already incurred significant losses are now unable to secure remunerative prices for their harvested crops. He criticized the government for failing to establish grain purchase centers, accusing traders and brokers of exploiting farmers by manipulating prices.

"Our leader Jagan has announced action in support of farmers," Venkatrami Reddy said, reaffirming the party's commitment to addressing these

pressing issues. The rally will begin at 10 a.m. from the YS statue at the Zilla Parishad office and proceed to the Collectorate, where a petition will be submitted to the District Collector.

The YCP district president called on constituency coordinators, party workers, and farmers to actively participate in the rally and dharna program. "This is a fight for justice for our farmers, who are the backbone of our economy," he added, urging collective efforts to ensure their grievances are addressed.

Wave of Resignations Continues in YCP, Key Leader Quits in Kakinada

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Kakinada, Dec - 8

The Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YCP) faces another setback as a prominent leader in Prathipadu constituency of Kakinada district has resigned. Eleswaram Mandal party president Partha Sarathi has stepped down, adding to the ongoing wave of resignations by dissatisfied leaders in Andhra Pradesh.



The discontent stems from the party's recent decision to appoint Mudragada Giri as the constituency in-charge, which has reportedly caused widespread displeasure among local leaders. This follows a series of changes in the constituency's leadership, including the removal of MLA Parvatha Prasad and the unsuccessful candidacy of former MLA Varupula Subbarao in the previous elections.

Sources suggest that Partha Sarathi's resignation reflects deeper frustrations within the party's leadership dynamics in the constituency. Leaders have expressed dissatisfaction with decisions perceived as favoring individuals from outside their base, such as Mudragada Giri, whose appointment

has been controversial. Adding to the tension is Mudragada's change of surname to Reddy, which some see as an attempt to align with a different caste identity, despite his Kapu community background.

These developments highlight internal discord within the YCP as it gears up for upcoming elections. The party leadership's efforts to restructure and assign responsibilities have not been well-received in several constituencies, leading to resignations and growing discontent. How the high command addresses these challenges remains to be seen, as the resignations pose a significant hurdle in maintaining unity and voter confidence in key regions.

Merugu Nagarjuna Slams Govt for Favoring Private Education

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Andhra Pradesh, Dec - 8

Bapatla District YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) President Merugu Nagarjuna launched a scathing attack on the current government during a media conference, accusing it of dismantling government education policies to favor private institutions. He alleged that the government is intentionally neglecting public education for the benefit of private schools.



Nagarjuna criticized the administration for its inability to appoint even a single vice-chancellor in six months after forcing 20 vice-chancellors to resign. "This lack of leadership is harming higher education institutions across the state," he remarked. Reflecting on the tenure of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Nagarjuna high-

lighted significant investments in education. "During Jagan Garu's governance, ₹12,000 crores were allocated to modernize 45,000 schools and hostels under programs aimed at upgrading infrastructure and im-

proving student facilities," he said.

He also took a dig at the current government's efforts to organize parent-teacher meetings in the same schools modernized during YS Jagan's administration. "Chandrababu is now sitting in those schools and holding parents' meetings. Are these meetings meant to inform parents that you have stopped English medium for their children, removed the CBSE syllabus, and taken away opportunities like TOEFL and IB programs?" he questioned.

Nagarjuna emphasized the need for consistent policies to strengthen government education and urged the administration to focus on equitable access to quality education rather than prioritizing private sector interests.

VHP Leaders Present Temple Autonomy Draft to AP CM Chandrababu



TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec - 7

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) leaders met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu to discuss a draft proposal aimed at granting autonomy to temples in the state. The delegation, led by VHP All India General Secretary Sri Milind Parande and All India Vice President Sri Gokaraju Gangaraju, emphasized the importance of preserving and empowering temple administration.

During the meeting, the VHP leaders presented the draft, which seeks to ensure better management and greater independence for temples, enabling them to operate free from external interference. They discussed key reforms to strengthen temple governance, safeguard cultural heritage, and ensure transparency in administration.

The leaders also briefed the Chief Minister about the upcoming "Haindava Shankharavam" public meeting, scheduled to take place in Vijayawada on January 5, 2025. The event is expected to draw large crowds and serve as a platform to highlight issues related to temple autonomy and the preservation of Sanatana Dharma.

Prominent VHP members Gummalla Satyam, Sri Venkateswarlu, Durga Prasad Raju, and Ravikumar were also present during the meeting, supporting the initiative.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu assured the delegation of his government's commitment to preserving Andhra Pradesh's rich cultural and religious heritage. He stated that the draft would be reviewed carefully, and steps would be taken to address the concerns raised by the VHP.

Govt Schools Striving for Excellence - District Collector



TPN CORRESPONDENT

Vijayawada, Dec - 7

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi emphasized the government's commitment to enhancing educational standards in government schools to rival those of corporate institutions. Speaking at a mega Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) at the Zilla Parishad Unnatha Pathashala in Vijayawada Rural Mandal, the Collector praised the dedication of skilled government school teachers and the achievements of their students in academics, sports, and technology. Dr. Lakshmi highlighted the significance of the state-wide mega PTMs, held in 939 schools across the district, as platforms for collaboration between parents, teachers, and administrators. She inspected the school's facilities, including the Marreddy Seetharavamma Science Laboratory, which was built with donor support. Expressing gratitude to the donors, the Collector said, "Their contributions have greatly enhanced the infrastructure, making government schools centers of excellence." She also congratulated the school for hosting the School of Sports Excellence, named after

hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand, and for students' notable achievements at the national level. The Collector mentioned that some students received recognition from NASA, showcasing the untapped potential of government school students.

Dr. Lakshmi underscored the role of holistic progress cards in providing detailed insights into students' academics, attendance, and talents, enabling parents to understand their child's progress. She encouraged parents to actively participate in their children's education and support their interests.

During the event, Munnangi Venkata Seetharami Reddy, a distinguished alumnus, was acknowledged for his contributions, along with other donors who funded additional classrooms, a dining hall, and a bicycle shed. The program included cultural performances by students, which the Collector praised for showcasing their creativity.

The event concluded with Collector Lakshmi urging alumni and parents to continue supporting their schools, ensuring the legacy of excellence for future generations.

Bonda Uma Highlights the Importance of Education at Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec - 7

A Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting was held on Saturday at Karnataka Rammohan Rao Municipal High School, CVR High School, and A.K.T.P School in the Central Constituency's 23rd Division. Government Whip and Central Constituency MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao participated as the chief guest, emphasizing the transformative power of education.

Speaking on the occasion, Bonda Uma Garu said that the Telugu Desam government has prioritized the quality of education in government schools, evident through initiatives like the state-wide organization of Mega Parent-Teacher Meetings in 45,094 government and aided schools. He urged parents to support their children, even if they score low marks, by encouraging and guiding them towards success.

"Government schools provide education of better quality than private institutions," Bonda Uma remarked. "Many successful individuals, including myself, have studied in government schools. This initiative aims to foster cooperation between parents and teachers, ensuring students thrive academically and personally." Highlighting the Telugu Desam government's efforts, he noted that students have been provided with uniforms, school bags, books, quality mid-day meals, and a conducive learning



environment. Programs like distributing bicycles to 8th, 9th, and 10th-grade students have further supported their academic journey. Bonda Uma also encouraged students to excel in sports alongside their studies, aiming to bring pride to their families, the state, and the country. He pledged continued support for government schools and students in his constituency.

The event was attended by 23rd Division Corporator Nelibandla Balaswamy, Karnataka Rammohan Rao School HM Nancharayya, CVR School HM Subrahmanyam, AKTP School's Srinivas, and other dignitaries. Parents, teachers, and students participated enthusiastically, making the event a success.

Education is The Pathway to a Golden Future



TPN CORRESPONDENT

Mangalagiri, Dec - 7

Emphasizing the transformative power of education, the state government has launched an innovative program, Mega Parent Meet, under the guidance of the Education Department to secure a bright future for students. Speaking at an event held at the historic G.R. School in Old Mangalagiri, leaders Jonnadula Balakrishna and Vaka Madhavrao Goud highlighted the importance of fostering a supportive environment for education.

The meeting, organized as per the directive of Education Minister Nara Lokesh, sought to involve parents and teachers in shaping the future of children. "Education is the only way to pave the golden path to the future. It must be imparted in a joyful and disciplined environment, ensuring students achieve their highest potential," said Balakrishna.

The leaders also discussed the significance of the mid-day meal scheme in enhancing student

well-being and academic performance. "The coalition government, led by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Education Minister Nara Lokesh, is committed to providing quality food and holistic education to students," they added, expressing gratitude to the state leadership for its efforts.

The Mega Parent Meet aims to bridge communication between teachers and parents, creating a collaborative approach to student success. School Headmistress Asha, along with teachers, parents, and students, actively participated in the event, showcasing a shared commitment to improving education standards.

Balakrishna concluded by stressing the importance of educating both boys and girls, urging parents to take an active role in their children's education. The program, celebrated for its inclusivity and vision, has been well-received as a milestone initiative in the state's educational reforms.

Grand Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting Held at Nidamanur Zilla Parishad High School

MLA Yarlagadda Venkat Rao Attended As Chief Guest

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Gannavaram, Dec - 7

A Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting was held in a festive atmosphere at Nidamanur Zilla Parishad High School in Vijayawada Rural Mandal. Gannavaram Constituency MLA and Government Whip Yarlagadda Venkat Rao participated as the chief guest and interacted with parents, students, and teachers. Yarlagadda Venkat Rao was warmly welcomed by school NCC students, teachers, and parents. He performed special pujas to the Saraswati Devi idol installed in the school and presented prizes to parents who participated in games organized by the school. The MLA also congratulated students who excelled in district and state-level competitions and were selected at the national level.

Commending the school's achievements, Yarlagadda Venkat Rao said, "This school is the best in the district, and its students have showcased exemplary talent. I will do everything in my capacity to address the issues faced by the school and ensure its development." He also suggested organizing a meeting with alumni and reaching out to NRI students for additional support to enhance the school's facilities.

Taking a dig at the previous administration, Venkat Rao criticized the YCP government for its financial



mismanagement, which he claimed drained the state treasury and hindered the implementation of welfare schemes.

Reiterating the commitment of the coalition government, he said, "Our government will continue to govern in adherence to the Constitution. The legacy of leaders like Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao inspires us to uphold justice and equality, especially regarding women's rights."

The event concluded with MLA Yarlagadda congratulating students who showcased innovative skills and projects, promising to support their educational journey. Teachers, parents, and students expressed their gratitude for the MLA's active participation and encouragement.

617 KL University Students Selected by TCS in Landmark Placement Drive

TPN CORRESPONDENT
Vijayawada, Dec - 7

KL University continues its stellar performance in campus placements, with 617 students securing job offers from the renowned software company TCS during the latest campus recruitment drive. The announcement was made by the university's Vice-Chancellor, Dr. G. Partha Saradhi Varma, during a press conference held on Saturday.

Expressing his delight, Dr. Varma revealed that the university has achieved a remarkable milestone this year, with 2,300 job offers extended to students by leading companies, including Cognizant, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, and IBM. "Our students' consistent success in placements reflects the robust academic framework and training provided by KL University," he stated, adding that the campus placement drive is ongoing and aims to set new records.

Dr. N.B.V. Prasad, Dean of Campus Placements, highlighted the university's proactive efforts in connecting students with top national and international companies. "Our goal is to align placement opportunities



with students' aspirations. We ensure they get multiple chances to interview for their dream companies," he emphasized.

Dr. J. Srinivasa Rao, Director of Admissions, elaborated on the university's comprehensive strategy, where students receive placement-oriented training from their first year. "This approach not only enhances technical and soft skills but also prepares students to meet the dynamic demands of the corporate world," he explained.

KL University's commitment to fostering employability through targeted training and strategic partnerships continues to yield impressive results, positioning the institution as a top choice for aspiring professionals.



Janasena Party Provides ₹5 Lakh Insurance to Families of Deceased Activists

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Vizianagaram : In a compassionate gesture, Jana Sena Party extended support to the families of eight party activists from the joint Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts who lost their lives in separate accidents. The families were provided insurance cheques of ₹5 lakh each at a program held in Vizianagaram today.

The cheques were handed over by Jana Sena Political Affairs Committee Chairman and State Civil Supplies Minister, Shri Nadendla Manohar, who assured the families that the party stands firmly by them during this difficult time.

Jana Sena President and State Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, wishing for their



well-being.

MLAs Smt. Lokam Madhavi and Shri Nimmaka Jayakrishna, along with Party PAC members Shri Kona Tata Rao and Smt. Padala Aruna, also participated in the event, reiterating the party's commit-

ment to supporting its activists and their families.

The initiative underscores Jana Sena's dedication to standing by its cadre and providing assistance to those in need, further solidifying its bond with the grassroots.

Mega Parents and Teachers Meeting is a Boost to Children's Educational Development



TPN CORRESPONDENT, Gudivada : Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu praised the innovative initiative by Education Minister Nara Lokesh to bring parents, teachers, and students together through mega meetings. Speaking at a Parents and Teachers Meeting held at Kautavaram Zilla Parishad School in Gudlavalleru Mandal, he said the program reflects the coalition government's commitment to advancing education.

MLA Ramu, who was given a warm welcome by students, inaugurated the event with a puja to Goddess Saraswati. The event featured cultural performances by children, showcasing their talent and enthusiasm.

In his speech, MLA Ramu highlighted that these meetings provide a platform for parents and teachers to discuss students' academic progress. He urged parents to encourage their children, regardless of gender, to focus on their education and strive for independence and a bright future. He reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring quality education for children from all backgrounds, including remote areas.

MLA Ramu inspected technical demonstrations created by the students and congratulated them on their creativity. He also distributed prizes to students who excelled in competitions held as part of the "Vikasith Andhra 2047" initiative.

The MLA assured his full support for the development of government schools in the Gudivada constituency and appealed to parents to be proactive in their children's education. Following the meeting, MLA Ramu joined the students and alliance leaders for lunch, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie.

The event was attended by local leaders, including M. Subrahmanyam, Tahsildar Lokaraju, MDO Vijayasarathi, MEO Gopalakrishna, School HM Padmavati, SMC Chairman K. Prakash, Vice Chairperson Sudharani, MPTC Lakshmi, and other dignitaries, along with enthusiastic participation from teachers, parents, and students.

My family is not Involved in the Ration rice Business - Dwarampudi



TPN CORRESPONDENT, Kakinada

: YSRCP Former MLA Dwarampudi Chandra Shekhar clarified his stance on allegations regarding his involvement in ration rice exports, emphasizing that he has no connection with the issue. Addressing a media conference, he stated, "My family is not involved in the ration rice business. While we were once active in the rice trade, there has never been any controversy or wrongdoing associated with it."

Referring to recent remarks made by Jana Sena Party President Pawan Kalyan, Dwarampudi dismissed claims that he is profiting from ration rice exports. "I welcome a SIT inquiry into the matter. I have no objections. The government must focus on identifying and controlling these activities rather than making baseless allegations," he said.

He noted that his younger brother is a rice expert, but there is no link between his family and ration rice dealings. Dwarampudi also pointed fingers at Payyavula Keshav, labeling him as the number one rice exporter in Andhra Pradesh, and claimed that intermediaries take advantage of the system. Criticizing the current state of rice exports, he remarked, "The rice export sector has been destroyed. During the pandemic, if rice hadn't flowed from Kakinada, many countries would have faced dire food shortages. Exporters once came from Delhi, Singapore, and Bihar, but the sector is now in disarray."

He urged the government to investigate small-scale operators involved in ration rice exports and implement stronger measures to curb illegal activities.

MLA Kakarla Suresh Participates in Mega Parents Meeting at Gandipalem

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Udayagiri : Highlighting the transformative power of education, Udayagiri MLA Kakarla Suresh emphasized that the development of the region's hilly areas relies on educational progress. He was speaking at the Mega Parents Meeting organized by the state government at Gandipalem Gurukul School in Udayagiri Mandal.

MLA Kakarla Suresh received a warm welcome from the school staff, parents, and students. The event began with Saraswati Devi Puja, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge, followed by the inauguration of a new computer training module at the school. The day's celebrations also included fun-filled games and activities for parents, creating a joyful and festive atmosphere. In his address, MLA Suresh assured the gathering that efforts are underway to improve the infrastructure at the Gurukul School. Referring to the initiatives of Education Minister Nara Lokesh, he highlighted the "Paytm Program," which aims to lay a strong educational foundation for students.

He shared that intimate parents-teachers gatherings like these are being conducted across 45,000 schools in the state, including 2,604 in Nellore district. He stressed the importance of collective efforts between parents and teachers in shaping a golden future for children. Parental involvement, he said, is essential for ensuring students' discipline and academic growth.

MLA Suresh urged students to focus on their studies, achieve their goals, and excel in life, while teachers and parents were reminded of their shared responsibility in fostering a supportive learning environment. The event was attended by former MLA Kambham Vijayarama Reddy, leaders from the TDP, Jana Sena, BJP, school principals, teaching staff, and community members, making it a significant milestone in promoting education in the region.

JSP Leaders Congratulate Yashaswi on East Kapu Corp Appointment



TPN CORRESPONDENT, Andhra Pradesh : Shiva Parvathi, spokesperson for the Jana Sena Party (JSP), along with Annapurna, an active JSP activist, and Anita, extended heartfelt congratulations to Mrs. Palavalasa Yashaswi on her appointment as the Chairman of the East Kapu Corporation.

In a joint statement, they praised Mrs. Yashaswi for her leadership qualities and expressed confidence that her tenure would bring positive change and uplift the community. They also wished her success in fulfilling the responsibilities of the new position, which is expected to focus on the welfare and development of the Kapu community in the region. Their message reflects strong support for Yashaswi's leadership in this important role.

Pamidi Police Solve Wedding Theft Case in Record Time



TPN CORRESPONDENT, Anantapur : The Pamidi Police Department showcased swift action and efficiency by solving a theft case within three hours. The incident occurred during a wedding ceremony held at Kogatam Kalyana Mandapam in Pamidi town on December 5th and 6th.

Two gold vaddanams, weighing approximately 38 tolas and belonging to the bride, were stolen from the bride's room on the night of December 5th. The theft came to light, prompting the bride's father, Musali Reddy Gari Vishwanath Reddy, to file a complaint.

Pamidi Circle Inspector (CI) Yugandhar and his team acted promptly, investigating the scene and questioning individuals present at the venue. During their inquiries, they noticed the suspicious behavior of a beautician near the Pamidi Bypass speed breakers. Upon interrogation, the beautician admitted to stealing the jewelry.

The police successfully recovered the stolen vaddanams, restoring them to the bride's family. CI Yugandhar confirmed the recovery, earning widespread praise from the community for the department's swift resolution of the case.

The prompt action by Pamidi Police has instilled renewed confidence and respect among the residents for the law enforcement agency. The bride's family expressed heartfelt gratitude to the police for their efforts in resolving the theft so efficiently.

Action Demanded Against Intoxicated Community Health Center Employee in Podalakur

TPN CORRESPONDENT, Nellore :

An employee at the Community Health Center in Podalakur, identified as Sarath Kumar, has been causing disruptions by attending duty under the influence of alcohol. Despite multiple warnings from higher authorities, Sarath Kumar continues to report for duty intoxicated, creating an uncomfortable and unsafe environment for both his colleagues and the public.



Fellow staff members have reported incidents of harassment, including verbal abuse, from Sarath Kumar during working hours. Patients visiting the health center for treatment have also expressed fear and distress due to his behavior. The situation has escalated, with calls from both the public and staff urging the authorities to take strict action against him for violating workplace rules and disrupting operations.

Higher authorities have acknowledged the complaints and are under pressure to address the issue promptly to restore order and maintain the integrity of the health center. Further updates on disciplinary measures are awaited.

Persecution of Hindus: A Blindspot of Global and Indian Liberal Intelligentsia

For decades, self-proclaimed intellectuals in both India and the West have positioned themselves as defenders of marginalized communities, often using their platforms to advocate for minorities. However, their advocacy has often ignored or downplayed the systemic persecution of Hindus in countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh. These nations, formed on the basis of Islamic identity, have subjected Hindus to state-engineered oppression, yet this reality is rarely acknowledged by the liberal intelligentsia.

A key issue is the tendency to draw false equivalences between isolated incidents of violence in India and the systemic, state-sponsored persecution of Hindus in neighboring Islamic states. While India has its social issues, the treatment of minorities there cannot be equated with the institutionalized discrimination Hindus face in Pakistan and Bangladesh. These countries have created laws that marginalize Hindus, stripping them of property, citizenship, and even safety.

In Bangladesh, the Vested Property Act of 1974 allowed the government to seize Hindu lands claiming they belonged to "enemy" sympathizers of India. Successive governments have continued to expropriate Hindu property, with political allies and goons taking control of land and forcing Hindus into displacement. Despite some attempts to



return the property, over 26 lakh acres of Hindu-owned land remain seized, displacing over a million Hindus. The erasure of nearly 8 million Hindus from Bangladesh's census further illustrates the magnitude of this persecution.

Meanwhile, in Pakistan, Hindus face similar challenges, often living under the constant threat of violence, forced conversions, and discrimination. The state has actively sidelined Hindu citizens through legal and social systems designed to maintain Islamic hegemony, further fueling their marginalization.

Despite these grim realities, the liberal intelligentsia, both in India and globally, has largely turned a blind eye to these issues. Instead, they focus on In-

dia's treatment of its Muslim minority, often portraying it as an example of Hindu-majority oppression. This selective blindness stems from ideological alliances that prioritize certain narratives over others, particularly the "Islamist-Leftist alliance," which shields Pakistan and Bangladesh from scrutiny while criticizing India.

If the global and Indian intelligentsia genuinely care about human rights and minority rights, they must acknowledge the persecution of Hindus in Pakistan and Bangladesh. Only through an honest and balanced approach to religious persecution can we foster true dialogue on human rights, ensuring that all victims, regardless of their faith, receive the attention and justice they deserve.

Jasprit Bumrah: The Ideal Candidate for India's Next Test Captain

Indian cricket is currently at an exciting juncture, with a third consecutive World Test Championship final and a potential hat-trick of Test series wins in Australia on the horizon. As India dominates the ICC rankings across formats and continues to produce a strong supply of talent, one key question looms: who will be India's next Test captain once Rohit Sharma retires? The answer seems clear—Jasprit Bumrah, the current vice-captain and pace spearhead.



The obvious choice for captaincy is often the most appealing, and in Bumrah's case, it is hard to look beyond him. As vice-captain, he is naturally next in line to take over leadership duties when Rohit steps down. Bumrah's leadership qualities are evident, and his performance on the field is a crucial factor in his suitability for the role.

A Test match against Australia in Perth in 2022 showcased Bumrah's impact. His match figures of 8/72 earned him the Man of the Match award, underlining his ability to turn the game with his bowling. Test cricket is often decided by the collective performance of the team, but Bumrah's brilliance made the difference. He has that rare ability to dominate conditions and deliver decisive blows, reminiscent of Kapil Dev, India's only other fast-bowling Test captain.

Bumrah's brief stint as captain in the 2022 Birmingham Test against England further highlighted his leadership potential. Although India lost the match, Bumrah's five-wicket haul and his calm, practical approach to leadership left a strong impression. His humility and job awareness stood

out, as he took the captaincy in stride, saying, "You have to do the job."

Moreover, Bumrah's rapport with teammates is another strength. His down-to-earth nature and willingness to guide juniors, like Harshit Rana during the recent Perth Test, show his ability to foster a supportive and encouraging environment. His leadership style emphasizes learning and collaboration, key traits for any successful captain.

Fast bowlers often face skepticism about captaining, with many preferring batters due to the strategic demands of the role. However, Bumrah's ability to manage his workload and make tactical decisions during a match makes him a strong candidate. Despite recent injury concerns, Bumrah's return to form and his captaincy of India's B-team during a successful T20 series against Ireland demonstrate the selectors' trust in his leadership.

With Rohit's eventual retirement on the horizon, Bumrah stands out as India's next Test captain—someone who can inspire with his performance, lead by example, and provide a fresh, effective approach to leadership.

From South Korea to US, democracy could die or get stronger

Friedrich Nietzsche's famous aphorism, "What does not kill me makes me stronger," has long been a source of inspiration, turning moments of despair into opportunities for growth. Could this idea also apply to democracy?

For those who value freedom, democracy, and human rights, the global political climate has been worrying for over 18 years, according to Freedom House. The world has been experiencing a democratic recession, with more and more nations veering away from democratic norms. This decline seems to be accelerating, impacting not only developing countries in Africa but also established democracies in the West.

In Hungary, Viktor Orban has spent 14 years consolidating power and dismantling democratic institutions. Under his leadership, the country's media, judiciary, universities, parliament, and business sectors have all been methodically brought under his control, transforming Hungary into an autocracy, though still officially a democracy. Orban's tactics have made him a role model for other strongmen, including former U.S. President Donald Trump, who has expressed similar intentions of curbing democratic checks and balances in the United States.

This authoritarian wave has sparked numerous

imitators, some more successful than others. In South Korea, President Yoon Suk Yeol's recent attempts to consolidate power have fallen flat, highlighting the vulnerabilities of even the most sophisticated authoritarian efforts. Unpopular and facing growing domestic opposition, Yoon declared martial law unexpectedly, perhaps hoping to strengthen his grip on power. However, his move was quickly thwarted as South Korea's parliament, media, and public resistance brought an abrupt end to the situation.

While the global trend toward authoritarianism is concerning, it also reveals a key resilience in democratic societies: their ability to resist overreach and authoritarian impulses. Whether in South Korea or elsewhere, democratic institutions—such as an independent press, judicial checks, and vibrant public debate—have proven to be powerful safeguards. These structures allow democracy to adapt and survive, even in challenging times.

In the face of rising authoritarianism, the question remains whether democracy can withstand the forces working to erode it. But as Nietzsche's words suggest, adversity may ultimately strengthen democratic institutions, making them more robust and capable of defending freedoms even in the darkest times.



Deadlock at UN Talks on Plastic Pollution: Production Cuts Remain Unresolved



The fifth United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5) meeting, held in Busan, South Korea, aimed to create a legally binding global treaty to tackle plastic pollution. However, like the recent COP29 climate change conference, the week-long talks ended in deadlock, primarily over a dispute on cutting plastic production.

Over 200 countries attended the meeting, where negotiations focused on how to address the growing plastic crisis. A key point of contention was the proposed reduction in plastic production. More than 100 nations supported a draft resolution calling for legally binding cuts in production, viewing it as essential to addressing the root of the problem. However, a group of oil-producing nations, including Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Russia, opposed such measures. They argued that the real issue was plastic pollution itself, not the production of plastics.

Saudi Arabia, in particular, stated that the problem lay in pollution, not plastics as materials, and resisted efforts to reduce production. This disagreement highlights the ongoing tension between countries that see the reduction of plastic production as a necessary step and those whose economies are tied to the fossil fuel industry, which is responsible for much of plastic production.

The UN had passed a resolution in 2022 calling for global efforts to end plastic pollution, acknowledging the severe environmental harm caused by plastic waste. While plastics have practical uses, they are notoriously harmful to ecosystems, with their indestructibility leading to pollution of land, seas, and air. Microplastics, which result from the breakdown of larger plastic items, are particularly concerning. Studies have shown that microplastics can accumulate in the human body, including in internal organs, breast milk, and even the linings of arteries.

At the INC-5 meeting, one delegate remarked that attempting to reduce plastic pollution without cutting production was like trying to dry the floor with the tap still running. Recycling, often touted as a solution, is not always feasible on a global scale. As the negotiations concluded without agreement on significant production cuts, it became evident that finding common ground on this issue remains a significant challenge.

The deadlock underscores the complexities of addressing plastic pollution on a global scale, with industrial interests and environmental concerns at odds. Until a consensus is reached, the battle against plastic pollution will likely continue to be hindered by this critical issue.

Calls 'Rahul Gandhi traitor of highest order'

BJP accuses US State Dept of trying to 'destabilise' India

TPN CORRESPONDENT
DELHI, DEC-8

In a fiery statement, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has accused the United States' State Department of attempting to "destabilise India" by allegedly targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra and MP K Laxman claimed that the US "deep state" was working against the Indian government, with the US State Department allegedly playing a key role.

The BJP also leveled severe accusations against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, calling him a "traitor of the highest order" and linking him to international forces purportedly aiming to disrupt India's stability. The party alleged a connection between Gandhi, billionaire investor George Soros, the US-based investigative media platform Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), and other international agencies.



Referring to a report by French media outlet Mediapart, Patra stated that the OCCRP, which collaborates with over 50 media partners globally, relies heavily on funding from Soros and US agencies. "If 70 percent of their resources come from

one source, they cannot be neutral," he argued. Patra accused Gandhi of using OCCRP reports to criticize the Modi-led government on various occasions, including controversies such as the Pegasus spyware allegations and claims surrounding the Covaxin vaccine deal with

Brazil. Patra further alleged that Rahul Gandhi's press conferences and public criticisms based on such reports were part of a "dangerous triangle" aimed at inciting public discontent and forcing regime change. He referenced a 2021 instance where Gandhi attacked the BJP government following an OCCRP report on Brazil canceling a \$324 million order for Covaxin. The BJP spokesperson dismissed the report as an attempt to malign India, claiming that Gandhi's actions only fueled baseless allegations. The BJP raised the issue in the Lok Sabha, leading to heated debates and eventual adjournments amid uproar from both sides. The ruling party's claims mark a significant escalation in its rhetoric against international organizations and opposition leaders, reflecting heightened tensions over political narratives as the country approaches upcoming elections.

ED Attaches Assets Worth ₹388 Crore in Mahadev App Scam

TPN CORRESPONDENT
CHHATTISGARH, DEC-8

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached fresh assets worth ₹388 crore in connection with the Mahadev online betting case, bringing the total value of seized and frozen assets to ₹2,295.61 crore. The investigation, which centers around money laundering and illegal betting operations, has also implicated high-ranking politicians and bureaucrats from Chhattisgarh.

The newly attached assets include investments made by Mauritius-based Tano Investment Opportunities Fund, linked to Dubai-based hawala operator Hari Shankar Tibrewal, through Foreign Portfolio Investment and Foreign Direct Investment channels. Properties in Chhattisgarh, Mumbai, and Madhya Pradesh, owned by betting app promoters and their associates, were also seized.

The ED alleges that the Mahadev app acts as a syndicate enabling online betting, creating user IDs, and laundering money through proxy bank accounts. The agency has filed four chargesheets and arrested 11 individuals, including key operators Sourabh Chandrakar and Ravi Uppal, both from Chhattisgarh. Efforts are underway to extradite Chandrakar from Dubai.

Assets seized so far include ₹19.36 crore in cash, valuables worth ₹16.68 crore, and movable assets like bank balances and securities totaling ₹1,729.17 crore. Previous operations recovered ₹5.39 crore in cash and ₹15.59 crore in bank balances. The ED has also summoned Bollywood celebrities linked to the case. The investigation continues to unravel the nexus of political, financial, and offshore networks tied to the Mahadev app, making it one of the largest money laundering probes in recent years.



On Mamata Banerjee Leading INDIA, Congress' Caution, Samajwadi's Support

TPN CORRESPONDENT
DELHI, DEC-8

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's remarks about potentially leading the opposition INDIA bloc have stirred diverse reactions from allies within the coalition. Speaking to a news channel on Friday, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo expressed frustration over the alliance's leadership and coordination, hinting at her willingness to take charge if needed.

"I had formed the INDIA bloc. Now it is up to those leading it to manage. If they can't run the show, what can I do? Everyone needs to be taken along," Banerjee said. She added, "If given the opportunity, I would ensure its smooth functioning. I don't want to go outside West Bengal, but I can run it from here."

Banerjee's remarks triggered speculation about her intentions, prompting TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh to clarify. "She never expressed personal ambition for leadership. Her focus is West Bengal, and she is not seeking a chair in Delhi. If the INDIA bloc demands her leadership, she will lead from Kolkata," Ghosh said.

The comments drew mixed responses from allies. CPI(M) leader D Raja acknowledged the INDIA bloc's limited meetings but emphasized the alliance's broader goal of removing the BJP. "The situation is not uniform across states, and coordination is crucial," he said.

The Congress, the largest party in the bloc, responded cautiously. Congress leader TS Singhdeo said, "She has her opinion and intent. Leadership decisions will naturally involve collective discussions." Congress MP Tariq Anwar reiterated that such decisions require consensus. "Leadership in a coalition like this is decided collectively, not unilaterally," he said.

Congress leader Rashid Alvi highlighted that other leaders, including Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, have also shown interest in leading the bloc. "Leadership decisions are not about individual ambitions but collective agreement," he remarked. Another Congress MP, Tanuj Punia, suggested that these matters should be addressed internally, involving Rahul Gandhi and other senior leaders.

Amid cautious responses, Samajwadi Party leader Udaiveer Singh voiced support for Banerjee. "She is a senior leader with significant experience. Our party has a good relationship with her and trusts her leadership. If a decision to make her the leader is taken, we will support it," Singh said. The TMC's recent bypoll victories in West Bengal, defeating the BJP, have solidified Mamata Banerjee's position as a formidable anti-BJP leader. TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee recently called on Congress and other allies to set aside egos and recognize her leadership potential within the INDIA bloc. Despite its formation to counter the BJP's dominance, the INDIA bloc continues to grapple with internal divisions and leadership challenges. While the coalition saw mixed electoral performances in states like Haryana and Maharashtra, differences over strategy and coordination have raised questions about its effectiveness.



Was Khan Sir Arrested Amid Protests By Bihar Civil Service Aspirants?

TPN CORRESPONDENT
PATNA, DEC-8

Patna witnessed unrest as civil service aspirants protested against the "normalisation" process in the Bihar Public Service Commission's (BPSC) preliminary test. Amid reports on social media suggesting that renowned educator and YouTuber Faizal Khan, popularly known as Khan Sir, was arrested during the protests, Patna Police issued a statement denying the claims.

Dr. Anu Kumari, Sub-divisional Police Officer of Sachiwalaya, called the allegations "baseless, misleading, and provocative." She clarified that Khan Sir had voluntarily visited the Gardanibagh police station and

was later escorted to his vehicle upon his request.

The protests stem from changes to the examination process for the upcoming 70th BPSC Preliminary Examination, scheduled for December 13, 2024. Aspirants are demanding that the exam be conducted in a single shift with a single paper, eliminating the need for the normalisation process. Protesters argued that the current system could disadvantage some candidates due to variations in question paper difficulty.

On Thursday, police resorted to a mild lathi charge near the BPSC office to disperse aspirants staging a sit-in. The crackdown escalated tensions, leading to public outrage and

demands for accountability. Notable educators, including Khan Sir and Motiur Rahman Khan (Guru Rahman), joined the protests, criticising the BPSC for its alleged lack of transparency and inadequate communication.

Speaking to reporters, Khan Sir expressed solidarity with the aspirants, stating, "With just a week left for exams, it is unfortunate that students are compelled to protest. We are not against the system but are asking for fairness. We demand the removal of normalisation and an extension of the exam date."

He further urged the authorities to address aspirants' concerns and reconsider applications rejected due to server discrepan-

cies. Khan Sir emphasised, "We don't have personal issues with anyone. We only seek a fair process and hope the government will listen."

Amid the growing uproar, BPSC released an official clarification, asserting that the normalisation process is irrelevant for the 70th examination as it will be conducted in a single shift. The exam is scheduled for December 13, 2024, from 12 PM to 2 PM. The Commission assured aspirants that no changes have been made to the advertised examination process.

The protests have underscored a significant rift between students and the examination authorities, with demands for reform continuing as the exam date approaches.

Mamata Banerjee Signals Readiness To Lead INDIA Bloc

TPN CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA, DEC-8

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo Mamata Banerjee has expressed dissatisfaction with the functioning of the opposition INDIA bloc, hinting at her readiness to take charge of the alliance if given the opportunity. Speaking in an interview with News 18 Bangla on Friday, Banerjee said she could handle the dual responsibility of leading the

bloc while continuing her role as Chief Minister of West Bengal.

"I had formed the INDIA bloc. Now it is up to those leading it to manage it. If they cannot run the show, what can I do? Everyone needs to be taken along," Banerjee remarked.

When asked why she does not step up as the bloc's leader, Banerjee responded, "If given the opportunity, I would ensure its smooth functioning. I don't want to go outside Bengal, but I can run it from here." The INDIA bloc,

a coalition of over two dozen opposition parties, was formed to counter the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). However, internal differences and a lack of coordination have drawn criticism, including from within the alliance.

Banerjee's comments follow a call by TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee urging the Congress and other allies to put aside their egos and recognise her as the natural leader of the opposition bloc, citing her credentials as a strong anti-BJP force.

The INDIA bloc recently faced mixed electoral outcomes. While the bloc staged a strong comeback in Jharkhand with the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leading the charge, its performance in Maharashtra was dismal. The BJP achieved a record-breaking victory in Maharashtra, propelling the Mahayuti alliance to a landslide win. Meanwhile, the Congress posted its worst-ever performance in the state, further diminishing its stature as a key opposition player.

Trump Travels to Paris for Notre Dame Cathedral's Reopening and Macron Meeting

Donald Trump is traveling to Paris for his first international trip as president-elect, where he will join world leaders and dignitaries for a special celebration marking the reopening of Notre Dame Cathedral. The cathedral, which was severely damaged by a fire in 2019, has undergone extensive renovations, and the event on Saturday will commemorate its restoration.

Trump praised French President Emmanuel Macron for overseeing the restoration, calling it a "wonderful job" that has returned the iconic landmark to its full glory, and perhaps even improved it. In his acceptance of the invitation earlier this week, Trump expressed his excitement about attending the event, emphasizing its significance as a global celebration of cultural heritage.

Macron, who has had a complicated relationship with Trump in the past, has actively worked to build a rapport with the president-elect. Since Trump's victory over Vice President Kamala Harris last month, Macron and other European leaders have been keen to strengthen their



ties with him, particularly in regard to maintaining support for Ukraine in its ongoing conflict with Russia. Despite Macron's efforts to cul-

tivate a good relationship with Trump, the French presidency sought to downplay the political weight of the invitation. A statement from Macron's office clarified that other non-office-holding politicians were also invited to the event, suggesting that Trump's attendance was not unusual.

While Macron extends a warm welcome to Trump, U.S. President Joe Biden was also invited but will not be attending the event. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre explained that Biden had a scheduling conflict, and the U.S. will be represented by First Lady Jill Biden instead.

The event highlights not only the cultural significance of the restoration of Notre Dame but also the diplomatic efforts underway between the U.S. and European leaders, as they look to secure ongoing support for key geopolitical issues such as the conflict in Ukraine.



South Korean President Apologizes for Martial Law Attempt but Resists Calls to Resign

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol apologized on Saturday for his recent attempt to impose martial law but firmly resisted calls to resign, even as pressure mounted from within his own ruling party. His apology came just hours before a planned impeachment vote, where political opponents were pushing for his removal from office.

Yoon's decision to declare martial law marked the first such action in South Korea since 1980. He acknowledged the gravity of the situation and expressed regret for his actions, admitting that the decision was made out of a sense of desperation. Despite the apology, the president made it clear that he would not seek to evade legal or political responsibility for the controversial move.

The attempted declaration of martial law, which was quickly opposed by political leaders, civil rights groups, and the public, followed escalating protests and political unrest in the country. Critics argued that such drastic measures were an overreaction to the demonstrations, which had been primarily driven by economic and political grievances.

Yoon's decision to press ahead with martial law had prompted widespread criticism, including from some members of his own party, who voiced concerns about the long-term impact on South Korea's democracy. Even though he issued the apology, the call for his resignation remained strong, as many questioned his judgment and leadership.

In response to the growing unrest, President Yoon stated that he would engage in further consultations with political leaders and the public to resolve the crisis. However, the apology did little to quell the calls for his departure, and the looming impeachment vote remained a significant challenge to his presidency. The incident has highlighted the deep divisions within South Korean politics and raised concerns about the future stability of Yoon's administration.

Russia Plans to Deploy Hypersonic Oreshnik Missiles in Belarus by 2025

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced on Friday that Russia could deploy its newly developed hypersonic Oreshnik missiles in Belarus by the second half of 2025, as production of the missile ramps up. The Oreshnik, a nuclear-capable weapon, was recently unveiled by Russia after being used in a strike on the Ukrainian city of Dnipro, marking an escalation in the ongoing conflict.

Putin made the statement during a televised meeting with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko in Minsk. He confirmed that the missile deployment would be possible once "serial production" of the Oreshnik missile is scaled up in Russia.



The missile, which experts believe can travel at ten times the speed of sound, is reported to have a range of up to 5,500 kilometers (3,400 miles), making it capable of striking targets deep within enemy territory. This advancement in missile technology comes amid Russia's ongoing military operations in Ukraine and the broader strategic alliance between Moscow and Belarus.

In 2023, Russia had already deployed tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, strengthening the military ties between the two nations. These tactical nuclear weapons are designed for use on the battlefield and are smaller in scale than strategic nuclear weapons, which are capable of obliterating entire cities. However, tactical nuclear weapons remain highly destructive and represent a significant escalation in the military capabilities of the two countries.

Belarus, a close ally of Russia, has played a key role in supporting Moscow's military actions during the war in Ukraine. The deployment of the Oreshnik missiles to Belarus further solidifies the partnership between the two nations, as they continue to bolster their military cooperation in response to increasing tensions in the region. As Russia advances in its missile capabilities, concerns over security in Europe and the broader international community continue to grow.

"Unacceptable": US Congressman Calls On Bangladesh To End Anti-Hindu Violence



US Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi has expressed deep concern over the escalating violence in Bangladesh following the arrest of ISKCON priest Chinmoy Krishna Das Brahmachari. In an official statement, Krishnamoorthi urged the Bangladeshi government to respect human rights, ensure legal protections, and put an end to the violence targeting Hindus and other minority groups.

"The ongoing violence against Hindus and others across Bangladesh is unacceptable and must end immediately," Krishnamoorthi said. "I strongly urge the government of Bangladesh to take decisive steps to reduce tensions peacefully now." He stressed the importance of safeguarding peaceful protests and providing arrested individuals with proper legal representation.

The unrest began after sedition charges were filed against Chinmoy Krishna Das for allegedly raising a saffron flag above Bangladesh's national flag in Chittagong on October 25. His arrest on November 25 sparked protests, leading to violent clashes between his followers and law enforcement on November 27, outside the Chattogram Court Building, which resulted in the death of a lawyer. The violence intensified following additional arrests.

ISKCON Kolkata reported that two monks, Adipurush Shyam Das and Ranganath Das Brahmachari, were detained on November 29 after visiting Chinmoy Krishna Das in custody. The situation worsened further when rioters vandalized an ISKCON center in Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council condemned the charges filed against 70 minority lawyers and two journalists, describing them as "false and harassing."

Imran Khan Calls for Rally and Civil Disobedience in Pakistan Amid Deadly Protest Clashes

Imran Khan, Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister, has called for a rally on December 13 in the city of Peshawar, following a deadly protest march in Islamabad led by his political party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Khan, who remains incarcerated, used social media platform X to issue a call to action, urging his supporters to join the rally in Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which is governed by PTI. Khan's call comes in the wake of the November 25 protest, which was met with a violent crackdown by authorities. The former prime minister claimed that at least 12 of his supporters were killed during the clashes. He has demanded a thorough judicial investigation into the events of the protest, accusing the government of using excessive force against peaceful demonstrators.

In addition to the rally, Khan threatened to initiate a civil disobedience movement across the country if the government fails to address his demands for accountability. His statements suggest escalating tensions between his party and the ruling government, which has already faced multiple protests and political challenges since Khan's ousting in 2022. The call for civil disobedience echoes Khan's previous efforts to challenge the government, with PTI organizing widespread protests and marches since his removal from office. Khan's supporters have rallied behind him, viewing his imprisonment as politically motivated, while the government insists that his legal troubles stem from corruption charges and other criminal cases.

Assad Loses Another Syrian City, Rebels March Towards Damascus

In a significant blow to President Bashar al-Assad's grip on power, Syrian government forces have lost control of Daraa city, which is considered the birthplace of Syria's 2011 civil uprising. Daraa, located about 100 kilometers from Damascus, became the epicenter of nationwide protests after the Assad regime detained and allegedly tortured a group of boys for anti-government graffiti. What began as peaceful demonstrations soon escalated into a violent conflict that has claimed over 500,000 lives and displaced millions.

According to the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, opposition forces now control over 90% of Daraa province, with regime forces retreating in multiple waves. Daraa's fall follows the earlier losses of Alep-

po, Syria's second-largest city, and Hama in the central region. These key victories have encouraged rebel forces to push south toward Homs, Syria's third-largest city, and even closer to Damascus, the heart of Assad's power. Leading the offensive is Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a group with origins in Al-Qaeda, which seeks the overthrow of Assad despite being designated a terrorist organization by Western nations.

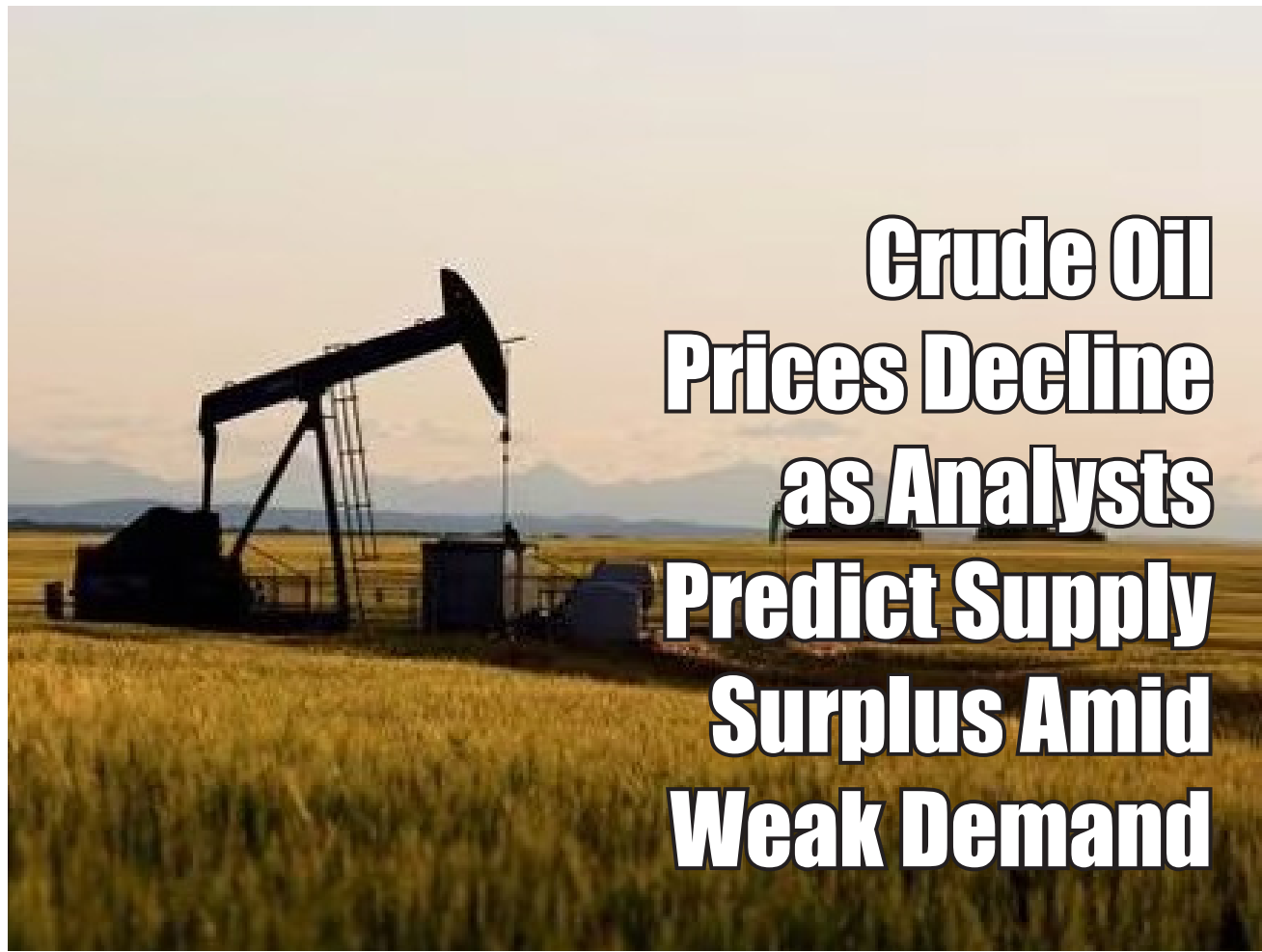
In eastern Syria, government forces have withdrawn from Deir Ezzor, ceding territory to the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), backed by the United States. This sudden retreat has left the regime regrouping in Palmyra, a key strategic location on the road to Homs. Syrian and Russian airstrikes



have attempted to slow the rebel advances but have been limited, possibly due to Russia's commitments elsewhere, particularly in Ukraine.

International responses have been varied: Jordan has closed its border crossings with Syria, while Lebanon has imposed travel restrictions. Israel, which controls the Golan Heights, has reinforced its aerial and ground forces. Turkey, a supporter of the opposition, has expressed a cautious approval of the rebel gains. Meanwhile, Iran has started evacuating its military personnel from Syria, reflecting growing hostility toward the Iranian regime for its continued backing of Assad.

UN estimates show that over 280,000 people have been displaced since the offensive began, and tens of thousands are fleeing Homs in anticipation of the rebel push.



Crude Oil Prices Decline as Analysts Predict Supply Surplus Amid Weak Demand

Crude oil prices fell by more than 1% in the previous session, marking a weekly loss as analysts projected a supply surplus in 2025 due to weak demand. This comes despite the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies (OPEC+) recently deciding to delay oil output hikes until April 2025 and extend deep production cuts until the end of 2026.

Brent crude futures settled at \$71.12 a barrel, down 97 cents or 1.4%, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures finished at \$67.20 a barrel, falling \$1.10 or 1.6%. Over the week, Brent lost more than 2.5%, while WTI dropped by 1.2%. In India, crude oil futures settled 1.4% lower at ₹4,724 per barrel on the Multi

Commodity Exchange (MCX).

Several factors have contributed to the decline in prices. An increase in the number of oil and gas rigs in the US this week suggests rising production from the world's largest crude producer, further putting downward pressure on prices. A mixed US jobs report, showing strong hiring but a slight rise in the unemployment rate, also added to the bearish sentiment in the oil market.

On Thursday, OPEC+ extended the timeline for its output rise plan, pushing back the start to April 2025 and delaying the full unwinding of cuts until the end of 2026. While this decision strengthens market fundamentals in the short term, analysts

noted that it also reflects concerns over weak global demand, particularly from China, the world's largest crude importer. Rising oil production from other regions has added to the pressure on oil prices, forcing OPEC+ to delay its production increase plans.

HSBC Global Research analysts suggested that OPEC+'s decision could be seen as an implicit acknowledgment of sluggish demand. Meanwhile, Bank of America predicts that increasing oil surpluses will push Brent prices down to an average of \$65 per barrel in 2025, with oil demand growth expected to recover to 1 million barrels per day in the coming year.

FM Sitharaman: GDP Slowdown in Q2 Not Systemic, Q3 to Offset Moderation

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has reassured the public that the slowdown in India's GDP growth during the second quarter (Q2) of the financial year is not indicative of a systemic issue. She emphasized that the moderation observed in Q2 is expected to be temporary, with the third quarter (Q3) likely to compensate for the slowdown.

India's GDP growth decelerated in Q2, reflecting a decrease in economic momentum, driven by factors like weak global demand, inflationary pressures, and challenges in key sectors. However, Sitharaman asserted that the economy remains resilient, and the current dip is a temporary blip in the broader growth trajectory.

Highlighting that the moderation was not a reflection of any underlying structural problems, Sitharaman pointed out that many factors were at play, including a normalizing base effect and seasonal fluctuations. She expressed confidence that India's economic fundamentals remain strong, citing positive indicators like rising exports, robust domestic consumption, and an uptick in investments.

The Finance Minister stressed that the Indian economy has shown remarkable resilience in the face of global uncertainties and that the government remains committed to supporting growth through targeted fiscal measures and reforms. In this con-



text, Sitharaman expects the economy to regain its momentum in Q3, driven by the festive season, improved industrial output, and a recovery in global demand.

Additionally, Sitharaman reassured investors and businesses that the government is monitoring the situation closely and will take any necessary corrective actions to support the economy's recovery. Despite global challenges, including geopolitical tensions and inflation, India's economic outlook remains positive, she emphasized.

Looking ahead, the Finance Minister remains optimistic about achieving the country's growth targets for the fiscal year, maintaining that India is on track for a strong and sustainable recovery in the coming quarters.

India's Exports Surge 67% in FY2023-24, Reaching \$778 Billion



India has seen a remarkable surge in its exports, reaching approximately \$778 billion in FY2023-24, a 67% growth compared to \$466 billion in FY2013-14. This strong performance has elevated the country's global standing, with its share in world merchandise exports improving from 1.66% to 1.81%, propelling India from 20th to 17th in global rankings, according to Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal.

This growth can be attributed to several government initiatives aimed at sustaining and accelerating export performance. The positive momentum was also reflected in India's trade performance in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, as reported by NITI Aayog's Trade Watch report. The report indicated a stable and moderate growth trend, with India's total trade in H1 2024 increasing by 5.45% year-on-year to reach \$576 billion.

Merchandise exports showed a 5.95% rise in Q1 FY25, reaching \$110 billion, while imports grew by 8.40% to \$173 billion, widening the trade imbalance. De-

spite these challenges, the export growth to Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners stood strong, with a notable 12% increase. Exports to North America accounted for 21% of India's total exports, followed by the European Union at 18.61%. Meanwhile, the country's imports primarily came from Northeast Asia, West Asia, and ASEAN countries, which contributed to 51% of total imports.

However, not all sectors saw positive growth. Exports of iron and steel saw a significant decline of 33% in Q1 FY25, driven by weak domestic demand and excess supply in China's steel market. Despite these challenges, India's strategic focus on high-growth sectors such as electronics and semiconductors has yielded positive results, with the country improving its rank among the top 10 global suppliers.

Overall, India's export growth highlights its growing presence in the global market, with continued efforts from the government to diversify and sustain this upward trajectory.

ADB Approves USD 350 Million Loan to Modernize India's Logistics Sector



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 350 million policy-based loan to support India's efforts to modernize and strengthen its logistics sector. The loan will fund the second subprogram of India's comprehensive strategy, aiming to develop a robust policy, planning, and institutional framework at both the state and city levels.

India's logistics sector is crucial for enhancing the competitiveness of its manufacturing industry. With a focus on strategic reforms, infrastructure upgrades, and digital integration, the Indian government is spearheading initiatives to transform this sector. According to ADB, these reforms will reduce operational costs, improve efficiency, and promote employment opportunities while fostering gender inclusion, which is expected to contribute to sustainable economic growth.

India has already launched several key policies to address logistics sector constraints, including the Prime Minister Gati Shakti-National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) and the National Logistics Policy (NLP). These initiatives aim to improve infrastructure, streamline logistics processes, and drive digitization across the sector.

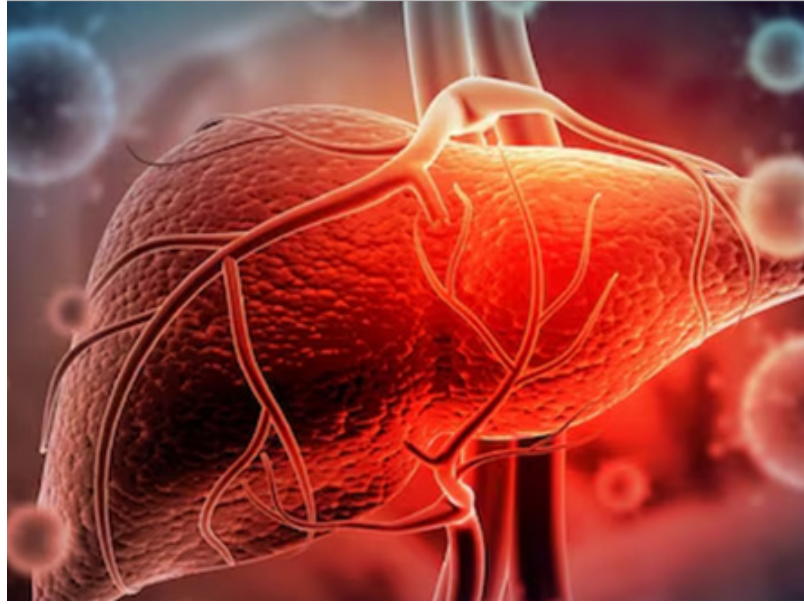
Sameer Khatiwada, ADB's Senior Public Management Economist, emphasized the profound impact that logistics sector development can have on manufacturing competitiveness. He highlighted that efficient logistics reduces transaction costs, enhances supply chain resilience, and boosts export competitiveness. Additionally, integrating digital technologies and standardizing processes will facilitate smoother movement of goods, essential for driving manufacturing growth.

India has already seen significant growth in its goods exports, with figures rising from USD 48.5 billion in 2000 to USD 467.5 billion in 2022. Industrial exports grew from USD 39.6 billion to USD 317.4 billion during the same period. The Indian government aims to achieve USD 2 trillion in exports of goods and services by 2030.

ADB's policy-based loan will help India realize this target by enhancing productivity, reducing logistics costs, and facilitating the transfer of goods. Moreover, the program will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting India's broader sustainability goals.

Doctor Shows 'Weekends Only' Drinker's Liver vs Non-Drinker, Sparks Debate

Dr. Cyriac Abby Philips, known as "The Liver Doc" on social media, recently shared a striking post on X (formerly Twitter) to challenge the misconception that drinking alcohol only on weekends has no harmful effects. The post featured a comparison of two livers: one from a 32-year-old man who drank alcohol exclusively on weekends and another from his wife, a non-drinker. The image quickly went viral, sparking a heated debate on the health risks associated with alcohol consumption.



In his post, Dr. Philips explained that the liver in question belonged to a man who had consumed alcohol only on weekends, while the healthy liver belonged to his wife, a non-drinker. The man later received his wife's liver transplant to survive and watch their daughter grow up. Dr. Philips added that this was a wake-up call for many who underestimate the damage caused by even occasional drinking. His post has garnered more than 100,000 views.

The conversation around the liver comparison quickly caught the attention of many social media users. Some users were shocked at the state of the liver, suggesting the man's alcohol consumption might be more frequent than just on weekends. Dr. Philips responded to these comments by reinforcing his point, urging people to look beyond their biases and learn from experience.

Dr. Philips' post also generated comments from individuals sharing their personal family experiences with cancer, arguing that alcohol consumption should not be the sole cause of health issues. In response, the doctor dismissed such counterarguments, emphasizing that alcohol is a toxic substance that can lead to severe liver damage, including fatty liver, cirrhosis, and liver failure.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has long stated that "there is no safe amount" of alcohol for human health. The WHO has classified alcohol as a Group 1 carcinogen, meaning it carries the same cancer risks as tobacco and asbestos. Alcohol has been linked to at least seven types of cancer, including bowel and breast cancer. The WHO stresses that any beverage containing alcohol increases the risk of developing cancer, regardless of its quality or cost.

Google DeepMind Unveils GenCast for Enhanced Extreme Weather Tracking

Google DeepMind has introduced a new AI-powered weather forecasting tool named "GenCast", designed to provide superior predictions, especially for extreme weather events like deadly storms. In a blog post on December 4, 2024, DeepMind revealed that the tool can offer more accurate forecasts than traditional systems, including the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) ENS, for up to 15 days in advance.



The GenCast model works by generating probabilistic ensemble forecasts, which predict a range of possible weather scenarios rather than relying on a single forecast. This method, as opposed to traditional models that provide deterministic forecasts, is more reliable because it accounts for uncertainties in weather prediction. According to DeepMind, this probabilistic approach helps improve forecast accuracy, particularly when dealing with unpredictable extreme weather events.

To assess GenCast's capabilities, researchers conducted a comparison of its forecasts with those produced by traditional weather systems. They evaluated predictions for a variety of weather factors at different lead times, totaling

1,320 different combinations. The results showed that GenCast consistently outperformed the top operational system, ECMWF ENS, demonstrating its potential as a game-changer in weather prediction.

In late 2023, Google introduced another AI weather agent, further showcasing the company's commitment to leveraging artificial intelligence for climate and weather-related solutions. The introduction of GenCast signals a significant step forward in enhancing our ability to track and predict extreme weather events with greater accuracy, providing critical insights that could improve disaster preparedness and response.

World's Most Expensive Dinosaur Fossil 'Apex' Returns To NYC



A 150-million-year-old Stegosaurus fossil, which became the most expensive dinosaur fossil ever sold earlier this year, is now on display at the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan. Nicknamed "Apex", the Stegosaurus was purchased by billionaire Kenneth C. Griffin for a record-breaking \$44.6 million. He has generously loaned the fossil to the museum, where it will be on display for the next four years. After this period, a cast replica will take its place.

The rare and impressive specimen was unveiled to reporters, photographers, and museum staff ahead of its public debut, which is set for Sunday, December 8. The fossil is expected to draw large crowds as it offers a unique opportunity to view a dinosaur that has become a familiar icon for many.

"This is one of the dinosaurs that every kid knows how to draw," said Sean M. Decatur, president of the museum. "This is a unique opportunity

to have something that resonates in the public imagination about dinosaurs, but also provides valuable insights for research. It's a pretty special specimen." Decatur hopes that visitors will be just as awe-struck by "Apex" as the museum team is.

Kenneth Griffin expressed his excitement about lending the fossil to the museum, stating that "Apex" provides a "unique window into our planet's distant past." He expressed gratitude that millions of visitors and researchers would have the chance to study the magnificent specimen. "The joy and awe every child feels coloring a Stegosaurus will now be brought to life for millions of people who have the opportunity to see this epic dinosaur in person," Griffin said.

This isn't the first time Griffin has shown his support for dinosaur exhibits. In 2017, he donated \$16.5 million to Chicago's Field Museum to fund an exhibit featuring the largest Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton ever discovered.

Humans and Dogs Became Friends 2,000 Years Earlier, Study Finds

A recent study has uncovered that the bond between humans and dogs began around 12,000 years ago, much earlier than previously believed. This research, conducted by the University of Arizona and published in "Science Advances", reveals that this close relationship between humans and their canine companions dates back approximately 2,000 years earlier than earlier records in the Americas.

The study, led by Francois Lanoe, an assistant research professor at the School of Anthropology, focuses on archaeological remains found at Swan Point, a long-standing site in Alaska. In 2018, researchers uncovered the tibia, or lower-leg bone, of an adult canine. Radiocarbon dating determined that the dog lived around 12,000 years ago, near the end of the Ice Age. The remains also indicated that the dog had a close connection with humans.

Chemical analysis of the canine's remains revealed significant traces of salmon proteins, suggesting that the dog was regularly consuming fish. Interestingly, local wild canines typically hunted only on land, so the presence of fish in the diet suggests that the dog might have relied on humans for its food.



Francois Lanoe emphasized the importance of this discovery, noting that it offers crucial evidence about the early relationship between humans and dogs in the Americas. "This is a significant contribution," Lanoe said. "It shows that people and canines had closer relationships earlier than previously known."

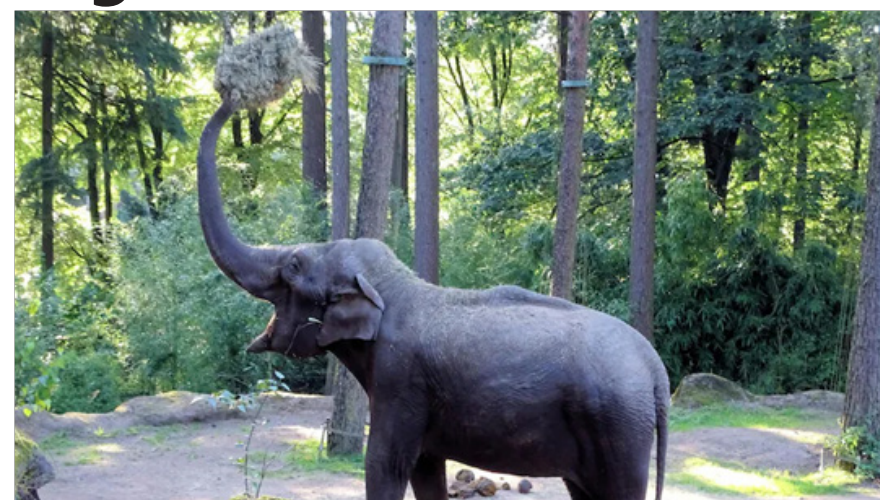
In a related discovery, an 8,100-year-old canine jawbone found at a nearby site in June 2023 also showed signs of close inter-

action with humans, further supporting the idea that early humans and canines had developed strong bonds. However, scientists caution that it is still too early to say for certain that these early canines were fully domesticated.

This groundbreaking research offers new insights into the ancient and enduring friendship between humans and dogs, pushing back the timeline of domestication and human-canine partnerships in the Americas.

Tax Collector' Elephant in Sri Lanka Goes Viral for Stopping Vehicles and Demanding Food

Raja, a wild elephant in Sri Lanka, has gained viral fame for his unique role as an unofficial "tax collector" along the Buttala-Kataragama road. The 40-year-old elephant has become a beloved figure among locals and tourists alike. Known for his patient yet assertive approach, Raja stops vehicles traveling on this popular route, using his massive trunk to gently prod drivers for food.



As drivers approach, Raja, standing tall by the roadside, calmly demands treats, especially bananas and other fruits, which passersby eagerly offer. What began as a simple food request has grown into a well-established tradition. Motorists, aware of Raja's presence, often purchase fruit from roadside stalls in anticipation of their encounter with the majestic elephant.

media users applauding his peaceful approach to collecting his "toll." Locals and visitors alike view the encounter as a memorable part of their journey, making Raja an unexpected yet endearing symbol of Sri Lanka's vibrant wildlife culture.

The Buttala-Kataragama road, a major link between Sri Lanka's west and south-east coasts, runs through a lush jungle, offering a rare opportunity for travelers to experience wildlife up close. The tradition has garnered attention on social media, where users have showered Raja with praise, endorsing his gentle "bureaucratic" role in the wild.

Raja's antics are now widely shared online, with social

England Sets Historic World Record with 533-Run Lead Against New Zealand

England has set a historic world record, becoming the first team in the 147-year history of Test cricket to score 500,000 runs. This milestone came during the second Test against New Zealand in Wellington on Saturday, where England took a commanding 533-run lead on Day 2. With 378/5 at stumps, the Ben Stokes-led team was in full control of the match.

England's dominance began after they posted 280 runs in their first innings, before dismissing New Zealand for a mere 125. Gus Atkinson claimed a hat-trick, removing New Zealand's last three wickets with successive deliveries, and finished with impressive fig-

ures of 4-31. This performance helped extend England's advantage, leaving New Zealand with a daunting task ahead.

In their second innings, England capitalized on their solid lead, with four batters scoring over 50. Jacob Bethell (96) and Ben Duckett (92) formed an untroubled 187-run partnership, before both fell in the 90s. Joe Root remained at the crease, scoring 73, while Captain Stokes struck a whirlwind 35* to further assert England's dominance.

The New Zealand team now faces the enormous challenge of chasing down a record fourth-innings total. The highest successful

chase at the Basin Reserve is 274, a record set by Pakistan in 2003. With England's control over the match, New Zealand's hopes of squaring the series seem slim.

The match also saw Root achieving a personal milestone, becoming the fourth player to reach 50 runs in 100 different Test innings. Meanwhile, England's seamer Brydon Carse played a key role, claiming 4-46 in New Zealand's first innings.

With history firmly on England's side, the match is setting up to be a thrilling conclusion as New Zealand seeks to fight back.



Paris Saint-Germain Held Again In Draw With Auxerre

Paris Saint-Germain were held to a frustrating 0-0 draw at Auxerre on Friday, extending their struggles in front of goal. Despite dominating possession and creating several chances, PSG were denied by a combination of excellent goalkeeping and poor finishing. The result marks a second consecutive domestic draw for PSG, following a 1-0 defeat to Bayern Munich in the Champions League at the end of November.

Although PSG remains unbeaten in Ligue 1 and continues to sit comfortably at the top of the table with an eight-point lead over their nearest rivals, Monaco and Marseille could close the gap to five points with victories this weekend. However, PSG's offensive woes are becoming a growing concern. The team has scored just once in their last three outings, highlighting their struggles in finding the back of the net.



work in the second half.

PSG manager Luis Enrique expressed his frustration but defended his players, saying, "I have nothing to reproach my players for. They gave everything. I am not going to criticize them, even internally." Despite the return of Portuguese striker Goncalo Ramos, who has been out with injury for over three months, PSG's attack failed to find its rhythm. Ramos, along with Achraf Hakimi and substitute Randal Kolo Muani, were denied by Auxerre goalkeeper Donovan Leon, who made several key saves, including one from Ramos and another from Hakimi. Vitorinha also struck the wood-

work in the second half. Despite the result, Luis Enrique acknowledged Auxerre's strong performance, stating, "Don't forget that we were up against the second-best team at home." Auxerre, who are enjoying a strong season following their promotion, sit just outside the European places and earned a point they felt was worth much more.

PSG's focus now turns to their upcoming Champions League clash with Salzburg on Tuesday, as they seek to secure a spot in the knockout phase after a disappointing start to their European campaign.

Inter Milan Move Close to Napoli with 3-1 Victory Over Parma

Inter Milan closed the gap to Serie A leaders Napoli with a 3-1 victory over Parma at the San Siro on Friday, moving within a point of the top spot ahead of a crucial Champions League clash at Bayer Leverkusen. Italian internationals Federico Dimarco and Nicolò Barella scored stunning goals either side of half-time, while Marcus Thuram sealed the win with a neat volley in the 67th minute. The result leaves Simone Inzaghi's team level on 31 points with second-placed Atalanta, who can take the provisional league lead with a win over AC Milan later in the evening.



Inzaghi expressed satisfaction with his team's performance, saying, "We scored some great goals today... The only disappointing thing is that we conceded. We didn't deserve to, given how we played over the 94 minutes." Despite the win, Inter's defense was slightly blemished by a late own goal from Matteo Darmian that gave Parma a consolation goal.

Inter Milan are now unbeaten in 14 matches across all competitions, a run that includes a solid start to their Champions League campaign. With a win over Leverkusen on Tuesday, they could almost certainly secure direct qualification to the last 16 with two games remaining. Inzaghi

also made sure to select his strongest lineup, including captain Lautaro Martinez, who was making his 300th appearance for the club.

Although Martinez has struggled for form this season, he had an early strike ruled offside and missed a few chances to add to Inter's tally. One missed opportunity was particularly frustrating for the 27-year-old, who poked wide when one-on-one with Parma goalkeeper Zion Suzuki, six minutes after Thuram's goal.

The win was also significant for Thuram, who scored his 10th league goal of the season. Thuram, born in Parma where his father Lilian played, made the victory even more meaningful with a memorable performance in his hometown.

Travis Head Shines with Century as Australia Take Command Against India

Travis Head played a remarkable knock, scoring a scintillating 140, as Australia took a commanding 157-run lead over India on the second day of the pink ball Test at Adelaide. With Marnus Labuschagne also returning to form with a solid fifty, Australia finished their first innings on 337, in reply to India's 180.



The day belonged to Head, who delighted his home crowd with an aggressive and entertaining century. Despite being dropped twice during his innings, Head made sure to capitalize on the reprieves, producing an almost run-a-ball 141-ball effort. His knock included 17 boundaries and 4 sixes, proving crucial in shifting the momentum of the game in Australia's favor.

The Indian bowlers, led by the ever-reliable Jasprit Bumrah, fought hard to break the Australian partnership. Bumrah's disciplined bowling saw him claim 4 wickets for 61 runs. Mohammed Siraj, who was also exceptional throughout the day, took 4 wickets for 98, as he dismissed Head and troubled Australia's middle order.

Head's dismissal came when Siraj finally ended his attacking innings, but not before the Australian lower order had the freedom to accelerate the score. As

a result, India found themselves unable to make any significant breakthroughs, and Australia extended their lead comfortably.

Marnus Labuschagne, who had been struggling for form recently, also provided valuable support with a gritty 50. His composed innings allowed Head to play his natural aggressive game, while also stabilizing the Australian innings after an early wicket fall.

With the tailenders adding quick runs, Australia were all out for 337, leaving India with a significant challenge to claw back into the match. Despite a valiant effort by Bumrah and Siraj, the Indian bowlers couldn't contain the Australian charge, and the day ended with the hosts in a dominant position.

India and Bangladesh Set for Thrilling U19 Asia Cup Final Clash

The ACC U19 Men's Asia Cup final promises an exciting contest between India's formidable batting lineup and Bangladesh's sharp bowling attack at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday. India, with eight titles to their name, is looking to reclaim the crown after a three-year gap. Bangladesh, the defending champions who eliminated India in the previous edition, will be eager to retain their title in a rematch of the 2023 semi-final.



India's batting has been led by opener Ayush Mhatre, who has scored 175 runs, and the prodigious 13-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi, who has contributed 167 runs to the team's total. Their combined efforts have been crucial in propelling India to the final. On the other hand, Bangladesh's bowlers have been the backbone of their campaign, with Md. Al Fahad and Md. Iqbal Hasan Emon taking 10 wickets each, making them key players in their quest for victory.

India's journey to the final has been one of recovery. Despite a loss to Pakistan in the opening match, the team bounced back strongly, overcoming Sri Lanka in the semi-final with 28 overs to spare. This impressive win showcased their resilience and skill.

Bangladesh has maintained consistency

throughout the tournament, with their only group-stage defeat coming at the hands of Sri Lanka. In the semi-final, they produced a dominant seven-wicket win over Pakistan, securing their place in the final.

While Bangladesh has the upper hand from last year's edition, Indian captain Mohamed Amaan and his team will be determined to reverse the outcome and prove their dominance in the tournament. The final promises to be a thrilling encounter, with both teams bringing their best to the field as they battle for the prestigious title.



“Lopaliki Ra Chepta” First Song Launched with a Unique Twist!

Mass Bank Movies is all set to deliver a unique cinematic experience with its upcoming horror-comedy entertainer, “Lopaliki Ra Chepta.” Directed by Konda Venkata Rajendra, the film features Konda Venkata Rajendra, Anala Susmitha, Manisha jasshnani, Sanchi rai. Produced by : Konda Venkata Rajendra, Lakshmi Ganesh Chedella.

The much-anticipated movie recently wrapped up its shoot, and today, the makers launched the first single titled as LADY KALLA PILLA, creating quite a buzz.

Breaking away from the norm, the film’s first song was unveiled in a unique style — featuring an ordinary delivery boy named Jaffer as the face of the launch. The song, titled “Lady Kalla Pilla,” is a catchy number brought to life by renowned music director DavZand (Eagle fame) & Kapil Kapilan lends his magical voice to the track, making it an instant earworm.

A little more about the film, director Konda Venkata Rajendra shared, “Our hero plays the role of a delivery boy in the film, which is why we wanted to make the launch special by having a delivery boy launch the song. The film is a mix of horror and comedy, guaranteed to entertain audiences of all ages. We are gearing up for a February release.”

Star Cast and Crew at a Glance

The film has a talented ensemble cast, including Vamshidhargoud, Praveen katari, Ajay Karrthik Ramesh Kaiguri and Vani Aida in pivotal roles. Behind the scenes, the magic is created by cinematographers Revanth Levaka and Aravind Ganesh, and



with Vamsi’s edit. The movie’s music is acquired by the prestigious label Saregama, promises to be a key highlight.

“Lopaliki Ra Chepta” promises a perfect blend of chills and laughs, with a relatable story revolving around an ordinary delivery boy caught in extraordinary circumstances. With its quirky concept, engaging songs, and stellar team, the film is poised to leave an indelible mark on Telugu cinema.

Mark your calendars for February 2025 — this horror-comedy is ready to knock at your doors!

Starring: Konda Venkata Rajendra, Anala Susmitha, Manisha jasshnani, Sanchi rai, Vamshidhargoud, Praveen katari, Ajay Karrthik.

Written & Directed by: Konda Venkata Rajendra

Banner: Mass Bunk Movies

Produced by : Lakshmi Ganesh Chedella, Konda Venkata Rajendra
Cinematographer: Revanth levaka, Aravindh Ganesh

Editor: Vamsi

Make Up : Johnny

Stunts : Sagar Sailesh

PRO: B.Veera Babu

Production Controller: Deepthi Ambati

Co Director : Kns Kalyan Chakravarthy

Associate Directors: Hemanth Muthoju, Malyadri Reddy

Executive Producer: Rama Krishna Vadarevu, Nikhil Reddy

Line producer : Kishore Thokala

Post Production :

Content Que studios

Kalki 2898 AD Unveils Japanese Trailer Released Ahead of January Release



Prabhas, the pan-India star, has once again captured the audience’s attention with his sci-fi mythological film *Kalki 2898 AD*, which proved to be a massive success at the Indian box office. Directed by Nag Ashwin, the film’s unique subject, stunning visuals, and star-studded cast made it a visual feast for viewers, earning rave reviews and solidifying its place as a box-office hit.

Now, *Kalki 2898 AD* is all set to entertain audiences in Japan, a country where Prabhas already enjoys a strong fanbase. The filmmakers are confident that Japanese audiences will appreciate the film’s cutting-edge visuals and thrilling storyline. The movie is scheduled for release in Japan on January 3, 2025, and the excitement surrounding its international debut is already growing.

To build anticipation, the latest trailer of *Kalki 2898 AD* has been released in Japa-

nese, further fueling the buzz on social media. The trailer highlights the film’s spectacular visual effects and the star power of Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, Deepika Padukone, Disha Patani, Rajendra Prasad, and others, all of whom play significant roles in the film.

Produced under the Vyjayanthi Movies banner, *Kalki 2898 AD* boasts a musical score by Santhosh Narayanan, which adds to the film’s grandeur. The movie’s global appeal and impressive cast have already set high expectations for its success in Japan.

As the film prepares for its release in Japan, fans are eagerly awaiting to see what kind of sensation *Kalki 2898 AD* will create in the Japanese market. With its groundbreaking visuals and compelling narrative, the movie is poised to become another milestone in Prabhas’ already illustrious career.

Rashmika’s Upcoming Film *The Girlfriend* Teaser Release Date Announced

National crush Rashmika Mandanna, who has taken the nation by storm with her stellar performance as Srivalli in *Pushpa-2*, is all set to impress her fans once again with her next film, *The Girlfriend*. While audiences are still captivated by her role in *Pushpa-2*, Rashmika has already caught everyone’s attention with the announcement of her upcoming movie.

The film unit of *The Girlfriend* recently unveiled an exciting update through a new poster, revealing that

the teaser showcasing Rashmika’s role will be released on December 9. The announcement has sent fans into a frenzy, eager to see what this talented actress has in store for them in her new avatar.

Rashmika’s performance in *Pushpa-2* has garnered massive praise, especially for her dance moves, which have gone viral on social media. Director Sukumar, who is known for his keen eye for talent, has already expressed admiration for her acting skills in *The Girlfriend*. Fans

are now eagerly awaiting to see how Rashmika will bring her character to life in this new film.

The Girlfriend, directed by Rahul Ravindran, promises to be a fresh and exciting film. With the makers planning to release it as a pan-India movie, expectations are high for Rashmika’s performance in this role. Her versatility as an actress continues to shine, and this movie is expected to further solidify her place as one of the top stars in Indian cinema. With the teaser set for release in just



a few days, fans are excited to get a glimpse of Rashmika’s character and to see what new dimensions she will

bring to her performance in *The Girlfriend*.

Adivi Sesh Teases Thrilling Updates for *Decoit* and *Gudhachari 2*



Adivi Sesh, one of Tollywood’s most promising and versatile actors, has carved a niche for himself with a string of successful thrillers and action-packed films. Known for his gripping performances and solid storytelling, Sesh has become a favorite among fans, especially for his roles in intense thrillers. After taking a short break from the limelight, the actor is back in action with multiple upcoming projects, including *Decoit* and the highly anticipated spy thriller *Gudhachari 2*.

Sesh recently promised his fans some exciting updates about these films, building up the anticipation even more. He revealed that December will bring a surprise for his fans regarding *Decoit*, while January will offer thrilling updates on *Gudhachari 2*. Both films have been highly awaited, and Sesh’s promise of

surprises has further fueled the excitement surrounding their release.

Decoit is expected to be a gripping action film, while *Gudhachari 2*, the sequel to the hit *Gudhachari*, is poised to take the spy thriller genre to the next level. Both films are highly anticipated, and Sesh’s track record suggests that these projects will not disappoint.

Fans are eagerly waiting to see what surprises Sesh has in store, with the promise of thrilling revelations in the coming months. As the actor continues to push boundaries with his diverse roles, it’s clear that Adivi Sesh’s upcoming projects are worth the wait. The updates for both *Decoit* and *Gudhachari 2* are expected to raise the stakes and leave audiences craving for more.

Vicky Kaushal’s Postponement of Chhaava to February 2024

Vicky Kaushal, one of the most beloved actors in Indian cinema, is all set for his much-anticipated historical drama *Chhaava*, which will now release on February 14, 2024. The film, initially scheduled for a December 6, 2024, release, was postponed at the last moment due to the much-anticipated launch of *Pushpa 2* on December 5, 2024.

This move has been widely regarded as a smart decision by Vicky and the film’s producers. Despite *Chhaava* receiving positive pre-release buzz and reviews, the massive box office draw of *Pushpa 2*, especially in Hindi-speaking regions, made it clear that the film would have been overshadowed by the frenzy surrounding Allu Arjun’s action-packed sequel. With *Pushpa 2* already dominating the screens, *Chhaava* could have struggled to make a mark and attract the same level of attention.

The new release date for *Chhaava* positions the film in a less crowded window, allowing it to shine without the overwhelming competition from other blockbusters. Directed by Lakshman Utekar, *Chhaava* is a grand period drama that stars Vicky Kaushal in a pivotal role, with popular actress Rahmika playing the heroine. The film’s storyline and the historical backdrop have sparked significant interest among moviegoers, and the new timing could give it the attention it deserves.

Vicky Kaushal’s decision to delay the release ap-



pears to be a wise one, as it ensures that *Chhaava* gets a fair chance to establish itself in the competitive market. With the shift in release dates, the film is poised to attract audiences eager for a historical drama, and Vicky’s growing star power will only add to its appeal.