



**Weather Forecast**

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

# Notes Found at Congress MP's Seat in Rajya Sabha

## Abhishek Manu Singhvi in Rajya Sabha Cash Controversy

### Could the Notes be for YCP's High-Profile legal battles?

**TPN CORRESPONDENT, DELHI :** The winter session of Parliament entered its 9th day on Friday, with sessions starting at 11 a.m. After the Rajya Sabha session began, Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar made a startling announcement, revealing that cash was found at the seat allotted to Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi. He stated that the currency notes were seized by security officials during a routine check conducted after the House was adjourned the previous day. The cash was reportedly found at seat number 222, allotted to Singhvi. Dhankhar announced that an investigation has been ordered into the matter. The announcement triggered outrage among Opposition Congress MPs, who protested the disclosure of Singhvi's name without prior investigation. Congress President and Rajya Sabha MP Mallikarjun Kharge questioned the propriety of the announcement, asking how such a statement could be

made from the Chairman's seat without due process.

#### Singhvi's Response: 'I Will Bring a ₹500 Note to the House'

Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi responded to the Chairman's statement with humor, remarking that he would carry a ₹500 note to the House daily. Singhvi clarified his position on the incident, stating, "Yesterday (Thursday) at 12:57 p.m., I reached Parliament. There was agitation in the House at 1 p.m. At that time, I went to the canteen and stayed there until 1:30 p.m. I was in the canteen with Ayodhya Prasad. After that, I left Parliament. Yet, my name has been mentioned." He posted this explanation on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter).

#### Is the Money Linked to Andhra Pradesh's High-Profile Cases?

Speculation is rife about the ori-



gin of the cash, with some suggesting a connection to Andhra Pradesh, where several political leaders face high-stakes legal battles. Singhvi, known for his legal expertise and high-profile cases, is often the advocate of choice for political heavyweights. In Andhra Pradesh, leaders such as YS Bhaskar Reddy, father of Kadapa MP Avinash Reddy, are embroiled in legal battles. Bhaskar Reddy was granted bail by the Telangana High Court, but the CBI has approached the Supreme Court seeking its cancellation. Another prominent case involves Sajjala Bhargav Reddy in social media-related charges. Additionally, YSRCP MP Vijayasai Reddy

has been accused in the Kakinda Port smuggling issue, while former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy's cases are reportedly progressing swiftly in the Supreme Court.

Critics suggest that the cash might be linked to lobbying efforts to secure bail for YSRCP leaders in these cases. Singhvi's reputation as a skilled lawyer who has successfully defended leaders such as former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, BRS MLC Kavitha, and AAP leaders Satyendar Jain and Sanjay Singh, has reportedly attracted several YSRCP leaders seeking his counsel.

2<sup>nd</sup> page



## Revanth Reddy Unveils Police Initiatives

**Police Bravery Showcased at Grand Celebrations**  
**New Initiatives: SDRF Logo, Boats, and Education for Police Families**  
**Focus on Drug Prevention, Traffic Management, and Welfare Schemes**

**TPN , Hyderabad :** Hyderabad witnessed grand Public Administration Victory Celebrations organized by the Telangana Congress government, marking one year of its governance. The event, held at HMDA Grounds under the auspices of the Home Ministry, showcased the bravery of the Telangana Police through dazzling performances and exhibitions.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, along with Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers, and officials, inspected various stalls at the event. The CM unveiled the logo of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and launched newly designed boats for flood relief operations. Performances highlighting the vigilance and valor of the Telangana Police captivated the audience. Addressing the gathering, CM Revanth Reddy credited Ambedkar's inspiration for Telangana's formation and emphasized his government's commitment to the people's freedom.

2<sup>nd</sup> page

## KTR Slams Congress on Ambedkar Neglect

### Ambedkar Memorial Neglect Sparks Outrage

### Dalit Bandhu and Welfare Schemes Under Fire

### KTR Demands Accountability from Congress

**TPN , Hyderabad:** BRS working president KT Rama Rao launched a scathing attack on the Congress government in Telangana on Friday, accusing it of disrespecting Dr. BR Ambedkar and neglecting Dalit welfare. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan on Ambedkar's death anniversary, he alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had abandoned the 125-foot Ambedkar statue near Tank Bund, restricting public access to the site.



Rama Rao highlighted the previous BRS government's initiatives to honor Ambedkar, including installing the world's tallest Ambedkar statue and naming the State Secretariat after him. He criticized the Congress for failing to clean or garland the statue, claiming BRS leaders were placed under house arrest when they planned to clean the memorial themselves.

He accused the Congress government of cancelling cheques issued under the Dalit Bandhu scheme, halting Ambedkar Overseas Scholarships, and ignoring tribal welfare. He also alleged that promises like the Ambedkar Abhayastham scheme remained unfulfilled, while Dalit Bandhu beneficiaries faced legal action.

## Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani Appointed as New BRAOU Vice Chancellor

**TPN , Hyderabad:** The Telangana State Government has appointed Dr. BR Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) senior professor of sociology, Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani, as the Vice Chancellor of BRAOU. His tenure will span three years from the date of his appointment.



Prof. Chakrapani previously served as the first Chairman of the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC), where he was instrumental in setting up the commission and streamlining recruitment processes for the newly formed state.

In a related development, the government also appointed Prof. V. Balakista Reddy, Chairman of the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE), as the in-charge Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTU) - Hyderabad. This appointment follows the resignation of senior bureaucrat Burra Venkatesham, who stepped down as in-charge VC of JNTU-Hyderabad after being appointed as Chairman of the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGpsc).

These appointments reflect the government's emphasis on leveraging experienced professionals to lead key educational institutions in the state.

## BJP Reshapes Strategies in Telangana: Sets Sights on Target 2029

**TPN , Pardhu :** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Telangana is revamping its strategies, taking bold steps to expand its influence across the state with a clear focus on the 2029 elections. By combining its traditional vote bank with efforts to attract new voters, the party is intensifying its membership drive and grassroots activities, signaling a shift in its approach to bolster its presence in both urban and rural areas.

### Expanding Membership and Strengthening Booth Committees

The BJP has achieved a milestone by registering 35 lakh members in Telangana, a record number for the party in the state. Aiming to establish committees for 25,000 out of the 36,000 polling booths, the leadership plans to ensure these committees are not just symbolic but serve as functional



units during local body elections. The party's focus is on accelerating the process while simultaneously building a stronger foothold in rural areas.

### Increased Rural Focus

In the last general elections, the BJP increased its vote share significantly

and secured eight MP seats in Telangana, marking a notable improvement in its performance. Encouraged by these results, the party is now looking to strengthen its rural base. Recognizing the importance of grassroots connectivity, the BJP state leadership is prioritizing local body elections as a stepping stone to achieve

greater electoral success.

### Special Etala Committee and Training Programs

To enhance its reach in rural areas, the BJP has formed a dedicated committee led by senior leader Etala Rajender. This committee is responsible for effectively organizing booth-level committees and addressing local issues. As part of this initiative, the party is conducting training programs and workshops to prepare its cadres for the challenges ahead. These efforts aim to ensure that the committees are equipped to engage effectively with voters at the grassroots level.

### Urban to Rural Transition

Traditionally perceived as an urban-centric party, the BJP is now making significant strides in rural areas. Its leadership is determined

to target both urban and rural voters equally, leveraging its recent gains in rural constituencies. The party hopes to capitalize on this momentum and demonstrate its strength in the upcoming local elections with an aggressive campaign strategy.

### Leadership-Driven Momentum

Under the leadership of the newly appointed state BJP president, the party is moving swiftly to implement its revised strategies. Senior leaders are emphasizing the need to assign responsibilities to capable and committed workers at booth and mandal levels. The performance of these committees will form the basis for the party's final strategies, ensuring a focused and result-oriented approach.

2<sup>nd</sup> page





## MP's Seat in Rajya Sabha

continued from P-1

### Inquiry Underway

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar addressed the discovery of cash at Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi's seat, stating it was uncovered during a routine anti-sabotage check. He emphasized his duty to inform the House, saying, "It was my duty and I am obliged to inform the House. This is a routine anti-sabotage check which takes place." Dhankhar also noted that no one had claimed the currency notes, adding, "Does it reflect the state of the economy that people can afford to forget it?" He confirmed that an investigation had been ordered to determine the source of the money.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju defended Dhankhar's decision to mention Singhvi's name, arguing, "The Chairman has pointed out a seat number and the member who occupies that. What is the problem with that?" Rijiju criticized the act of bringing bundles of notes into the House, calling it "inappropriate," and supported the inquiry. BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi also demanded a thorough investigation, saying, "It was unexpected. The Chairman said he expected someone to claim the money, but no one did so. This makes us curious about the whole thing."

## Police Initiatives

continued from P-1

He reiterated the successful implementation of six guarantees and announced freedom as the seventh. The CM highlighted the administration's support for the police in curbing cybercrimes and drug abuse, urging faster action against intoxicants and awareness campaigns for students.

The CM praised the transparent completion of transfers and promotions in the police department and announced an initiative involving transgenders in traffic management. He assured financial support for families of Greyhounds force members who sacrifice their lives and announced an increase in Home Guard salaries. Families of Home Guards who die in the line of duty will receive Rs. 5 lakhs.

A significant highlight was the announcement of a Young India Police School, to be established on 50 acres, providing free corporate-level education for children of police personnel from Home Guards to the DGP level. The CM commended the 94,000-strong police force for maintaining law and order and pledged continued government support. The event concluded with the CM reaffirming his administration's dedication to strengthening law enforcement and public welfare.

## Sets Sights on Target 2029

continued from P-1

### Eye on Target 2029

While immediate efforts are geared toward the upcoming local body elections, the BJP's ultimate goal is to position itself as a formidable force in the 2029 state and general elections. With a combination of aggressive membership drives, strengthened grassroots committees, and targeted rural outreach, the BJP is aiming to solidify its base and expand its influence across Telangana.

This strategic overhaul reflects the BJP's ambition to challenge established political players in the state and emerge as a strong contender in future elections.

## KTR Slams Congress on Ambedkar Neglect

continued from P-1

Targeting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Rama Rao questioned his silence on the alleged undemocratic actions of his party in Telangana. "Rahul Gandhi speaks of safeguarding the Constitution but overlooks his party's unconstitutional activities in the state," he said. Rama Rao also criticized the redesign of the Telangana Thalli statue, accusing the Congress of attempting to erase the cultural identity of the state. He vowed to reinstall the original statue if the BRS returned to power.

Demanding a month-long Assembly session to address issues like farmer suicides, weaver distress, and the state of government schools, Rama Rao declared, "We will not remain silent; we will fight for the people of Telangana." He concluded by warning Revanth Reddy against using abusive rhetoric towards BRS leaders, emphasizing that mutual respect must be earned

# CM Revanth Launches State Disaster Management Force

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy launched the State Disaster Management Force (SDRF) today as part of the ongoing public administration victory celebrations. The Home Ministry organized the event, marking a significant step toward improving the state's disaster response capabilities.

The SDRF has been established under the Fire Department, with a force of approximately 2,000 trained personnel. The CM also inaugurated the boats assigned to the force, which will be critical in disaster response. This new force is designed to handle emergencies during major disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods, and other calamities. Fire stations across the state will now be transformed into SDRF stations to strengthen the disaster management infrastructure.

The formation of the SDRF comes in response to the devastating floods and heavy rains



that submerged several areas, including Hyderabad and Khammam, in July and August of this year. The Chief Minister, after conducting a review of the situation, recognized the need for a specialized and well-trained force to address such emergencies, similar to the National Disaster Response Force

(NDRF). To support the SDRF, the Telangana government has sanctioned Rs. 35.03 crore for its establishment and modernization. The funds have been used to purchase modern equipment, new firefighting vehicles, and to train personnel in

the SDRF's basic course, ensuring they are well-equipped to handle any disaster.

The creation of the SDRF underscores the state government's commitment to enhancing disaster preparedness and providing swift, effective relief in times of crisis.

## Telangana to Celebrate Public Administration Victory

**TPN , Hyderabad:** The Telangana state government has announced a three-day celebration to mark the victory of public administration, with a series of significant events lined up. The celebrations will kick off tomorrow, with the inauguration of new vehicles by the State Disaster Management Force. A police band performance and a weapons display will continue throughout the day. On the second day, August 8th, the foundation stone for the much-antic-

ipated Artificial Intelligence City will be laid. Additionally, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) will be signed for the establishment of 15 industries, including the Kamalapuram factory. The foundation for the Young India Physical Education and Sports University will also be laid.

The final day, August 9th, will feature a statue unveiling ceremony of Telangana Thalli, followed by a spectacular drone

show and a grand carnival at the State Secretariat. The event is expected to draw a crowd of over one lakh people. A new statue of Telangana Thalli will be unveiled as part of the grand celebration, highlighting the state's progress and achievements.

The government's three-day event promises to be a vibrant showcase of Telangana's development and future prospects.

## Bhatti Defends Praja Government's Achievements

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka addressed a media conference at the State Secretariat during the \*Prajapalana-Praja Vijayotsavam\* celebrations, emphasizing the Congress-led Praja government's achievements while criticizing the previous BRS regime's mismanagement.

Bhatti highlighted the Praja government's efforts to stabilize Telangana's economy, which he claimed was burdened by the BRS's ₹7 lakh crore debt. Despite these challenges, the government ensured timely salary payments to 3.69 lakh regular employees and 2.88 lakh pensioners. Over the past year, ₹64,516 crore was paid as debt interest, ₹24,036 crore allocated to capital expenditure, and ₹61,194 crore spent on welfare schemes.

Key welfare initiatives included ₹7,625 crore for Rythu Bharosa, ₹2,062 crore for loan waivers, ₹11,382 crore for the Cheyutha scheme, and ₹2,311 crore for Kalyana Lakshmi/Shaaadi



Mubarak. Bhatti also criticized the previous administration for neglecting job creation, highlighting the Praja government's recruitment of 56,000 people and introduction of a UPSC-modeled job calendar.

On energy, Bhatti condemned the BRS's delays in obtaining environmental clearances for the Yadadri Thermal Power Plant and criticized the construction

of the Bhadradi Thermal Power Plant using subcritical technology, resulting in cost overruns and delays. He announced plans to develop 40,000 MW of green energy by 2035, including 4,000 MW through women-led solar energy projects. Bhatti assured quality, uninterrupted electricity supply statewide and dismissed BRS's claims of power mismanagement as false propaganda. He concluded by

reaffirming the government's commitment to making Telangana an energy-surplus state capable of selling electricity to other regions.

"Every rupee was spent meaningfully without burdening citizens," Bhatti emphasized, highlighting the Praja government's transparent approach and focus on people-centric governance.

## Telangana to Celebrate Public Administration Victory

**TPN , Hyderabad:** The Telangana state government has announced a three-day celebration to mark the victory of public administration, with a series of significant events lined up. The celebrations will kick off tomorrow, with the inauguration of new vehicles by the State Disaster Management Force. A police band performance and a weapons display will continue throughout the day.

On the second day, August 8th, the foundation stone for the much-anticipated Artificial Intelligence City will be laid. Additionally, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) will be signed for the establishment of 15 industries, including the

Kamalapuram factory. The foundation for the Young India Physical Education and Sports University will also be laid.

The final day, August 9th, will feature a statue unveiling ceremony of Telangana Thalli, followed by a spectacular drone show and a grand carnival at the State Secretariat. The event is expected to draw a crowd of over one lakh people. A new statue of Telangana Thalli will be unveiled as part of the grand celebration, highlighting the state's progress and achievements. The government's three-day event promises to be a vibrant showcase of Telangana's development and future prospects.

## Relief for Telangana government in Supreme Court

**TPN , Telangana :** The Telangana government got some relief in the Supreme Court. The bench dismissed the petition filed to cancel the Group-1 notification and postpone the mains. The candidates had filed a petition in the Telangana High Court, saying that it was illegal to set aside the 2022 Group-1 notification and issue a new notification in 2024.

Moreover, there were 14 errors in the 2024 Group-1 prelims exams and the candidates had requested to postpone the mains exams. After the hearing on Friday, the Supreme Court ruled that the notification cannot be canceled. It was of the opinion that it was unnecessary for the

courts to interfere in the conduct of the exams, which would delay the recruitment process. With this verdict, the Supreme Court ordered the Telangana government to conduct the mains exams.







# One Year In: Telangana's Congress Struggles to Meet Expectations

**Public Expectations vs. Reality: Telangana's Governance Struggles**  
**Congress' 'Change Needed' Slogan Faces Scrutiny After One Year**  
**Unfulfilled Promises: Dissatisfaction Over Six Guarantees and Loan Waivers**  
**Hydra Demolitions and Social Media Impact on Telangana Politics**

**TPN , Telangana:** A political survey by Chanakya Strategies has highlighted significant public sentiment surrounding the Congress government in Telangana after its first year in power. The report, based on various factors, provides a detailed view of people's expectations, government performance, and political trends across the state.

## Public Expectations and Governance

The report emphasizes that following a decade of BRS governance, the people of Telangana had high expectations from the newly formed Congress government. However, there is a prevailing sense of dissatisfaction as the government has not fully met these expectations. The "firebrand" image of Congress leader Revanth Reddy before the elections had raised hopes, but the government's performance has not lived up to the promises, particularly regarding public governance.

## Slogan of Change

The Congress party's pre-election slogan, "Change is needed - Congress

is needed," aimed at ending the BRS regime and promoting development. However, many people feel that after a year in power, the promises linked to this slogan remain unfulfilled, leading to public disillusionment.

## Six Guarantees and Implementation

Before the elections, Congress promised six guarantees, which were well-received by the public. However, the survey finds that the guarantees have not been fully implemented, with many questioning their long-term feasibility. Issues such as the Gruhajyothi scheme and Indiramma houses have left people frustrated, especially in rural areas.

## Farmer Loan Waiver Concerns

The loan waiver for farmers, a major promise by Congress, has also not been fully realized. Despite waiving loans in phases, farmers are still facing confusion regarding the disbursement, with many feeling that the loan waiver has not been completed as promised.

## Government's Stance on Telangana

## Activists

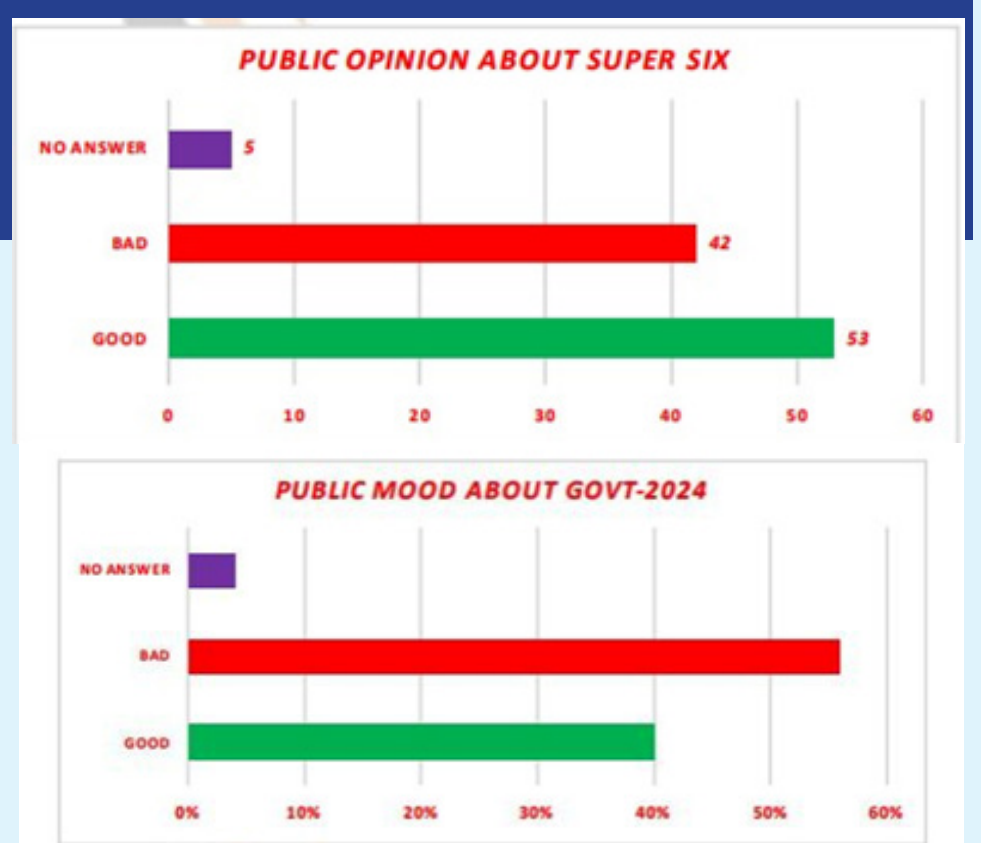
The government's approach towards Telangana activists has drawn mixed reactions. While Congress had criticized the previous government for neglecting activists, there are doubts about whether the current government has done enough for them, especially compared to the previous regime.

## Hydra Impact and Real Estate Concerns

The demolition drive led by HYDRA (Hyderabad Development and Regulation Authority) to clear illegal constructions has sparked significant opposition. People are questioning why structures approved by previous governments are now being demolished. This situation has caused dissatisfaction, particularly among real estate stakeholders, and could influence upcoming elections.

## Social Media Influence

Social media played a crucial role in Congress's electoral victory. However, after coming to power, the government seems to have neglected this tool, while BRS has strengthened



its social media presence. This shift has raised concerns about the government's ability to counter opposition narratives.

## NDA Alliance Impact

Despite the challenges, the report suggests that the BJP's influence in Telangana is limited due to a lack of strong leadership at the grassroots level. The survey concludes that while the Congress government has

four years to address its shortcomings, the political situation remains fluid, and the opposition could gain ground if it effectively capitalizes on current discontent.

The Chanakya Strategies report highlights the complex political landscape in Telangana, revealing both the government's successes and the areas where it faces significant challenges.

## Ministers Inaugurate Rice Mill in Miryalguda, Discuss Farmer Welfare



**TPN , Telangana :** In a significant move to boost the rice industry, Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar, and Tummalala Nageswara Rao inaugurated the Surya Teja Raw and Boiled Rice Industries Rice Mill in Miryalguda, Nalgonda district. The event was attended by Miryalguda MLA Bathula Lakshma Reddy and other key leaders, along with rice millers' representatives.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar highlighted the historical com-

petition between Nalgonda and Karimnagar districts in paddy production during united Andhra Pradesh. He acknowledged the role of Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, who organized special review meetings to set up additional purchase centers and improve paddy procurement during the previous government.

Prabhakar emphasized the importance of supporting farmers, recalling his tenure as Mark Fed chairman, where he ensured the

establishment of purchase centers in every village, benefiting farmers. He also criticized the exploitation of farmers in the past, where excess weight issues arose, and pledged that the current government would ensure fair practices.

Minister Prabhakar urged rice millers to cooperate with the government, ensuring that farmers receive justice and that no excess weight is measured during paddy procurement.

## Laxman Questions Sonia's Statue, KTR Responds

**TPN , Telangana :** BJP MP Laxman has raised questions over the non-installation of Sonia Gandhi's statue as Telangana Talli, accusing the state government of neglecting the issue. In response, BRS Working President KTR dismissed Laxman's remarks, suggesting that his sarcastic comments were irrelevant. KTR highlighted achievements under the current government, such as the reopening of colleges that were closed for years and the waiver of farmers' loans. He also pointed out the naming of the Pranahita Chevella project after Ambedkar, mentioning that Ambedkar's name was altered after KCR took power.

Laxman, however, lashed out at KCR, accusing him of grabbing lands allocated by Indira Gandhi, including the land where the collector's office in Siddipet was built. He also criticized the leadership for house arrests of leaders like KTR and Harish Rao



during the BRS regime and claimed they had fragmented the police system. Laxman concluded by praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asserting that India is being transformed under his leadership.

## Shadnagar MLA's Controversial Remarks Spark Outrage



**TPN , Shadnagar :** Shadnagar Congress MLA, Veerlapalli Shankar, has stirred controversy with his recent remarks, calling members of the Velama caste "scoundrels" and threatening to "kill" them. In a heated outburst, Shankar declared, "You are my sons. Without CM Revanth Reddy's knowledge, we will see the end of my sons... we will tie a whip on each of you." His comments, aimed at those conspiring against the Congress government, escalated ten-

sions, especially within the Velama community.

Shankar further warned that Velama caste people would not be allowed to roam freely and threatened direct attacks on senior Congress leaders. The inflammatory remarks have sparked significant backlash, with Velama leaders expressing their anger and demanding action against the MLA.

## KTR's Sacrifices for Telangana Questioned by Mahesh Goud

**TPN , Telangana :** In a media conference held at Gandhi Bhavan, PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud criticized the BRS government, particularly KTR, for their alleged failure to serve the people of Telangana. Goud pointed out that while the BRS government claimed to have created 50,000 jobs over its ten-year rule, the Congress government has already provided over 50,000 jobs within just nine months of coming to power. He emphasized that the Congress mark is visible across all sectors in the state.

Goud also highlighted improvements in public services, specifically in hospitals, under the Congress



government, contrasting it with the alleged corruption during the BRS rule. He questioned KTR's intentions, claiming that despite the alleged corruption and mismanagement, the BRS still dreams of returning to power.

The Congress leader also addressed KTR's controversial remarks about removing the statue of Rajiv Gandhi, asking why KTR would disregard the significant services rendered by Rajiv Gandhi for Telangana. Goud reaffirmed that the Congress government aims to serve the common people, calling for the public to participate in the festival of good governance.

## Harish Rao Slams Govt for Undeclared Emergency

**TPN , Telangana :** Former minister and senior BRS leader Harish Rao has strongly condemned the ongoing arrests and house arrests of Telangana BRS leaders and activists, calling it an example of undemocratic governance. Speaking on the occasion of Dr. BR Ambedkar's death anniversary, Harish Rao criticized the government's actions, stating that instead of paying homage to Ambedkar at Tank Bund, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was questioning these arrests.

Rao described the situation as an "undeclared emergency" in the state, accusing the government of exhibiting tyrannical and dictatorial behavior. He claimed that even Ambedkar, who fought for democracy and the Constitution, would be appalled by the current government's actions. Rao further demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all BRS leaders and activists detained without justification, emphasizing the need to uphold constitutional values and human rights in the state.





## BRS Leaders Under House Arrest Ahead of Protest

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Several leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) were placed under house arrest on Friday, December 6, ahead of a planned protest at Hyderabad's Necklace Road. The protest, organized by the BRS party, was aimed at condemning the arrest of its leaders by the Telangana government and alleged constitutional violations by the Congress.

The protest was scheduled to take place near the 125-foot Dr. BR Ambedkar statue. Senior BRS leaders, including T. Harish Rao, K. Kavitha, Vemula Prashanth Reddy, KP Vivekananda, Shambhipur Raju, Padi Kaushik Reddy, Dr. K. Sanjay, and RS Praveen Kumar, were placed under house arrest to prevent them from attending the demonstration.



On Thursday, the BRS had called for the protest to express solidarity with MLAs Padi Kaushik Reddy, Harish Rao, and others who were recently arrested.

In response to the heavy police presence on Necklace Road, Harish Rao questioned the government's actions, asking, "Why is there a heavy police presence on Necklace Road? Why is the government stopping

BRS cadre from paying tribute to Dr. BR Ambedkar?" A large contingent of police personnel was deployed at the BRS State headquarters, Telangana Bhavan, where BRS MLAs, MLCs, MPs, and activists had planned to assemble before heading to the protest site. BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao is also expected to participate in the protest at Telangana Bhavan at around 10:30 am.

## Telangana Suspends Film Benefit Shows After Woman's Death



**TPN , Hyderabad:** The Telangana government announced on December 5 that benefit shows for films across the state will no longer be permitted. This decision comes after a tragic incident during the premiere of \*Pushpa 2\*, where a woman lost her life in a stampede at the Sandhya Theatre in Hyderabad.

Telangana Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy stated, "We will not grant permissions for any benefit shows in Telangana going forward. This decision is necessary to regulate the film industry and prevent such tragedies from recurring."

Benefit shows, often held early in the morning or late at night to celebrate a film's release, have been a tradition in the film industry, allowing fans to gather and show excitement for their favorite movies. However, the tragic incident at the Sandhya Theatre on November 4, during the premiere of \*Pushpa 2\*, has raised serious concerns about safety at such events. The crowd surged as actor Allu Arjun arrived, leading to the stampede. A woman died in the incident, and her 13-year-old son was critically injured. Several others, including children, were also injured.

The incident has sparked mixed reactions from the public. While some have supported the government's decision, citing public safety, others from the film industry and fan groups have expressed concerns about the ban's impact on movie promotions.

Following the tragedy, Chikkadpally police registered a case against Allu Arjun, his security team, and the theatre management under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. The family of the deceased filed the complaint, prompting the legal action.

## HYDRA Resumes Demolitions in Jawahar Nagar



JCBs, began clearing illegal boundary walls and constructions on government and pond lands based on complaints from residents.

The action follows a recent statement by HYDRA Commissioner Ranganath, assuring the public that complaints about illegal constructions would be investigated and addressed promptly. This assurance has led to a surge in complaints about unauthorized developments within city limits.

Officials stated that the ongoing demolitions are part of a larger effort to reclaim government land and preserve natural water bodies. Residents in affected areas have been warned against further encroachments, as HYDRA remains committed to enforcing urban planning regulations and addressing grievances effectively.

**TPN , Medchal:** HYDRA, the state government's ambitious agency for addressing urban violations, has intensified its operations, focusing on demolishing illegal structures in the Jawahar Nagar limits of Medchal district. On Friday morning, HYDRA officials, equipped with

## Ponnam Criticizes KCR for Non-Participation in Family Survey



**TPN , Hyderabad:** Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar criticized former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) for not participating in the state's comprehensive house-to-house family survey. The survey, conducted by the Telangana government with great ambition, aimed to collect detailed demographic and caste data.

Prabhakar called on political leaders, public representatives, and officials to cooperate with the survey and provide the required information. He urged those who have yet to participate, including KCR, Union Minister Kishan Reddy, and several MLAs, to engage with the process.

The minister emphasized that no political bias should hinder the survey, stating, "When the TRS party collected information in the past, opposition leaders, including us, participated willingly." He expressed concern that some leaders might be deliberately withholding participation and urged them to set aside reservations, particularly regarding its focus on backward classes (BCs).

Prabhakar stressed that the survey's success depends on collective cooperation and reiterated its importance for policy-making and inclusive development. "If anyone has concerns or objections about the survey, they should voice them openly instead of abstaining," he added.

## Huge Explosion in Hyderabad During Garbage Cleaning

**TPN , Hyderabad:** A massive explosion occurred in Hayatnagar on Friday while municipal workers were cleaning garbage behind the store room at the Hayatnagar police station premises. The explosion happened during the process of burning waste, leading to injuries.

One municipal employee sustained serious injuries in the blast and was immediately rushed to the hospital for treatment. The nature of the explosion and what caused it are still under investigation.

The police have registered a case, and further inquiries are underway to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident. Details about the materials involved in the explosion are yet to be confirmed. Authorities are working to ensure the safety of workers involved in similar activities.



## Stampede at Sandhya Theater: NHRC Launches Investigation

**TPN , Hyderabad:** A tragic stampede occurred at Sandhya Theater on RTC Cross Road on Wednesday night during a benefit show of \*Pushpa-2\*. The incident resulted in the death of a woman, while her son is undergoing treatment at KIMS Hospital for injuries sustained in the chaos.

Following the incident, the victim's family filed a complaint, leading the police to register cases against the Sandhya Theater management, as well as actor Allu Arjun and his security team under various sections, including 105, 118(1)

Red, and the 3(5) BNS Act. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has intervened in the case after receiving a complaint from lawyer Rama Rao Immineni and expelled Congress leader Bakka Judson. The NHRC has accepted the complaint for investigation, adding another layer of scrutiny to the incident. The commission's involvement is expected to bring a new dimension to the case, and it remains to be seen how they will respond to the complaints and what further actions will be taken.



## Tight Security in Hyderabad for Babri Masjid Demolition Anniversary



**TPN , Hyderabad:** In anticipation of the anniversary of the Babri Masjid demolition on Friday, the city has been placed under heightened security. Authorities are taking extra precautions in light of recent incidents of violence in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, and disturbances at the Ajmer Dargah.

Senior police officials have instructed officers in the south, southwest, and southeast zones to remain on high alert, particularly in the afternoon. Key locations, including Charminar and Makkah Masjid, are under strict surveillance. The Central Rapid Action Force, Telangana Special Police, Quick Response Team, City Rapid Action Force, Task Force, and City Armed Reserve have been deployed to maintain order.

A significant gathering is expected at Makkah Masjid during Friday prayers, with plainclothes policemen strategically positioned to identify any potential troublemakers. Additional officers have been stationed at Saidabad, and police teams are also posted at the Moghalpura Darsghah Jihad o Shahadat office.

Senior police officials are closely monitoring the situation, ensuring the safety of the public and maintaining peace during the observance of this sensitive anniversary.



## KCR to Chair Crucial BRS Meeting on Sunda



**TPN , Telangana:** The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has announced a key meeting scheduled for December 8, chaired by former Telangana Chief Minister Kalvakuntla Chandrababu Naidu (KCR). KTR confirmed that the joint meeting, involving BRS MLAs and other leaders, will take place at a farm in Erravelli from 1 PM on Sunday.

Discussions will focus on the state's political landscape, assembly proceedings, and mandal-level activities. Speculation is high about KCR's possible attendance at the assembly sessions, which could further intensify ongoing debates between the BRS and Congress.

KCR's participation in the assembly, if confirmed, is expected to stir significant political developments. The Yerravelli meeting is likely to provide clarity on his plans and serve as a platform for strategic discussions to strengthen the party's position. The meeting is being closely watched for its potential impact on Telangana's political dynamics.

## KTR Praises KCR's Leadership Ahead of YTPS Launch

**TPN , Telangana :** The Yadadri Thermal Power Station (YTPS) in Nalgonda district will begin operations tomorrow, marking a significant milestone in Telangana's energy sector. BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) took to the 'X' platform to emphasize the vision and hard work of Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu (KCR) behind the construction of this power plant, stating that the people of Telangana would remember KCR's leadership for years to come. In his tweet, KTR praised the BRS government's efforts, noting that in 2014, the state had a power capacity of just 7,778 MW. Under the current administration, the government took up construction of a plant with a capacity of 20,000 MW, he said, calling it a "success story never seen in the history of the country."

KTR further highlighted that the YTPS, with a total capacity of 4000 MW (5x800), is set to become the largest thermal power plant run by a state government in the history of independent India. He also mentioned that the BRS government entrusted the construction of the YTPS to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), with an estimated value of Rs. 20,400 crore, marking another landmark achievement under KCR's leadership.



## Center Approves 28 New Navodaya Vidyalayas, 7 in Telangana



**TPN , Telangana:** The Central Government has approved the establishment of 28 new Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country, with seven of them allocated to Telangana. These new schools will be set up in Jagityala, Nizamabad, Bhadrachalam, Medchal, Suryapet, Sangareddy, and Mahabubnagar districts, aiming to provide quality education in rural areas.

A total of Rs. 2,359.82 crore has been allocated for the establishment of these Navodaya Vidyalayas, each of which will accommodate 560 students. These institutions are

part of the government's ongoing effort to expand educational opportunities for students in remote areas. In addition, the government has allocated Rs. 5,872 crore for the establishment of 85 new Kendriya Vidyalayas, which will each have 960 students. Notably, nine new Kendriya Vidyalayas are also being set up in Andhra Pradesh.

These initiatives reflect the government's commitment to enhancing educational infrastructure and providing high-quality education across the nation.

## Minister Damodar Presents "Best Hospitals Awards 2024"

**TPN , Hyderabad:** Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha participated in the "Best Hospitals Awards 2024" program organized by \*The Week\* magazine at the Sheraton Hotel, where he presented awards to hospitals from across the country.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister emphasized the critical role of health in societal development. He stated that ensuring public health is a government responsibility and stressed that no one should face financial distress due to medical expenses. He reiterated the government's commitment to providing free healthcare and urged private hospitals to act with compassion, avoiding exorbitant charges for patients.

Highlighting his government's

priorities, the minister said education and healthcare are at the forefront. He announced the establishment of eight medical, 16 nursing, and 28 paramedical colleges within the past year. The free treatment limit under Arogyasri has been increased from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh, with an additional budget allocation of ₹487 crore.

To tackle non-communicable diseases, NCD clinics have been established in every district. Maithri Clinics, catering to transgender individuals under the slogan "Health Care is Equal for All," have also been introduced. The minister announced that the foundation stone for the new Osmania Hospital will soon be laid, signaling further advancements in healthcare infrastructure.

## Telangana Talli Statue Unveiled in Green Saree

**TPN , Telangana:** The much-awaited Telangana Talli statue will be unveiled at the Secretariat on December 9, as announced by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. The statue, standing at 24 feet, features Telangana Talli draped in a green saree, symbolizing the strength and spirit of the state's women.

In her left hand, Telangana Talli holds rice, jowar, and corn, symbolizing the state's agricultural heritage. The statue also features gold ornaments around her neck, adding to its cultural significance.

CM Revanth Reddy had previously mentioned that the statue is designed to reflect an image of an ordinary woman, one that every community can relate to as a mother.

The newly unveiled model of the statue marks a departure from previous versions, notably with the absence of Bathukamma, which was a prominent feature in earlier designs. Preparations for the statue's installation have been completed, and it will be unveiled on the occasion of Sonia Gandhi's birthday.



## Idols Destroyed at Mahadeswara Swamy Temple in Hanumakonda



**TPN , Telangana :** A shocking incident of idol destruction has occurred at the Mahadeswara Swamy temple in Hanumakonda, raising concerns in the region. Unknown assailants vandalized the idols at the temple, located in Shanigaram, Kamalapur mandal. This attack follows a similar incident a month ago when Panchaloha idols were stolen from the Ram temple in the same village.

The local community alerted the police about the destruction, prompting the Kamalapur police to file a case and begin an investigation. The authorities are yet to reveal further details regarding the motives behind the attack. This incident has once again brought to light the rising issue of temple idol vandalism in the state, sparking widespread concern.

## Home Guard Arrested for Blackmail in Rajanna Siricilla District

**TPN , Telangana :** A shocking case of blackmail involving a Lady Home Guard has come to light in Rajanna Siricilla District. Vadla Anusha, a Home Guard from Vemulawada, has been accused of extorting money from wealthy individuals by claiming her husband's health was deteriorating and demanding large sums of money.

In one instance, Anusha allegedly borrowed Rs. 3.5 lakh from retired AE Dwaraka Shekhar. After he requested repayment, she blackmailed him with morphed photographs suggesting she had

been married, demanding an additional Rs. 5 lakh. Shekhar, concerned about his reputation, paid the amount but later filed a complaint when Anusha demanded another Rs. 3 lakh.

Upon investigation, the police discovered that Anusha had been using morphed photos to intimidate her victims. She was arrested and remanded in custody for her role in the blackmailing scam. The incident has raised serious concerns about the abuse of power by law enforcement officers.



## Fire Breaks Out Under Malakpet Metro Station in Hyderabad, Vehicles Destroyed



**TPN , Hyderabad:** A fire accident occurred under the Malakpet Metro Station in Hyderabad, causing significant disruption to commuters and motorists. The fire broke out suddenly, engulfing several vehicles parked in the area, including five bikes, which were completely destroyed. The blaze sent thick smoke billowing across the area, affecting metro passengers and drivers on the road.

Motorists traveling near the station faced severe difficulties as the smoke hampered visibility and caused traffic congestion. Firefighters rushed to the scene and are currently working to bring the fire under control. The cause of the fire remains unknown, and investigations are underway to determine whether it was caused by an electrical fault, arson, or some other factor.



## Engineering Student Commits Suicide in Medchal

**TPN , Telangana :** In yet another tragic incident, a first-year B.Tech student committed suicide at the MLRIT Engineering College near Medchal. The deceased, identified as Sravani (18), was found hanging in her hostel room. She was the eldest daughter of Balaram and Kavitha, residents of Mylaram Kotha Thanda in Vikarabad district.

laredy Hospital without informing her family. Sravani's parents, upon learning of her death, protested at the college premises, demanding justice and clarification about the circumstances surrounding her suicide. They expressed disbelief, asserting that their daughter was not the type to take such an extreme step.

authorities working to determine the cause of her death. This incident adds to the growing concern over student suicides in Telangana, with several such cases reported recently at educational institutions like Sri Chaitanya and Narayana. Sravani's family and local community are calling for a thorough investigation into the matter.

The college management moved her body to Mal-

The preliminary investigation is ongoing, with





# The Growing Threat of Persuasive AI: National Security and Personal Influence Concerns

Emerging technologies, particularly generative artificial intelligence (AI), hold the power to influence beliefs and decisions in ways previously thought impossible. While many of us may believe we're immune to such manipulation, mounting evidence suggests otherwise. The potential for AI-driven persuasion has become a pressing national security concern, as countries like China are advancing tools capable of swaying political opinions, manipulating social behavior, and even fostering unrest—without a single shot being fired.

A recent report from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), funded by the US State Department, raised alarms about the capabilities of Chinese tech companies. According to the study, these companies are developing persuasive technologies that exploit cognitive and physiological vulnerabilities. These tools rely on collecting personal data to tailor interactions with users, influencing their behaviors and attitudes in ways that support the Chinese government's political or military agendas. While China's private sector is leading the charge, it follows a similar trajectory to that of major US tech firms, which have long used persuasive algorithms to keep users engaged on platforms like Facebook or Instagram.

From a national security standpoint, the risk is clear: technologies with the power to shape opinions or sow division could be wielded by bad actors, including state actors like China. However, this is not just a geopolitical issue. Persuasive technologies, particularly those powered by AI, are already widespread across global markets, used by businesses to influence everything from consumer behavior to political opinions. The tools that allow platforms like Twitter and TikTok to keep



us engaged could also be used to manipulate us in harmful ways.

One positive use of persuasive technology has emerged, however: AI-driven conversations have been shown to reduce conspiracy theories, even among the most committed believers. A study found that engaging with AI models could help users rethink their entrenched views, offering hope that these technologies might also have a role in countering harmful ideologies.

But how to address the potential for abuse? Transparency is key. Tech companies should disclose when content is tailored in ways that may influence users. Stronger data protection laws and

clearer opt-out mechanisms would also help prevent companies from collecting and using data to manipulate individuals. Digital literacy is another crucial tool, as educating users about algorithms, personalized content, and how to spot manipulative tactics can protect them from undue influence.

The rapid development of persuasive technologies necessitates further research into their societal impact. It's critical that companies, regulators, and global policymakers collaborate to establish standards and protections before these tools are exploited for nefarious purposes. The growing power of AI and its persuasive potential should be a wake-up call to address this emerging threat now.



## Delhi's High-Stakes 2025 Elections: A Battle Between AAP, BJP, and Congress

As the election season of 2024 comes to a close, all eyes are now set on the high-stakes battle for Delhi in February 2025. Delhi's unique electoral landscape, marked by sharp split-voting patterns, makes it a crucial battleground. The city tends to vote for the BJP in Lok Sabha elections and for the AAP in assembly polls, creating an intriguing dynamic heading into the next election.

Following recent victories in Haryana and Maharashtra, the BJP is preparing to challenge AAP's dominance in Delhi. The party is counting on its "double-engine" model, which promises aligned governance at both the state and central levels, while also capitalizing on growing anti-incumbency sentiment against the AAP government. On the other hand, the AAP, led by Arvind Kejriwal, is focusing on its track record of development, including free electricity and water schemes, improvements in education, and healthcare for the underprivileged. The party also hopes to gain sympathy for Kejriwal and other leaders like Manish Sisodia, who claim they were targeted in politically motivated cases by the central government.

Delhi's electoral history has been marked by stark contrasts. In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP swept all seven seats, while AAP only managed to secure a few assembly segments. However, the 2015 assembly elections saw a dramatic shift, with the AAP winning 67 out of 70 seats, leaving the BJP with just three. The pattern repeated in the 2020 assembly elections, where AAP clinched 62 seats and the BJP won only eight. This trend was reversed again in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, where the BJP claimed all seven seats, leaving AAP with nothing.

## Ludhiana's Toxic Drain: Why the Buddha Nullah Needs Urgent Rejuvenation



The Buddha Nullah in Ludhiana, once a vital lifeline for Punjab, has sadly transformed into a toxic drain. Years of industrial effluents, untreated sewage, and poor governance have turned this tributary of the Sutlej river into a serious health hazard. Despite multiple court orders and a commitment of Rs 840 crore for its rejuvenation, government efforts have proven ineffective, compelling civil society to take matters into their own hands.

On Tuesday, the Kale Pani Da Morcha, a group representing frustrated local citizens, staged protests against dyeing units that continue to discharge harmful pollutants. Their actions have highlighted the blatant non-compliance of three Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs), which are supposed to treat industrial waste. These plants, however, continue to release toxic waste despite being ordered to implement zero liquid discharge. The Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) and local civic authorities have been slow to enforce penalties or upgrade the outdated infrastructure, further deepening public distrust in the system.

The situation has also led to tension between activists and industrial workers, underscoring the socio-economic challenges of balancing environmental protection with industrial growth. Thousands of jobs are tied to these industries, but public health cannot be sacrificed for economic gain. It is essential for authorities to ensure that economic development aligns with sustainable practices.

A joint task force established by the Centre and Punjab Government is a positive step, though it comes much too late. Immediate action is needed, starting with the urgent upgrading of CETPs, fast-tracking the Gaughat pumping station, and sealing the 120 identified pollution points. A robust action plan involving rigorous monitoring and community engagement is critical for any meaningful change.

The people of Ludhiana and downstream communities continue to suffer from the polluted water, impacting both their health and agriculture. The time for symbolic protests is over; it is now crucial for all stakeholders—government, industries, and civil society—to come together for decisive action. Reviving Buddha Nullah is not just an environmental issue, but a matter of basic human rights. Only through collective action can we restore this vital waterway and secure a cleaner, healthier future for all.

## Sikh Extremist Sentiment and the Attack on Sukhbir Singh Badal

The attempt on the life of senior Akali Dal leader Sukhbir Singh Badal at the Golden Temple in Amritsar on Wednesday is more than just an assault on a political figure. It highlights the growing influence of extremist Sikh sentiment and the increasing boldness of radical factions within the Sikh community.

Sukhbir Singh Badal and the Akali Dal have long been associated with moderate Sikh politics in Punjab. However, the attacker, Narain Singh Chaura, is a former militant and a Khalistan sympathizer with multiple criminal cases against him. This attack underscores the shifting dynamics in Punjab's political and religious landscape, as radical elements gain ground, challenging the authority of moderate Sikh leaders.

Badal was reportedly performing penance at the Golden Temple as instructed by the Akal Takht, the supreme religious and temporal authority of the Sikhs. This followed the Akal Takht's judgment finding Badal and other Akali Dal leaders guilty of religious misconduct. The act of penance, which required Badal to step down temporarily from his position in the Akali Dal, was a significant moment in Sikh political and religious traditions, where leaders are held accountable by the religious establishment.

Sikh tradition places a strong emphasis on holding members of the community, including political leaders, accountable for their actions. The high priests of the Akal Takht demanded the resignation of Badal, signaling their attempt to assert religious authority over political matters. This scenario reflects the ongoing intertwining of Sikh religious and political spheres, with leaders like Badal navigating a complex environment where political and religious accountability go hand in hand.

The Akali Dal has seen a decline in popularity in recent years, owing to governance failures and growing disillusionment among its rural Sikh farmer base. The party's failure to address key issues during its tenure and its growing distance from grassroots concerns have contributed to this decline.

While public reprimands of political figures by religious institutions have been criticized by some as outdated, others view them as necessary for self-correction within the party. The incident involving Badal reflects the deepening intersection between politics and religion in Punjab, and the growing influence of the radical fringe in Sikh affairs.





# PM Modi Highlights Northeastern States' Role in Shaping India's Future

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI  
DECEMBER.7

Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the growing significance of the northeastern states in shaping India's future during his address at the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav in Delhi on Friday. He expressed his belief that cities like Guwahati, Agartala, Imphal, and Itanagar will emerge as major symbols of development and strength in the coming decades.

Highlighting the importance of the region, the Prime Minister stated that the next few decades will see these cities rise as key drivers of progress, contributing to the nation's economic and cultural landscape. Modi underscored that the northeastern states would play a central role in shaping India's growth trajectory in



the years ahead.

Modi also declared that the future of India lies in the eastern part of the country, particularly the Northeast. "I firmly believe that the future

"the century of the East."

This vision for the Northeast is aligned with the government's push to enhance connectivity, infrastructure, and economic development in the region. Over the years, the central government has made significant investments in various sectors, including roads, railways, and energy, to boost the region's potential. Modi's statement reflects a long-term vision of a more integrated and prosperous Northeast, poised to take its place as a key player in India's development story.

By highlighting the importance of the northeastern states, Modi has reinforced the message that the region is not just a peripheral part of the country but a crucial pillar of India's future growth and prosperity.

belongs to Eastern India, especially the Northeast," he said, noting that this region would be crucial to India's overall development. He further pointed out that the 21st century is increasingly being viewed as

## BJP conspiring to delete 11,000 voters ahead of Delhi Assembly polls: Kejriwal

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI  
DECEMBER.7

Former Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal on Friday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of orchestrating widespread deletions of voter names from the electoral rolls ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections. Kejriwal alleged that BJP leaders had submitted multiple applications to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to remove thousands of voters' names, particularly from constituencies like Shahdara, Janakpuri, and Laxmi Nagar.

Citing Shahdara as a prime example, Kejriwal claimed that the BJP had requested the deletion of 11,018 voter names from the constituency. He further alleged that a random check of 500 of these names revealed that 75 percent of individuals were still residing at the listed addresses. "This is a clear attempt to manipulate the electoral process," Kejriwal asserted.



He connected these deletions to the BJP's narrow victory in Shahdara during the 2020 Assembly elections, where AAP lost by just 5,294 votes. Kejriwal argued that removing 11,000 voters—around 6 percent of the electorate—could significantly alter the outcome in the constituency.

However, the district magistrate of Shahdara refuted Kejriwal's claims, stating that only 494 deletion applications had been received since October 29, 2024, calling Kejriwal's allegations factually incorrect. Despite this, Kejriwal presented individuals at a press conference whose names he claimed were unjustly targeted for deletion, further alleging that these people were still living at the same addresses.

In response, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva dismissed the accusations as "baseless," accusing AAP of protecting fraudulent voters, including "Rohingyas and Bangladeshis."

## India asks Pakistan to take strong action against Masood Azhar

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI  
DECEMBER.7

India has called on Pakistan to take immediate and strong action against Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief Masood Azhar, after a report surfaced claiming that Azhar recently addressed a public gathering in Bahawalpur. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson, Randhir Jaiswal, expressed concern over the development, asserting that if the report is accurate, it would expose Pakistan's "duplicity" in its efforts to combat terrorism.



the JeM leader.

"Masood Azhar has been a key figure behind several cross-border terrorist attacks targeting India. If these reports are true, it underscores the hypocrisy of Pakistan's stance on containing terrorism," Jaiswal said during a weekly media briefing. He further emphasized that Pakistan's repeated denials about Azhar's presence in the country were contradicted by the speech, highlighting the need for concrete action against

Jaiswal's statement reflects India's long-standing concerns regarding Pakistan's failure to hold Azhar accountable for his involvement in various terrorist activities, including the 2001 Indian Parliament attack and the 2016 Uri attack. The Indian government has consistently pushed for Pakistan to take firm steps against individuals and groups engaged in cross-border terrorism.

India has demanded that Azhar be brought to justice, reiterating its call for Pakistan to cease harboring individuals responsible for terrorism. Azhar, a designated global terrorist by both India and the United Nations, has been a thorn in diplomatic relations between the two countries for years.

The Indian government's demand underscores its frustration with Pakistan's inaction, especially when faced with evidence suggesting that Azhar continues to operate openly.



## Disasters should not be about politics; people of Wayanad don't need excuses: Priyanka Gandhi

TPN CORRESPONDENT DELHI  
DECEMBER.7

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday emphasized that disasters should never become political issues, urging both the state and central governments to focus on providing urgent relief to the people of Wayanad, who are struggling to recover from recent landslides. She stated that the residents of Wayanad are looking for hope, not excuses, as they work to rebuild their lives with dignity.

"Disasters should not be about politics. Efforts to support the victims of such disasters must prioritize humanity and compassion," Priyanka Gandhi wrote on X (formerly Twitter). She added that the people of Wayanad are relying on both the state and central governments to step up and fulfill their responsibilities in this critical time.

Her remarks came after a delegation of Kerala MPs, led by Priyanka Gandhi, met with Union Home Minister Amit Shah to discuss the need for immediate aid for the landslide-affected regions. During the meeting, they urged Shah to rise above political differences and ensure timely and effective relief for the victims.

In her post, Priyanka Gandhi also shared details of the response from the central government, which included a note stating that the Centre had released funds for the relief efforts in Wayanad. According to the note, the first installment of Rs 145.60 crore was released on July 31, 2024, and the second installment was disbursed on October 1, 2024. The note also mentioned that the state's SDRF account held sufficient funds, and that the central government had proactively formed an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to assess the damage and support the state's recovery efforts.

The note highlighted the Prime Minister's aerial survey of the affected areas and his emphasis on creating long-term schemes to assist the victims, particularly children who lost their families. The IMCT's report and the state's recent request for additional funding will guide future recovery and reconstruction efforts. While the state government bears the primary responsibility for disaster management, the central government has been providing significant assistance, according to the note.



## PM Modi to Visit or Hold Talks Before Year-End

TPN CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI  
DECEMBER.7

The India Bloc in Manipur has formally requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the state before the end of 2024 or to engage in discussions with political parties from Manipur in New Delhi. This request comes amid ongoing concerns about the situation in the state, and the bloc is urging swift action to address the challenges faced by the people of Manipur.

In a letter addressed to Prime Minister Modi, the India Bloc, which includes key political figures from the state, highlighted the importance of direct engagement between the central government and local political representatives. The letter emphasizes that a visit by the Prime Minister would be an essential step in understanding the situation firsthand and ensuring that the state's concerns are addressed.

The India Bloc has expressed that the people of Manipur are facing various issues that require urgent attention, and that the involvement of the Prime Minister would help expedite the process of finding solutions. If a visit is not possible within the year, the Bloc has proposed that the Prime Minister hold talks with the state's political leadership in the national capital, New Delhi. This would allow for productive discussions that could lead to effective measures to resolve the challenges facing Manipur.

The request underscores the importance of dialogue and collaboration between the central government and state leaders to ensure the progress and welfare of Manipur, particularly in these challenging times. By extending an invitation for direct talks or a visit, the India Bloc aims to foster a sense of unity and cooperation to resolve the issues that are affecting the state's stability and development.

## Assam CM Invites Nirmala Sitharaman to Advantage Assam Summit 2.0

TPN CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI  
DECEMBER.7

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma recently extended an official invitation to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, inviting them to attend the upcoming Advantage Assam Summit 2.0, scheduled to be held in Guwahati in February next year.



The Advantage Assam Summit 2.0 aims to promote the state as a premier investment destination and enhance its economic growth. The event is expected to attract a wide range of investors, businesses, and industry leaders from across the country and abroad, further cementing Assam's position as a key player in India's economic development.

During the meeting, CM Sarma emphasized Assam's growing role in national economic progress and how the summit would be an important platform for show-

ing the state's potential in sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, and infrastructure. He highlighted Assam's rich natural resources, strategic location, and conducive business environment, which make it an attractive investment hub for both domestic and international investors.

Sarma also discussed the state government's initiatives to improve the ease of doing business, including reforms aimed at simplifying regulations and providing incentives for businesses. He expressed his

hope that both Sitharaman and Sonowal's presence at the summit would add value and strengthen the event's impact.

Nirmala Sitharaman, who has played a crucial role in India's financial policy, and Sarbananda Sonowal, a former Chief Minister of Assam, are expected to bring valuable perspectives to the summit. Their participation would underscore the central government's commitment to Assam's development and foster greater collaboration between the state and the federal government in boosting economic growth.



# Syria Rebel Leader Says Goal Is To "Overthrow" Assad Regime

Rebel forces in Syria have launched a rapid offensive with the goal of overthrowing President Bashar al-Assad's regime, with their leader confirming the objective in a recent interview. The offensive, led by the Islamist faction Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), has already resulted in significant gains, including the fall of Syria's second-largest city, Aleppo, and the strategically important Hama. The rebels are now closing in on Homs, a key city that, if captured, would sever Assad's access to the Mediterranean coast and weaken his power base.

By Friday morning, the rebels were reported to be just five kilometers from the edge of Homs, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. HTS leader Abu Mohammed al-Jolani reaffirmed the rebels' commitment to toppling the Assad regime, stating, "The goal of the revolution remains the overthrow of this regime." The offensive began on November 27 and has seen rebel forces push through northern Syria, taking advantage of the ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah, Assad's major backers, including Russia and Iran.

Tens of thousands of members of Assad's Alawite community, fearing the rebels' advance, fled Homs towards the coastal region. The city holds historical significance, having



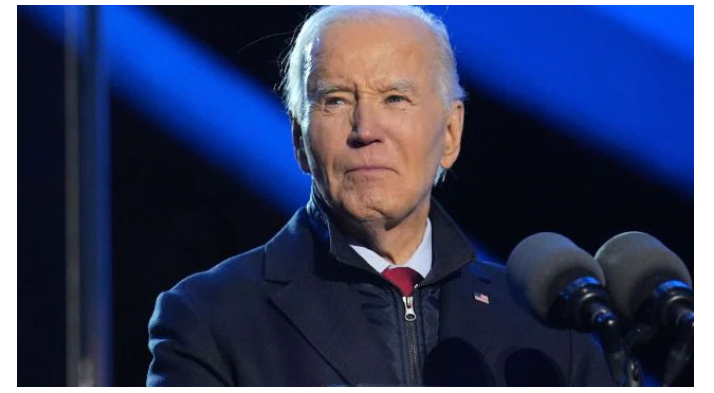
been a center of resistance in the early years of the civil war. The fall of Hama earlier this week, with rebel forces declaring it "liberated," was seen as a massive blow to Assad's government.

The United Nations has reported that the violence has displaced over 280,000 people, with the number expected to rise significantly. Experts believe the loss of Homs would be devastating for Assad, though it may not

immediately end his rule. However, it would critically undermine his position as it would disrupt the connection between Damascus and the coast, leaving his government increasingly isolated.

The escalating violence highlights the failure of international diplomacy to resolve the Syrian conflict, with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres calling the situation a "chronic collective failure."

## Biden Considers Sweeping Pardons for Allies Amid Transition



President Joe Biden is considering issuing sweeping pardons for officials and allies who the White House believes could face prosecution or targeting by the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump. This potential move would mark an unprecedented use of the president's pardon power and is being evaluated by White House lawyers.

The issue has been under discussion among Biden's senior aides, with the president reportedly engaging in conversations with key staff about the possibility. Although deliberations are ongoing, no firm decisions have been made as of now, and it remains uncertain whether Biden will proceed with such a controversial step. The move would serve as a preemptive action to shield certain individuals within the administration from future legal challenges or retaliation in the wake of a transition of power.

While the consideration of such pardons is unconventional, Biden's team is weighing the potential implications and risks. The idea of issuing pardons for people within the current administration or his political circle could be seen as an attempt to mitigate the possibility of politically motivated prosecutions under a new government.

In parallel, Biden's administration is also expected to grant more traditional pardons before the end of the year. These would likely focus on addressing sentencing disparities for people convicted of federal crimes, a move that would align with Biden's broader criminal justice reform agenda.

As the Biden administration heads into its final days, the possibility of sweeping pardons remains a sensitive and contentious topic, with many watching closely to see if such a move will be pursued. With growing attention on the political ramifications, Biden's team is treading cautiously as they weigh the decision.

## Macron Faces Political Crisis as Barnier Resigns, New Prime Minister Sought

French President Emmanuel Macron is navigating a deep political crisis after the resignation of Prime Minister Michel Barnier following a historic no-confidence vote in Parliament. Barnier's government was ousted after a stand-off over the 2025 budget, marking the first time in over 60 years that a French administration has been toppled in such a manner.

Macron, in a defiant address to the nation, rejected calls for his resignation and vowed to appoint a new prime minister in the coming days. He emphasized the importance of passing a budget and forming a "government of general interest." Despite the crisis, Macron expressed confidence, referencing the successful rebuilding of Notre Dame cathedral as evidence of his administration's ability to overcome challenges.

The president is set to meet with leaders of his centrist party, the Socialist Party, and the right-wing Republicans on Friday to seek a compromise and form a new government. However, the hard-left France Unbowed and the far-right National Rally, which contributed to Barnier's ouster, were not invited to the discussions.

Barnier's resignation follows a series of political deadlocks. After June's snap parliamentary elections resulted in a hung parliament, no party could secure a majority, leaving the far-right holding key influence. Barnier's controversial austerity budget, aimed at stabilizing France's finances, sparked widespread opposition in Parliament, leading to his downfall.

Macron, who still has over two years left in his term, has rejected calls to resign despite polls showing that a majority of French citizens want him to step down. In a poll conducted by Le Figaro, 59% of respondents said Macron should resign, while a survey by RTL placed the figure at 64%. However, Macron remains determined to complete his mandate, stating that the next 30 months should be focused on action to benefit the country.



## South Korean Ruling Party Leader Calls for Yoon's Removal Amid Martial Law Controversy

South Korea's political landscape has been shaken following President Yoon Suk Yeol's controversial actions on Tuesday, which led the leader of the ruling party to call for his removal from office. This drastic move came after President Yoon granted the military sweeping emergency powers, with the aim of rooting out what he described as "anti-state forces" and dealing with political opposition that he claimed was obstructing his governance.

The president's decision to impose such measures, which many viewed as an attempt to impose martial law, stunned the nation and triggered a strong reaction from political circles. The leader of the ruling People Power Party, who has been an ally of President Yoon, expressed his concerns on Friday, stating that the president's actions were an abuse of power and should lead to his removal from office. This has created a significant divide within the party, with some members supporting the president, while others demand accountability and a reevaluation of his decisions.

The South Korean government has denied reports suggesting that it was preparing to issue a formal martial law declaration. In response to these allegations, a government spokesperson emphasized that the actions taken by President Yoon were in line with national security concerns and were meant to strengthen the country's defense capabilities, not to declare martial law. However, the opposition has voiced growing alarm over the potential consequences of these measures, fearing that they could lead to a further erosion of democratic freedoms and political stability.

As tensions escalate within the government and the ruling party, the country faces a critical moment in its political history. With calls for President Yoon's resignation growing louder, the next steps will determine the future of South Korea's leadership and its democratic institutions.

## Imran Khan Demands Judicial Inquiry and Announces Civil Disobedience Movement

Imran Khan, Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister, has urged his supporters to gather in Peshawar on December 13 to demand justice and accountability following violent protests linked to his party. The rally comes just days after a deadly protest march led by his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party in Islamabad.

Khan is calling for a judicial investigation into the crackdown on the November 25 protest, which he claims led to the deaths of at least 12 PTI supporters. He is also demanding an inquiry into the violence during protests on May 9, 2023, which resulted in eight deaths. In addition to these demands, Khan is insisting on the immediate release of all political workers arrested during recent demonstrations.

Khan, who has been in jail since late 2023, warned the government that if his demands are not addressed, he will initiate a civil disobedience movement starting December 14. He further stated that the government would be held responsible for any consequences of such actions. The call for civil disobedience marks an escalation in his campaign against the current administration.

Khan's legal troubles continue to mount. On Thursday, he was formally indicted on charges of masterminding the May 9 attacks, charges he denies. This is just one of many legal cases facing the 72-year-old former cricket star. His political influence remains strong, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where his PTI party holds power.

## NASA Delays Crewed Lunar Landing Until 2027 As Trump Prepares For Office

NASA has announced a delay in its planned Artemis 3 mission, which will now take place in mid-2027 instead of its original 2026 timeframe. The delay is attributed to ongoing technical issues with the Orion crew capsule, particularly problems with its heat shield, electrical systems, and life support. The heat shield's unexpected erosion during the Artemis 1 test flight raised concerns, but NASA has since identified the root cause and is working on solutions.

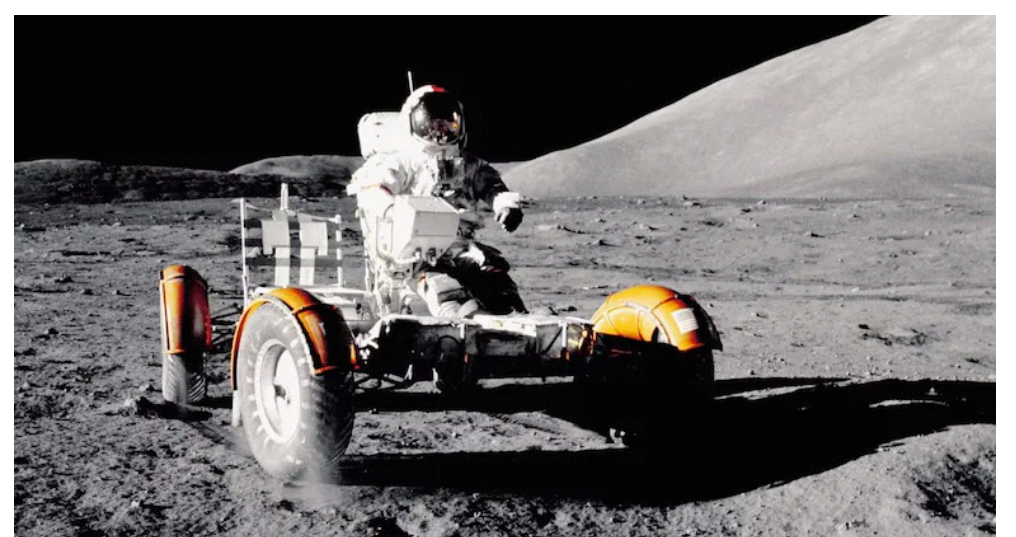
Artemis 2, which will involve a crew but not a landing on the Moon, has also been pushed back to April 2026,

instead of its original September 2025 launch date. The Artemis program, named after the Greek goddess Apollo's sister, aims to return astronauts to the Moon, with Artemis 3 set to land the first woman and the first person of color at the lunar south pole. NASA plans to complete this mission before China's projected Moon landing in 2030.

In addition to the issues with Orion, NASA is still waiting for SpaceX's Starship rocket to be modified into a lunar lander. Although SpaceX is making progress, challenges remain, including testing the refueling pro-

cedures needed for deep space travel. The development of spacesuits by Axiom is also delayed.

The Artemis mission faces additional uncertainty as President-elect Donald Trump prepares to take office, with potential changes to NASA's direction. Experts speculate that Trump could reassess the Artemis program, including potentially cancelling the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket or shifting focus from the Moon to Mars. Despite these setbacks, NASA remains committed to ensuring the safety of its astronauts and proceeding only when ready.







# Markets End Flat as RBI Holds Repo Rate

Sensex at 81,709, Nifty at 24,677 Amid Mixed Sentiment



The domestic stock market indices ended flat on Friday as the RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%. They moved in a stagnant manner since the beginning. Governor Shaktikanta Das said that the repo rate cannot be reduced due to high inflation. It is noteworthy that the cash reserve ratio was cut by 50 basis points to increase liquidity. On the other hand, investors acted cautiously due to mixed signals from global markets. They bought attractive stocks available at low prices. Nifty ended at 24,677, Sensex at 81,887.



MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM  
Stock Market Analyst  
+91 988 565 9709

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,765 in the previous session, opened at 81,887 today. It touched an intraday low at 81,506. It reached an intraday high at 81,925. It ended at 81,709, down 56 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,729 on Friday, touched a low of 24,620 and a high of 24,751. It closed down 30 points in total at 24,677. The Bank Nifty fell 94 points to settle at 53,509.

18 companies gained and 32 lost in the Nifty50. Tata Motors, Bajaj Auto, Axis Bank, BPCL, Dr. Reddy's were

the top gainers. Adani Ports, Cipla, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Life, IndusInd Bank were the biggest losers. Auto, FMCG, Metal, PSU Bank, and Consumer Durables indices were mixed today. Media, bank and finance indices lost slightly.

Market breadth on NSE was in favour of buyers. Out of a total of 2898 shares traded, 1694 ended in gains and 1127 in losses. Shares of 105 companies hit 52-week highs and 8 stocks hit 52-week lows. Rupee strengthened by 4 paise to settle at 84.69 against the dollar. Vibhor Steel Tubes shares rose 12% as Odisha facility gets ready for production. Kalpataru Projects acquires projects worth Rs 2174 crore. Emerald Tyres, Nisus Finance grey market price reached 70%. Power Finance Corporation shares rose for the 11th consecutive day. Ashoka Buildcon shares gained for the eighth consecutive session. Vodafone Group sells entire stake in Indus Towers. Subex subsidiary surrenders account aggregator license to RBI. Vedanta shares surge. BSE stock rises 19% in three days to touch Rs 5409. MCX shares rally. Maruti Suzuki to hike car prices by 4% from January 2025. Shares of Jagil Prepaid Services surge 4% after receiving 3 orders in two days.

# India Poised to Benefit from Bangladesh and Vietnam's Challenges in Textile Exports

Internal turmoil in Bangladesh and high production costs in Vietnam are expected to benefit Indian textile exporters, according to a report by financial advisory firm JM Financial. The challenges faced by these two key textile manufacturing countries are seen as opportunities for India's home textile and apparel sector, which stands to gain from these disruptions.



Bangladesh and Vietnam have traditionally been major players in the global textile and apparel market, but the current situation is pushing buyers to look elsewhere. The report highlights India's growing market share in apparel exports to the US and the UK, which have increased to 7% and 6%, respectively, in 2024, up from 5% and 6% in 2023.

Factors such as a strong execution capability, a huge addressable market size, and India's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the UK are seen as key drivers for growth in India's textile sector. The rising freight costs and Red Sea shipping issues, which have negatively affected margins, are expected to ease in the coming months, benefiting Indian exporters. Additionally, the deflation of yarn costs will further support margins, making Indian products more competitive.

The report also notes that China, long a dominant player in global textile exports, is losing market share due to rising labor costs and shifting manufacturing strategies under the "China+1" model. This has allowed India to capitalize on the changing dynamics. In the UK, China's share of the market has dropped from 27% in 2020 to 19% in 2024, further providing space for India's textile sector.

The global inventory de-stocking cycle is also coming to an end, with expectations of improved demand in the second half of the year as retailers prepare for the holiday season. The domestic textile market, valued at \$165 billion in 2022, is projected to grow to \$350 billion by 2030, making India one of the largest producers and exporters of textiles globally.

# India Faces Potential Copper Supply Crisis as Certification Delays Impact Imports



India's copper downstream industry is bracing for a potential supply shortage following the implementation of the Quality Control Order (QCO) on refined copper, effective from December 1. The order, which mandates that all copper imports meet specific standards, has led to significant concerns within the industry. Japanese suppliers, who account for 80 percent of India's refined copper imports, are still awaiting certification, and experts warn that the supply crunch could last for over three months.

With limited domestic production capacity, India relies on imports to meet 30-40 percent of its refined copper needs. Copper is a crucial raw material, primarily used in the manufacturing of electrical wires, cables, and other industrial applications. In the 2023-24 financial year, India imported refined copper worth Rs 16,500 crore from Japan alone, making the nation heavily dependent on international suppliers, particularly from Japan.

The delay in certification is adding to the already

existing supply chain concerns, with the downstream industry expressing fears of disruption in production. Manufacturers and industry stakeholders are urging the government to resolve the issue as soon as possible to prevent any long-term damage to the copper supply chain.

The impact of the supply crunch could be significant, affecting a wide range of industries that rely on refined copper. Electrical manufacturers, construction firms, and the automotive industry—all of which use copper extensively—are likely to face production delays or increased costs as a result of the shortages.

India's heavy reliance on foreign copper supplies highlights the vulnerability of its manufacturing sectors to external disruptions. While the government works to address the certification process, industry representatives are calling for a more comprehensive plan to boost domestic copper production and reduce the country's dependence on imports in the future.

# RBI Keeps Repo Rate Unchanged, Cuts CRR, Revises GDP and Inflation Outlook for FY25

In its latest monetary policy review on Friday, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to maintain the repo rate at 6.5%, continuing its neutral stance for the 11th consecutive time since February 2023. Alongside this, the RBI also announced a reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to 4%, signaling an effort to improve liquidity in the banking system.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, in his address, mentioned that the central bank remains focused on striking a balance between inflation and economic growth. He emphasized that "only with durable price stability can strong foundations be secured for high growth." While the repo rate remains unchanged, the policy stance remains neutral, allowing room for future flexibility depending on economic conditions.

The RBI also revised its economic growth forecast for the financial year 2024-25. The GDP growth projection was lowered from 7.2% to 6.6%, reflecting a more cautious outlook amid global economic challenges. At the same time, the inflation forecast for FY25 was raised to 4.8%, up from the earlier estimate of 4.5%, due to higher food and commodity prices.

In addition to the monetary policy changes,



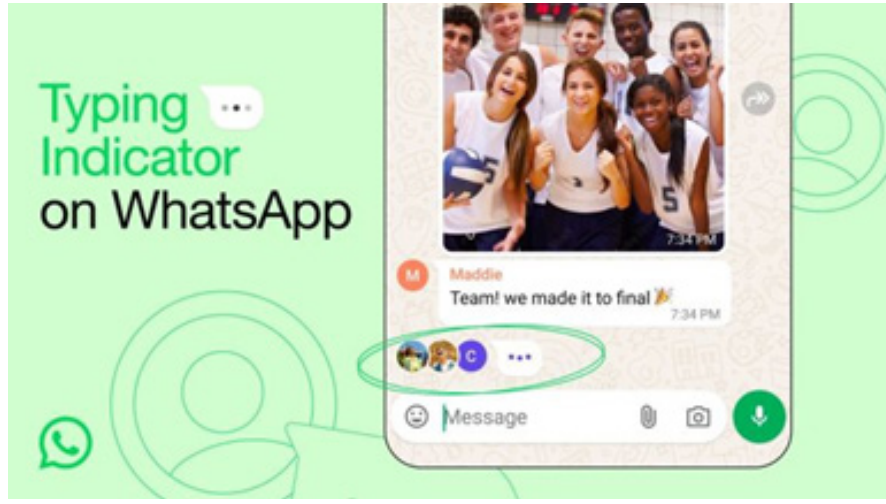
the RBI introduced several measures to support the economy. One key initiative was the increase in the collateral-free agriculture loan limit for farmers to Rs 2 lakh. The central bank also announced that small finance banks would be allowed to offer UPI credit lines, a move aimed at promoting financial inclusion and supporting the growth of digital payments.

The reduction in CRR and the increased focus on agriculture loans reflect the RBI's ongoing efforts to bolster economic activity and support growth in key sectors of the economy. While the central bank is maintaining a cautious approach towards interest rates, these policy measures are expected to have a positive impact on liquidity and lending, especially in rural and agricultural areas.



## WhatsApp Introduces Bouncing “Typing Indicators” for Improved Chat Experience

WhatsApp has rolled out a new feature to enhance user experience on both Android and iOS platforms: the familiar “three dots” typing indicator. The new feature, called “Typing Indicators,” is designed to make it easier for users to see when someone is actively typing in a 1:1 or group chat.



As part of the update, users will now see a visual cue of three bouncing dots, which will appear at the bottom of the chat screen whenever someone is typing a message. Along with the dots, the sender's profile picture will also be displayed, allowing users to quickly identify who is engaging in the conversation.

This feature is set to improve the chat experience by offering better communication cues. Previously, WhatsApp only showed a notification when someone started typing, but it wasn't as visually clear. With this new update, users will have a clearer understanding of who is typing and when they are engaged in the conversation.

WhatsApp's Typing Indicators are now available for global users on both Android and iOS devices. This update is part of WhatsApp's on-

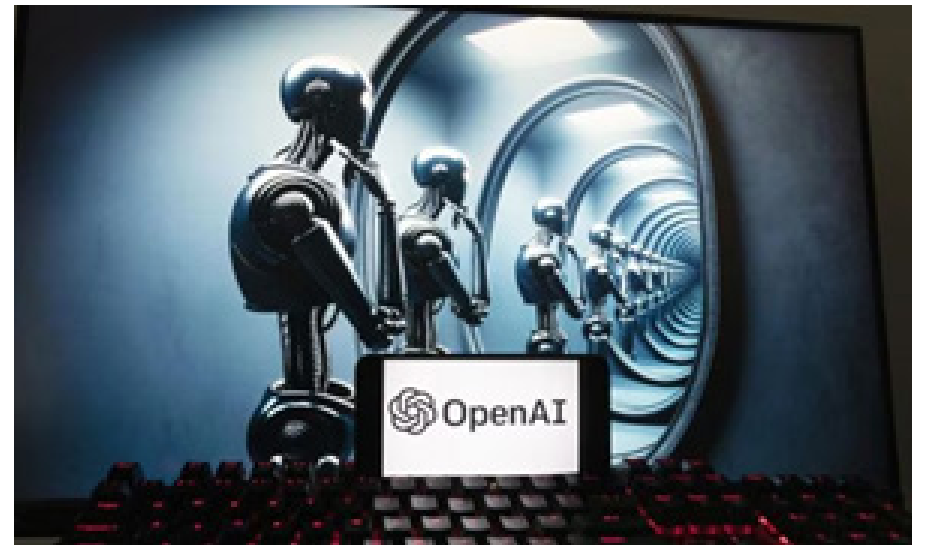
going effort to refine and improve the user experience across its platform. It enhances the flow of conversations by giving users better insight into the activity within a chat, whether it's a casual conversation or a larger group discussion.

With this update, WhatsApp users can look forward to a smoother, more interactive chat experience. The company has continuously worked on improving its messaging platform with features such as end-to-end encryption, voice and video calls, and status updates, all of which enhance communication in various ways.

In addition to the Typing Indicators, WhatsApp is expected to roll out other minor features in future updates, making the app even more engaging and user-friendly.

## OpenAI launches \$200 ChatGPT subscription for research use

OpenAI has introduced a new subscription tier for its popular ChatGPT chatbot, priced at \$200 per month. The new version, called “ChatGPT Pro”, is aimed at professionals in engineering and research sectors, expanding the chatbot's capabilities to support more specialized industry applications.



This move is part of OpenAI's strategy to broaden the scope of its technology beyond casual use, tapping into commercial markets where AI-powered tools can offer significant value. ChatGPT Pro is designed to cater to users who require advanced functionalities, making it a valuable tool for professionals in fields that rely heavily on technical knowledge and research, such as engineering, data science, and academia.

The launch of ChatGPT Pro adds to OpenAI's existing offerings, which include the ChatGPT Plus, Team, and Enterprise subscription plans. These subscriptions have already been widely used by individuals and businesses, providing access to ChatGPT's conversational capabilities. With the Pro version, OpenAI aims to provide enhanced features for more specialized use cases, positioning itself as a tool for professionals looking to integrate AI into their workflows.

By rolling out ChatGPT Pro, OpenAI is capitalizing on the growing demand for artificial intelligence

in various industries. The new subscription is expected to provide users with more robust functionalities, including better customization, higher limits for usage, and possibly more access to the model's cutting-edge features, which could prove invaluable for research, development, and problem-solving in technical fields.

With this move, OpenAI further strengthens its position as a leader in the rapidly growing AI market. The company is clearly focused on expanding the commercial applications of its technology, catering to a wide range of industries seeking to leverage AI for improved efficiency and innovation. As AI technology becomes increasingly integrated into professional environments, OpenAI's efforts to offer tailored solutions signal the beginning of a new era for ChatGPT in industry-specific applications.

## How Alcohol Accelerates Aging: The Skin-Damaging Truth

Aging is a natural process, but there are ways we can slow it down, and one of the most significant factors is what we consume. The foods and drinks we indulge in daily can greatly affect our skin and overall appearance. Recently, nutritionist Garima shared on Instagram the top three drinks that can accelerate the aging process. Let's take a closer look at these drinks and why you should consider avoiding them.

Energy drinks have gained popularity, especially among younger people, for their quick energy boost during workouts. While they may provide an immediate rush, they also come with significant downsides. According to Garima, energy drinks are packed with caffeine, which can lead to dehydration, making your skin look dull and lifeless. Additionally, these drinks contain high levels of sugar, contributing to oxidative stress in the body. This can speed up the aging process by causing premature skin aging. Instead of energy drinks, try switching to decaf coffee or sugar-free tea for a healthier alternative.

While it's okay to indulge in alcohol occasionally, excessive consumption can significantly contribute to aging. Garima explains



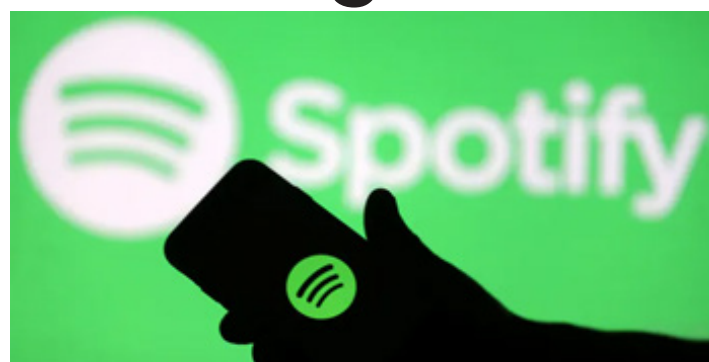
that alcohol increases the number of inflammatory cells in the body, leading to skin damage and the breakdown of its elasticity. Moreover, alcohol dehydrates the skin, leaving it looking dry and lifeless. A study by Northwestern Medicine found that daily alcohol consumption for five years could accelerate biological aging by four months. So, it's best to consume alcohol in moderation to avoid speeding up the aging process.

Soft drinks are often a go-to choice at restaurants or parties, offering a quick burst of refreshment. However, they are loaded with sugar, which can negatively impact your skin's health. High sugar intake reduces collagen production and skin elasticity, making your skin more prone to wrinkles and sagging. To maintain a youthful appearance, it's best to cut back on soft drinks and opt for healthier beverages like water, herbal teas, or natural fruit juices.

By reducing your intake of these drinks, you can help slow down the visible signs of aging and keep your skin looking youthful for longer.

## Spotify 2024 Wrapped Faces Backlash for AI-Driven Changes

Spotify's 2024 Wrapped, an eagerly awaited annual tradition for music lovers, has been met with widespread criticism from social media users. Instead of the personalized and engaging experience listeners have come to expect, the latest Wrapped left many feeling disappointed, especially with the increased use of artificial intelligence (AI) in its design.



Unlike previous years, where Wrapped offered insights into listeners' favorite music genres, top albums, and overall listening habits, this year's edition took an unexpected turn. The introduction of a “Wrapped AI podcast,” powered by Google's NotebookLM technology, became the focal point. This feature verbally recapped users' listening patterns through AI-generated voices, delivering data points in a manner that many found impersonal and lackluster. Instead of the usual vibrant, visually-rich summary that Wrapped is known for, users were left with what some described as a bland and uninspiring experience.

Criticism quickly flooded social media, with users expressing their dismay over the over-reliance on AI. “Spotify Wrapped is so underwhelming and reeks of AI... there seems to be real lack of effort this year from the boring visuals to the missing genres and

quirks,” one user commented. Another user wrote, “Hi I'm just here to remind you all that AI is going to ruin the world and Spotify Wrapped is the perfect dramatic example of that.” Some even speculated that the incorporation of AI might be tied to Spotify's cost-cutting measures, with one user claiming, “Apparently Spotify fired a lot of workers and used AI to create this year's Wrapped, no wonder it sucks.”

For many, the charm of Spotify Wrapped has always been in its personal touch, offering a unique, nostalgic look at the year in music. The heavy use of AI in this year's edition has stripped away that personal connection, leaving users feeling disconnected and underwhelmed. As Spotify pushes further into AI-driven features, it remains to be seen whether this direction will resonate with its loyal user base or if it risks alienating them.

## Google Extends Software Support for Pixel Devices by Two Years

In a surprising move, Google has extended its software support for the Pixel 6, Pixel 7, and Pixel Fold, offering two additional years of OS updates and security patches. Initially, Google had promised 3 years of OS updates and 5 years of security patches for these devices. However, the tech giant has now announced that these devices will be eligible for 5 years of OS updates, meaning they will receive updates until Android 17 for the Pixel 6 and Android 18 for the Pixel 7 and Pixel Fold.



This extended support applies from the devices' original release date, significantly enhancing their longevity and ensuring that users will enjoy the latest features and security improvements for a longer period. With the additional updates, the Pixel 6 will continue receiving updates until Android 17, while the Pixel 7 and Pixel Fold will be eligible for updates up until Android 18, which is expected to launch in 2027.

This change marks a notable departure from the typical Android update cycle, where many manufacturers often fail to meet their promised update timelines. Google's move to extend the update policy reflects the company's commitment to delivering long-term support for its Pixel devices, pro-

viding users with a better overall experience and enhanced device longevity.

However, Google has not made a similar announcement regarding the Pixel tablet. As of now, the Pixel tablet will continue to follow the initial policy of 3 years of OS updates, with no indication of an extension for that device at this time.

With this new policy, Google sets a strong precedent for supporting its devices for a longer period, which could influence other Android manufacturers to follow suit in providing longer software support for their own devices.



## India Bag Six Medals At World Pickleball Championship In Hong Kong

India delivered an outstanding performance at the Hong Kong leg of the World Pickleball Championship, securing a total of six medals, including one gold, three silvers, and two bronze. The event took place from November 29 to December 1, 2024, and saw Indian players rise to the occasion, further solidifying the country's growing presence in the sport.

Vanshik Kapadia and Vrushali Thakare clinched the gold medal in the 19 open mixed doubles category, making a remarkable achievement for the Indian team. The duo's victory stood out as a highlight of the championship. In addition to the gold, India also bagged three silver medals. Kuldip Mahajan earned a silver in the 19 open mixed doubles, partnering South Korea's Kim Eung Gwon. Vanshik Kapadia also earned a silver in the 19 open men's singles, while Karina Aditya Dwipayani and Vrushali Thakare secured another silver in the 19 open women's doubles category.

India's success continued with two bronze medals. Isha Lakhani and Roos Van Reek earned the bronze in the 19 open women's doubles, while Mayur Patil and Neilson Chen teamed up in the 19 open mixed dou-



bles to capture the second bronze medal for India.

This strong showing in Hong Kong builds on India's impressive performance at the World Pickleball Championship's India leg in November 2024, where the country won a total of 28 medals, including 11 golds. India's continued success in international pickleball competitions highlights the nation's growing talent and investment in the sport. With such remarkable performances, India's players are expected to remain strong contenders in future international tournaments.

## Mitchell Starc's Career-Best 6/48 Leads Australia to Dominate Day 1 of Second Test

Mitchell Starc delivered a sensational performance with the ball, claiming 6 wickets for 48 runs, as Australia bowled out India for just 180 runs in 44.1 overs on day one of the second Test at the Adelaide Oval on Friday.

Under overcast conditions, Starc made an immediate impact, trapping Yashasvi Jaiswal lbw with the first delivery of the match. India briefly found some stability through a 69-run partnership between KL Rahul and Shubman Gill, but Starc's brilliance quickly dismantled their middle order.

Starc struck twice in quick succession, first dismissing Rahul and then sending Virat Kohli back to the pavilion, leaving India at 81/4. In the first session, India opted to bat after winning the toss, but Starc's early breakthroughs, including a golden duck for Jaiswal, gave Australia the upper hand. Rahul was fortunate to survive a close call for a duck, with replays showing that Scott Boland had overstepped and Rahul's bat had not made contact with the ball.

As the session progressed, Rahul and Gill made their way through to a solid partnership. However, just when it



seemed India would build some momentum, Starc returned to dismiss Rahul with a short ball, followed by Kohli's dismissal after he was caught in the slips. Boland, playing his first Test in 18 months, trapped Gill lbw for 31, further tilting the balance in Australia's favor.

After the break, Starc's inswinging yorkers continued to wreak havoc, as he cleaned up the tail. He took the cru-

cial wicket of India's top scorer Nitish Kumar Reddy, who had counterattacked with a brilliant knock of 42, including several boundaries and sixes. Reddy's resistance was ended when he holed out to mid-off, bringing the innings to a close.

India's poor performance was compounded by wickets falling rapidly, leaving Australia in a commanding position.

## Paris Olympic 2024 emerges as 'most followed Olympic Games' in IOC Audience

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games captivated a record-breaking 84% of the potential global audience, reaching approximately five billion people, according to the Paris 2024 Insights and Audience Report released on Thursday. This report, based on independent research commissioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), highlights unprecedented levels of digital engagement during the Games.

Social media saw an extraordinary 412 billion engagements, a 290% increase from the Tokyo 2020 Games. This surge was driven by over 270 million posts across various platforms. Additionally, global media platforms saw a total of 28.7 billion hours of Olympic content consumed, marking a 25% increase from the previous Games. On average, each viewer watched nearly nine hours of coverage, underscoring the immense popularity of the event.

In France, the host nation, 95% of the population tuned in, with viewers averaging 24 hours of Olympic action. The IOC's digital platforms played a key role in this achievement, generating 16.7 billion engagements, a 174% increase from prior Games. This helped Olympic athletes, National Olympic Committees, and other associated bodies gain 85 million additional followers, reflecting the heightened digital interaction, particularly among younger audiences. Gen Z showed particularly strong engagement, brand loyalty, and connection to the Games.



IOC President Thomas Bach praised the global appeal of Paris 2024, emphasizing the importance of the Olympic Movement's mission to unite the world through peaceful competition, particularly in today's divided world. "Paris 2024 demonstrated the unprecedented global appeal of the Olympic Games," said Bach, noting that Olympic values resonate deeply with younger generations.

The Games, fully planned and delivered under the Olympic Agenda 2020, focused on inclusiveness and sustainability. Feedback from athletes and audiences was overwhelmingly positive, with 95% of athletes reporting positive experiences. Seven out of ten surveyed individuals considered Paris 2024 a success and predicted a lasting legacy. A final evaluation will be completed in March 2025, concluding the official review process of Paris 2024.

## Vaibhav Suryavanshi Shines with 36-Ball 67 as India Storms into U-19 Asia Cup Final

Vaibhav Suryavanshi was the hero of the day as India secured a dominant seven-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in the U-19 Asia Cup, advancing to the final in style. The young prodigy, who recently made headlines as the youngest cricketer ever bought at an IPL auction, continued his impressive run with a blistering 67 off just 36 balls. His innings included six boundaries and five massive sixes, guiding India to chase down Sri Lanka's target of 174 with a staggering 170 balls to spare.

Suryavanshi's explosive performance was a key factor in India's smooth run chase, as they comfortably reached the target with plenty of time left. The 13-year-old's remarkable strike rate and powerful stroke play have made him one of the standout performers of the tournament.

Earlier, Sri Lanka had set a modest target of 174, but India's bowlers, led by disciplined performances from their attack, restricted Sri Lanka to a total that never seemed challenging. With their bowlers doing the job, it was left to Suryavanshi to finish off the chase in style, which he did with ease.

This victory puts India into the final of the



U-19 Asia Cup, where they will face Bangladesh on Sunday at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. With Suryavanshi in scintillating form and the team playing cohesive cricket, India will be looking to lift the trophy in what promises to be an exciting final showdown. The young Indian side has been in superb form throughout the tournament, and they will hope to continue their winning momentum in the final.

## Liverpool Face Emotional Merseyside Derby, Chelsea Surpassing Expectations

Premier League leaders Liverpool will be hoping Mohamed Salah continues his blistering form as they face Everton in a highly charged Merseyside derby at Goodison Park this Saturday. The fixture holds added significance as it marks the final Premier League clash between the two clubs at the iconic stadium before Everton's move to their new home at Bramley Moore Dock.

Goodison Park has always been a hostile ground for Liverpool, but with Salah's remarkable form, including nine goals in his last seven league matches, they will be confident of silencing the passionate Everton fans. Salah, who netted twice in a 3-3 draw at Newcastle on Wednesday, surpassed Wayne Rooney's record of scoring and assisting in



the same Premier League game for the 37th time. Although Salah's contract expires at the end of the season and he has expressed disappointment at the lack of a new deal, his 15 goals this season underline his importance to Liverpool's title hopes.

Meanwhile, Chelsea, under new manager Enzo Maresca, have been defying expectations. Initially seen as taking on an almost impossible task with a bloated squad and demanding ownership, Maresca has turned the team's fortunes around. After Wednesday's 5-1 victory at Southampton, Chelsea sit second in the league, just seven points behind Liverpool. Their unbeaten run has now

stretched to six matches, and while a title challenge may be premature, a top-four finish would be a major achievement for the team.

In the relegation battle, West Ham's Julen Lopetegui and Wolves' Gary O'Neil find themselves under intense pressure. Both managers face crucial matches this weekend, with Lopetegui's West Ham hosting Wolves on Monday in a clash that could determine their futures. Both clubs have struggled this season, with West Ham 14th and Wolves 19th, increasing the likelihood that one of these managers may be sacked.

Everton v Liverpool (1230), Aston Villa v Southampton, Brentford v Newcastle, Crystal Palace v Manchester City (1500), Manchester United v Nottingham Forest (1730).





## 'RAPO22' First Look: Ram Pothineni's Cool Stunt Raises Expectations

After a series of action-packed roles, Ustaad Ram Pothineni is making a comeback with a fresh and exciting project titled \*RAPO22\*. The film, which was formally launched with a Pooja ceremony recently, has just released a striking new poster that stands out for its unique aesthetic appeal.

In this newly unveiled poster, Ram is introduced as the character "Sagar." While this name is central to the character, it is not the title of the film itself. The poster exudes a calm, relatable vibe, showcasing Ram in a suave, charming look that is quite different from his usual intense roles. He effortlessly brings to life a boy-next-door persona, radiating a sense of warmth and approachability, which is sure to resonate with audiences.

With this film, Ram seems to be returning to a more grounded and sensible character, showcasing his natural elegance and charm. His ability to pull off such relatable and sophisticated looks only adds to the excitement surrounding the project.

\*RAPO22\* stars Ram Pothineni alongside Bhagyashri Borse in the lead roles. The film is produced by the prestigious Mythri Movie Makers, with Naveen Yerneni and Y Ravi Shankar leading the production team. The talented team behind the film includes music by the renowned Vivek-Mervin duo and visuals by the highly skilled Madhu Neelakandan, ensuring



high production standards.

Directed by Mahesh Babu P, who is known for his success with \*Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty\*, \*RAPO22\* promises to be a delightful experience for fans and moviegoers alike. With its mix of fresh storytelling and top-notch talent, the film is definitely one to watch out for.

## Pushpa 2: The Rule Breaks Records, Surpasses Jawaan on Opening Day



"Pushpa 2: The Rule," the much-anticipated sequel to the Allu Arjun-led franchise, is making waves at the box office, continuing the dominance of Pushparaj. Released across multiple languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Hindi, and Kannada, the movie has been creating a massive buzz, drawing crowds to theaters and setting new records.

On its opening day, "Pushpa 2: The Rule" surpassed expectations, with reports indicating an impressive Rs. 30 crore share in the Nizam area alone, beating the record set by "RRR" (Rs. 23.38 crores). The movie's debut continues to generate headlines, as it also broke another significant record, surpassing the first-day collection of Shah Rukh Khan's "Jawaan," which earned Rs. 65 crores. "Pushpa 2" earned Rs. 67 crores, further solidifying its place as a box office giant.

The film's success is not just limited to its opening

day. With nearly house-full shows at all centers, "Pushpa 2" is showing no signs of slowing down. The movie, directed by Sukumar and produced by Mythri Movie Makers, is creating a massive impact across India and beyond.

The star-studded cast, featuring Allu Arjun as Pushparaj, alongside Fahadh Faasil, Jagadish Pratap Bhandari, Jagapathi Babu, Prakash Raj, Sunil, Anasuya Bharadwaj, Rao Ramesh, Dhananjaya, Shanmukh, and Sritej, has captivated audiences with their powerhouse performances. With a massive budget backing it, the film's production values and gripping storyline are contributing to its phenomenal success.

As "Pushpa 2: The Rule" continues to break records and set new benchmarks in Indian cinema, Pushparaj's dominance at the box office is undeniable, and the film is expected to soar even higher in the coming days.



## Suriya's 'Kanguva' Set for OTT Release

Hollywood star Suriya's much-anticipated film \*Kanguva\* hit theaters on November 14, 2024, with high hopes from fans and audiences alike. However, despite the initial buzz, the film struggled to meet expectations, failing to create a lasting impact at the box office. Several factors contributed to the movie's underperformance, leaving fans disappointed with the final product.

In a recent announcement, Amazon Prime Video revealed that \*Kanguva\* will make its OTT debut on December 8, 2024. The film will be available for streaming in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam. However, the Hindi version's release date has yet to be confirmed, adding some uncertainty about its broader appeal. Given the film's lackluster theatrical performance, many are curious to see how it will be received by the OTT audience, who may offer a different kind

of feedback.

\*Kanguva\* boasts a star-studded cast, including Disha Patani, Bobby Deol, Karthi (in a cameo), Yogi Babu, Redin Kingsley, and KS Ravi Kumar, among others. The film, produced on a grand scale by Studio Green and UV Creations, also features a music score by Devi Sri Prasad, adding to the film's high expectations before its release. Despite the film's strong technical and star power, it failed to resonate with its audience in theaters.

The movie's release on Amazon Prime Video gives it a second chance to find an audience, with the hope that the OTT platform will help bring it the success it was unable to achieve in cinemas. Fans and critics alike will be watching closely to see how \*Kanguva\* fares in its digital debut, as it aims to find new life and potentially a more favorable reception.

## Sai Dharam Tej Set to Create Carnage with 'SDT18': Special Update Revealed

Supreme Hero Sai Dharam Tej (SDT) is gearing up to make a big impact with his upcoming project, tentatively titled \*SDT18\*. The film, produced by K. Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy under the banner of Primeshow Entertainments, follows the success of their previous blockbuster \*Hanuman\*. The movie marks the directorial debut of Rohit KP, and its shooting has already begun at a rapid pace.

Recently, the makers shared an exciting update, announcing that a special revelation about the film will be made on December 12. Along with this, a fresh poster was unveiled, hinting at the intensity of the movie with the tagline "coming to create carnage." This teaser has further stirred the excitement surrounding the project, building anticipation among fans and moviegoers alike.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the film is its proposed title, \*Sambarala Aetigattu\*. The



title, which reflects the historical backdrop of 1947, perfectly complements the warrior-centric character Sai Dharam Tej will portray. As the film delves into a period drama, the crew feels that this title captures the essence and scale of the story.

\*SDT18\* is being designed as a pan-India film, which will be released in multiple languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam. The scale and vision of the project are set to resonate with a wide audience, and with Sai Dharam Tej in the lead role, the film is expected to make a massive impact at the box office.

With the team working tirelessly on the project, fans eagerly await the upcoming updates and the much-anticipated official announcement of the title and storyline. The buzz surrounding \*SDT18\* is building fast, and it looks set to be a major addition to the 2024 lineup of films.

## Sunny Deol's 'Jaat' Teaser Reveals Action-Packed Adventure

Bollywood actor Sunny Deol, who made a significant impact with his blockbuster hit \*Gadar 2\* last year, is continuing to ride the wave of success with multiple projects. One of his most anticipated upcoming films is \*Jaat\*, directed by Telugu filmmaker Gopichand Malineni, known for his hits like \*Crack\* and \*Veera Simha Reddy\*.

\*Jaat\* is generating considerable buzz after the release of its teaser, where Sunny Deol is seen in a powerful, intense role. The film promises to be a commercial entertainer, showcasing Deol's signature style and larger-than-life persona. The teaser has already caught the attention of fans and industry professionals alike, as the actor is poised to bring his usual dynamism to the silver screen.

The film is a collaboration between two major production houses, Mythri Movie Makers and People Media Factory. Alongside Deol, the movie features the versatile Randeep Hooda, who will play the antagonist, adding an extra layer of excitement for the audience. The film's music will be composed by Tollywood's celebrated music director, S Thaman, known for his engaging and energetic compositions.

Behind the scenes, \*Jaat\* boasts an impressive technical team. Cinematographer Rishi Punjabi will be handling the visual aesthetics, while Avinash Kolla is the production designer,



contributing to the film's overall look and feel. The combination of Deol's star power, Malineni's direction, and a talented supporting cast has raised expectations for this film.

As \*Jaat\* is set to mark Gopichand Malineni's Bollywood debut, the film is already being looked at as a potential game-changer. The industry is eagerly waiting to see how the director transitions into Bollywood, and with Deol's involvement, the film has all the ingredients of a commercial blockbuster. Fans are excited for the release, and the movie is shaping up to be one of the most awaited films of the year.