

POINT



Wishing you and your family a joyous Sankranti filled with happiness, prosperity, and good health!

Happy Sankranti!

Note: No newspaper on the 14th and 15th. Stay tuned for updates on the 17th!

Published from : Hyderabad - Vijayawada

Tuesday, 14th January, 2025 | 12 Pages

An ISO 22000:2005 Certified

Offered with Divine Bhakti and Blessings of Lord Ganesh



**PURE GHEE SWEETS
PICKLES
NAMKEENS**



శ్రీ భక్తాంజనేయ వారి

HONEY FOODS™

తనెలూరే

తాపే-శ్వేరం కాజా

మా ప్రత్యేకత

Since : 1993



Taste of Tradition...

Since : 1993

కస్తమర్లకు, మితులకు
మరియు
శ్రీయోభిలాషులకు



D. Uma Maheswara Rao
Founder & Proprietor

Contact
98499 63003



మా వద్ద
**WEDDING
COLLECTIONS** కు
కావలసిన
సామగ్రి
లభించును

**WE UNDERTAKE CORPORATE SWEET
GIFT PACKS & ALL PARTY / MARRIAGE ORDERS**

OUR BRANCHES

Kapra

Ph : 96765 44441

ECIL

Ph : 95731 44442

KPHB

Ph : 95731 44443

HI Tech City

Ph : 79951 933334

Kompally (Gundlapochampally)

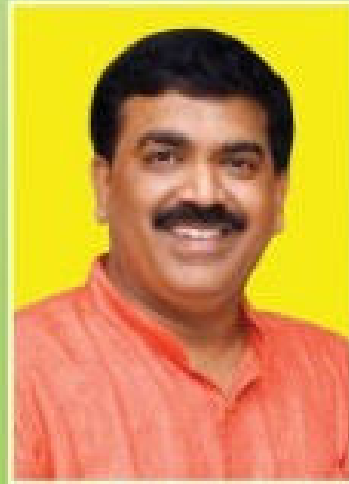
Ph : 95731 44445

Tapeswaram (East Godavari, A.P.)

Ph : 08855 294749

సుఖ-సంతోషాలు, సిరి-సంపదలు, సౌభాగ్యం, స్నేహం సమృద్ధిగా ఎల్లప్పుడూ
మీ ఇంట వెల్లివిరియాలని కోరుకుంటూ...

రైతు సోదరులకు, డిస్ట్రిబ్యూటర్లకు, డీలర్లకు, సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజర్లకు
మిత్రులకు మరియు శ్రేయోభిలాషులందరికీ...



తులసి ధర్మచరణ్, MBA

ఎగ్జిక్యూటివ్ డైరెక్టర్

రైతులకు అత్యధిక దిగుబడులిచ్చే హైబ్రిడ్ విత్తనాలను
అందిస్తున్న అగ్రగామి సంస్థ



వేద సీడ్స్



డోర్ నెం. 6-11-5, 11/2, అరందల్ పేట, గుంటూరు - 522002, ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్



HAPPY BHOGI
MAKARA
SANKRANTI
AND
KANUMA



B. RAGHAVENDRA RAO
Founder & CMD

TELECOM 4G & 5G NETWORKS

- DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
- OFC CONSTRUCTION
- TOWER CONSTRUCTION
- BSNL-4G SATURATION
- TOWER AND FIBER SERVICES



TOWER POLES / SUPPLIES

TOWER POLES



RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLAR



ATPOLE



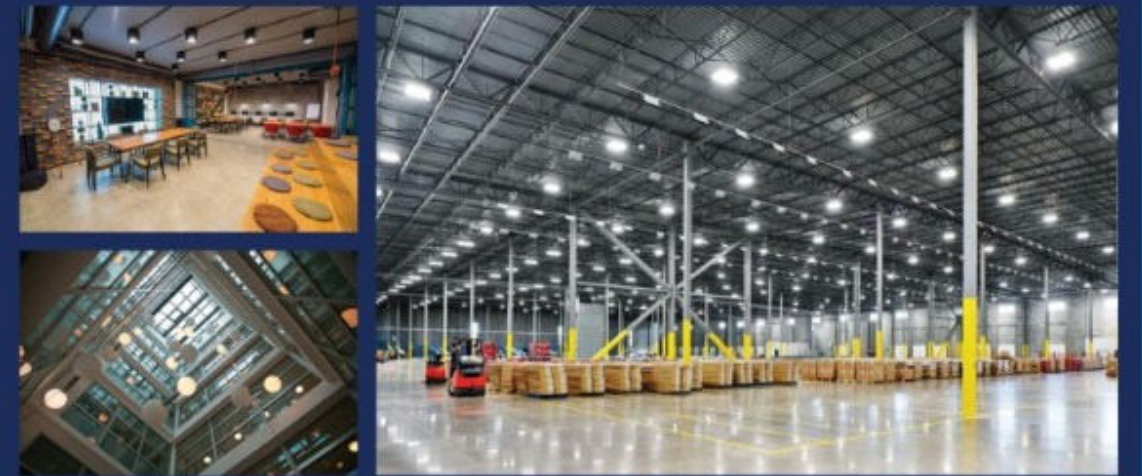
- EV MOTORS
- DRONE MOTORS
- BLDC MOTORS

GREEN CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

- SMART BRICK
- SMART WINDOW & DOORS
- TRUVU UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS
- ALURISE ALUMINIUM WINDOWS & DOORS



LED LIGHTS



LIFESPAN
INDIA | USA | DUBAI

EAT HEALTHY - BE HEALTHY



MANUFACTURING UNIT

LIFESPAN PRIVATE LIMITED

Plot No. 49, Phase III, Biotech Park, Genome Valley, Karkapatla - 502279
Siddipet District, Telangana, India.

USA

6897 Sigma in
Frisco Texas - 75035

Contact : +91 - 93120 12345

www.lifespan.industries / www.lifespanstores.com

DUBAI

Meydan Grandstand, 6th Floor
Meydan Road, Nad Ai Sheba
Dubai, U.A.E



ROOTS
DATA RECOVERY



HARD DRIVE DATA RECOVERY SERVICES

10000+ Satisfied Customers
18+ Years Experience

World Class Technology
Quick | Safe | Secure

WE RECOVER DATA FROM ALL TYPES OF

- HARD DISK DATA RECOVERY
- LAPTOP DATA RECOVERY
- DESKTOP DATA RECOVERY
- EXTERNAL HARD DISK DATA RECOVERY
- SSD DATA RECOVERY
- RAID DATA RECOVERY
- SERVER DATA RECOVERY
- NAS DATA RECOVERY
- NETWORK STORAGE DATA RECOVERY
- 100% DATA CONFIDENTIALITY
- CLEAN ROOM
- CERTIFIED ENGINEERS
- ALL UPDATE GIVE VIA WHATSAPP
- NO DATA NO CHARGE
- SAME DAY REPORTING
- FAST SERVICE

#1-2-253/7, 1ST Floor, Opp. Parklane Hotel, Parklane, Paradise,
Near Ctc, Secunderabad-500003

+91 9390 365 365 | +91 92 9999 1947
www.rootsdatarecovery.com

Little Brains
ఒక మంచి విద్యాలయం
NURSERY - X Std.
(అందమైన రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వం గుర్తింపు పొందిన సంస్థ)



**BEST
BRAINS**

HAPPY
SANKRANTI



**MAKING FUTURE
READY KIDS!**

**ONLY 20 STUDENTS PER CLASS
A/C CLASSROOMS**

- We pay personal attention on everychild
- PCMB, IIT & NEET special batches
- Two subject teachers for every subject
- Special classes for olympiad exams
- Special focus on slow learners

2025-26
**ADMISSIONS
OPEN**

Siddhartha Nagar, 6th Lane, Vijayawada-10

0866 2491525, 9515 111 525



**మకర
సంక్రాంతి**
సుఖాకాంక్షలు



నందివెలుగు కో-ఆపరేటివ్ క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీ లిమిటెడ్

(Regd. No. AMC / GNT / DCO / 2020 / 4079)

- * మెయిన్ రోడ్, రాజాగారి తోట, నాజ్ సెంటర్ దగ్గర, **గుంటూరు-1**
- * కుందుల రోడ్, రత్నదీప్ సూపర్ మార్కెట్ ప్రక్కన, బృందావన్ గార్డెన్స్, **గుంటూరు-2**
- * మెయిన్ రోడ్, ఉషోదయ సూపర్ మార్కెట్ ఎదురు, **మంగళగిరి**
- * ఫన్ ట్రెమ్స్ క్లబ్ రోడ్, గురునానక్ కాలనీ ఎదురు, **విజయవాడ**
- * మెయిన్ రోడ్, చెరువు సెంటర్, **నందివెలుగు**

Ph : 0863 221 3311 / 9030 11 33 11

ఫిక్స్డ్ డిపాజిట్ల పై వడ్డీ 12%

- * మార్టిగేజ్ లోన్స్
- * గోల్డ్ లోన్స్
- * బిజినెస్ లోన్స్

ప్రతి లక్షపై ప్రతి నెల

₹ 10000

- * ఫిక్స్డ్ డిపాజిట్స్
- * రికరింగ్ డిపాజిట్స్
- * డైలీ డిపాజిట్స్



Asian Institute of Fetal Medicine & Reproductive Genetics

Director

Dr. Buragadda Srinadh, M.D

PGC, Prenatal Diagnosis, Zagreb University (Croatia)
Trained in Fetal Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital (Canada)



Center of Excellence for Advanced Fetal Care

PCPNDT Registration Number: DT16aT339

BANJARA HILLS

Arafath Arcade, 1st Floor,
Opp. Star Hospital, Road 10,
Banjara Hills, Hyderabad (TS)

K P H B

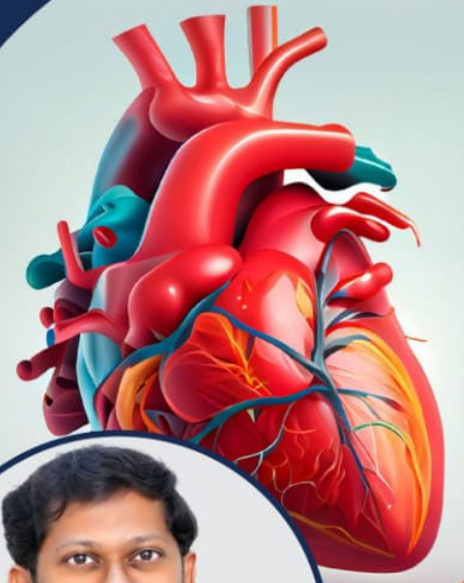
Shivas Castel, Near UCO Bank,
Kukatpally Housing Board Colony,
Hyderabad 500 072 (TS)

94401 30650 | 99645 09206 | 80749 45188

aifmrg@hotmail.com | www.aifmrg.com



KARTIK HEART CENTRE



24/7 CARDIOLOGY & CRITICAL CARE
ICU SERVICES



DR. S. VISWANATHA KARTIK

MBBS, MD General Medicine (Osmania),
DM Cardiology (Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute)
FSCAI (USA), Gold Medalist,
Chief Interventional Cardiologist

Services Available

- Cardiologist Consultation
- ECG
- 2D Echo
- Color Doppler
- Dobutamine Stress Echo
- Strain Imaging
- Contrast Echo
- Treadmill Stress Test
- 6-minute Walk Test
- Holter

Cardiac Procedures

- Coronary Angiography
- Coronary Angioplasty
- CATH Studies
- Dual chamber Pacemaker
- Rotablation
- ICD & CRT
- Balloon Valvotomy
- Device Closures for ASD & VSD
- Electrophysiology Studies
- FFR & Intravascular Ultra Sound
- Alcohol Septal Ablation

ABOUT US

Dr. Viswanatha Kartik is highly skilled in performing advanced cardiac interventional procedures, offering state-of-the-art care to his patients. Dr. Kartik's expertise and compassionate approach ensure that his patients receive the highest quality of care tailored to their individual



Scan For Directions

+91-81213 08201 | 0866-4053292

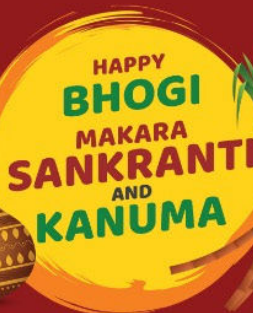
Address: 2nd Floor, Pratap Hospital Premises,
Mahanadu Road, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada. 520008

India's First Traditional Herbal Concepts

SAKTHI



Dr.D.N.Rao's Sakthi
Ayur Concepts Limited



Do share with all your family members
After every eat delite



Best fre digestion... also serves as mouth freshner
Try once you will definitely appreciate

www.sakthiayurconcepts.com

HAPPY
BHOGI MAKARA
SANKRANTI
AND
KANUMA



SRI VENKATA SAI MULTI SPECIALITY DENTAL CLINIC

శ్రీ వెంకటసాయి
మల్టీ స్పెషాలిటీ దంత వైద్యశాల

Dr. R.N. Sravan Kumar, B.D.S., FAGE
Dental Surgeon



#58-1-18/1, 1st Floor, Opp. Ramalayam, Patamata
Bander Road, Vijayawada - 520010

Contact : 0866-2484049, 94401 58658

POINT

WEATHER REPORT

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

Published from : Hyderabad - Vijayawada

Tuesday, 14th January, 2025 | 12 Pages

Kishan Reddy's Sankranti Celebrations in Delhi

PM Modi & Actor Chiranjeevi attended as Special Guest

- PM Modi and actor Chiranjeevi attended Kishan Reddy's grand Sankranti celebrations in New Delhi.
- Cultural programs and traditional rituals marked the festive event.
- PM Modi gifted Lord Venkateswara's statue to mark the celebrations.

TPN Correspondent , New Delhi, Jan 14:

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy organized a grand Sankranti celebration at his residence in New Delhi, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi attending as the chief guest and renowned actor Chiranjeevi participating as a special guest. The event saw the presence of several dignitaries, including Union Ministers, Olympic medalist PV Sindhu, and AIG Hospitals Chairman Dr. Nageshwar Reddy. Chiranjeevi and PM Modi jointly lit the ceremonial lamp to begin the festivities. Kishan Reddy presented a statue of Lord Venkateswara to PM Modi as a token of respect during the event. The celebrations featured vibrant cultural



In his message via Twitter, PM Modi expressed his happiness, stating, "Attended Sankranti and Pongal celebrations at the residence of my ministerial colleague, Shri G. Kishan Reddy Garu. Also witnessed an excellent cultural programme.

People across India celebrate Sankranti and Pongal with great fervour. It is a celebration of gratitude, abundance, and renewal, deeply rooted in the agricultural traditions of our culture. My best wishes for Sankranti and Pongal. Wishing everyone happiness, good health, and a prosperous harvest season ahead."



programs, with popular playback singer Sunitha delighting the audience with her melodious performances.

KCR's Sankranti Message: Wishes to People, Advice to the Govt

TPN Correspondent , Hyderabad, Jan 14: BRS chief and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) extended his heartfelt Sankranti greetings to the people of Telangana, emphasizing the festival's significance for farmers and agriculture. He expressed his prayers to Mother Nature for continued prosperity in farmers' lives and highlighted the pivotal role of the BRS government in promoting agricultural development.



Bima, have solidified Telangana's position as a leader in agriculture. He credited these initiatives for transforming the lives of farmers, making the state a model for the nation and beyond.

The former Chief Minister also underscored the importance of caste-based professions, stating that unprecedented support and financial assistance have elevated backward communities, enriching their lives and ensuring inclusive growth.

KCR concluded by urging the new Congress government to sustain the welfare schemes initiated by the BRS government and encouraged farmers to enhance the value of Sankranti celebrations through agricultural prosperity.

KCR stated that the BRS government prioritized agriculture and farmer welfare like no other government in the country. Over the past decade, approximately ₹4.5 lakh crore has been spent on farmer-centric initiatives. He described these efforts as a transformative journey that has turned agriculture into a celebration, bringing festive charm to Telangana's farming community.

- ₹4.5 lakh crore spent on welfare schemes, including Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima.
- Achieved agricultural prominence with 24-hour free electricity, irrigation projects, and allied welfare measures.
- Financial aid and support for backward castes to enhance livelihoods.

KCR further noted that welfare schemes implemented by the BRS government, such as free 24-hour electricity, irrigation water supply, Rythu Bandhu, and Rythu

BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy Arrested in Hyderabad

- Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy arrested by Karimnagar police.
- Arrest followed a complaint by Jagityala MLA Sanjay.
- Reddy was detained while attending a news channel program in Jubilee Hills.

TPN Correspondent , Hyderabad, Jan 14: BRS leader and Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy was arrested by Karimnagar police on the evening of January 13, 2025, while attending a program organized by a news channel in Hyderabad. 35 policemen came from Karimnagar to detain the MLA, who was then

forcefully taken into custody and is being transported to Karimnagar.

The arrest follows a complaint filed by Jagityala MLA Sanjay at Karimnagar 1st Town Police Station. Sanjay accused Kaushik Reddy of obstructing his speech at the Karimnagar Collectorate the previous

day and misbehaving with him. The police have registered a case in connection with the incident.

Kaushik Reddy's arrest has drawn attention as it occurred in the midst of heightened political tensions.



CM Revanth Reddy Confident in Telangana's Investment Growth Ahead of Davos Visit

2nd page

HAPPY BHOGI MAKARA SANKRANTI AND KANUMA

INDULGE IN SWEET DELIGHTS!

Olive MITHAI SHOP

మిఠాయి అంటే ఆలివ్...

SWEETS | NAMKEEN | DRY FRUITS | GIFT BOXES

OUR BRANCHES

KPHB 9TH PHASE | KPHB 3RD PHASE | HYDERNAGAR | NIZAMPET | VIVEKANANDA NAGAR
KONDAPUR | MIYAPUR BACHUPALLY ROAD | HAFEEZPET | CHANDANAGAR, PJR ROAD
ALKAPURI | MANIKONDA | VANASTHALIPURAM | SAINIKPURI | PRAGATHI NAGAR
HITEC CITY METRO STATION | MOTI NAGAR | WEST MAREDPALLY | KOMPALLY

Shop us on : www.olivemithai.com



No Need Doubts in Scheme Implementation: Dy CM Bhatti



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka emphasized transparency and efficiency in the implementation of key welfare schemes, including Rythu Bharosa. He announced that the scheme would be provided based on revenue records, with significant financial allocations ensuring comprehensive coverage.

The Deputy CM revealed that Rs. 22,500 crores have been earmarked for the construction of Indiramma houses, Rs. 2,000 crores for the Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa scheme, and Rs. 19,000 crores for Rythu Bharosa. "No one needs to have doubts in the implementation of these schemes," he assured.

He stated that the cabinet's decision came after in-depth discussions about beneficiary selection and implementation procedures. Under Rythu Bharosa, Rs. 12,000 per acre will be provided for all agriculturally suitable lands, including farmers with ROFR pattas. The Agriculture Department will implement the scheme based on revenue records. For the Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa Scheme, he clarified that families with job cards under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, who have worked for at least 20 days and own no land, will be eligible. He reiterated that only fully eligible individuals would be selected for ration cards and Indiramma houses.

Deputy CM Vikramarka directed officials to organize village assemblies to announce government schemes, ensuring transparency in the selection and finalization of beneficiaries. In these assemblies, officials and public representatives will issue permission documents to eligible individuals.

He further highlighted the role of Indiramma committees in monitoring the implementation of welfare schemes. "These committees are key to ensuring that the schemes are executed in accordance with government guidelines," he noted, urging the committees to maintain strict oversight.

Even if Rajasekhara Reddy was alive...

The former Chief Minister reveals Congress high command's stance on bifurcation.

- Kiran Kumar Reddy claims Congress had already made plans for bifurcation during Rajasekhara Reddy's time.
- The former CM reveals attempts to modify the resolution to delay Telangana's formation.



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: In a series of startling comments, Kiran Kumar Reddy, the last Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh, shed light on the Congress party's role in the state bifurcation, claiming that the party had already paved the way for it even during the tenure of late Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy.

Reddy stated that during his tenure as Chief Whip, he had advised Rajasekhara Reddy to pass a resolution in the Assembly favoring Telangana. However, Rajasekhara Reddy had reportedly opposed the resolution, fearing it would cost the party in the elections. According to Kiran Kumar Reddy, the Congress high command decided to amend the wording from "We are in favor of Telangana" to "We are not against Telangana" to prevent immediate backlash.

Despite their efforts to delay the division, Reddy revealed that the Congress leadership, including then Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, had already decided on the bifurcation. The resolution was passed, and the state was eventually divided in 2014, a move Reddy believes could have happened as early as 2009.

CM Revanth Reddy Confident in Telangana's Investment Growth Ahead of Davos Visit

- Telangana's industrial policy expected to attract global investments.
- CM reviews progress of investment mobilization ahead of World Economic Forum.
- The state received investments worth Rs. 40,232 crore from Davos agreements last year.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed strong confidence in the industrial policy implemented by the Telangana government, asserting that it will attract significant investments from both domestic and international players. He emphasized that the development schemes introduced by the government in its first year have strengthened Telangana's economy, positioning the state as a top investment destination.

In preparation for his upcoming visit to the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos from January 20 to 22, the Chief Minister convened a review meeting with Indus-

tries and IT Minister Sridhar Babu, Chief Minister Advisor Vem Narender Reddy, and senior officials to discuss the mobilization of investments in the state. "Hyderabad is emerging as #FutureCity, and we must showcase its positive aspects on the global stage," Reddy stated, instructing officials to highlight the city's growth and potential at the WEF.

The review also focused on the progress of investments secured last year, with the state attracting Rs. 40,232 crore through agreements signed at WEF 2024 in Davos. Out of the 18 projects agreed upon, 14 companies have committed to invest in Telangana, with 17 projects



already in progress. Ten of these projects have made significant strides, while seven are still in the early stages of implementation.

Reddy praised the work done by Minister Sridhar Babu and the Industries Department for their efforts in securing these investments. He expressed satisfaction with the initial successes but reiterated the importance of continuing to foster an investment-friendly environment. As part of his global outreach,

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will also be visiting Singapore from January 16 to 19. There, he will engage in discussions with Skill University and other stakeholders to further strengthen Telangana's position as a global investment hub. The Chief Minister's visit to the WEF in Davos and subsequent meetings in Singapore are seen as pivotal in advancing Telangana's economic agenda, making it a key player in the global economic landscape.

Transport Department Cracks Down on Private Travel Companies

Over 300 cases registered against travel buses operating against regulations during Sankranti festival.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: The Telangana Transport Department has registered over 300 cases against private travel companies for operating buses in violation of regulations during the Sankranti festival. Inspections, which have been underway for the past four days, targeted travel buses in various parts of the state.

Special teams were formed in Hyderabad, Rangareddy, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Mahabubnagar, and other districts to carry out inspections. Enforcement teams discovered buses operating outside the rules, particularly in LB Nagar and Aranghar areas of Hyderabad.

Joint Transport Commissioner Chandrashekhar Goud revealed that the inspections would continue, as complaints about private travel companies charging arbitrary fares during the festival were received. The department is focusing on ensuring that travel companies comply with the regulations, especially concerning fare practices and bus operations.



Lucky Escape for Ponguleti as Car Tyres Burst in Telangana's Khammam

Revenue Minister and others safe after the car tyres burst during travel.

- Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy escapes unharmed.
- Incident occurred near Tirumalayapalem while returning to Khammam.



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy had a narrow escape on Sunday evening when two tyres of the car he was traveling in burst while en route to Khammam from Warangal. Despite the sudden incident, the alert car driver managed to regain control of the vehicle, ensuring the safety of everyone on board.

The security personnel accompanying the Minister, as well as MLA Tellam Venkat Rao and others, were reportedly relieved after the situation was brought under control.

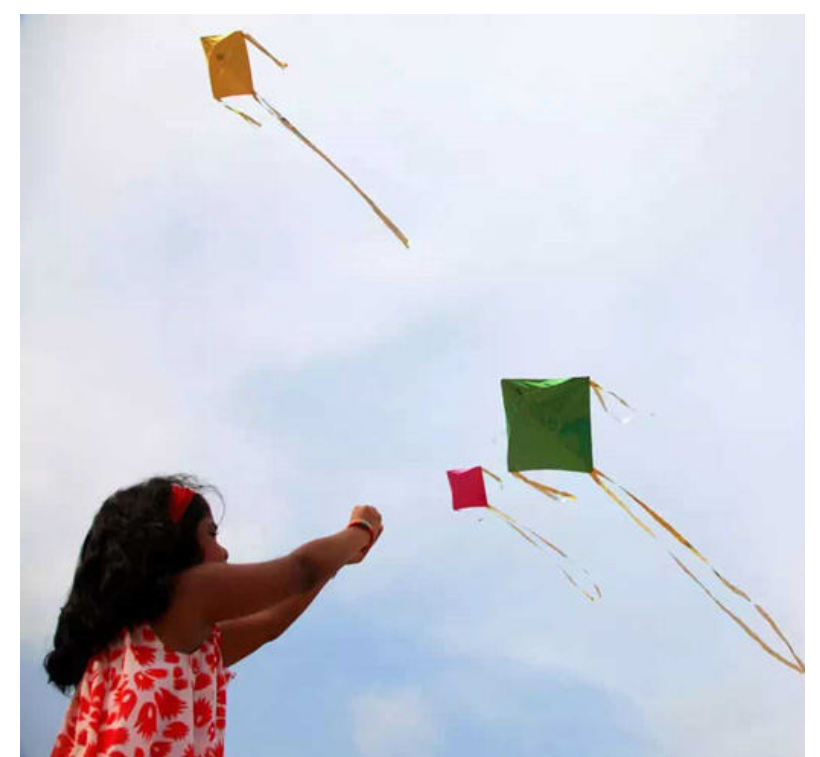
Be Safe While Flying Kites, TGSPDCL Cautions for Safe Sankranti in Telangana

Public urged to follow safety guidelines to avoid accidents and power disruptions. Highlights:

- Safety warning issued for kite flying near electrical lines and transformers.
- TGSPDCL urges the use of safe materials and methods for kite flying.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan 14: On Sunday, January 12, Telangana Southern Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TGSPDCL) Managing Director Musharraf Faruqi issued a safety warning for the public in light of Sankranti festivities. He urged people to be cautious while flying kites, emphasizing that flying them near electrical lines and distribution transformers can lead to accidents and disrupt power supply. TGSPDCL issued the following guidelines to ensure safe kite flying:

- Keep away from overhead wires and distribution transformers.
 - Fly kites in open areas, away from buildings, streets, and highways.
 - Avoid using metallic thread, as it is a good conductor of electricity and can cause electric shock.
 - Use dry, non-metallic kite strings like cotton, linen, or nylon.
 - Never attempt to retrieve a kite stuck in power lines.
 - Parents are advised to supervise children during kite flying, ensuring they stay away from broken power lines.
- Residents are encouraged to report any incidents to the Electricity Department by calling 1912 or using the TGSPDCL mobile app.



Kishan Reddy to Attend Global Mining Event in Riyadh

Minister to focus on mineral supply chains and energy transition at the Future Minerals Forum 2025.

- G Kishan Reddy to visit Riyadh from January 14-16 for the Future Minerals Forum.
- Minister will meet mining ministers from other countries and interact with the Indian diaspora.



TPN Correspondent, New Delhi, Jan 14: Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy will begin a three-day official visit to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on January 14 to attend the Future Minerals Forum 2025.

The event will focus on discussions around mineral supply chains and energy transition.

On the sidelines of the forum, Minister Reddy will engage with mining ministers from various countries. Additionally, he will visit the Indian diaspora in Riyadh, strengthening ties between India and Saudi Arabia.

India is the second-largest trade partner of Saudi Arabia, while Saudi Arabia ranks as India's fourth-largest trading partner. Bilateral trade between the two nations reached \$43 billion in 2023-24, a decline from \$53 billion in the previous year. Over 2,700 Indian companies are registered in Saudi Arabia, with investments amounting to around \$2 billion.

Police register 3 cases against BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy

Huzurabad MLA faces legal action after chaotic incident at Karimnagar Collectorate.



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: Huzurabad BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy has been registered in three separate cases following a chaotic incident at the Karimnagar Collectorate. The conflict began when Kaushik Reddy reportedly had an argument with Congress MLA Sanjay Kumar, which escalated into physical pushing. Sanjay Kumar's personal assistant filed a complaint against Kaushik Reddy, leading to the registration of the first case.

Library Organization Chairman Sathu Mallesham, who alleged that Kaushik Reddy attempted to attack the District Collectorate, hurling obscenities. The third case arose from a complaint by Karimnagar RDO Maheshwar Reddy, who accused Kaushik Reddy of disrupting the meeting and creating a disturbance in the Collectorate office.

The altercation turned the meeting into chaos, with both Congress and BRS leaders reportedly pushing each other.

The second case was filed by Karimnagar District

Harish Rao Demands Apology from CM Revanth Reddy

BRS senior leader Harish Rao criticizes Congress government for deceiving farmers.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: BRS senior MLA Harish Rao has demanded that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy apologize for failing to honor promises made to farmers. Rao accused the Congress government of deceiving farmers by falsely campaigning as a farmer-friendly government.

Rao criticized the government's neglect of schemes meant for farmers, stating that these should have been implemented with genuine commitment. He also emphasized that farmers with less than an acre of land should be recognized as laborers and compensated with Rs. 12,000.

Rao lashed out at Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka for spreading falsehoods, claiming the Congress government has been distorting the truth by alleging that no projects were completed during the BRS regime. He urged farmers to unite and stand against the injustice they are facing.

R. Krishnaiah Calls for BC Movement to Lead, Demands Constitutional Amendment

BC Welfare Association president stresses the need for reservations in promotions.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: Rajya Sabha member and national president of the BC Welfare Association, R. Krishnaiah, emphasized the need for a robust BC movement, calling for greater leadership from BC intellectuals and lecturers. Speaking at the unveiling of the new calendar of Telangana BC Lecturers Association in Kacheguda, he expressed concern over the loss faced by BC employees due to the lack of reservations in promotions.



Krishnaiah called for an amendment to the Constitution to ensure that BCs receive reservations in promotions. He asserted that the BC movement is gaining mo-

mentum across the country, with its slogan resonating from the streets to Delhi. He urged that politicians not lead the movement but that BC intellectuals step forward to strengthen it further.

BRS Criticizes Congress Government Over False Cases Against MLA Kaushik Reddy

- BRS accuses Congress of filing false cases to harass MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy.
- Balakishan challenges Congress MLA Sanjay Kumar to quit and contest on the party's guarantees.



TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: Former BRS MLA Rasamayi Balakishan has launched a strong criticism of the Congress government, accusing it of filing fabricated cases against BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy. Balakishan condemned the Congress for slapping four cases on Kaushik Reddy after a confrontation with turncoat MLA Sanjay Kumar in Karimnagar on Sunday.

tempt by Congress to suppress opposition voices.

Balakishan also criticized Congress for failing to take action against its own party workers who attacked the BRS office in Bhongir, highlighting the double standards in the party's approach. He warned the Congress government not to mistake BRS' silence as weakness, reaffirming the party's resolve to stand against what he termed as "anarchic rule."

Speaking at Telangana Bhavan on Monday, Balakishan pointed out that Sanjay, who defected from BRS to Congress, had denied being attacked, questioning the logic behind the cases filed against Kaushik Reddy. He called the action an at-

Balakishan defended Kaushik Reddy, commending him for confronting the oppression and reaffirmed BRS' commitment to fighting for justice.

Jagityala MLA Sanjay Says He Will Resign if KCR and KTR Do the Same

Criticism directed at BRS and Padi Kaushik Reddy after clash at Karimnagar review meeting.

- Sanjay demands KCR and KTR apologize for including MLAs from other parties during BRS rule.
- MLA accuses Padi Kaushik Reddy of behaving like a street rowdy.

TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: Jagityala MLA Sanjay has made a bold statement regarding his resignation. He claimed that if KCR and KTR apologize for including MLAs from other parties during the BRS regime and subsequently resign, he would also step down from his position.



Sanjay expressed his anger at BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy's behavior during a recent review meeting in Karimnagar, accusing him of acting like a street rowdy. Sanjay raised concerns about whether Kaushik Reddy acted independently or was provoked. He further stated that he had lodged a complaint with the police about the incident and was awaiting action. Sanjay, who had won the previous election on a BRS ticket before joining the Con-

gress, referred to the ongoing tensions and the clash that erupted between him and Kaushik Reddy in front of the ministers during the meeting.

Kavitha slams Telangana CM over violence against minorities

- Kavitha criticizes CM Revanth Reddy for inaction amid rising violence against minorities.
- MLC also calls out Congress for hypocrisy and violence at BRS party office.

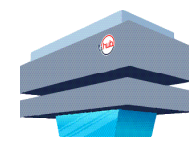


TPN Correspondent, Hyderabad, Jan14: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLC K Kavitha took a strong stand on Sunday, January 12, accusing Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of turning a blind eye to the rising attacks on minorities in the state. She claimed that the CM, allegedly

tied to the RSS, has ignored the promises made by the Gandhi family to the state's minorities.

Kavitha demanded the immediate implementation of the minority declaration in Telangana by the Congress government. She also pointed out the recent vandalism at the BRS party office in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri district, questioning whether violence had become the Congress' new strategy.

Addressing a crowd in Nizamabad, Kavitha took a swipe at Congress' hypocrisy, stating that while Rahul Gandhi often speaks about democracy and the Constitution, the party's actions, including the recent destruction of party property, reflected a different message. She further criticized the Gandhi family for failing to control Revanth Reddy's actions.



HMDA to raise funds for cable bridge on Hyderabad's Mir Alam Tank

- HMDA plans to raise Rs 20,000 crore for infrastructure projects, including a cable bridge at Mir Alam Tank.
- Fundraising will be done through bonds, with Rs 5,000 crore targeted in the next four months.

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14



Rs 363 crore project set to ease traffic congestion and boost city's infrastructure.

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) is taking significant steps to enhance the city's infrastructure, with a focus on raising funds for critical projects, including a cable bridge across the Mir Alam Tank. The bridge, stretching 2.65 km in length and 22.2 meters in width, is estimated to cost Rs 363 crore. Due to limited financial support from the state government, HMDA plans to raise Rs 20,000 crore in the next 18 months through bond issuances in the debt market. As part of this initiative, the agency intends to secure Rs 5,000 crore in the

next four months and has invited proposals for appointing an advisor-cum-merchant banker to manage the fundraising process. In addition to the Mir Alam Tank cable bridge, HMDA is prioritizing several other major projects aimed at improving connectivity and reducing traffic congestion in Hyderabad. These include two elevated corridors — one spanning 18.12 km from

Paradise Junction to the Outer Ring Road and another 5.4 km long from Paradise Junction to Military Dairy Farm Road. Additionally, nine greenfield radial roads, spanning 215 km, are planned to connect the ORR with the Regional Ring Road. These projects aim to improve the flow of traffic, enhance connectivity, and create a more visually appealing infrastructure for the city.

Gold rates in Hyderabad surge amid safe-haven demand, cross Rs 80K mark

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

Gold prices in Hyderabad have surged again, with the price of 24-carat gold crossing the Rs 80,000 mark, currently standing at Rs 80,070. This marks a 2.65 percent increase in prices for both 22-carat and 24-carat gold compared to the start of the month, with 22-carat gold now priced at Rs 73,400. The price increase is being attributed to multiple factors, one of the prominent ones being the rising demand for safe-haven investments. Global factors such as US Federal Reserve rate cuts, geopolitical tensions, and the potential impact of "Trump 2.0" have also contributed to the spike in prices. Furthermore, there has been an increase in gold purchases by central banks. This surge in gold rates is not confined to Hyderabad alone, as major cities like Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru have also seen similar hikes. However, there are concerns about a potential dip in domes-



tic demand as gold prices reach near all-time highs. Looking ahead, the future of gold prices in Hyderabad will depend on global economic and geopolitical developments, particularly decisions by the US Federal Reserve and ongoing market trends.

Hyderabad Police Book 107 Cases in Special Drive Against Chinese Manja Trade

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

The Hyderabad police conducted a special drive against the trade of Chinese-manufactured manja, which has been flagged for posing serious threats to humans, animals, and birds. In total, 107 cases were booked against 148 individuals, and 7,334 bobbins of the dangerous manja, valued at Rs. 88 lakh, were seized. The drive was initiated following an advisory from various government departments highlighting the risks associated with the use of Chinese manja, which has led to numerous accidents and injuries. Additional DCP (Task Force) A Srinivas Rao stated that this action aims to curb the spread of harmful materials in the city.

NIMS Successfully Performs Heart Transplant Surgery on Woman in Hyderabad

Cost of surgery fully covered under Telangana's Aarogyasri scheme.

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

Hyderabad's Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) successfully performed a heart transplant surgery on Sheikh Shanaz, a 29-year-old woman from Eturunagaram in Mulugu district, who had been suffering from dilated cardiomyopathy for two years. Shanaz's heart condition had been progressively worsening, and doctors recommended a transplant as her only option for survival. Registered with the Jeevandan Trust, a government initiative for organ donation, Shanaz received a donor heart from a brain-dead patient at Yashoda Hospitals in Secunderabad. The complex surgery was led by Dr. Amareswara Rao, head of the Cardiothoracic Department at NIMS. Under the Telangana government's Aarogyasri scheme, all the expenses related to the surgery were fully covered, making this life-saving procedure accessible to the patient at no cost, despite the typical expense of Rs 20-30 lakh in private hospitals.

As residents travel to celebrate Sankranti, Hyderabad roads fall quiet



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

With a large number of Hyderabad's residents leaving the city to celebrate Sankranti in their hometowns, the normally busy roads of the city have fallen remarkably quiet. Popular areas like S R Nagar, Jubilee Hills, Ameerpet, Kukatpally, KPHB, Banjara Hills, Begumpet, Moosapet, LB Nagar, Vanasthalipuram, and Nagole were eerily calm on Monday, January 13, due to the absence of commuters. This respite from the usual traffic chaos is expected to continue until Wednesday when the festival concludes. For many locals, this break from the usual congestion and pollution has been a welcome relief. Rubeena Khanum, a local medical professional, shared her thoughts, saying, "It's a two-day break for the local population from the traffic chaos and torturous pollution. Families are now coming out to enjoy and have a glimpse of the city." Other residents, like Mohd Shafeeq, a chartered accountant, enjoyed the ease of travel. "It has been a casual and safe drive for motorists. Travelling over 10 or 20 kilometres two decades ago was not a tiring experience," he said. Even traffic officials seem to be enjoying the calm, with only one constable managing junctions that would typically require a team of six officers. This temporary peace on the roads highlights the contrast between the festive period and the usual hustle and bustle of city life.

Son-in-law's first Sankranti in Hyderabad celebrated with a feast of 130 dishes



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

Mallikarjun, a resident of Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh, experienced the grandeur of a traditional Sankranti celebration in Hyderabad with his in-laws, Kantri and Kalpana. This was Mallikarjun's first visit to his in-laws' house since his marriage four months ago, and the couple went all out to celebrate their daughter's first Sankranti with her new husband. The family in Shardanagar, near Saroor Nagar, prepared a magnificent feast of 130 dishes, carefully arranged on banana leaves. The spread featured a variety of flavours from Telangana cuisine, including savoury snacks like murkulu, palli garelu, pulihora, bagara, and sakinalu, made from rice flour, as well as sweets like nuvula laddu, ariselu, and KajjiKayalu prepared with jaggery. This feast is part of a long-standing tradition in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, where son-in-laws are treated to royal feasts during Sankranti (Pedda Panduga). This tradition is particularly prominent in the undivided Godavari districts. The grand Sankranti feasts have been a recurring spectacle, with families in the region often preparing an enormous number of dishes to welcome their sons-in-law. Last year, a family from Eluru district welcomed their son-in-law with an impressive 379 dishes, while another family in Narsapuram prepared 365 dishes for their future son-in-law during Sankranti in 2023.

Hyderabad: 26-Year-Old Man Arrested for Smuggling Ganja

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

The Government Railway Police (GRP) Secunderabad, in collaboration with the Railway Protection Force (RPF), arrested a 26-year-old man, identified as Shaik, for smuggling ganja. The police found six kg of the banned substance stuffed in his bag during a routine check. Shaik, a resident of West Bengal, was working for two ganja peddlers, including Ali Khan from Odisha. On Sunday, Ali Khan handed the consignment to Shaik, instructing him to deliver it to another peddler, Joy, in Mumbai. Shaik was paid Rs 10,000 per trip for his role in the smuggling operation.

Dark Clouds Hover Over Hyderabad; IMD Forecasts Temperature Dip

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan14

Hyderabad woke up to dark clouds on Monday, January 13, as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasted a significant drop in temperatures. The minimum temperatures in several districts across Telangana are expected to fall below 15°C, with some regions like Adilabad, Komaram Bheem, and Medak likely to experience temperatures as low as 11°C. The cold weather is expected to persist until January 16. IMD Hyderabad has also warned of mist and hazy conditions during the morning hours, particularly in areas like Charminar, Khairatabad, and Kukatpally. Yesterday, the city recorded a low of 15.8°C at the University of Hyderabad. Residents are advised to take precautions against the colder temperatures, which may include wearing warm clothing and avoiding exposure to the cold during early morning hours.



Tribal Women Protest Against Minister Ponguleti Over Irregularities in 2BHK House Allotment

- Tribal women allege Congress workers received double bedroom houses instead of deserving families.
- Protests erupt during the inauguration of houses under the Indiramma Housing Scheme.
- Minister Srinivas Reddy's anger leads to an abrupt end to the event.



TPN Correspondent , Khammam, Jan 14: A protest erupted at Dubba thanda in Kusumanchi mandal on Monday when tribal women gheraoed Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, accusing him of irregularities in the allotment of double bedroom houses under the Indiramma Housing Scheme. The protest

occurred just as the minister arrived at the thanda to inaugurate the houses, with the women questioning the alleged favoritism towards Congress workers in the allotment process.

The women claimed that the local Congress leaders had manipulated the list of beneficiaries, replacing the names of deserving families with those of Congress workers. This allegation mirrored a recent incident in Acharlagudem, Nellore district, where Dalits protested against officials for preparing a similar list of Congress workers for house allotment.

As the protest grew, the police inter-

vened, reportedly attempting to stop the media from recording the event. Minister Srinivas Reddy, visibly frustrated by the protest, expressed anger towards the tribal women and local officials. The protests continued despite the minister's response, and he was forced to leave the venue without delivering the scheduled speech or addressing the grievances raised by the women.

The incident has sparked further concerns over the transparency and fairness of the housing allotment process, with both tribal and Dalit communities alleging that political favoritism is influencing decisions meant for marginalized families.

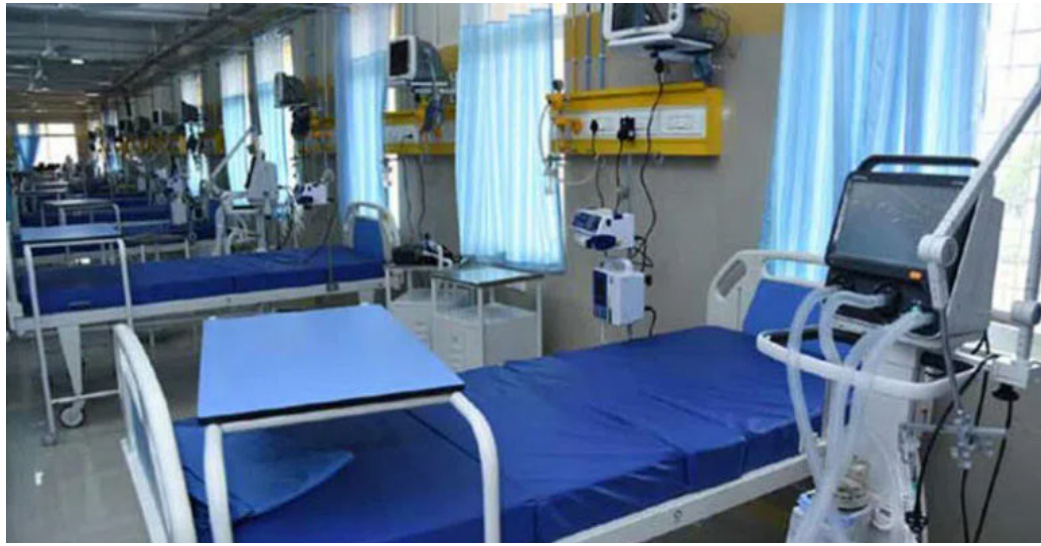
Private Hospitals Stay Away from Aarogyasri, PMJAY Due to Pending Dues and Operational Challenges

Hospitals cite delayed payments, package costs, and bureaucratic hurdles as key deterrents to participation in government health schemes.

- Private hospitals reluctant to sign MoUs with Aarogyasri and PMJAY despite increased coverage.
- Major issues: delayed medical bill payments, lack of infrastructure, and inadequate reimbursement rates.

TPN Correspondent , Hyderabad, Jan 14: The ongoing standoff between protesting hospitals and the Aarogyasri Health Insurance scheme in Telangana has brought attention to the long-standing challenges faced by both the state and central government-sponsored health schemes like Aarogyasri and PMJAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan-Arogya Yojana). Private hospitals, particularly large corporate multi-specialty hospitals in Hyderabad, are increasingly distancing themselves from these health schemes due to several operational and financial issues. The major concerns include delays in the clearance of medical bills by the state government, inadequate reimbursement rates that fail to cover the high cost of treatment, and bureaucratic inefficiencies. Despite the Telangana government increasing health insurance coverage to Rs 10 lakh per person, corporate hospitals remain reluctant to sign agreements with Aarogyasri and PMJAY.

One of the key challenges for these hospitals is the substantial delay in payments for services rendered under these schemes. Unlike private insurance, which releases funds at the time of pa-



tient discharge, government-sponsored schemes require extensive paperwork, additional human resources, and long waiting periods for payments, which is discouraging many hospitals from fully participating.

Furthermore, many hospitals often refuse to admit Aarogyasri and PMJAY patients, despite being empanelled, citing unavailable specialties or departments. This refusal often leads to patients being denied timely treatment, undermining the purpose of these health insurance

schemes.

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) highlighted several discrepancies in PMJAY, including issues with the beneficiary database, inadequate infrastructure at empanelled hospitals, and failures in ensuring proper services. These challenges have led to a strained relationship between private hospitals and government health insurance schemes, leaving many people without adequate access to quality healthcare under Aarogyasri and PMJAY.

Mancherial Leads Telangana in Sericulture, Achieves 50% of State Target

District registers a 21% growth in silkworm cocoon production, benefiting local tribal farmers.

- Mancherial achieves 29.10 lakh cocoons in 2024, nearly half of the state's target.
- Traditional silkworm farming brings around Rs 1 lakh annual income to farmers.



TPN Correspondent , Mancherial, Jan 14: Mancherial, known for its coal mining and thermal power industries, has made significant strides in sericulture, with the district producing 29.10 lakh silkworm cocoons in 2024. This is a remarkable 21% increase over the 24.10 lakh cocoons produced in 2023. The district has now contributed nearly half of Telangana's total target of 60 lakh cocoons.

The bulk of this production comes from around 650 tribal farmers in the Chennur, Vemanapalli, Kotapalli, Kannepalli, and Nennal mandals, where tasar cocoons are cultivated on Terminalia Arjuna and Yeru Maddi trees in 1,000

acres of forest. These farmers, supported by the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)-Utnoor, earn around Rs 1 lakh annually from silkworm farming.

The harvested cocoons will soon be auctioned in Chennur, with traders from across India, including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal, participating. The expected price for each cocoon is Rs 6.50, higher than the previous year's price of Rs 5.10. The tribal farmers' continued success in tasar silk farming is a vital part of their livelihood, showcasing both traditional knowledge and economic progress in the region.

Minister Seethakka emphasizes road safety to prevent accidents



TPN Correspondent , Asifabad, Jan 14: Telangana Minister Seethakka inaugurated the National Road Safety Week in Asifabad today, urging everyone to follow traffic rules to avoid accidents and ensure the safety of others. Speaking at the event, Seethakka stressed that road safety is crucial for the well-being of all, stating, "If everyone wants to be happy, everyone should follow road safety standards."

The Minister highlighted the importance of wearing helmets while riding bikes, noting the paradox of people spending significant amounts on par-

ties but not investing in basic safety equipment. "It's sad that we spend thousands of rupees on parties but refuse to spend a thousand rupees on helmets," she remarked. She emphasized that accidents can be prevented if motorists adhere to traffic rules.

Following the road safety initiative, Seethakka also inaugurated a model Anganwadi center in Jankapur, Asifabad district. During the visit, colorful uniforms were distributed to the Anganwadi children, and Balamrut (a nutritious supplement) was provided to the children as part of the ongoing welfare initiatives.

Jackal attacks woman in Sircilla district, killed by villagers

- Jackal attacks woman while performing household chores.
- Villagers kill the jackal after the attack and rescue the injured woman.

TPN Correspondent , Sircilla, Jan 14: On Sunday, January 12, a woman was attacked by a jackal in the Maddikunta village of Mustabad mandal in Telangana's Sircilla district. The jackal, reportedly emerging from the nearby forest area, attacked Sutrapur Radha while she was

doing household chores in front of her house around 6:00 am.

Radha's cries for help prompted the jackal to flee, but she was left injured. Villagers immediately rushed to her aid, and she was taken to Mustabad Mandal

Area Hospital for medical treatment. In a swift response, the villagers caught the jackal and killed it.

A video showing Radha's injuries has been circulating on social media, drawing attention to the unusual attack.



KTR, Harish Rao, Kavitha at Bhogi celebrations

- Bhogi celebrations held at LB Nagar MLA Sudheer Reddy's residence with participation from KTR, Harish Rao, and others.
- Kavitha leads celebrations at KBR Park, lauding the village atmosphere in Hyderabad.

TPN Correspondent , Hyderabad, Jan 14: The Sankranti celebrations are in full swing across both Telugu states, and Bhogi was celebrated with great zeal in Hyderabad. The grand celebration at LB Nagar MLA Sudheer Reddy's residence saw the participation of BRS Working President KTR, MLAs Harish Rao, Padi Kaushik Reddy, Mutha Gopal, Laxma Reddy, former MLAs Balka Suman, Pattolla Karthik Reddy, and several others.

Meanwhile, Bhogi celebrations were also held at KBR Park under the banner of Telangana Samskruthi, where BRS MLC Kavitha participated as the chief guest. The event witnessed a large gathering of women, and Kavitha praised the initiative of creating a village-like atmosphere in the heart of Hyderabad for the occasion. She highlighted that Bhogi symbolizes the shedding of negativity and embracing the new year with renewed enthusiasm.



Transparency Needed in Temple Management

- **Transparency Boards at Temples:** Display details of assets, revenue, and leaseholders on-site.
- **Public Feedback Mechanism:** Introduce a compliments box at every temple.
- **Online Financial Disclosure:** Develop district-level websites to share temple financial details.
- **Supplier and Staff Details:** Disclose contracts and employee information to ensure accountability.

There is a pressing need for enhanced transparency within the endowments department, particularly in the context of managing Hindu temples and their associated assets. To foster trust and accountability among devotees and the broader community, each temple should take proactive steps to ensure that its financial and operational details are readily accessible and clearly communicated. One effective measure would be to prominently display a comprehensive information board at each temple. This board should serve as a central repository of vital information, outlining the specifics of the temple's properties, assets, and jewelry. By making this information visible, temples can demystify their financial operations and reassure devotees that their contributions are being managed responsibly.



By Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

In addition to detailing the physical assets, the board should also include crucial information regarding the revenue generated from land owned by the temple. This could encompass rental income, agricultural profits, or any other sources of revenue, providing a clearer picture of the temple's financial health. Furthermore, transparency regarding the names of leaseholders who utilize temple land is essential. This information not only promotes accountability but also allows the community to understand who is

benefiting from these resources. Moreover, the board should outline the contracts with suppliers of essential commodities, such as food, materials for rituals, and maintenance services. By disclosing these contracts, temples can demonstrate their commitment to fair practices and ethical sourcing, while also allowing devotees to see how funds are allocated and spent. Lastly, including the names of employees associated with the temple on this board would further enhance transparency. This could cover a range of roles, from

administrative staff to priests and maintenance workers. By recognizing the individuals who contribute to the temple's operations, the community can foster a sense of connection and appreciation for the work being done behind the scenes. In addition to on-site transparency, a public feedback mechanism, such as a compliments box, should be introduced at every temple. This would allow devotees to express their concerns, suggestions, or appreciation directly, creating an open channel of communication between the temple administration and the community.

Furthermore, every district must develop a dedicated website to host vital financial and operational information of all temples in that district. By making this data accessible online, devotees and stakeholders can stay informed about how temple resources are managed. In summary, implementing a transparency board at each Hindu temple and leveraging online platforms for disclosure would not only provide essential information to the community but also promote trust, accountability, and a sense of shared responsibility in the management of temple resources. This initiative could serve as a model for other religious institutions, encouraging a culture of openness and integrity in the stewardship of communal assets.



The Rise of Ultra-Wealthy Individuals in Politics: Musk's Influence and the Threat to Democracy

Fair Financial Devolution: Addressing the Allegations Against the Modi Government

In recent months, several opposition-ruled states have raised concerns about receiving an unfair share of the Centre's divisible tax pool, claiming their contribution to tax collections is not being proportionately reflected in their share of revenues. These states have leveled allegations, accusing the Modi government of injustice in the financial devolution process. However, such claims are both unfounded and misleading.

The key question arises: has the Modi government been unfair? The answer is unequivocally no. In fact, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, India's system of cooperative federalism has flourished, with a focus on equitable treatment for all states, regardless of political affiliation.

To understand the matter better, we must refer to the Indian Constitution, specifically Article 270, which governs the distribution of net tax proceeds between the Centre and states. Taxes that are shared between the two include corporation tax, personal income tax, Central GST, and the Centre's portion of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST). This distribution is not arbitrary; it follows the recommendations of the Finance Commission (FC), a constitutional body established under Article 280, which is tasked with reviewing and suggesting equitable devolution of financial resources every five years.

The Finance Commission takes into account various factors, such as the population size, poverty levels, and infrastructure needs of each state, to ensure a fair and just allocation of funds. Therefore, any disparity in the share of tax revenue is not due to the Centre's unfair practices but is the result of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission.

Congress: The Emperor Is Without Clothes



The Congress, once a dominant force in Indian politics, is now facing increasing challenges within the INDIA opposition alliance, as regional parties begin to question its leadership role. Recent remarks by Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejaswi Yadav, who stated that the INDIA alliance was only relevant for the Lok Sabha elections, have signaled the potential unraveling of the opposition bloc. His statement, whether intentional or not, has cast a shadow over the Congress's place in the alliance, even as it celebrates its gains from the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Regional parties have begun to express dissatisfaction with the Congress, especially in the wake of the party's poor performance in key state elections like in Haryana and Maharashtra. Once considered the backbone of the INDIA grouping, the Congress is now seen by some as a hindrance to the alliance's unity. These parties, which once looked to the Congress for leadership, are growing increasingly disillusioned with its inability to solidify a credible organizational structure.

One notable challenge comes from Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which has openly declared its preference for sidelining the Congress in Delhi. As Kejriwal faces pressure from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the national capital, his comments highlight the shifting dynamics within the opposition. The message from regional parties is clear: the Congress must earn its place in the alliance, as political respect cannot be claimed solely based on past achievements.

For Congress, this crisis points to deeper structural issues. Rahul Gandhi's efforts with the Bharat Jodo Yatra and Nyay Yatra have failed to translate into sustained organizational growth. While the party continues to struggle with internal cohesion, the BJP, under its strategic leadership, has solidified its position in key states like Maharashtra. In contrast, regional parties such as the Samajwadi Party (SP) and RJD are increasingly cautious about Congress's growing demands for a larger share of influence in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, fearing it may undermine their own political standing.

The Congress's historical baggage, including Rahul Gandhi's controversial actions that have alienated leaders like Lalu Yadav in Bihar, further exacerbates the party's credibility issues. The absence of a clear political strategy and internal discord within the Congress is leaving it vulnerable to losing key allies, while the BJP, despite initial setbacks, continues to expand its reach.

Ultimately, the future of the INDIA alliance hinges on how the Congress manages its relations with regional players. As the opposition continues to fracture, the need for strong, unified leadership becomes more critical than ever. The Congress must address its internal weaknesses and rebuild trust among its allies, or risk being relegated to the sidelines in India's political landscape.

Novak Djokovic: A Champion on the Brink of History



Novak Djokovic's journey in tennis has been nothing short of legendary, and for many, his first Grand Slam win in 2008 is a moment etched in history. At just 21, Djokovic beat Jo-Wilfried Tsonga to become the Australian Open men's singles champion, a moment that set the stage for his rise to tennis supremacy. Fast forward to today, and Djokovic is on the verge of becoming the greatest of all time, holding 24 Grand Slam singles titles, including a record 10 Australian Open trophies. His dominance in Melbourne is unmatched, and his stats are astounding, including the most titles and all-time match wins at the Australian Open.

However, 2024 marked a turning point in Djokovic's career. For the first time, he lost a semi-final at the Australian Open, his streak of 33 unbeaten matches at the tournament coming to an end. It was a stark reminder that time catches up with every athlete. At 37, Djokovic faces a new challenge—his physical limitations, especially after undergoing knee surgery. His rivals, younger players like Jan-nik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz, are now pushing him to the limits. Djokovic also enters 2025 with the reality that he did not win a single Grand Slam last year.

Despite these challenges, Djokovic is determined to make one last push for glory, with the goal of winning a 25th Slam. The Australian Open remains his best chance, and although his aura of invincibility has diminished, he remains a force to be reckoned with. His rivalry with Alcaraz, who has dominated recent Wimbledon finals, is one to watch. Djokovic will have to rely on his experience and fitness to overcome the challenges and continue his pursuit of tennis history.

In a surprising move, Djokovic has enlisted Andy Murray, a long-time rival, as his coach. Murray's recent retirement gives him valuable insights into the tour's current top players. While Djokovic doesn't need coaching on technique, he requires information and motivation—two qualities Murray can provide. The partnership adds a unique twist to Djokovic's quest for another Grand Slam title.

As Djokovic's career winds down, the question remains: can he defy the odds and disrupt once again? Only time will tell, but don't be surprised if the Australian Open sees one last incredible flourish from the Serbian legend.

J&K Becoming Hub Of Tunnels, Bridges, Ropeways: PM Modi Inaugurates Sonmarg Tunnel

TPN Correspondent
J&K, Jan 14

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday inaugurated the Z-Morh tunnel in Sonamarg, Jammu and Kashmir, marking a significant milestone in the region's infrastructure development. During his address, he emphasized how Jammu and Kashmir is rapidly evolving into a hub for tunnels, bridges, and ropeways, with the world's highest tunnel, railroad bridge, and rail lines being constructed in the region.

"The world is in awe of the Chenab Bridge's engineering marvel," said Modi, praising the cutting-edge infrastructure projects underway. He stressed that these developments, including the highest railroad bridge and rail lines, are part of the region's transformation.

PM Modi expressed his commitment to fulfilling long-pending promises to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, mentioning his past visits to the region as a BJP worker, where he would often travel long distances on foot in harsh conditions. "Today, I am here as a 'sevak,'" he remarked, underscoring his dedication to serving the people. The Sonamarg tunnel, he added, would ease the lives of the people of Kargil and Leh, reducing hardships and improving accessibility. The Prime Minister noted that the tunnel



is expected to boost tourism in the region, particularly in Sonamarg, a popular destination now accessible year-round. "This tunnel will bring new opportunities for tourism, especially in winter, boosting adventure sports and local livelihoods," he said.

The 12 km Sonamarg tunnel, constructed at a cost of Rs 2,700 crore, will improve all-weather connectivity between Srinagar and Sonamarg, bypassing hazardous avalanche-prone routes. Located over 8,650

feet above sea level, the tunnel will provide safer access to Ladakh, enhancing both civilian and military transportation.

PM Modi concluded by highlighting the broader vision of developing every part of India, ensuring no region is left behind in the race for progress. The Sonamarg tunnel, along with the upcoming Zojila Tunnel, is expected to significantly improve connectivity, reduce travel time, and stimulate economic and social growth in Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh.

India Now Among Top 25 Global Arms Exporters: Nirmala Sitharaman

TPN Correspondent
Gandhinagar, Jan 14



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that India has now positioned itself among the top 25 global arms exporters, a significant achievement for the country. She shared this milestone during her address at the 4th Convocation Ceremony of Rashtriya Raksha University in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on Monday.

India's transformation from being the world's second-largest arms importer between 2015 and 2019 to a prominent arms exporter marks a pivotal shift in the nation's defence strategy. Sitharaman highlighted that India's defence exports now include high-tech products such as BrahMos missiles, Pinaka rocket systems, and Dornier aircrafts.

The Finance Minister also spotlighted India's remarkable progress in indigenous defence production. In the financial year 2023-24, India's defence production reached a record value of Rs 1.27 lakh crore, which represents a 2.7-fold increase from 2014-15. Defence exports, too, saw an unprecedented rise, reaching Rs 21,083 crore in 2023-24—up from a mere Rs 686 crore in 2013-14. This 30-fold increase in just a decade underscores India's growing capability in the defence sector.

Attributing these achievements to robust policy support and investments under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Sitharaman emphasized India's growing role as a net exporter of defence components. She noted that the focus on domestic defence production has shifted India from being one of the largest importers of arms to a significant exporter.

Sitharaman also stressed the importance of coastal security and maritime trade for national security. She praised the Rashtriya Raksha University for its contribution to training India's coastal security forces, noting that over 80% of global goods trade is conducted by sea. Furthermore, she acknowledged the doubling of India's port capacity over the last decade, reinforcing the government's commitment to enhancing maritime security.

India's progress in defence production and export highlights its increasing self-reliance and recognition as a key player in the global arms market.

60% Terrorists Killed In 2024 Were Pakistani: Army Chief On J&K Situation

TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Jan 14

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi revealed today that about 60 percent of the terrorists killed in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in 2024 were of Pakistani origin. He further emphasized that approximately 80 percent of the terrorists still active in the region are also Pakistanis.



In a media briefing, Gen Dwivedi assured that the situation in J&K remains "firmly under control," with the ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC), which has been in effect since February 2021, holding steady. However, he cautioned that terror infrastructure across the border remains intact, and infiltration attempts, including from the International Border (IB) sector, continue. Additionally, drone activities aimed at

smuggling weapons and narcotics are ongoing. Gen Dwivedi also addressed the recent increase in terrorist activities, particularly in North Kashmir and the Doda-Kishtwar belt, though he assured that overall violence levels are "under control." He noted the peaceful conduct of over five lakh pilgrims during the Amarnath Yatra and the smooth execution of the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, both indicators of positive change

in the region. "The theme of terrorism to tourism is gradually taking shape," he said, highlighting the shift towards stability and development.

Turning to the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), Gen Dwivedi stated that while the situation is "stable," it remains "sensitive." This comes after Indian and Chinese military forces disengaged from the last two friction points in eastern Ladakh. He confirmed that patrolling and grazing activities have resumed in the traditional areas of Depsang and Demchok in eastern Ladakh. Gen Dwivedi reassured that the Indian Army remains vigilant, with a "balanced and robust" deployment along the borders, focusing on enhancing border infrastructure and capability development. He concluded by emphasizing the Army's readiness to handle any emerging situations.

My chair not vacant, says CM Siddaramaiah

TPN Correspondent
Bengaluru, Jan 14



Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday rejected media reports speculating about a change of leadership in the state, asserting that his position is not vacant. Referring to rumors about his deputy, D.K. Shivakumar, potentially replacing him, Siddaramaiah criticized what he described as "speculative journalism."

Addressing the issue at the Press Club of Bangalore Award-2024, Siddaramaiah expressed his frustration with the media's persistent reporting on the matter. "We don't have any confusion amongst us, but journalists are still

writing that 'the CM will be changed,'" he said, adding that such reports were based on assumptions rather than facts. "My chair is not vacant, but they still say that the CM will be changed."

Siddaramaiah also pointed to the tendency of the media to sensationalize trivial matters, often based on speculation. He took a jab at the media's approach by referencing the dinner meetings held by ministers, which have recently become a subject of widespread gossip. "If people gather for dinner, then it becomes news based on speculation that such discussions would have happened, though we would have discussed something else and not what is reported there,"

he said.

The Chief Minister's remarks come in response to ongoing media narratives that have fueled speculation about a leadership change in the state. Despite these reports, Siddaramaiah's comments underscore that there is no internal conflict regarding his position and that the speculations are unfounded.

While political discussions about the state's leadership continue to surface, Siddaramaiah's comments suggest that such matters are often blown out of proportion, leaving little room for speculation about his tenure as Chief Minister.

Maha Kumbh: Happy to see Prayagraj abuzz: PM Modi

TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Jan 14

As the Maha Kumbh Mela began in Prayagraj on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked the occasion as a significant event for millions who value Indian traditions and culture. In a message shared on X (formerly Twitter), the Prime Minister emphasized that the event is a testament to India's enduring spiritual legacy.

"A very special day for crores of people who cherish Bharatiya values and culture! Maha Kumbh 2025 commences in Prayagraj, bringing together count-

less people in a sacred confluence of faith, devotion and culture. The Maha Kumbh embodies India's timeless spiritual heritage and celebrates faith and harmony," Modi wrote.

The Prime Minister expressed his delight at seeing Prayagraj teeming with pilgrims, with people flocking to the city to take part in the holy dip and seek blessings. His message highlighted the unity and devotion that the Kumbh Mela brings, fostering a sense of collective spirituality and national pride.

PM Modi also wished a peaceful and fulfilling journey to all the pilgrims

and tourists attending the grand religious gathering. The Maha Kumbh Mela is one of the largest spiritual congregations in the world, drawing millions of devotees from across the globe, and this year's event promises to be no different.

The Prime Minister's message reflected the cultural and religious significance of the Kumbh Mela, which is celebrated as a major spiritual event, symbolizing India's unity, faith, and harmony. With the ongoing celebrations, Prayagraj is set to remain a hub for devout pilgrims and tourists seeking to connect with India's rich spiritual heritage.



Violent Capitol Rioters Don't Deserve Pardons: JD Vance On Trump's Decision

US President-elect Donald Trump and his running mate, JD Vance, appear to be at odds over the fate of those involved in the January 6 Capitol riot. While Trump has expressed intentions to use his clemency powers to pardon individuals involved in the attempted insurrection, Vance takes a more cautious approach, drawing a distinction between peaceful protesters and those who committed violent acts.

In an interview on "Fox News Sunday," Vance stated, "If you protested peacefully on January 6th, and you had Merrick Garland's Department of Justice treat you like a gang member, you should be pardoned." He further clarified that individuals who resorted to violence during the riot "obviously" should not receive pardons. Vance acknowledged a "grey area" for some, implying that not all cases are clear-cut.

Vance, set to be sworn in as Vice President on January 20, emphasized that the incoming Trump administration is dedicated to ensuring "the equal administration of law" and rectifying what he perceives as unfair prosecutions follow-



ing the Capitol attack. His comments reflected a broader sentiment among certain conservatives that the justice system's treatment of January 6 participants, particularly those not involved in violence, was unjust.

However, Vance's stance drew criticism from supporters of the Capitol rioters. They accused him of not fully supporting those who were involved in the uprising. In response to the backlash,

Vance took to social media platform X to defend his position, stating, "I've been defending these guys for years."

As the new administration prepares to take office, the debate over how to address the January 6 rioters remains a contentious issue. Trump's approach to granting pardons contrasts with Vance's more measured stance, leaving the fate of the Capitol riot prisoners uncertain as the political landscape shifts.

Imran Khan's Corruption Case Verdict Delayed Again, New Date Set for January 17



The Islamabad anti-corruption court has postponed the announcement of the verdict in the high-profile Al-Qadir Trust corruption case involving former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi for the third time. Originally scheduled for January 6, the verdict will now be delivered on January 17.

Judge Nasir Javed Rana, who had completed hearings in the case by December 18, had initially reserved the judgment

until December 23. However, the announcement was delayed to January 6, only for it to be postponed once again due to the judge's leave. The latest delay has been attributed to the absence of the accused couple from court.

The case, filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) in December 2023, accuses Khan, his wife, and six others of causing a loss of approximately 190 million pounds (about 50 billion Pakistani

rupees) to the national exchequer. The allegations center on funds returned to Pakistan by the UK's National Crime Agency following a settlement with a property tycoon. The money, which was meant for the national treasury, is said to have been misused for personal benefit, including funding the establishment of Al-Qadir University in Jhelum, which is linked to the couple.

Bushra Bibi, as a trustee of the Al-Qadir Trust, is accused of benefiting from the misused funds, with allegations that she acquired 458 kanals of land for the university. The case has drawn significant attention due to its political and financial implications, with both Khan and Bibi at the center of the controversy.

The postponement of the verdict comes at a sensitive time, as negotiations between Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and the government continue in an effort to address the ongoing political instability caused by Khan's imprisonment. Two rounds of talks have taken place, and another is expected this week, though it remains unclear whether the delayed verdict will affect the discussions.

South Korea's Suspended President Yoon Gets Salary Hike Despite Impeachment



Despite his suspension following an attempted martial law declaration, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol will receive a salary increase for 2025. The South Korean government has confirmed a 3 percent hike, raising his annual salary to 262.6 million won (\$179,000) from 254.9 million won (\$170,000) last year. This means Yoon will continue to be paid 21.8 million won per month before taxes, even though he has been off duty since mid-December 2024.

According to South Korea's Ministry of

Personnel Management, the salary increase for the impeached president is in line with the standard government official salary review process. Despite his suspension during the ongoing impeachment trial, Yoon will receive approximately 130 million won over the next six months. This payment is made despite his suspension from presidential duties.

This pay increase also applies to Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, who was suspended after impeachment by the Na-

tional Assembly. Han will receive an annual salary of 235.5 million won following the same 3 percent salary hike.

The payment of full salaries to both Yoon and Han, despite their suspensions, raises questions about South Korea's "no work, no pay" principle. However, the issue remains legally unclear, as there is no regulation specifically addressing the payment of salaries to impeached public officials.

Yoon was impeached on December 14, 2024, after a brief attempt to impose martial law on December 3. While stripped of his powers as head of state, he remains president until the Constitutional Court makes a ruling on his fate. Under South Korea's Constitutional Court Act, a decision must be made within 180 days, though this is not legally binding.

During his suspension, Yoon's constitutional powers have been transferred to acting President Choi Sang-mok, including military command and the power to declare martial law. However, Yoon still retains his presidential title, residence, motorcade, and security. If removed from office, Yoon will lose benefits such as a pension and staff.



Zelensky Offers to Exchange Captured North Korean Soldiers for Ukrainian POWs

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has proposed exchanging captured North Korean soldiers for Ukrainian prisoners of war (POWs) held by Russia. The offer came after confirmation from South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS) that two North Korean soldiers had been captured by Ukraine in the Kursk region of Russia on January 9. The soldiers were reportedly wounded while fighting alongside Russian forces, though their nationality was only confirmed after the Ukrainian announcement.

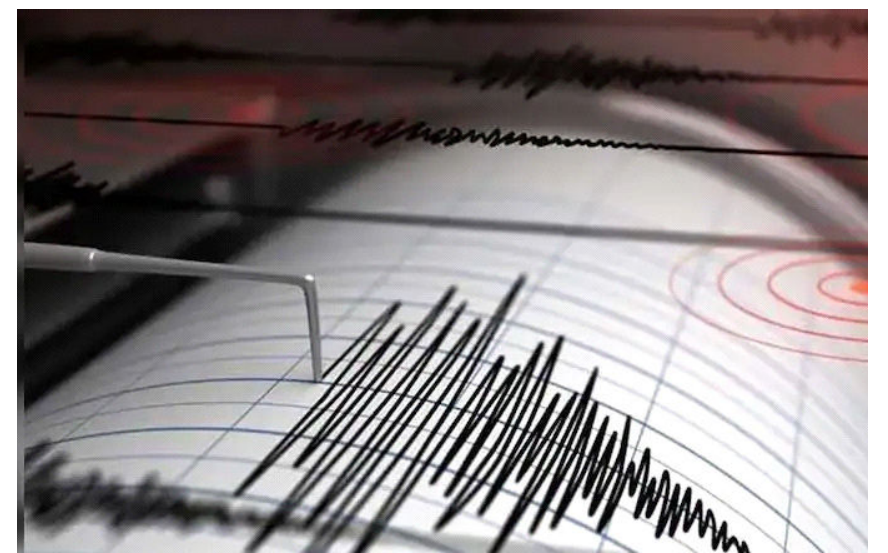
In a post on X, Zelensky stated, "Ukraine is ready to hand over Kim Jong Un's soldiers to him if he can organize their exchange for our warriors who are being held captive in Russia." He also suggested that more North Korean soldiers could be captured in the future and added that those who do not wish to return to North Korea could have "other options," including sharing the truth about the war.

The involvement of North Korean troops in Russia's war against Ukraine has been a point of international concern. Ukraine, the United States, and South Korea have accused North Korea of sending over 10,000 soldiers to support Russian forces. Neither Moscow nor Pyongyang have officially acknowledged the deployment of North Korean soldiers in Ukraine, though relations between Russia and North Korea have grown closer since the Russian invasion in 2022.

Zelensky emphasized that the world should have no doubt about Russia's reliance on North Korean military support. He also released a video showing the interrogation of the two captured soldiers, where one of them stated that he was unaware he would be sent to fight in Ukraine, initially believing he was only attending military training in Russia.

The NIS confirmed the soldiers' training by Russian forces in November and revealed that North Korean troops had sustained significant losses in battle. The agency also mentioned that North Korea is preparing for further deployments due to the high casualties among its forces.

Japan Issues Tsunami Advisory After 6.8 Magnitude Earthquake



A 6.8-magnitude earthquake struck southwestern Japan late on Monday, causing two small tsunamis but no significant damage or injuries. The earthquake hit at a depth of 36 kilometers, about 18 kilometers off the coast of Miyazaki Prefecture in the Kyushu region at approximately 21:19 local time (1219 GMT), according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In response to the quake, the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) issued a tsunami advisory, warning of potential waves of up to one meter (three feet) and urging the public to avoid coastal areas. "Tsunami can strike repeatedly. Please do not enter the sea or go near coastal areas," the JMA cautioned on X (formerly Twitter).

Two small tsunamis, measuring around 20 centimeters, were recorded at two ports in the affected region. However, local media reports and live broadcasts from the public broadcaster NHK showed no visible damage, with calm seas and normal operations at ports and along local roads.

Japan, located along the Pacific "Ring of Fire," is one of the most seismically active countries in the world. It experiences around 1,500 earthquakes annually, most of which are mild but can vary significantly in terms of their impact. The country is particularly vulnerable to large earthquakes and tsunamis due to its position on the Pacific tectonic plate boundary.

This latest earthquake follows a 7.5-magnitude tremor that struck the Noto Peninsula on New Year's Day, causing nearly 470 deaths. Japan remains on high alert for potential aftershocks and continues to refine its disaster preparedness measures, including strict building codes and regular emergency drills.

Investor Confusion Amid Market Downturn and External Pressures

Sensex falls by over 1000 points, Nifty drops 345 points amid global economic uncertainty

The Indian stock market continues its downward trend, with domestic indices facing significant losses on Monday. The BSE Sensex opened at 76,629, down from the previous close of 77,378, and reached an intraday low of 76,249. It recovered slightly but ended the day at 76,330, down 1,048 points. The NSE Nifty also followed suit, opening at 23,193 and falling to a low of 23,047, closing at 23,085 after a 345-point drop. The Nifty Bank experienced a sharp decline, falling 692 points to settle at 48,041.

Market sentiment remains bearish as negative signals from global markets continue to impact investor confidence. The strong U.S. job data has led to expectations that the Federal Reserve may limit interest rate cuts to two in 2025. This has resulted in higher bond yields and a stronger dollar, making emerging markets less attractive. Additionally, foreign institutional investors are withdrawing their investments, while domestic investors remain hesitant to buy into the market.

The market breadth on the NSE showed



MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM
Stock Market Analyst
+91 988 555 9709

a clear shift towards sell-offs, with only 326 stocks gaining out of 2,935 traded. In contrast, 2,525 stocks lost value, and 429 stocks reached 52-week lows. Sectoral indices took a hit across the board, with auto, media, metal, pharma, PSU bank, realty, healthcare, and oil and gas sectors losing between 3% to 6%.

The rupee's weakness added further pressure, closing at 86.59 against the dollar, marking a historical low after a drop of 61 paise. The Fear Index (India Vix) surged 7.25 points, reflecting increased uncertainty in the market. In corporate news, Justdial reported

a 42.7% increase in net profit for Q3, reaching Rs 131 crore, while revenue grew 8.4% to Rs 287 crore. Zomato shares fell for the seventh consecutive day, and Paytm saw a 6% drop, taking its five-day loss to 20%. In the IPO market, the Lakshmi Dental IPO was oversubscribed by 4.14 times on its first day. Adani Wilmar's promoters are selling an additional 1.5% through an offer for sale, while Swiggy shares continued their downward spiral. Amid these developments, Bernstein upgraded DMart with a target price of Rs 5,800, and Goldman Sachs maintained a neutral outlook on the BSE.

China, India refiners scour the world for oil supplies as US sanctions to curb Russian supply

Chinese and Indian refiners are intensifying their search for crude oil supplies globally following fresh U.S. sanctions on Russian oil producers and tankers, which have impacted shipments to Moscow's top customers, traders reported.



On Friday, the U.S. Treasury imposed sanctions on two major Russian oil producers, Gazprom Neft and Surgutneftegas, as well as 183 vessels that have been involved in transporting Russian oil. These sanctions are part of a broader effort by the U.S. to cut off revenues that Russia uses to finance its ongoing war with Ukraine.

The majority of these sanctioned tankers had been used to transport oil to India and China. As Western sanctions and a price cap on Russian oil, imposed by the Group of Seven (G7) countries in 2022, diverted the flow of Russian oil from Europe to Asia, these two countries have become significant buyers of Russian crude. Some of these tankers have also carried oil from Iran, which is similarly subject to international sanctions.

In response to the latest U.S. actions, China reiterated its oppo-

sition to unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States. Beijing continues to reject foreign interference in its energy trade, maintaining its stance that sanctions are unlawful and undermine the international order.

The latest sanctions on Russian oil are expected to further complicate the energy market, pushing Chinese and Indian refiners to seek alternative crude supplies, including from other sanctioned nations or smaller oil producers. These developments underscore the growing geopolitical tensions surrounding global energy trade and the impact of sanctions on major oil-producing countries.

As the situation evolves, both China and India will likely continue to look for ways to navigate these challenges while securing the energy supplies needed to fuel their large economies.

Indian Pharma Market Faces Decline in Volume Growth Amid Strong Pricing and New Launches



The Indian pharmaceutical market (IPM) has experienced a setback in volume growth during Q3FY25, returning to negative growth after two quarters of modest positive results, according to a Goldman Sachs report. Despite this decline, the market has been buoyed by strong pricing growth (+5.3% YoY) and the introduction of new products from recent patent expiries (+2.6% YoY), which have continued to support overall market performance.

Management from leading pharmaceutical companies indicates that volume growth may be better than what secondary market data reflects, although still below historical levels. Goldman Sachs projects that IPM volume growth will stabilize at low single digits in the upcoming quarters. However, pricing benefits are expected to moderate in 2024, with the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) forecasted to be under 2%.

In the U.S. generics market, the report notes that price erosion has slowed since March 2023. Nonetheless, Goldman Sachs warns that this trend is temporary and not structural. The firm anticipates that price erosion will normalize and stabilize at mid-to-high single digits in the medium term.

On the margin front, Indian pharmaceutical companies are expected to maintain strong gross margins, supported by favorable pricing in the U.S., lower input costs, and currency depreciation. The report notes that these factors will continue to contribute to strong gross margins for India Pharma in the near future.

However, the report cautions about potential input cost increases, especially concerning freight and transportation in the Middle East. Rising R&D expenses and higher API prices could offset some gains, though margins for FY25 are projected to remain healthy.

Capital allocation has become a key focus for companies with substantial cash reserves. The report highlights a shift in strategy, as high valuations in India are prompting companies to explore options such as share buybacks, international acquisitions, and investments in capacity building within the CRDMO space.

India's Retail Inflation Eases to 5.22% in December Amid Falling Food Prices

India's retail inflation slowed to a four-month low of 5.22% in December, down from 5.48% in November, driven primarily by a moderation in food prices. A Reuters poll had predicted a slightly higher inflation rate of 5.3% for December, making the actual figure a positive surprise.

The easing of inflation comes as food prices, which are a major contributor to India's overall price rise, showed signs of cooling. However, despite the recent decline, inflation remains above the central bank's targeted 4% medium-term goal. A separate Reuters poll forecasts that inflation will not return to this 4% target until at least the second half of 2026.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been actively managing inflation through monetary policy measures, including interest rate hikes, aimed at curbing excessive price rises. While inflation has shown some moderation, it remains a concern for policymakers, especially with core inflation—excluding food and fuel—remaining relatively high.

India's inflation has been fluctuating in recent months, with the food price component continuing to play a pivotal role. The government and the RBI are expected to monitor these trends closely, as they influence the broader economic outlook, particularly regarding consumer spending and economic growth.

In the near term, inflationary pressures are expected to



persist, although at a more moderate pace. Factors such as global commodity prices, domestic supply chain dynamics, and demand patterns will play critical roles in determining the inflation trajectory over the next few quarters.

Despite the current moderation, inflation remains a key challenge for India's economy, and experts believe that achieving the RBI's 4% target may take longer than anticipated due to a range of structural factors affecting price stability.

HCLTech Reports 5.54% Profit Growth in Q3FY25, Announces Rs 18 Dividend

HCLTech has announced a 5.54% increase in its consolidated net profit for the third quarter of the financial year 2024-25, reaching Rs 4,591 crore. This growth is compared to Rs 4,350 crore reported in the same quarter last year. The company's revenue for the January-March 2025 period stood at Rs 29,890 crore, marking a 5.07% rise from Rs 28,446 crore in the previous year.



On a sequential basis, HCLTech saw an 8.4% increase in profit and a 3.56% growth in revenue, showcasing the company's resilience and consistent performance. The growth trajectory reflects the company's ability to adapt to market dynamics and effectively manage its operations.

In addition to the financial perfor-

mance, HCLTech's Board of Directors has declared a 4th interim dividend of Rs 18 per share, which includes a special dividend of Rs 6 per share to commemorate the company's 25th anniversary of being listed publicly. The interim dividend will be paid on the company's equity shares of Rs 2 each.

The company's performance in Q3FY25 highlights its steady growth in the IT services sector and its commitment to delivering value to its shareholders. As HCLTech celebrates a significant milestone in its public listing journey, the strong financial results and the special dividend serve as a testament to its long-term success and robust financial health.

HCLTech continues to focus on innovation, operational efficiency, and strategic growth initiatives to further strengthen its position in the global IT landscape. The company remains optimistic about maintaining its growth momentum in the upcoming quarters, driven by both organic growth and strategic business partnerships.

Flying Kites on Makar Sankranti is More Than Just Fun: Its Health and Spiritual Benefits

Makar Sankranti, an important harvest festival dedicated to the sun god, signifies the arrival of spring and marks a major shift in astronomical and agricultural cycles. The festival, celebrated across India, is a time for joy, gratitude, and community bonding. This year, Makar Sankranti will be celebrated on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, with the festivities ranging from flying kites to indulging in traditional sweets, and even taking holy dips in rivers.



tude towards the divine.

According to Drik Panchang, the auspicious period for Makar Sankranti. The best time for bathing and performing charitable deeds is from 9:03 AM to 10:48 AM. These timings are believed to bring prosperity and well-being to those who participate in the rituals.

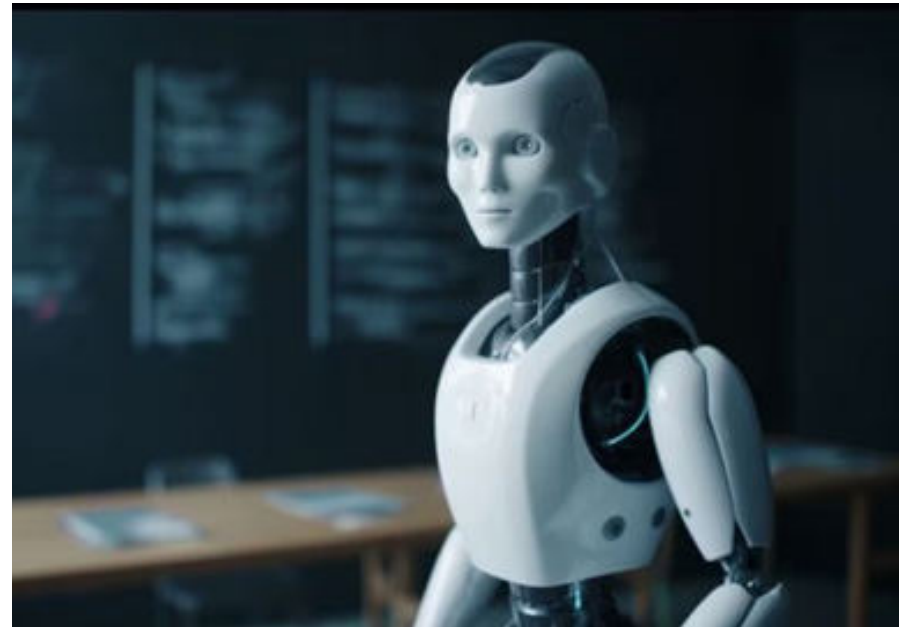
One of the most iconic customs of Makar Sankranti is kite flying. The vibrant kites that fill the skies symbolize the welcoming of the sun's rays, which are believed to be healing and beneficial for health, particularly for curing winter ailments and skin disorders. The tradition of flying kites dates back to ancient times, with the sun's rays thought to promote wellness by offering a natural source of Vitamin D. Additionally, the act of flying kites is seen as an expression of grati-

Makar Sankranti is celebrated in various ways across different parts of India. In Gujarat and Rajasthan, kite flying takes center stage, with large-scale events like the International Kite Festival held in Gujarat. Other regions have their unique celebrations, such as Pongal in Tamil Nadu, Magh Bihu in Assam, Makara Chaula in Odisha, and Makaravilakku in Kerala. Each state infuses its own cultural flair, from feasting on traditional sweets like tilgul to taking holy dips in rivers.

Makar Sankranti is not only a time to celebrate the harvest but also a day for people to come together in the spirit of joy and gratitude for the blessings of the sun and nature.

US psychologists raise concerns over AI therapy chatbots

The American Psychological Association (APA) has raised concerns about AI companies, specifically Character AI, rolling out chatbots that mimic the role of psychologists or mental health professionals. In a formal letter addressed to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the APA urged the commission to investigate the deceptive practices surrounding these AI platforms.



The letter cites a lawsuit that revealed troubling allegations: teenagers had engaged in conversations with an AI chatbot on Character AI, which claimed to be a psychologist. This raises significant ethical concerns regarding the potential harm these AI systems could cause to vulnerable users, particularly those seeking mental health support.

The APA's letter emphasized the risks associated with AI chatbots masquerading as qualified mental health professionals. The organization expressed alarm over the possibility that users, especially teenagers, might rely on these systems for psychological advice or therapy, which could lead to harmful consequences in the absence of proper clinical oversight.

Character AI, a chatbot platform, has become increasingly popular for offering users per-

sonalized interactions. However, this innovation has also sparked growing concerns about the authenticity and safety of the advice provided by AI bots, especially when it comes to sensitive topics like mental health.

The APA's call for an investigation underscores the importance of safeguarding public trust in mental health services, especially as AI continues to play a larger role in various industries. It is crucial that users have access to accurate, reliable, and professional care, particularly when it comes to emotional and psychological well-being.

With this move, the APA is hoping to draw attention to the emerging risks in the AI space and ensure that appropriate regulations are in place to protect individuals from deceptive practices in mental health support.

Mysterious Shortage Of Doughnuts Reported Across Dunkin' Stores In US, Internet Reacts



Customers visiting Dunkin' locations across Nebraska and New Mexico have been greeted with an unexpected shortage of doughnuts, a signature offering from the chain. Despite the company's name change from Dunkin' Donuts to Dunkin' in 2018, the doughnut remains a staple product, and its sudden unavailability has left many puzzled.

According to reports, Dunkin' stores in Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island displayed signs informing customers that the beloved doughnuts were unavailable "due to a manufacturing error." When asked about the specifics of the "manufacturing error," a manager at a west Omaha Dunkin' location refrained from providing further details, citing directives from the company's headquarters. However, she did confirm that the shortage was not limited to Nebraska and New Mexico, with other states also reporting empty doughnut displays.

This isn't the first time Dunkin' has encountered supply issues related to its doughnuts. A similar shortage occurred in 2021, but this current issue appears to be more widespread. Dunkin' is yet to issue an official statement explaining the full extent of the situation.

Social media users quickly took notice of the bizarre shortage, sharing their disbelief over Dunkin' not making doughnuts at its stores. Some even speculated on the cause of the shortage, with one user suggesting that there could have been a large batch of doughnuts shipped to affected stores that had to be pulled for safety reasons.

As one of the largest coffee and doughnut chains globally, Dunkin' has over 13,200 locations. Founded in 1950 in Massachusetts, Dunkin' has become an iconic brand in the United States. In 2020, it was acquired for \$11.3 billion by Inspire Brands, a private equity firm that also owns Arby's and Buffalo Wild Wings. The doughnut shortage is likely to raise questions about the company's supply chain management and the impact it may have on its reputation.

Britannia's Eco-Friendly Billboard Campaign: A Stunning Tribute to Nature

Britannia Industries, a leading name in the food products sector, has garnered widespread attention for its innovative outdoor advertising campaign, "Nature Shapes Britannia." This eco-conscious initiative deviates from traditional billboard designs, showcasing an inventive approach that blends marketing with environmental preservation.

The campaign features billboards crafted to complement the natural shapes of trees in four cities: Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, and Pune. Instead of altering the landscape, Britannia's billboards harmonize with the local flora, highlighting the company's commitment to sustainability. The designs were meticulously tailored to mirror the growth patterns of specific tree species such as Nag Kesar, Neem, Mango, and Peepal, offering a visually striking and environmentally responsible advertisement.

Britannia's creative outdoor strategy has earned widespread acclaim on social media, with users sharing images of the billboards and expressing their admiration for the brand's responsible approach to marketing. One user on X (formerly Twitter) shared their amazement, saying, "THIS BLEW MY MIND! I was confused when I came across this weird billboard. It took me a moment to realise it was designed according to the tree's shape. Love this initiative by Britannia."



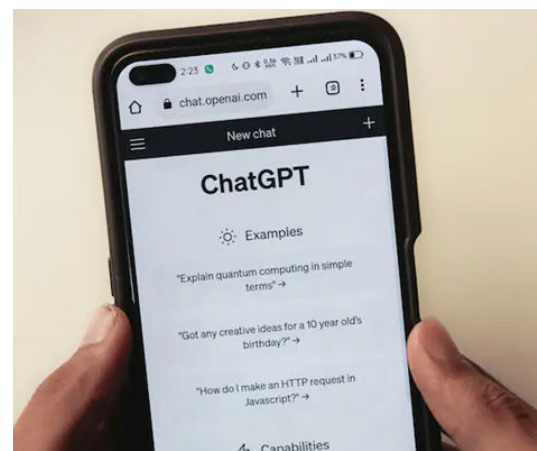
Another user praised the effort to maintain environmental balance, writing, "It's very thoughtful to shape their billboards according to the tree without cutting them."

By choosing to design billboards that respect and align with nature, Britannia has managed to create a memorable and meaningful marketing campaign. This innovative effort not only promotes the company's products but also reinforces its commitment to sustainability. The "Nature Shapes Britannia" initiative serves as a powerful reminder that businesses can engage in creative advertising while preserving and honoring the environment.

UK Supports ChatGPT for Homework, Sees AI as a Tool to Boost Learning

UK Science and Technology Secretary, Peter Kyle, has voiced his support for allowing children to use ChatGPT for homework, calling the AI technology a valuable tool that could enhance learning. In a recent interview on BBC, Kyle was asked if it was acceptable for students to use ChatGPT to assist with their studies. He responded affirmatively, with the condition that it should be used under supervision and in the right way.

Kyle explained that ChatGPT, along with other AI-driven language technologies, is already a significant part of various industries. He likened it to past debates about calculators, emphasizing the need for children and young people to learn how to integrate such technology into their educational development. He believes that, when used properly, AI could have a positive impact on students' learning experiences.



The rapid rise of AI chatbots like ChatGPT has sparked debates about the future of education, with some concerned that students may rely too heavily on these tools for completing homework and passing exams. However, Kyle argued that for talented students, AI could act as a catalyst for further intellectual growth. He said,

"There are kids with real outlier talents. Using ChatGPT and other AI assistance could really turbo-charge [them] and give them a challenge they're not getting in other places."

The UK government, under Prime Minister Keir Starmer, is preparing to unveil its AI Action Plan, which aims to embrace AI technology for economic growth. Starmer's administration believes AI could contribute £47 billion to the economy annually, with private sector investments set to add £14 billion and create thousands of jobs.

In contrast to previous government approaches, Kyle suggested that the Labour administration would take a more balanced approach to AI safety, ensuring its benefits are fully realized without overwhelming the public with concerns.

India's Champions Trophy Squad: Sunil Gavaskar, Irfan Pathan Announce Their Team

As the cricket world eagerly anticipates the official announcement of India's squad for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, former cricketers Sunil Gavaskar and Irfan Pathan have made their preferences known, including several surprising omissions and inclusions. While the BCCI's official squad announcement is expected on January 19, Gavaskar and Pathan have already made their bold calls.

Gavaskar has been vocal about backing players who have shown consistent form in recent times. He firmly believes that Shreyas Iyer and KL Rahul must be part of the squad, especially after their impactful performances in the 50-over format. "Iyer had a great World Cup, and KL Rahul had an outstanding tournament. They deserve backing," Gavaskar said during a Star Sports discussion. He also mentioned that Sanju Samson, having scored several centuries for India, cannot be overlooked, while Rishabh Pant is a certainty in the squad. According to Gavaskar, Iyer should be slotted at No. 4, Rahul at No. 5, and Pant at No. 6 in the middle order.



On the bowling side, Irfan Pathan highlighted Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav as his preferred spin pair, with Mohammed Siraj being the third-choice pacer. Pathan stressed the importance of having a fast-bowling all-rounder as a backup option, and he expressed hope for Jasprit Bumrah's recovery from injury. Mohammed Shami and Bumrah, according to Irfan, would be the first-choice pacers.

The squads picked by Gavaskar and Pathan are as follows:
Rohit Sharma

Yashasvi Jaiswal
Virat Kohli
KL Rahul
Shreyas Iyer
Rishabh Pant
Hardik Pandya
Ravindra Jadeja
Kuldeep Yadav
Mohammed Shami
Jasprit Bumrah
Shubman Gill
Sanju Samson
Mohammed Siraj
Nitish Kumar Reddy
Interestingly, high-profile players like Suryakumar Yadav, Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, and Yuzvendra Chahal were left out of both squads, adding further intrigue to the upcoming official selection.

Coco Gauff starts Australian Open with straight-sets win over Sofia Kenin

Coco Gauff had a strong start to her 2025 Australian Open campaign, securing a 6-3, 6-3 victory over 2020 champion Sofia Kenin in the first round. Despite a shaky start and difficulty adjusting to the sun on one end of Rod Laver Arena, Gauff quickly found her rhythm and closed out the match in 1 hour and 20 minutes.

The third-seeded Gauff, who won the WTA Finals in November and helped the US clinch the United Cup earlier this season, is eyeing the top spot in the rankings. Wearing a Marvel-inspired outfit, she exuded confidence as she handled the challenge from Kenin, who, despite her No. 81 ranking, proved to be a formidable opponent.

"I knew going in it was going to be difficult, but I'm happy with how I played," Gauff said after the win. "I could serve better, but I managed to adjust to the sun and played through it." Gauff faced some early struggles, notably dropping her service game, but she managed to convert an early break and regained control to win four of the next five games.

Throughout the match, Gauff showcased her powerful game, recording 12 aces and 28 winners, including some impressive backhands during key moments in the second set. She also saved



seven out of eight breakpoints faced. Despite Kenin's efforts, Gauff's strength and determination proved too much for the American to handle.

The victory extends Gauff's streak of 33 straight wins against players ranked outside the Top 50 and sets up a second-round clash with Britain's Jodie Burrage.

The Australian Open's second day also saw other top players in action, including defending champion Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz, and women's No. 2 Iga Swiatek.

India gears up for Kho Kho World Cup 2025 in New Delhi

India has announced its 15-member squads for both the men's and women's teams ahead of the Kho Kho World Cup 2025, set to begin at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi on January 15. The tournament, backed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), will feature 20 men's teams and 19 women's teams from across the globe.

The Indian men's team, placed in Group A, will compete alongside Nepal, Peru, Brazil, and Bhutan, while the women's team is also in Group A, facing the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, and the Republic of Korea. The top two teams from each group will advance to the quarter-finals.

The Indian men's team, led by Pratik Waikar, will start their campaign against Nepal on January 15, following the opening ceremony. Waikar, who made his international debut in 2016, is also the captain of the Telugu Yoddhas in the Ultimate Kho Kho League, guiding the team to the finals in



2022 and the semi-finals in 2023. The team will be coached by Ashwani Kumar Sharma, a veteran with over 50 years of experience. On the women's side, the team will be captained by Priyanka Ingle, an all-rounder, under the guidance of head coach Sumit Bhatia. The women's team will face South Korea on January 16.

Both teams were selected after an extensive training camp held in December at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Delhi. The tournament will kick off with the group stages, followed by knockout rounds, with the finals scheduled for January 19.

Kho Kho, alongside other indigenous Indian sports like kabaddi and mallakhamb, has a rich history, having been first demonstrated at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. The Kho Kho World Cup 2025 marks an important milestone in promoting and celebrating this traditional Indian sport on the global stage.

Maryul Spamo Retain Ice Hockey League Women's Title with Dramatic Comeback

Maryul Spamo successfully defended their title in the women's category of the Ice Hockey League Season 2, completing a thrilling 3-2 comeback victory over Changla Lamos. Captain Padma Chorol played a pivotal role in her team's triumph, scoring a hat-trick that overturned a 0-2 deficit to help Spamo lift the winner's trophy. Changla Lamos, though valiant in defeat, were awarded the runner-up trophy for their efforts.



nor penalty against Sonam Angmo, benched for foul play, gave Spamo a glimmer of hope.

In the second period, Maryul Spamo mounted a fierce comeback. Padma Chorol, leading by example, reduced the deficit with a stunning goal in the 27th minute, making it 2-1. The energy on the rink surged, with both teams playing aggressively. By the 35th minute, Chorol scored again, completing her double and leveling the score at 2-2, setting the stage for a thrilling final period.

The third period saw Maryul Spamo continue their momentum. Chorol completed her hat-trick in the 48th minute, securing a 3-2 lead and ultimately the victory for her team. As the Ice Hockey League Season 2 nears its grand finale, all eyes are now on the men's championship, where defending champions Kang Sings will face last year's runners-up, Changthang Shans. The event is organized in partnership with the UT Administration of Ladakh and the Ice Hockey Association of Ladakh.

The final, held at the Nawang Dorjay Stobdan (NDS) Stadium in Leh, was a highly anticipated clash, with spectators showing immense support for both teams. The match began with Changla Lamos seizing an early advantage. In the 4th minute, Lamos' captain Tsewang Chuskit fired a brilliant wrist shot to give her team a 1-0 lead. Despite multiple chances, Maryul Spamo couldn't convert their attempts into goals in the opening period. In the 11th minute, Disket C Angmo set up Chuskit for a second goal, doubling the lead for Lamos at 2-0. However, a mi-

Djokovic Advances, Kyrgios Out in Australian Open; Alcaraz, Sinner Shine

Novak Djokovic survived an early scare to advance to the second round of the Australian Open, joining top players Carlos Alcaraz and defending champion Jannik Sinner. Meanwhile, home favorite Nick Kyrgios faced disappointment as he exited in the first round.

Djokovic, aiming for his 11th Australian Open title and 25th Grand Slam singles win, was initially stunned by 107th-ranked American Nishesh Basavareddy, losing the first set 4-6. However, the Serbian legend quickly found his rhythm, winning the next three sets 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 to secure a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory. Despite the win, Djokovic struggled to hide his frustration and was visibly animated at the end of the match.

Jannik Sinner, the world number one, faced some controversy following a doping case, but was cleared by tennis authorities. He showed no signs of trouble on court, defeating Chile's Nicolas Jarry 7-6 (7/2), 7-6 (7/5), 6-1 in a solid performance, which extended his undefeated streak since October.

Carlos Alcaraz, a four-time Grand Slam champion but still seeking his first Australian Open title, had a slightly tougher challenge. He overcame Kazakhstan's Alexander Shevchenko 6-1, 7-5, 6-1. The 21-year-old Spaniard is determined to win in Melbourne, saying, "This is a tourna-



ment I really want to win one day, hopefully this year."

In a major upset, Nick Kyrgios, making his return after 18 months out with injury, lost in straight sets 7-6 (7/3), 6-3, 7-6 (7/2) to Britain's Jacob Fearnley. Kyrgios visibly struggled with pain during the match, speaking to physios and expressing frustration.

Meanwhile, in the women's draw, Coco Gauff dispatched Sofia Kenin 6-3, 6-3 in a dominant performance, and world number two Iga Swiatek overcame Katerina Siniakova 6-3, 6-4.



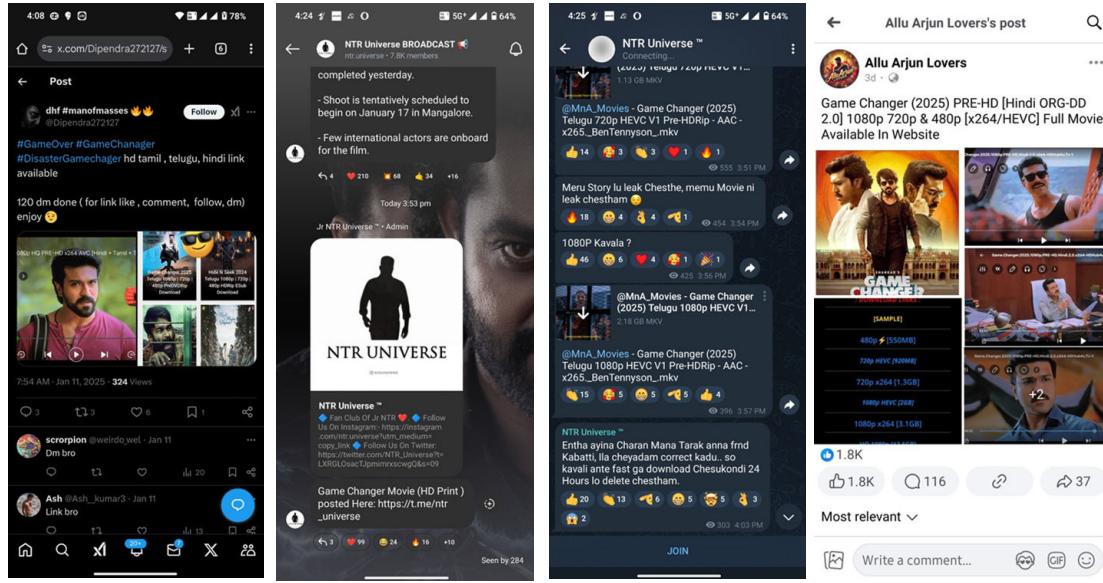
'Game Changer' HD print leaked... Team complains to police alleging conspiracy

Film's makers file a complaint with Cyber Crime Police after pirated print leaks online.

- 'Game Changer' HD print leaked on release day.
- Film team files complaint against 45 people for leaking print and spreading misinformation.

The much-awaited film Game Changer, starring Ram Charan and directed by Shankar, has found itself at the center of a controversy with the leak of a pirated HD print online on its release day. The makers of the film, including producers Dil Raju and Sirish, are alleging that a gang of 45 individuals is behind the leak, causing significant damage to the movie's release during Sankranti.

Before the film's release, key members of the team, including the producers, were reportedly threatened by an online gang through social media and WhatsApp. These individuals allegedly demanded money under threat of leaking a pirated version of the film. Additionally, they shared key plot twists and spoilers on social media platforms, diminishing the audience's experience before the film's official release. After the film was released, the pirated HD print was not only leaked



but also circulated widely on Telegram and various social media channels.

In response, the Game Changer team has filed a complaint with the Cyber Crime Police, providing evidence against the 45 people believed to be responsible for the piracy and online conspiracy. The police have already registered a case and launched an investigation. The makers have also raised concerns about the spreading of misinformation and spoilers on various social media platforms, urging action against the guilty accounts.

Rajinikanth's Jailer Sequel Announcement: Muthuvel Pandian's Hunt Begins

Superstar Rajinikanth, in collaboration with director Nelson, delivered one of his most impactful performances in their first film together, Jailer. Rajinikanth's portrayal of the retired prison guard Muthuvel Pandian helped the film become the second-highest-grossing movie of his career. After a series of disappointments in recent years, Jailer marked a comeback for the star, reigniting his popularity among fans and critics alike.



In a further effort to keep fans engaged, the Jailer team is preparing to release two special promos today. The first promo runs for 4 minutes and 30 seconds, while the second is 2 minutes and 23 seconds long. These teasers are expected to build anticipation for the sequel and give fans a glimpse into the direction of the new project.

Rajinikanth's previous films like Vettaiyaan and Coolie didn't live up to the hype, but the announcement of Jailer 2 is expected to rejuvenate his market and reignite hope for future successes. Additionally, Anirudh's musical contributions were a standout feature of Jailer, and fans are eagerly awaiting his next sonic creations for the sequel, which are expected to elevate the film even further.

The highly anticipated announcement of Jailer 2 is set to be made tomorrow, sending excitement through the fanbase. The success of the first film, where Rajinikanth's signature style shone through, had fans clamoring for more. Jailer also saw special appearances by Shivaraj Kumar and Mohanlal, which added another layer of appeal and further boosted the film's popularity. Director Nelson's ability to utilize Rajinikanth's iconic persona was one of the key elements that contributed to the film's massive success.

With the announcement of Jailer 2, Rajinikanth's legacy continues to dominate the Indian film industry, and the expectations for his next venture are higher than ever.



Nagabandham First Look: Virat Karanna Faces Fierce Battle in Adventure Thriller

Nagabandham, the highly anticipated adventure thriller, is gearing up for a grand release in 2025. Directed by Abhishek Nama, the film stars Virat Karanna, known for his role in Peddha Kapu, in the lead role. Produced under the banner of Abhishek Pictures in association with NIK Studios, the film promises an epic cinematic experience with high-stakes action and gripping storytelling.

After teasing fans with a pre-look poster, the film's first-look poster was unveiled by actor Rana Daggubati. The striking image introduces Virat Karanna in a powerful new avatar that perfectly captures the essence of the film's epic battle. Standing boldly in the open sea, Karanna is shown gripping the jaws of a monstrous crocodile with nothing but his bare hands and a thin thread. This fearless display of raw strength hints at the intense showdown to come, setting the tone for the film's action-packed sequences.

Virat Karanna's physical transformation for the role is evident, with his chiselled 6-pack abs showcased in the poster. The first look teases an underwater action sequence, promising a thrilling experience that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

The film's tagline, The Secret Treasure, gives a glimpse into the plot, revolving around the mythical Nagabandham and a hidden treasure scattered across 108 Vishnu temples across India. The film will also feature two talented actresses, Nabha Natesh and Iswarya Menon, playing the female leads. Cinematography is handled by Soundar Rajan S, and music is composed by Abhe, ensuring a visually stunning and musically rich experience.

Currently, the film is in the midst of production, with plans for a 2025 release. With its larger-than-life action, mythological intrigue, and star-studded cast, Nagabandham is set to be a major player in the Pan-India film industry.

Dhanush's 'Idly Kadai' Pongal Posters Create Buzz

Kollywood superstar Dhanush is keeping fans on their toes with a string of upcoming films. One highly anticipated project is Idly Kadai, a movie that Dhanush is not only starring in but also directing. The film, which is being helmed by debutant Akash, is also referred to as DD4. The recently released posters have been making waves on social media, with fans eagerly discussing the intriguing visuals.



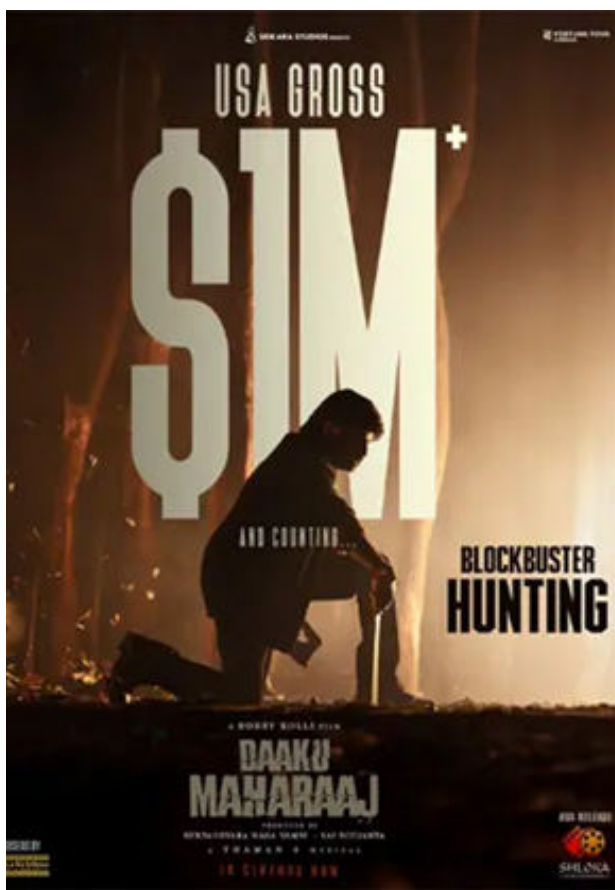
Dhanush and Nithya Menon has already garnered attention, especially after their successful outing in Thiru, and fans are eager to see their chemistry on screen again. The movie also features an impressive cast, including Arun Vijay, Sathyaraj, Ashok Selvan, and Rajkiran, each of whom plays pivotal roles. Music for the film is being composed by GV Prakash Kumar, whose work has always added a special touch to Dhanush's films.

As a special Pongal gift, Dhanush and the team unveiled fresh posters, adding to the excitement surrounding the film. In one striking poster, Dhanush is seen sharing a passionate kiss with actress Nithya Menon in the rain, while in another, he sits beneath a banyan tree in a white shirt and lungi, holding a calf, radiating rustic charm. These images provide a glimpse of the film's vibe, generating a mix of curiosity and anticipation about what the story holds.

The collaboration between Dha-

Apart from Idly Kadai, Dhanush is also busy with other projects. He is currently shooting for Kubera, a film directed by Shekhar Kammula. In addition, Dhanush is involved in Tere Ishk Mein, a Hindi film directed by Anand L. Rai, following his successful collaborations in Ram Jana and At-rangi Re.

With such an exciting lineup of films, Dhanush continues to be one of the most sought-after stars in Indian cinema, and Idly Kadai is sure to be a much-talked-about release.



Nandamuri Balakrishna's latest film, Daaku Maharaaj, has made an impressive debut at the box office, opening to widespread positive reviews and a remarkable collection. Directed by KS Ravindra, the film has introduced a refreshing approach to the commercial entertainer genre, captivating audiences both in India and internationally.

On its release day, Daaku Maharaaj grossed over \$1 million in the USA, a significant achievement for the star. This marks a major milestone for Balakrishna, as it is his first film to cross the \$1 million mark on a single day in the

US. The film's success at the box office is also attributed to the well-executed pre-release promotions, which included a special event in the USA featuring Balakrishna himself. These efforts contributed to the large turnout at screenings and further fueled the buzz surrounding the movie.

In addition to the strong box office performance, Daaku Maharaaj has received unanimous positive feedback for its engaging storyline, vibrant performances, and energetic direction. The film has resonated well with audiences, keeping them engaged from start to finish.

Daaku Maharaaj Surpasses \$1 Million on Release Day, Setting New Box Office Milestone

Joining Balakrishna in key roles are Pragya Jaiswal, Shraddha Srinath, and Urvashi Rautela, all of whom have received praise for their performances. The film's success on day one further solidifies its potential to become a significant hit as it continues its theatrical run.

Daaku Maharaaj has set the bar high for future commercial entertainers, and with its strong opening day numbers, the film is expected to continue its box office dominance in the coming days.