

Listen... if Veera Mallu speaks,  
you must listen..



First single from Hari Hara Veera Mallu, "Maata Vinali" is out now! Pawan Kalyan's voice in five languages, with music composed by M.M. Keeravani.

- Full report Screen



## నందివెలుగు కో-ఆపరేటివ్ క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీ లిమిటెడ్

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

# 2025 డైరీ మరియు క్యాలెండర్ ఆవిష్కరణ మహోత్సవ

## ఆహ్వానము

### స్వాగతం - సుస్వాగతం

ది. 18-01-2025 శనివారం, ఉదయం గం. 10:30 ని.లకు

వేదిక : బొద్దు వెంకటసుబ్బయ్య కళ్యాణ మండపం, దుర్గాదేవి బజార్  
నందివెలుగు గ్రామము, తెనాలి మండలం, గుంటూరు జిల్లా.



ముఖ్య అతిథి

డా. పెమ్మసాని చంద్రశేఖర్ గారు

కేంద్ర గ్రామీణాభివృద్ధి, కమ్యూనికేషన్ శాఖ సహాయ మంత్రివర్గులు



విశిష్ట అతిథి

శ్రీ నాదెండ్ల మనోహర్ గారు

పౌర సరఫరాల శాఖామాత్యులు, ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్

మా ఖాతాదారులకు, మిత్రులకు, శ్రేయోభిలాషులకు  
నూతన సంవత్సర శుభాకాంక్షలు

మా బ్రాంచీలు

నందివెలుగు, గుంటూరు-1, గుంటూరు-2, విజయవాడ, మంగళగిరి



ఆహ్వానించువారు  
తోట లక్ష్మీ కోటేశ్వరరావు, M.Sc.,

చైర్మన్ మరియు పాలక వర్గ సభ్యులు





Red Sandal Farm Land

**GOLDEN  
PROPERTIES**

చందన వనం



భూమి మీదే...  
సపాదన మీదే...  
సాగు మాత్రం మాది

వినుకొండ

### వెంచర్ ప్రత్యేకతలు

- \* మొక్క ద్వారా వచ్చే ఆదాయంతో 60% కస్టమర్ కు, 40% కంపెనీకి వచ్చేవిధంగా లీజ్ అగ్రిమెంట్
- \* 12 సం.రాలు కంపెనీ మెయింటెనెన్స్
- \* వెంచర్ చుట్టూ డైమండ్ ఫెన్సింగ్
- \* 25 సెంట్లు కి 100 మొక్కలు
- \* డ్రిప్ ఇరిగేషన్
- \* ప్లాట్లపై నేమ్ ప్లేట్లు
- \* సి.సి. కెమెరాలు
- \* ప్లాట్ కి 30-20 అడుగుల రోడ్లు
- \* 100% వాస్తు, క్లియర్ టైటిల్
- \* 1బి అడంగల్ మరియు పట్టాదారు పాస్ బుక్
- \* నాలుగువైపులా సరిహద్దు రాళ్ళు
- \* 25 సెంట్లలో కోటి రూపాయలు పైగా ఆదాయం

**EMI  
సౌకర్యం  
కలదు**



మీరు పెట్టే  
అతి చిన్న పెట్టుబడి మిమ్ములను  
కోటిశ్వరులను చేస్తుంది



మీ చిన్నారుల భవిష్యత్తుకు బంగారు బాట మన చందన వనం తోట



**GOLDEN  
PROPERTIES**

తోట లక్ష్మీ కోటిశ్వరరావు, M.Sc. వైర్లెస్  
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First single from Hari Hara Veera Mallu, "Maata Vinali" is out now! Pawan Kalyan's voice in five languages, with music composed by M.M. Keeravani.

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## Vizag Steel Plant holds a special place in the hearts of the people

TPN Correspondent  
New Delhi, Jan 18

In a significant move, the central government has announced an ₹11,440 crore financial package for the revival of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. The decision was made during the Union Cabinet meeting on Friday, with Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw confirming the approval of the package aimed at revitalizing the steel plant.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarked, "The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant holds a special place in the hearts of the people of Andhra Pradesh. The Cabinet has decided to provide equity support of over ₹10,000 crore, recognizing the importance of the steel sector in building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat." The decision is hailed as a victory for Andhra Pradesh's political leadership, including Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, who



have long advocated for the revival of the plant. Both leaders have raised concerns over the potential privatization of the plant, continuously urging the Centre to intervene and safeguard its future. Their persistent efforts appear to have yielded positive results, as the Centre now steps in with the crucial financial support. The announcement brings

much-needed relief to the people of Visakhapatnam and the employees of the steel plant, who had been uncertain about the plant's future following privatization speculations. While full details of the package are expected to be revealed today, the Centre's decision is seen as a positive sign for the future of the steel industry in Andhra Pradesh.

## AP Cabinet Sets Bold Agenda for Development and Collaboration with Centre

TPN Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18



The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, has taken a series of significant decisions in its latest meeting, which focused on crucial state projects, government schemes, and land distribution initiatives. The discussions centered on several high-priority issues, including the implementation of welfare schemes, progress on the Polavaram project, and support for the Vizag Steel Plant. One of the key decisions was to expedite the implementation of government schemes aimed at benefiting the state's poor. The Cabinet decided to move forward with the Talliki Vandanam scheme, which will be launched by the next academic year. Additionally, it was agreed that as soon as funds for the central government's PM Kisan scheme are released, the state government will roll out the Annadata Sukhibhav program to support farmers.

- **Talliki Vandanam scheme to be implemented by next academic year.**
- **Land distribution of three cents in rural and two cents in urban areas for the poor.**
- **Immediate start of Polavaram diaphragm wall and Amaravati projects.**
- **Discussions on releasing 12 lakh acres of freehold land.**
- **Cabinet thanks Centre for funding Vizag Steel Plant and emphasizes its future.**

On the infrastructure front, the Cabinet approved the immediate commencement of work on the Polavaram diaphragm wall and the Radhajanani Amaravati project. Chief Minister Naidu also directed officials to begin arrangements for distributing land to the poor, with three cents allocated in rural areas and two cents in urban areas. The Cabinet had an extensive discussion on freehold lands, focusing on the release of 12 lakh acres. It was decided that district-wise meetings will be held with in-charge ministers to review progress and submit reports to the next Cabinet meeting. Furthermore, a meeting of the collectors will be organized before the upcoming budget discussions to streamline decisions related to land acquisition. The Cabinet also deliberated on providing house sites to those in need. TIDCO will be tasked with offering housing solutions in cities where space for house sites is limited. In another important decision, the Cabinet expressed gratitude to the central government for funding critical projects, including Amaravati, Polavaram, and the Vizag Steel Plant. The members emphasized that steps must be taken to ensure the continued operation of the steel plant even after the funds are provided. Minister Nadendla Manohar briefed the Cabinet that out of the 15 lakh 35 thousand acres of freehold land, 25 thousand acres have already been registered. Chief Minister Naidu acknowledged the support from the central government and reiterated the importance of reciprocating the assistance by helping the Centre in return. Additionally, the Cabinet noted that Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be visiting the state on Saturday evening, and a dinner meeting with leaders of the three parties will be held to discuss various issues. These decisions signal the government's commitment to advancing infrastructure projects, supporting farmers, and providing land and housing to the poor, while also fostering cooperation with the Centre.



## Govt orders inquiry into former CID chief Sunil Kumar

TPN Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18

The Andhra Pradesh government has initiated an investigation into Sunil Kumar, who served as the CID chief during the previous administration. Allegations of power abuse have surfaced against him, prompting the coalition government to establish a special inquiry authority. Two senior officials, Revenue Department Special Chief Secretary RP Sisodia and Vigilance DG Harish Kumar Gupta, have been appointed to lead the investigation. The government has directed the inquiry team to expedite the process and submit a detailed report on the allegations.

## Dy CM Orders Expedited Action on Pending Departmental Inquiries

TTD Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan has ordered the Principal Secretaries of Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Forest Departments to expedite pending vigilance, Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), and departmental inquiries, emphasizing the negative impact of delays on employee performance and departmental progress.

- **What is the reason for keeping cases pending for years?**
- **Prepare a report on how many cases are pending and their details**
- **Pawan Kalyan has directed the Principal Secretaries of Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Forest Departments**

DY CM Pawan Kalyan pointed out that prolonged delays in addressing disciplinary actions and investigations, some of which have been pending for up to 20 years, have hindered promotions and retirement benefits for affected of-



ficers and staff. He directed that a comprehensive report be submitted within three weeks, detailing all pending vigilance, ACB, and departmental cases, as well as the reasons for the delays.

The Deputy Chief Minister also instructed that special guidelines be implemented to speed up actions based on vigilance reports. In cases where allegations are made, he emphasized the need for a thorough preliminary investigation and gathering of strong evidence, while ensuring no contact between investigating officers and employees under investigation.

Department heads have been ordered to re-investigate all vigilance and non-vigilance cases properly and resolve them promptly.

## Amit Shah to Meet Babu and Pawan

TPN Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is scheduled to visit Andhra Pradesh today and meet with Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Dy CM Pawan Kalyan at CM's residence in Undavalli. The meeting, which is expected to take place in the evening, will cover several important issues, including political matters. Afterward, Shah will dine with Naidu at his residence

and will stay overnight at the Novotel Hotel in Vijayawada. The next day, Amit Shah will attend the 20th foundation day celebrations of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in Kondapavuluru, located in the Gannavaram constituency. Andhra Pradesh BJP President Daggubati Purandeswari commented on the upcoming meeting, highlighting that the discussions would be significant. She pointed out that during Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure, the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

had received crucial financial support, a trend that has continued under the current government. Purandeswari also emphasized that the BJP has been advocating for a package for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and expressed confidence that captive mines would be allocated to the plant. Additionally, she noted the central government's continuous funding for the Polavaram project, crediting the BJP-led NDA government for making such developments possible in the state.





# All Good Days Ahead for the State: CM Naidu

TPN Correspondent  
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu expressed his delight over the central government's official announcement of a ₹11,440 crore stimulus package for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, calling it a historic move that marks the beginning of brighter days for the people of the state.

Naidu hailed the decision, stating that it was a moment of pride for Andhra Pradesh. He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his positive response towards the future of the steel plant and extended special gratitude to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Union Steel Minister Krishnaswamy Kumaraswamy for their pivotal roles in securing the package.

The Chief Minister highlighted the deep emotional connection the people of Andhra Pradesh have with the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, emphasizing, "Visakha Ukku (steel) is not just an industry; it is an emotional issue for the people of Andhra Pradesh." He reinforced that the plant symbolizes the rights and aspirations of the state's people, making it an integral part of the state's identity.

Chandrababu Naidu expressed his optimism regarding the state's future, considering this package a recognition of the sentiments of the Andhra populace. With this development, he expressed hope for greater progress and prosperity in Andhra Pradesh.

## All Credit Goes to PM Modi: Nara Lokesh

Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh ex-



pressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for announcing a special ₹11,440 crore package for the revival of the Vizag Steel Plant. He praised Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for fulfilling his electoral promise to support the steel plant, which was on the brink of closure. Lokesh emphasized that all the credit for the plant's revival goes to PM Modi. He highlighted the significant role the plant will play in the development of both Vikasit Bharat and Vikasit Andhra Pradesh. Lokesh noted that the revival will provide direct and indirect employment opportunities for lakhs of people. He also expressed thanks to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Union Steel Minister Krishnaswamy Kumaraswamy for their contributions. Lokesh concluded that with the steel plant's revival, Andhra Pradesh will soar to new heights, transforming the lives of thousands.

## Vaikuntham Darshan SSD Tokens Completed, No Tokens Issued for January 20

C Shekar | TPN  
Tirumala, Jan 18

The issuance of Sarva Darshan tokens for the last day of Vaikuntha Dwara Darshan at the Tirumala temple was completed on Friday, January 17. As a result, SSD tokens will not be issued in Tirupati for darshan on January 20. Devotees seeking darshan on January 20 will need to join the Sarva Darshan queue for Lord Shiva's darshan. With Vaikuntham Darshan concluding on January 19 and the anticipated rush of devotees due to Sunday, TTD has requested Sarva Darshan devotees to proceed to the queue lines for darshan on January 20. In addition, no offline tickets will be issued for darshan on January 20. Break darshans, except for protocol purposes, have also been cancelled



for January 20. Consequently, no recommendation letters will be accepted for VIP break darshan on January 19. Devotees are advised to plan their Tirumala yatra accordingly, taking these instructions into consideration and cooperating with TTD.

## Four Dead in Major Road Accident at Gangasagaram, Chittoor



C Shekar | TPN  
Chittoor, Jan 18

A tragic road accident occurred at Gangasagaram in Chittoor city, resulting in the death of four passengers. A bus traveling from Tirupati to Madurai was struck by a tipper truck on the highway, causing the bus to overturn. The vehicle slid for about 20 feet before crashing into an electric pole at a road construction site.

Four passengers died at the scene, while 13 others sustained serious injuries. The injured were quickly transferred to Vellore CMC and Nariv Hospitals for treatment. The Collector of Chittoor arrived at the government hospital, where he inquired about the accident details and instructed authorities to ensure the injured received the best possible care.



## HC postponed Tulasi Babu's bail petition

TPN Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18

The High Court today heard the bail petition of Kamepalli Tulasi Babu, who was arrested in connection with the third-degree assault case involving AP Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnam Raju.

The bench allowed an impleaded petition filed by Raghurama Krishnam Raju, seeking to include himself as a defendant in the case. Advocate VV Lakshminarayana argued on behalf of the impleaded petition.

Tulasi Babu's lawyer contended that there was no connection between his client and the assault case, stating that the prosecution failed to provide any evidence to support the claims. On the other hand, Advocate Posani Venkateshwarlu, representing the government, informed the court that Tulasi Babu did not cooperate during his police custody and that a custody petition filed by the police was still pending in the Sessions Court. The court was also informed that the custody petition would be heard tomorrow. Given these developments, the government's advocate requested that the case be adjourned until Monday.



## People Tech Enterprises to Establish India's First Private EV Park in Andhra Pradesh

### MoU Signed with AP Government to Set Up Electric Vehicle Park in Orvakallu, Kurnool District

TPN Correspondent  
Amaravati, Jan 18

Representatives from People Tech Enterprises met Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Forest and Environment, Shri Pawan Kalyan, at his camp office in Mangalagiri on Friday to discuss the establishment of an electric vehicle (EV) park near Orvakallu in Kurnool district.

The company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Andhra Pradesh Government to develop the EV park over 1,200 acres. Shri T.G. Vishwaprasad, CEO of People Tech Group, provided details of the project, stating, "The park will include vehicle manufacturing units, R&D centers, testing tracks, and plug-and-play industrial areas. It will attract an investment of ₹13,000 crore and create 25,000

employment opportunities." Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan lauded the initiative, emphasizing the importance of promoting eco-friendly vehicles to combat pollution. He remarked, "The Honorable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has prioritized reducing pollution. The establishment of this EV park is a milestone for Andhra Pradesh's industrial development, enabled by the coalition government led by Honorable Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu, which has introduced policies conducive to industrial growth." Key representatives, including Shri Bhaskara Reddy, Shri Ravikiran Akella, Shri Bob Duffy, Shri Steve Gerber, and Shri Harold Rakrizel, were present during the meeting. This private EV park is set to be the first of its kind in India, marking a significant step toward sustainable industrialization and job creation in Andhra Pradesh.



## BTECH RAVI'S FOLLOWERS ATTACK TDP MLC'S SUPPORTER IN PULIVENDULA

TPN Correspondent  
Kadapa, Jan 18

Tensions within the TDP surfaced in Pulivendula, Kadapa district, as followers of BTECH Ravi allegedly attacked Prakash, a supporter of TDP MLC Ram Gopal Reddy.

The incident occurred when Prakash, hailing from Vempally, arrived in Pulivendula to write an exam for a ration shop at a local school. BTECH Ravi's followers accused him of misconduct and reportedly assaulted him before taking him into custody.

In response, MLC Ram Gopal Reddy's wife, Uma-devi, staged a dharna demanding Prakash's release. Following police intervention, Prakash was eventually freed. The unrest continued, with BTECH Ravi's followers causing a commotion outside the Collectorate over sand tenders yesterday evening. Their agitation persisted, further escalating tensions in the region.



## Sankranti effect: Rs. 400 crore liquor consumed in AP

TPN Correspondent  
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18

In Andhra Pradesh, liquor sales soared to approximately Rs. 400 crore during the three days of the Sankranti festival. According to excise sources, around Rs. 150 crore worth of liquor was sold each on Sankranti and Kanuma days. This is a significant increase compared to the daily sales of Rs. 80 crore on regular days. During the period from January 10th to 15th, a total of 6.99 lakh cases of liquor and 2.29 lakh cases of beer were sold. The sales figures during this festival period have reportedly reached levels never seen before during Sankranti. The surge in consumption reflects the festival's celebratory mood and the high demand for alcoholic beverages.

## APSRTC Earns Record Revenue During Sankranti Festival

TPN Correspondent  
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18

The Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) has achieved a record revenue during the Sankranti festival period, thanks to a surge in passenger demand. To accommodate travelers heading to their hometowns for the celebrations, APSRTC operated nearly 3,400 special services between January 8 and January 13. Additionally, around 3,800 services have been scheduled from January 16 to January 20 to facilitate the return journeys. APSRTC Managing Director confirmed that no extra charges were applied to passengers using special buses, and those who booked round-trip tickets in advance enjoyed a 10% discount. This initiative helped the corporation efficiently manage the transportation of a record number of passengers. As of now, approximately 400,000 passengers have used APSRTC services, generating revenue of about ₹12 crore.



With a revenue target of ₹12.5 crore for the festival season, APSRTC is on track to meet its goal. Last year, the corporation earned ₹12 crore by transporting around 430,000 passengers during the same period. With the return journeys still in progress, APSRTC anticipates additional earnings as the festival concludes.



# ₹11,500 Crore Revival Package for Vizag Steel Plant

**“Jai Hind! Jai Andhra Pradesh! Jai Visakha Ukku!”**

- Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu

TPN Correspondent

**New Delhi, Jan 18:** Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Ram Mohan Naidu, hailed the revival of the Vizag Steel Plant with a ₹11,500 crore package as a historic moment for Andhra Pradesh. He emphasized that this decision was not just an economic move but also a victory for the workers, a symbol of pride, and a testament to perseverance and commitment.

In his statement, Naidu expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and fulfilling the promises made in the NDA manifesto. He also thanked Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu for his tireless dedication to the progress of Andhra Pradesh, as well as Union Steel Minister Kumar Swamy for his decisive role in securing the revival package. Naidu emphasized that their combined efforts have breathed new life into the



Vizag Steel Plant, which is regarded as a symbol of Andhra Pradesh's industrial pride.

He congratulated the workers of the Vizag Steel Plant for their resilience and unwavering dedication, recognizing them as the backbone of the achievement. He acknowledged that this victory was a direct result of their perseverance and the col-

lective efforts of all those who fought for the plant's future.

Naidu highlighted that the NDA government has once again fulfilled its promises, delivering critical commitments to the people of Andhra Pradesh. He also reflected on his personal efforts over the past five years, where he raised issues related to the Vizag Steel Plant and the South Coast Railway Zone in Parliament, submitting representations, and fighting for justice at every stage. In just one week, Naidu noted that two major victories had been secured — the founda-

tion stone for the South Coast Railway Zone and the revival of the Vizag Steel Plant.

This Sankranti, Naidu declared, marks a gift to the Telugu people and a triumph of unity and determination. He ended his statement with a patriotic call to action: “Jai Hind! Jai Andhra Pradesh! Jai Visakha Ukku!”

## YS JAGAN PROUD AS DAUGHTER VARSHA RECEIVES KING'S COLLEGE DEGREE



TPN Correspondent

**Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18:** YCP Chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy expressed immense pride as his daughter Varsha Reddy received her MSc Finance degree from the prestigious King's College in London, graduating with distinction. Jagan shared his joy on X, posting a photo of his wife Bharathi and their two

daughters, captioned with heartfelt blessings: “God bless you.” He commended Varsha for making him proud with her academic achievements.

Jagan, currently in London, attended the graduation ceremony on January 16 alongside his wife Bharathi, celebrating this special milestone as a family.

## Two Cases Filed in Chandragiri Over Mohan Babu Family Conflict

C Shekar | TPN

**Tirupati, Jan 18:** The ongoing feud within the Manchu family has once again made headlines, overshadowing the festive spirit of Sankranti. The conflict resurfaced after Manchu Manoj's visit to Mohan Babu University in Tirupati, leading to fresh tensions and the filing of two police cases at the Chandragiri police station. The dispute, which began in Hyderabad, took a dramatic turn two days ago when actor Manchu Manoj was allegedly denied entry to Mohan Babu University. Manoj's visit caused an uproar, culminating in a confrontation with security personnel. The situation escalated when bouncers became involved. In response to the altercation, Mohan Babu's personal assistant,



Chandrasekhar Naidu, filed a complaint naming Manchu Manoj, his wife Mounika, and three others as the accused. In retaliation, Manoj lodged a counter-complaint, alleging an attack on him and his wife. His complaint led to the filing of a case against Mohan Babu's personal assistant and eight staff members of the university.

As the situation unfolds, police investigations are underway, with further developments expected in this high-profile family dispute.

## Jana Sena Party Raises Concerns Over Repeated Banner Theft in Srikalahasti



C Shekar | TPN

**Tirupati, Jan 18:** In a troubling development for the Jana Sena Party, banners along with party frames have been repeatedly stolen in Srikalahasti over the past six months. Despite multiple complaints to the police department, the culprits remain unidentified. Recently, banners wishing the people of Srikalahasti for the New Year 2025 were also taken down.

Peta Chiranjeevi, the Town General Secretary of Jana Sena, addressed the media, stating that the banners displayed for the movie Game

Changer at the VMC Theater had been stolen once again. In response, a formal complaint was filed with the town police station, seeking justice for the repeated thefts. Peta Chiranjeevi warned that if the situation is not addressed promptly, they will escalate the issue to the district Superintendent of Police (SP).

Jana Sena leaders including Peta Chandra, Thottambedu President, Ravikumar Reddy, and Suresh, Vice President of Town, participated in the program and voiced their concerns about the ongoing issue.

## Ahead of Davos Trip, Babu Recruits Investment Expert from Tamil Nadu

G Avinash | TPN

**Amaravati, Jan 18:**

Ahead of his highly anticipated trip to Switzerland for the World Economic Forum summit in Davos, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has secured a major boost for the state's economic prospects by attracting a top investment body executive from Tamil Nadu.



ed as the Senior Vice President of Andhra Pradesh's newly constituted Economic Development Board, signaling the state's renewed focus on attracting investments. This strategic move is seen as an effort by Chandrababu to enhance Andhra Pradesh's investment prospects at the World Economic Forum in Davos, where global busi-

In a significant development, Chandrababu has managed to poach Sarin Paraparath, a senior executive officer who previously held the position of Senior Vice President at Guidance Tamil Nadu, the state's investment promotion agency. Under Paraparath's leadership, Tamil Nadu established a reputation for successfully attracting large-scale investments. His role in nurturing a robust investment mechanism in Tamil Nadu made him a key figure in the state's economic landscape. Paraparath has now been appoint-

ness leaders and investors will gather. The Economic Development Board, which was largely inactive under the previous government, is now being revitalized under Chandrababu's leadership. This restructuring aims to improve investment opportunities in the state, a move that could significantly boost Andhra Pradesh's economic profile on the global stage. With the appointment of an expert like Sarin Paraparath, Chandrababu appears to be positioning Andhra Pradesh as a competitive player in the global investment landscape.

## Every dog wants to be like Rebel Star Krishnam Raju in Kannappa!!

TPN Correspondent

**Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18:**

Tollywood actor Manchu Manoj stirred up significant buzz with a recent tweet on X-Vedika, where he commented, “Every fraud dog wants to be like Rebel Star Krishnam Raju in Kannappa. You will know this in this life.” His tweet, which included posters of Krishnam Raju's iconic films Sardar Paparayudu, Bhakta Kannappa, and Bobbili Brahmanaidu, was in response to a prior tweet from his brother, Manchu Vishnu. This tweet quickly gained attention in Tollywood circles, adding fuel to an ongoing family dispute. Later, Manoj shared a video clip from a film starring his father, Mohan Babu, which depicted an intense scene with the dialogue: “I want the documents that I brought after forcibly kicking, beating and threatening to kill you, Sami... I came to wash away the sin of fighting because my mother told me to.” The scene further fueled speculation regarding tensions within the



Manchu family.

The family's internal strife became public knowledge when an incident occurred at Mohan Babu University two days ago. Manoj and his wife, Mounika, allegedly faced an attack, with Manoj's brother Chandragiri filing a police complaint. Meanwhile, university officials lodged their own complaint, claiming Manoj attempted to enter the campus without permission. As a result, the police have registered multiple cases, intensifying the controversy surrounding the Manchu family.

## YSRCP Leaders Condemn TDP's Obstruction of Vijaya Dairy Elections

TPN Correspondent

**Nandyala, Jan 18:**

The election process for the three vacant director posts of the Nandyal Vijaya Dairy was disrupted by the TDP faction, leading to the postponement of elections. YSRCP Nandyal District President and Former MLA Katasani Rambhupal Reddy, along with other leaders, condemned the undemocratic actions of the TDP in obstructing the filing of nominations. On Friday, when nominations were being filed, TDP members blocked the presidents of local milk societies, prompting the election officer to inform the managing director of the dairy about the escalating situation. As the police were unable to control the disturbance, the MD announced the election postponement. Rambhupal Reddy expressed dissatisfaction, stating that it was undemocratic for TDP members to disrupt the election process by preventing nominations. He pointed out that the authorities had made arrangements, including the district collector's involvement and guidance from the High Court, to hold the elections. He also criticized the police for not tak-



ing timely action.

Former MLC Gangula Prabhakar Reddy discussed the disqualification of Bhuma Vikhyatha Reddy due to his failure to repay a Rs. 30 crore loan. He also noted that running a dairy factory for business was against the Cooperative Society Act, contributing to Reddy's disqualification. Rambhupal Reddy raised concerns about the closure of dairy factories under the TDP rule and questioned whether there was a deliberate effort to prevent the elections and bring the dairy industry to an end. He urged the authorities and police to ensure that the postponed elections are conducted smoothly and peacefully. The YSRCP leaders vowed to hold the authorities accountable and called for the elections to be conducted without further hindrance.

## YS SHARMILA SLAMS CHANDRABABU OVER "SUPER SIX" PROMISES

TPN Correspondent

**Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18:** APCC Chief YS Sharmila Reddy has criticized former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, questioning the credibility of his much-touted “Super Six” promises. Sharmila accused Naidu of misleading the public with grand electoral assurances while being fully aware of the state's financial constraints. “Chandrababu Naidu promised the moon during the elections, but when it came to implementation, he backtracked, citing the ₹10 lakh crore debt and the ₹2 lakh crore annual requirement for the schemes. Did he not know the state's financial position before making these promises?” Sharmila questioned. She further slammed Naidu for his inability to secure central support. “If he knew that the state's development hinged on support from the Union Government, what was the point of picking fights

with Prime Minister Modi? His lack of strategy has only worsened the state's situation,” Sharmila remarked.

Sharmila underscored the importance of special status for Andhra Pradesh, calling it the “lifeline for the state.” She criticized Naidu's failure to secure this crucial demand and questioned his vague assurances about growth rates and visions. “People believed that Naidu's promises would bring real change, but all they got were excuses and wasted time. The state needs tangible development, not empty words,” Sharmila concluded, emphasizing that special status remains the key to improving people's incomes, attracting industries, and creating jobs. Her remarks have added to the growing discontent surrounding Naidu's unfulfilled promises and the uncertain future of Andhra Pradesh's development.





# Pawan Kalyan Thanks PM Modi for Commitment to AP's Vizag Steel Plant

## Welcomes ₹11,440 Cr Special Package Announced by the Center

TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** AP Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for announcing a special package of ₹11,440 crore for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Calling it a testament to the PM's commitment to sustaining the steel industry, Pawan Kalyan thanked Modi on behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh.



The Deputy CM remarked, "This package is not just a number; it has reignited hope in thousands of families dependent on the Vizag Steel Plant. The sacrifices made to establish this industry will forever be remembered." Pawan highlighted the critical role of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision and credited the workers for keeping the plant alive. He also extended his gratitude to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Union Steel Minister Kumaraswamy for their roles in ensuring the package's approval.

He assured that under the coalition government led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, the plant would not only survive but also thrive, becoming a source of pride for the Telugu people and a step towards achieving the vision of Vikasat Bharat-2047.

"The sacrifices of lives for Visakhapatnam Steel will always be in our hearts, and this package stands as a fulfillment of the dreams our elders envisioned with their sacrifices," Pawan added.

# RRR's Letter to ACB DG Highlights Agrigold Funds Misuse

### Former CID Chief Sunil Kumar Accused of Diverting Agrigold Relief Funds

TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnamraju has raised serious allegations against former CID chief Sunil Kumar, accusing him of misusing Agrigold relief funds. In a letter addressed to the Director General of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Krishnamraju alleged that Sunil Kumar's sons were involved in the diversion of these funds.

The letter reportedly includes details of the accounts where the

funds were transferred, adding weight to the accusations. The Deputy Speaker's claims come amid increasing scrutiny over the handling of Agrigold relief funds, which were meant to support affected investors.

This revelation has sparked widespread debate and raised questions about accountability within the system. Further investigations are expected as the ACB examines the evidence submitted in Krishnamraju's letter.

# Lokesh apologizes for bad conditions at Kanakadurga Temple

TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** AP Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh apologized to devotees following criticism over the poor conditions at Vijayawada Durga Temple. Devotees took to social media, posting videos highlighting the lack of cleanliness in the temple premises and the absence of drinking water. The viral videos

raised concerns about the temple's management and prompted questions about whether the temple had an Executive Officer.

In response, Minister Lokesh expressed regret for the situation and assured that the issues would be addressed promptly. He tweeted an apology, assuring devotees that such mistakes would not happen again.

# MP Shivanath emphasizes self-employment through cottage industries for families



TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** Vijayawada Member of Parliament, Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni), emphasized the potential for self-employment in villages through cottage industries under the guidance of Dwakra associations. He highlighted the opportunity to enhance the economic status of families by fostering entrepreneurship within the community. Participating in a meeting with the presidents of Dwakra associations from various mandals in the district, held at his office in Vijayawada, he outlined the government's vision to create an entrepreneur in every household. As directed by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the government is focusing on promoting self-employment and sustainable livelihoods for rural families. To support this initiative, he announced that the presidents of all

mandal Dwakra associations in NTR district will be sent to the National Rural Development Organization (NIRD) in Hyderabad. The trip will provide participants with insights into various cottage industries and employment opportunities available through NIRD and the Panchayat Raj. Kesineni Shivanath Chinni urged the leaders to study the operations of these industries and adapt them to their respective mandals to promote entrepreneurship.

Additionally, he stressed the importance of utilizing central government schemes aimed at providing employment to the district's youth. The program was attended by various officials, district union president Kandula Kalpana, program coordinators GV Narasimha Rao, Songa Sanjay Varma, Telugu Mahila president Corporator Chennupati Usharani, and TDP mandal leaders.

# Yarlagadda Venkat Rao Likely to Be Given Ministerial Post in Cabinet Expansion

V.V.S Madhu Babu | TPN

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** There are strong indications that Gannavaram MLA Yarlagadda Venkat Rao will be included in the upcoming cabinet expansion, likely after March. Reports suggest that one of the two BC ministers from Krishna district will be replaced, and Yarlagadda, a new MLA from the OC category, is expected to take the post.



Yarlagadda's potential inclusion follows multiple criticisms of the current BC minister, including allegations of collusion with former ministers, sidelining long-time TDP members, and favoring new party entrants. Notably, concerns have arisen regarding the awarding of mining contracts to

YCP leaders and the appointment of a YCP leader as chairman of a cooperative bank, causing unrest among TDP workers. Complaints were raised with

the TDP high command, which is said to have decided to review the minister's performance and dismiss him from the ministry.

Yarlagadda Venkat Rao's rise is attributed to his clean record—having stayed clear of corruption, not supporting illegal mining or ration and sand mafias, and maintaining discipline within his constituency. His consistent engagement with TDP leaders Chandrababu Naidu and Nara Lokesh, along with his non-interference in official transfers, has earned him the high command's approval. Consequently, Yarlagadda Venkat Rao is expected to be appointed as a minister during the Ugadi festival.

# Point News Reporting Proven Right

## Irregularities in Ration Dealer Recruitment in Vijayawada

V.V.S Madhu Babu | TPN

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** In a recent development, the transparency of ration dealer recruitment in Vijayawada has come under scrutiny, confirming suspicions raised earlier by True Point News. An article titled "Transparency in Ration Dealer Recruitment under Scrutiny in Vijayawada," published on January 7, 2024, had already predicted the allocation of ration depots to specific individuals, and now, the officials have indeed allocated these depots to the names we had published. Out of the 111 ration depots in the Vijayawada division, 7 depots were involved in ongoing High Court cases, while the remaining 97 depots were allocated to candidates recommended by local MLAs. These recommendations, it is alleged, were made based on political affiliations, with some individuals reportedly involved in smuggling ration rice to their supporters.



The names of the individuals recommended by the MLAs include:

1. Chappidi Venkata Ramana - 616065
2. P. Deepthi - 616066
3. Devarakonda Kavaya - 616068
4. Bevara Lokesh - 616069
5. Sri Latha - 616058

These individuals were appointed as ration dealers despite the Chief Minister, Chandrababu Naidu, and Minister Nadendla Manohar's earlier assurances that the selection process would

Sl. No.	Name of the Ration Dealer	Ward No.	EC No.	Name of the Recipient	Phone No.
1	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	Ch. Venkata Ramana	616065
2	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	P. Deepthi	616066
3	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	Devarakonda Kavaya	616068
4	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	Bevara Lokesh	616069
5	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	Sri Latha	616058
6	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
7	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
8	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
9	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
10	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
11	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]
12	ADD Clerk - 1	616062	BC - A	[Name Redacted]	[Phone Redacted]

be transparent. Unfortunately, the recruitment process has disappointed many hopeful candidates who had invested time and energy into attending interviews and exams.

Many of the 1100 other applicants are now questioning the fairness of the recruitment process, wondering why

the government insists on promoting transparency while in reality, it appears to allocate seats to the MLAs' followers without properly following the intended procedures. Those who attended the interviews feel frustrated, as their efforts to participate in a fair process seem to have been in vain. For many, the experience has cost them wages and valuable time, with some even having to juggle interviews and exams while managing family responsibilities.

The situation has sparked significant anger and disillusionment among the candidates, who feel misled by the promises made by the coalition government regarding the transparency of the selection process.

# Public Participation Key to Road Safety

## - Deputy Transport Officer A. Mohan



TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** Creating awareness and ensuring public participation is crucial to prevent road accidents, emphasized Deputy Transport Officer A. Mohan. Speaking at a media conference on Friday, he highlighted the ongoing Road Safety Month festivities being organized in the district until February 15, aimed at educating the public on road safety and motor vehicle laws. Mohan outlined that the Transport Department, in collaboration with police, medical health, R&B, National Highways, and voluntary organizations, has been conducting various programs to reduce accidents. Despite efforts, including strict measures such as mandatory seat belts and helmets, the deputy officer stressed that awareness is the key to fully curbing accidents. In the previous year, 1343 accidents were reported in the district, resulting in 431 deaths and 1159 injuries. Key causes of these accidents were driving under the influence of alcohol and distracted driving, such as talking on the phone. To address

these issues, the department has been actively enforcing rules and organizing special awareness seminars, particularly targeting lorry and bus drivers.

Various programs, such as rallies, free medical camps, awareness seminars, essay writing, and drawing competitions, are being held across schools and colleges. Short films illustrating the consequences of accidents are also being shown to students and drivers alike. Mohan emphasized that the month-long festivities are intended to bring about behavioral changes among drivers, showing them the impact of their actions on families and passengers.

The road safety initiative is being executed with the help of the district administration, police, medical health, R&B, National Highways, the education department, and private driving training colleges. The Transport Department also unveiled road safety posters, with the support of the Transport Employees Association, Veedu Volunteer Organization, and other partners.

# AP High Court Issues Notice on Jagan's Opposition Leader Status Petition



TPN Correspondent

**Vijayawada, Jan 18:** The Andhra Pradesh High Court has taken up the hearing of YSRCP leader Jagan's petition requesting the status of the Leader of Opposition. Jagan had filed the petition, arguing that his party's denial of the position was due to political motives. His lawyer contended that the court must ensure Jagan is granted the position of opposition leader. In response, the court issued notices to the Assembly secretary and Speaker, instructing them to file a counter and present the rule position details. The court has scheduled the next hearing for three weeks later. In the 2024 Andhra Pradesh elections, Jagan's YSRCP secured only 11 seats out of 175, despite his pre-election slogan of "Why not 175?" This marked a historic defeat for the ruling party, prompting the Speaker to deny Jagan the leader of opposition position. The ongoing court case has sparked significant interest and tension between TDP and YSRCP, with both parties awaiting the final decision.



## Ganta Srinivasa Rao hails Centre's support for Vizag Steel Plant



TPN Correspondent  
Visakhapatnam, Jan 18

TDP MLA Ganta Srinivasa Rao expressed joy over the Centre's announcement of a ₹11,500 crore package for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, describing it as a positive start to the new year. TDP workers celebrated by bursting crackers at his residence in Visakhapatnam. Srinivasa Rao praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for laying the foundation stone for ₹2 lakh crore worth of projects in the city and highlighted the success of efforts to prevent the privatization of the steel plant.

Reflecting on his past resignation in opposition to the plant's privatization, he stated that the announcement marks a significant milestone for the region. He criticized the previous five years under Jagan Mohan Reddy's governance, stating that the state had been burdened with debt and is now witnessing progress under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership.



### APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVING TRAINING IN VIZIANAGARAM

TPN Correspondent  
Vizianagaram, Jan 18

Vizianagaram RTC Depot is inviting applications for the 20th batch of heavy vehicle driving training, set to commence on January 20, according to Depot Manager Srinivasa Rao. The 40-day training program is open to individuals aged 21 and above who possess a light vehicle license with at least one year of experience. This initiative aims to enhance employment opportunities for eligible candidates. Interested individuals are encouraged to seize this opportunity to improve their driving skills and career prospects. For further details, applicants can contact the following numbers: 7382924030, 9866649336, or 9959225620.

## TG Venkatesh comments on Chiranjeevi's growing ties with BJP

TPN Correspondent  
Kurnool, Jan 18:

Former Rajya Sabha member TG Venkatesh spoke positively about the seven-month tenure of the coalition government, calling it "wonderful" due to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's experience. He also highlighted that Andhra Pradesh industrialists are paying taxes in Telangana but the state is not receiving its fair share. Venkatesh urged Chief Minister Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan to take the initiative on this issue.

Regarding the growing relationship between Megastar Chiranjeevi and the BJP, Venkatesh mentioned that Chiranjeevi and BJP leaders



are moving forward in a friendly manner, though he did not elaborate further. He also reflected on his role in the movement to keep Andhra Pradesh united, noting that former CM Rosaiah did not support the division of the state. Venkatesh shared that during the protests against the division, he urged protesters to attack him before breaking the statue of Krishnadevaraya, which led to them respecting him and retreating. Venkatesh further commented that Telangana political parties should cooperate in fulfilling the promises made during the division, emphasizing that Revanth Reddy should take the lead in initiating steps toward their implementation.

## Only Those with Two Children Eligible to Contest in Local Elections

TPN Correspondent  
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 18

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has announced that only individuals with two children will be eligible to contest in local body elections, citing the need for a balanced population growth in the state. Addressing the issue of population control, CM Chandrababu highlighted that southern states, including Andhra Pradesh, are facing a decrease in population, and he stressed that development plans must consider this challenge. Chandrababu pointed out that technology has created new tensions, often leading to family conflicts and less time spent with loved ones. He mentioned that, in response to this trend, his government is encouraging policies that anticipate future demographic changes.

The Chief Minister also announced that incentives will be offered to encourage population growth in the state. He emphasized the importance of balancing water resources, such as those from the Polavaram project, with population growth to drive economic prosperity. According to him, if the state successfully manages these two factors, it could lead to significant wealth creation and increased income for the people.

In his address, CM Chandrababu Naidu made it clear that family size will now be a key factor in determining eligibility for various schemes. He cited previous policies that incentivized population control, such as distributing rice to families of five or fewer members. He stated that the law would now mandate eligibility for election candidates based on having two children, marking a shift from the earlier policy of restricting candidates with more than two children. Additionally, the Chief Minister projected that if the state's fertility rate continues to decline, the population would decrease dramatically by 2051. He emphasized that proper population management is essential and that the goal should be for couples to have an average of at least 2.1 children to maintain a stable population.

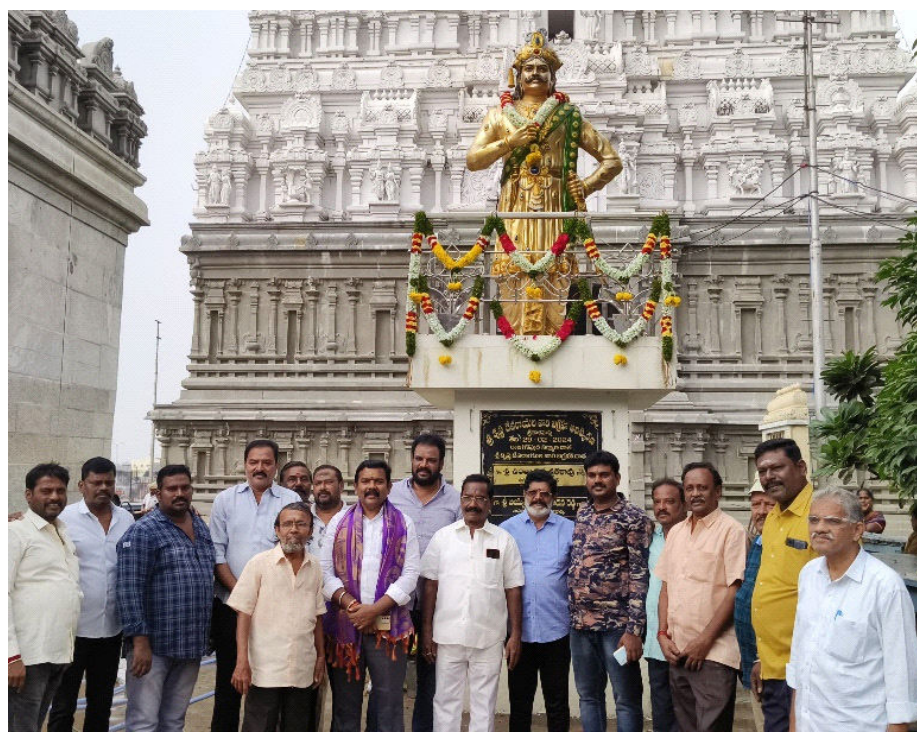
## Sri Krishnadevaraya Jayanti Celebrated with Reverence at Srikalahasti

C Shekar | TPN  
Tirupati, Jan 18

Sri Krishnadevaraya Jayanti was celebrated with grandeur at the Raja Gopuram in Srikalahasti, marking the 554th birth anniversary of the legendary king. Under the leadership of Anjuru Taraka Srinivasulu, the former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Srikalahasti Swamy Temple, the statue of Sri Krishnadevaraya was anointed with oil and adorned with flowers as a mark of respect.

Anjuru Taraka Srinivasulu praised Sri Krishnadevaraya as a righteous ruler who left an indelible legacy in Indian history, balancing spiritual thought and the diversity of life. His reign is remembered for building extensive tanks that supported the livelihood of the people and establishing temples for spiritual reflection.

Local leaders from the Balija Sangam participated in the celebrations, chanting slogans like "Sri Krishnadevaraya Amar Rahe." The event emphasized the lasting impact of the king's administration,



with a special focus on encouraging the youth to draw inspiration from his governance and work towards the welfare of society. Prominent leaders who participated in the event included Uppu Krishnaiah, Pula Krishnamurthy, Swarna Murthy, Anjuru Venkatesh

Babu, Kanta Uday Kumar, Uttaraji Shraavan Kumar, Mynampati Mastan, Sura Suresh, Vallam Gopi, Patti Mani, Senirukupam Shekhar, Munna Royal, Eswaraiah, Kote Naresh, Anjuru Krishna, Gangadharam, Subbarao, Gopi, and Jonna Gaddala Ravi.

## Sankashtahara Chaturthi Celebrations at Kanipakam

C Shekar | TPN  
Tirupati, Jan 18



Special pujas, homas, and abhishekams were conducted on the occasion of Sankashtahara Chaturthi at the Kanipaka Sri Swayam Varasiddhi Vinayaka Swamy temple. Devotees gathered to observe the fast, seeking blessings for business growth, education, health, wealth, and the removal of obstacles. The Siddhi Buddhi Sameta Vinay-

aka Swamy idol was beautifully decorated with fragrant flowers and placed in the Asthan Mandapam for darshan. Temple priests and Vedic scholars performed the Sankashtahara Chaturthi rituals for the welfare of the world, invoking divine blessings for all.

The temple authorities, along with a large number of devotees, participated in the event, receiving the grace of Lord Vinayaka for prosperity and well-being.

## GAME CHANGER MOVIE PIRACY CASE: AP LOCAL TV CREW ARRESTED

TPN Correspondent  
Visakhapatnam, Jan 18

The highly anticipated movie Game Changer, starring global star Ram Charan and directed by Shankar, has faced piracy issues despite its grand release on January 10. Produced by Tollywood giants Dil Raju and Sirish, the film has been a massive success in theaters.

Amidst its successful run, approximately 45 individuals leaked a pirated version online, prompting the film's crew to file a complaint with the Cyber Crime Police.

In a shocking development, AP Local TV in Andhra Pradesh was found illegally broadcasting the pirated version. Acting swiftly, M/S Copyright Safety Systems, led by Chalapathi Raju, collaborated with Gajuwaka Police under the Visakhapa-



tnam Commissionerate to raid the channel's office, seizing all equipment and arresting the staff involved.

Authorities revealed a coordinated negative campaign on platforms like X, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube, sharing clips and the full movie. The culprits were booked under the Copyright Act.

## Infrastructure improvements for tribal villages by Ugadi

MLA Kolla Lalitha & District Collector Ambedkar visits S. Kota constituency

TPN Correspondent  
Vizianagaram, Jan 18

District Collector Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, accompanied by MLA Kolla Lalitha Kumari, conducted an extensive tour of the S. Kota constituency on Friday, addressing the infrastructure needs of several tribal villages. During the tour, he assured the villagers of various improvements, including roads, drinking water, and other basic amenities, to be completed by Ugadi.

In a meeting with villagers from Rega Punyagiri, the Collector was informed about the lack of road access between Punyagiri and Rega Punyagiri, causing immense hardships. Villagers had to rely on the doli for hospital visits. In response, the Collector approved the immediate construction of the road under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, along with a drinking water scheme, which will be funded under the Jal Jeevan Mission with Rs. 48.40 lakhs. Both projects are set to be completed by Ugadi. The Collector also ordered the establishment of a mini Anganwadi center, directed health officials to monitor



pregnant women, and assured land titles to 42 eligible families. In Vepada mandal, the Collector inspected the construction of a 10.6 km BT road, which had been halted midway. The project will now be completed under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, with a budget of Rs. 10 crore. MLA Kolla Lalitha Kumari expressed gratitude for the swift action, emphasizing that the government is committed to improving tribal villages. She praised the Collector for resolving issues on the spot and securing Rs. 15 crore for road construction.



# One Nation, One Election: A Path to Streamlining India's Electoral Process

The "One Nation, One Election" initiative is set to transform India's electoral framework by aligning the electoral cycles of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. This ambitious proposal aims to address the challenges posed by frequent, fragmented elections, which often disrupt governance and lead to significant financial burdens. Backed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the proposal was endorsed by the Union Cabinet in December 2024, paving the way for a potential legislative overhaul.

Historically, India held simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies until 1967, when some state assemblies were prematurely dissolved, leading to staggered election cycles. Since then, India has faced a continuous cycle of elections, increasing administrative costs, disrupting governance, and diverting crucial resources. The "One Nation, One Election" initiative seeks to restore the practice of synchronized elections and reduce the negative impacts of fragmented electoral processes.

## The benefits of this proposal are manifold:

**Cost Savings:** Holding separate elections results in significant financial expenditure, with the 2019 general elections alone costing over Rs 60,000 crore. By holding elections simultaneously, these costs could be drastically reduced, optimizing the use of public funds.

**Improved Governance:** Frequent elections often lead to the imposition of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), which restricts the government's ability to announce new policies or welfare schemes. Conducting simultaneous elections would limit these interruptions, enabling governments to focus on long-term developmental goals rather than short-term electoral gains.



**Efficient Use of Resources:** Elections require substantial deployment of security personnel and administrative staff. By reducing the frequency of elections, resources can be better allocated to other pressing governance tasks, ensuring smoother operations across the country.

**Policy Stability:** A synchronized election cycle would foster greater policy continuity, reducing the tendency for short-term decision-making driven by imminent elections. Governments could focus on long-term strategies for national and state development.

**Voter Engagement:** With fewer elections, citizens would be called to vote less frequently, which could reduce voter fatigue and boost voter turnout, enhancing dem-

ocratic participation. The implementation of the "One Nation, One Election" proposal would require constitutional amendments, particularly in terms of the duration and dissolution of legislative bodies. A high-level committee, led by former President Ram Nath Kovind, has recommended a phased approach to synchronization, starting with the Lok Sabha and select state assemblies. The committee also called for a unified voter ID system and a streamlined election process.

Ultimately, the successful implementation of "One Nation, One Election" promises to bring greater political stability, reduce election-related disruptions, and help India achieve its long-term goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

# Weakening Rupee: A Call for Candid Economic Conversations



The Indian rupee's recent plunge, breaching the critical 86-per-dollar mark, has raised alarms about potential economic challenges, including an economic slowdown, an expanding trade deficit, and mounting pressure on external balances. Driven by a combination of a robust US dollar and rising crude oil prices, the rupee has seen its steepest decline since early 2023. This drop has led to heightened concerns in the financial markets, with stocks and bonds feeling the strain. While the rupee remains one of Asia's more stable currencies, this recent depreciation carries inflationary risks, particularly by increasing the cost of imports.

The rupee has weakened by more than 2% since December, exacerbating the challenges faced by importers who are now confronted with the task of managing rising inflation. On the other hand, exporters may find a silver lining, as the depreciating rupee makes their goods more competitively priced on global markets. As geopolitical uncertainty looms with the upcoming Trump presidency, global markets are bracing for further volatility, adding to the pressure on the Indian economy.

One of the more immediate consequences of the rupee's decline is the likely delay of expected rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Despite a decrease in retail inflation to 5.22% in December, largely driven by lower food prices, the rupee's fall could prompt the RBI to hold off on rate reductions, further complicating the economic landscape.

At this juncture, it is crucial to focus on the national interest and avoid allowing politics to dictate economic decisions. A calm and measured approach is essential, with room for diverse perspectives on how to tackle the current economic challenges. A "wait-and-watch" strategy could be the most prudent course, accompanied by candid discussions about the state of the economy and the potential pitfalls that lie ahead.

# 90-hour work week isn't always bad: Holidays and vacations are colonial hangover



The debate over work hours and the concept of vacations has been a topic of heated discussions in India, particularly following comments by Larsen and Toubro Chairman S N Subrahmanyam, who suggested a 90-hour work week. While some have misinterpreted his comments as advocating for extreme work conditions, it's crucial to understand that the ideals surrounding work culture in India are distinct from those in the West and should not be blindly copied.

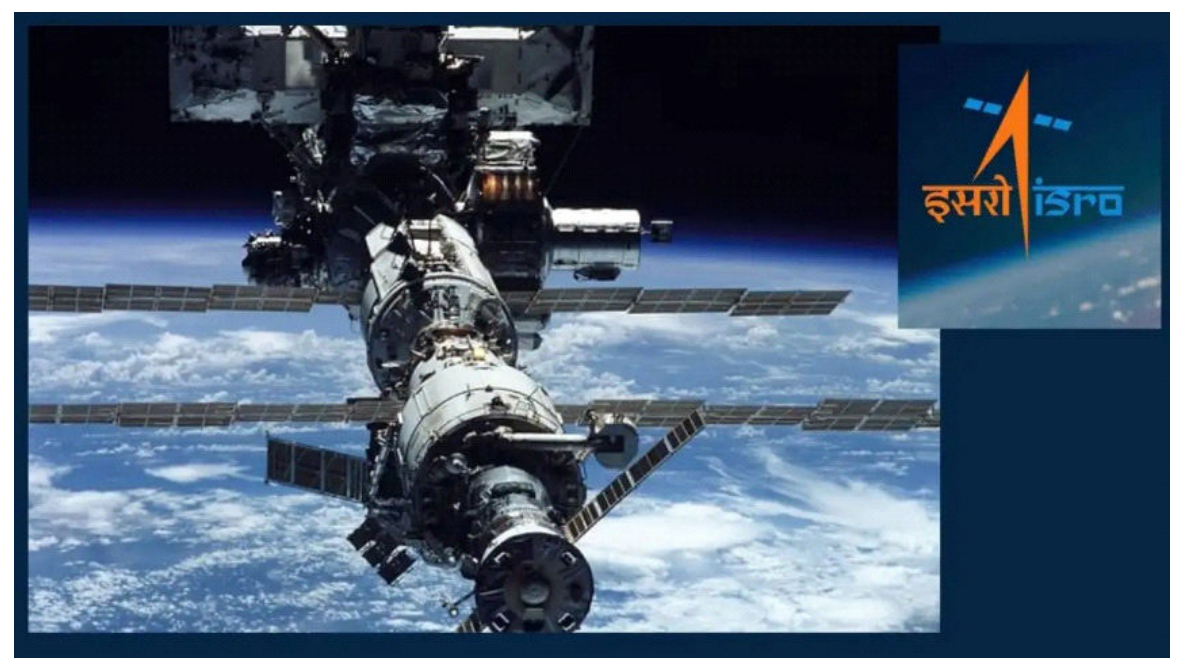
India's work culture has always been grounded in a strong tradition of hard work, perseverance, and dedication. The rapid growth of companies like L&T, which has accomplished monumental tasks, including the construction of the Ram temple, stands as a testament to the success of such an ethos. Subrahmanyam's organization has flourished not because of an overemphasis on holidays or leisure, but through a commitment to excellence and completion of ambitious goals. The warm, family-like atmosphere at L&T has been cultivated through this very ethos, proving that productivity and success are often born from a culture of hard work, not from taking frequent time off.

Historically, India's approach to work has been shaped by ancient philosophies and practices. The values of the Bhagavad Gita and the Indian

Constitution emphasize duty, responsibility, and selfless service, rather than personal leisure. The ideal of the "karmayogi"—someone who dedicates themselves to their work with devotion and without concern for worldly distractions—has been central to India's work culture. This focus on work over vacation is a reflection of deeper cultural values, which prioritize fulfilling one's responsibilities over seeking constant relaxation.

The idea of taking frequent vacations is often seen as a legacy of colonial rule. During British colonialism, the leisure time enjoyed by the British rulers was imposed upon Indians, not naturally part of the local work culture. This Western-centric concept of work and leisure has continued to influence the modern understanding of work-life balance, but it's important to remember that this may not suit India's unique socio-economic landscape.

Rather than focusing on reducing work hours or incorporating more vacations, India should rethink its work culture based on its values, aspirations, and needs. The focus should be on fostering an environment that promotes hard work, personal growth, and fulfillment, while still maintaining a sense of balance. By doing so, India can create a work culture that aligns with its traditions while enabling progress in the modern world.



# India's Space Milestone: ISRO's Successful Satellite Docking and Its Strategic Implications

In a remarkable achievement for India's space program, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully performed the docking of satellites as part of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX). This accomplishment, achieved early in the new year under ISRO's new leadership, positions India as the fourth nation—after the United States, Russia, and China—to achieve this advanced space technology. The successful docking signifies not only India's technological prowess but also its growing capabilities for more complex and ambitious missions, including the Bharatiya Antriksha Station, Chandrayaan-4, and Gaganyaan, India's human spaceflight mission.

This success is especially notable given ISRO's trajectory since the setbacks of Chandrayaan-2 in 2019. Despite the disappointment, the organization has made significant strides in the past couple of years, culminating in the success of Chandrayaan-3's soft landing in 2023. ISRO's ability to bounce back from setbacks and continue its momentum highlights the resilience and determination of India's space sector.

The achievement of SpaDeX also highlights the strategic importance of space capabilities in the contemporary geopolitical landscape. As the

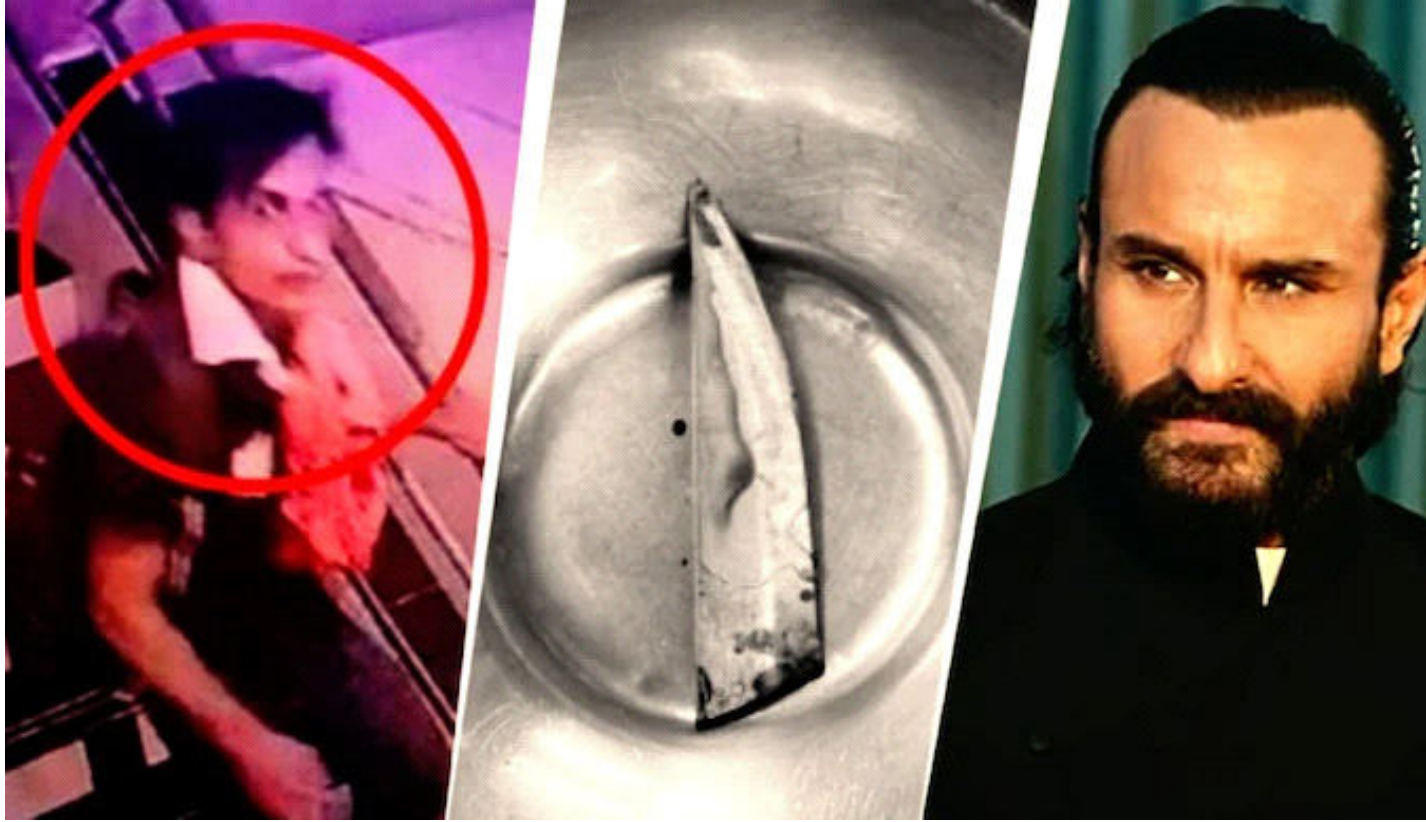
United States and China engage in an intensifying space race, both nations are vying for supremacy in space exploration, with ambitious plans to send humans to the moon once again—decades after NASA's Apollo missions. In response to these developments, China has ramped up its space ambitions, with President Xi Jinping's vision of transforming China into a dominant space power posing potential challenges for the global balance of power. Just weeks ago, China accused the United States of destabilizing global security by stationing a unit of its Space Force in Japan, while Beijing itself has aggressively expanded its space and military capabilities.

For India, this increasing rivalry between the US and China underscores the need to enhance its own space capabilities. The nation must focus on safeguarding its space assets, including satellites and indigenous launch vehicles, while continuing to advance research and innovation. This would ensure that ISRO stays at the forefront of space exploration and remains prepared for missions such as human spaceflight and future moon landings. The SpaDeX success marks a significant step forward for India, reaffirming its position as a rising space power with a growing influence on the global stage.



SAIF ALI KHAN STABBING CASE

# MAN DETAINED BUT NOT CONNECTED, SAY POLICE



TPN Correspondent  
Mumbai, Jan 18

Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan, who was stabbed six times at his Bandra West residence on Thursday, is out of the ICU and recovering well, according to doctors at Lilavati Hospital. The actor underwent a five-hour-long surgery to remove a 2.5-inch blade fragment from his spine. "Saif Ali Khan is doing excellent. He can walk well, and there is no problem or significant pain," said Dr. Nitin Narayan Dange in a press briefing. He also confirmed there is no risk of paralysis but emphasized that visitor movement would be restricted for a week to avoid infections. The hospital's Chief Operating Officer, Niraj Uttamani, described Saif's arrival at the hospital, stating, "He walked in soaked in blood like a lion, accompanied by his son Taimur. He didn't even use a stretcher. He is a 'real hero.' If the knife had gone 2 mm deeper, the injury could have been far more serious."

## "My Husband Is Innocent," Says Detained Man's Wife

Mumbai Police have clarified that a man detained on Friday morning was not connected to the stabbing incident. Visuals showed the man being taken to the Bandra police station, and initial reports suggested he might be linked to the attack. However, a senior police officer later confirmed no one had been arrested or detained in the case. A new twist emerged as the police detained one Waris Ali, who was captured on CCTV exiting Saif's apartment building. His wife claimed he was a furniture worker called by Saif's manager to carry out repairs. "After finishing his work, he went home. Cameras also show him leaving the premises," she stated. Investigations into the attack are ongoing, with no confirmed suspects or motive yet. Meanwhile, Saif Ali Khan continues to recover, with doctors monitoring his condition closely.



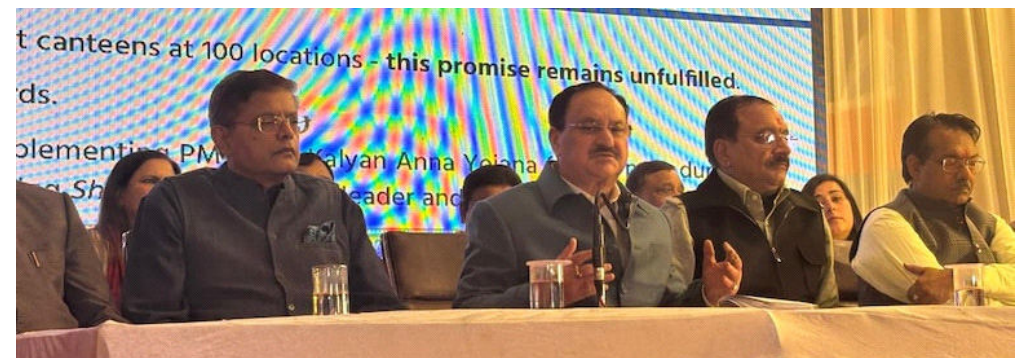
## Visa Operations In Bengaluru A Priority For US Visit: S Jaishankar

TPN Correspondent  
Bangalore, Jan 18

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar called the opening of the "long-awaited" US consulate in Bengaluru a significant milestone in India-US relations. Speaking at the site dedication ceremony for the new consulate, he emphasized the importance of starting visa operations as soon as possible and identified it as a key topic for his upcoming discussions with Secretary of State Nominee Marco Rubio. Jaishankar noted that this consulate in Bengaluru would play a crucial role, particularly with the region's growing significance in the tech and business sectors. Referring to the high volume of passports issued by the Regional Passport Office in Bengaluru — 8,83,000 in

just one year — he highlighted the necessity of ensuring smooth travel and visa processing for citizens. "I was checking figures, and I was very glad to see the passport numbers from Bengaluru," Jaishankar said. "This demonstrates the need for efficient visa operations in the city." While the consulate will not immediately offer visa services, Jaishankar's address underscored Bengaluru's importance to both the tech industry and international relations. He emphasized that the city has long deserved a permanent US diplomatic presence, something the Prime Minister had raised during his US visit in June 2023. The Minister also pointed out that India had agreed to open a consulate in Los Angeles if the US facilitated the Bengaluru consulate's establishment. This

diplomatic move, Jaishankar believes, will enhance collaborations in defense, education, and other sectors, pushing India-US relations to new heights. US Ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti, who will soon conclude his tenure, shared his pride in seeing the consulate's foundation laid during his time in India. Reflecting on the US-India relationship, he noted that India's mission was now the second-largest for the US globally, handling record numbers in visas, students, and military engagements. Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, present at the ceremony, hailed the consulate's opening as a testament to Karnataka's growing global influence. He acknowledged Bengaluru's challenges but emphasized the city's status as the safest for global companies seeking to establish headquarters.



## BJP RELEASES DELHI MANIFESTO: RS 21,000 AID FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

TPN Correspondent  
New Delhi, Jan 18

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has unveiled its manifesto for the upcoming Delhi elections, placing women and senior citizens at the forefront of its welfare agenda. Union Minister JP Nadda announced a one-time financial assistance of Rs 21,000 and six nutritional kits for pregnant women. Additionally, Rs 5,000 will be provided for the first child and Rs 6,000 for the second child. The manifesto, titled Sankalp Patra, also includes the Mahila Smridhhi Yojana, aimed at empowering women through targeted benefits. Nadda assured voters that the BJP would implement the Ayushman Bharat health

scheme during its first cabinet meeting if elected, countering the ruling AAP's opposition to the central scheme. Senior citizens are promised an increased health cover of Rs 10 lakh and a pension scheme offering Rs 2,000-2,500 for those aged 60-70 years and Rs 3,000 for those above 70. The manifesto also introduces Atal Canteens in slums, providing full meals for just Rs 5. Nadda criticized AAP's governance, labeling its Mohalla Clinics as "dens of corruption and inefficiency" and accused the ruling party of mismanaging public welfare initiatives. The BJP's promises, particularly for women and senior citizens, signal its attempt to counter AAP's dominance in the capital while focusing on social welfare programs.



## KANGANA RANAUT'S 'EMERGENCY' FACES PROTESTS IN PUNJAB

SGPC says 'govt will be responsible for disturbance...'

TPN Correspondent  
Punjab, Jan 18

Kangana Ranaut's film Emergency is facing backlash in Punjab as the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) protests its release, accusing the film of misrepresenting Sikh history. The protests are particularly focused on the portrayal of Sikh characters, especially Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a prominent figure during the 1984 Indian emergency. The SGPC has expressed strong disapproval of the film, calling it "politically motivated" and alleging that it tarnishes the image of the Sikh community. A member of the SGPC stated, "The history of the Sikh religion and the 1984 events has been distorted. We protested when the teaser was released, but no action was taken." Amid heightened tensions, the SGPC has threatened to escalate protests if the film is screened in theaters. The committee has submitted letters to the Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and the Chief Secretary, requesting a ban on the film. SGPC President Harjinder Singh Dhani stated, "We have urged the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar to stop the release of the film. It misrepresents Sikh characters, and we will not allow this to be shown in Punjab." A heavy police presence was seen at the PVR Suraj Chanda Tara Cinema in Amritsar, where the film was scheduled for release, as authorities braced for potential unrest.

## 'RESOLVE THIS OR WE WILL'

### Top Court Warning To DMK & Governor

TPN Correspondent  
New Delhi, Jan 18

The Supreme Court on Friday issued a stern directive to Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi and the ruling DMK government, urging them to resolve their prolonged dispute over the appointment of vice-chancellors for state-run universities. The top court cautioned that if the issue remains unresolved by the next hearing, it will intervene to settle the matter. The conflict revolves around the Governor's insistence on appointing vice-chancellors as the honorary chancellor of state universities, a move opposed by the DMK. The state government argues that the Governor is undermining the elected administration and delaying bills designed to limit his powers. Justice SB Pardiwala, leading the bench, stated, "By the next date, if this is resolved... well and good. Otherwise, we will resolve it." The court emphasized the Governor's constitutional duties under Article 200, noting he has three options regarding bills: grant assent, withhold assent, or forward them to the President. The DMK accuses Governor Ravi of deliberately delaying crucial bills, including those from the previous AIADMK-led government, and hindering state development. The DMK alleges that Mr. Ravi's actions reflect an attempt to "undermine the elected administration." In November 2023, the Supreme Court criticized Mr. Ravi for keeping bills pending since 2020 and questioned his lack of action over three years. The court also addressed similar disputes involving the Governors of Punjab and Kerala. Representing the Governor, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta argued that Governors are not mere "technical supervisors" and play a critical role in the legislative process.

## 8TH PAY COMMISSION ANNOUNCED

### What Salary Hike Central Employees Can Expect?

TPN Correspondent  
New Delhi, Jan 18

The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the formation of the 8th Pay Commission, a move set to enhance the salaries and benefits of central government employees. The decision, announced on January 16, 2025, comes ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections and aims to support the workforce while boosting overall consumption. On X (formerly Twitter), Prime Minister Modi lauded government employees, stat-

ing, "We are all proud of the efforts of all Government employees, who work to build a Viksit Bharat. The Cabinet's decision on the 8th Pay Commission will improve quality of life and give a boost to consumption." Key Expectations The 8th Pay Commission will revise the existing structure set by the 7th Pay Commission, effective since January 1, 2016. While the exact salary hike percentage is yet to be disclosed, reports suggest an increase in the fitment factor from 2.57 to 2.86, potentially raising the minimum basic salary from ₹18,000 to ₹51,480.

The fitment factor serves as the multiplier used to calculate revised salaries and pensions. Under the 7th Pay Commission, it increased the minimum basic pay from ₹7,000 to ₹18,000. A similar adjustment under the 8th Pay Commission could lead to significant salary increments when combined with allowances like DA, HRA, and TA. With the dearness allowance crossing 50% of basic salary and set to be revised in January 2025, the new pay structure is anticipated to bring substantial financial relief and enhanced benefits to central government employees and pensioners alike.





## ● PRESS FREEDOM, US STYLE!!



During U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's final press conference, journalist Sam Hussein was forcibly removed after heckling Blinken over U.S. policy on Gaza. The incident highlighted the tension between the Biden administration's global promotion of press freedom and its handling of dissent at home. Hussein's removal raised concerns over the treatment of journalists questioning government actions, underscoring contradictions in the administration's stance on free speech.

## ● "SUCCESS IS UNCERTAIN"

Debris From Broken Starship Falls From Space



Elon Musk's SpaceX Starship test ended in dramatic failure as the upper stage disintegrated over the Atlantic Ocean. The launch, from Boca Chica, Texas, aimed to showcase improvements in the world's largest and most powerful rocket, with the Super Heavy booster successfully decelerating from supersonic speeds. However, seven minutes after liftoff, the booster failed to maintain its integrity, causing debris to fall into the Gulf of Mexico. This marked the seventh test flight, following previous success in October, but a failure in November. Musk noted a significant oxygen/fuel leak that caused excessive pressure in the engine cavity, resulting in the mishap. He hinted at addressing the leak with fire suppression and increased venting. Despite the setback, Musk remained optimistic, suggesting that the next test could proceed by next month, pending further fixes and adjustments.

# ISRAEL-GAZA WAR: HOW FAR IS THE CEASEFIRE?

NETANYAHU SAYS DEAL TO RELEASE HOSTAGES 'REACHED'

TPN Correspondent  
Jerusalem, Jan 18

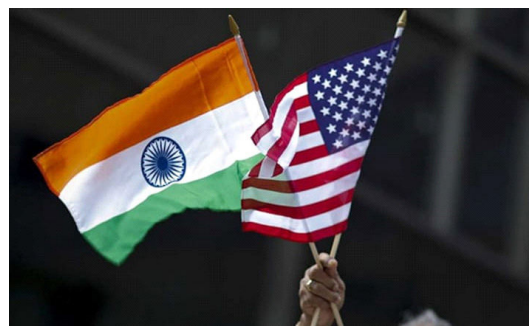
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced on Friday that a deal had been reached to return hostages held in Gaza, as tensions within his government and ongoing airstrikes complicated the implementation of a ceasefire to pause the 15-month war. Netanyahu's announcement followed earlier reports of last-minute issues in finalizing the ceasefire. The deal, which would pause fighting in Gaza and secure the release of dozens of hostages held by militants, has been a subject of intense negotiations. In exchange for the hostages, Palestinian prisoners held in Israel would be released, and displaced Palestinians would be allowed to return to their homes in Gaza.

However, the ceasefire faces opposition within Netanyahu's coalition government, particularly from hardline far-right factions. On Thursday, Israel's national security minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, threatened to resign if the ceasefire deal was approved, underscoring the political tensions surrounding the agreement. Israeli airstrikes continued to target Gaza, with at least 72 Palestinians killed on Thursday. The violence intensified even as



talks of a ceasefire progressed, with Gaza's Health Ministry reporting numerous casualties. Despite this, Palestinian officials expressed their hopes for the ceasefire, with reports of celebration in some areas. Egypt has played a crucial role in mediating the ceasefire talks, urging both Israel and Hamas to implement the deal without delay. However, the agreement's implementation remains uncertain, and the situation remains volatile. The 15-month

war, triggered by Hamas' October 7, 2023, attack on Israel, has resulted in significant loss of life, with over 46,000 Palestinians reported killed and many more injured. Both sides have used military operations to project strength, complicating efforts to reach lasting peace. As the ceasefire discussions continue, the international community is closely watching whether this deal will bring a temporary pause or lead to a more lasting resolution.



## CLOSER US-INDIA TIES CRUCIAL FOR SOLVING WORLD'S PROBLEMS

TPN Correspondent  
Washington DC, Jan 18

The US-India partnership is vital for addressing global challenges, particularly in public health and pharmaceutical innovation, said Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). As one of the highest-ranking Indian Americans in the Biden Administration, Dr. Gupta emphasized the importance of fostering stronger ties between the two nations to tackle pressing global issues.

"Only when the United States and India work together can we truly solve the world's problems. This partnership represents where East meets West," Dr. Gupta told PTI, highlighting the transformative potential of the collaboration.

Strengthening Public Health and Counter-Narcotics

Dr. Gupta underlined three key pillars driving US-India cooperation: counter-narcotics, public health, and pharmaceutical supply chains. He praised India's ability to distribute COVID-19 vaccines globally, adding that a similar model could be extended to medications addressing addiction, diabetes, and hypertension.

## CHINA SEES POPULATION DROP IN 2024, DESPITE INCREASE IN BIRTHS

TPN Correspondent  
Beijing, Jan 18

China's population has continued to shrink for the third consecutive year in 2024, despite a slight increase in the number of births. According to data released by the National Statistics Bureau on Friday, the total population dropped by over 1.39 million, falling to 1.408 billion. This marks a continued demographic challenge for the country, underscoring long-term risks for its economy. In 2024, approximately 9.54 million babies were born, an increase of 520,000 from the previous year. This slight rise may have been influenced by the belief that the Year of the Dragon in the Chinese zodiac is auspicious for having children. However, it still represents the second-lowest number of births since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

Demographer He Yafu attributed the uptick to many couples who had delayed childbearing during the three years of the COVID-19 pandemic. He warned, however, that the number of newborns is expected to decline again in 2025.

China's birth rate has been on a steady decline for decades, exacerbated by restrictive family planning policies, rising childcare costs, and changing social norms. The only exception to this decline occurred in 2016 when the government relaxed its one-child policy.

The shrinking population further widens the gap with India, which overtook China as the world's most populous country in 2023. India's population is nearing 1.45

billion, according to United Nations' estimates.

Bloomberg Intelligence forecasts that China's population will shrink to 1.36 billion by 2035, a level not seen since 2012. However, this projection may be delayed if couples are encouraged to have more children. In response to the demographic challenges, Chinese authorities have pledged to provide more support for families with multiple children, including assistance with housing, healthcare, and employment.

China's demographic struggles may eventually affect its economic growth, as a shrinking workforce puts pressure on productivity, while an aging population strains the pension system. In an effort to address these concerns, China announced plans to gradually raise the retirement age for the first time since 1978, despite facing public opposition.



## H1-B VISA REFORMS TO BENEFIT INDIAN TECH PROFESSIONALS

TPN Correspondent  
Washington DC, Jan 18

Major changes to the H-1B visa programme take effect today, January 17, aiming to streamline the process and enhance benefits for foreign professionals. The reforms are expected to significantly impact Indian techies, who constitute a large portion of H-1B visa holders.

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that the updated rules will improve efficiency, clarify job eligibility criteria, and strengthen measures to prevent misuse. These changes align with the US government's efforts to retain global

talent and promote innovation in critical fields.

Indian professionals are set to benefit from key revisions, including simplified transitions for F-1 visa holders, expanded exemptions for nonprofit and research roles, and stricter compliance measures to ensure job authenticity.

### Major Changes Benefiting Indian Techies

- F-1 visa students transitioning to H-1B will enjoy automatic extensions of their F-1 status until April 1 of the relevant year.
- This ensures lawful continuity in status and work authorisation



during the H-1B application process, easing challenges for Indian students pursuing jobs in the US.

- Nonprofit and government research organisations with research as a core activity now qualify for H-1B cap exemptions, even if research isn't their primary focus.
- Beneficiaries spending at least 50% of their time working for these organisations, even if not directly employed by them, are also eligible.
- Employers must prove the legit-

imacy of "specialty occupation" roles.

- Supporting documents may be requested to verify job authenticity.
- Compliance with the Labor Condition Application (LCA) and legal presence in the US is now mandatory.

With over 755,000 individuals admitted on H-1B visas in FY2023, the programme continues to play a vital role in bridging global talent with US opportunities. The reforms signal a stronger commitment to fostering collaboration and addressing workforce needs, particularly in technology and research sectors.



## Markets Tumble Amid Global Uncertainty and Weak Q3 Results

Domestic stock markets suffered heavy losses on Friday. They wiped out yesterday's gains. Investors were cautious due to negative signals from international markets. They made cautious purchases. They took profits as needed. The increase in the dollar index, US bond yields, and treasury yields hurt investor sentiment. It plunged them into uncertainty. On the other hand, various speculations on the US Fed rate cut hurt. In total, Nifty 100 and Sensex fell by more than 400 points. It is noteworthy that the third quarter results were also not promising.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,042 in the previous session, opened at 77,069 today. It reached an intraday low at 76,263. It reached an intraday high at 77,069. It ended at 76,619, down 423 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,277 on Friday, touched a low of 23,100 and a high of 23,292. It closed at 23,203, down 108 points. The Nifty Bank fell 738 points to settle at 48,540.

In the Nifty50, 29 stocks gained while 21 lost. BPCL, Reliance, Coal India, Hindalco, Nestle India were the top gainers. Infosys, Axis Bank, Shriram Finance, Kotak Bank, and Wipro were the biggest losers. FMCG, Metal, Pharma, Realty, Healthcare, Consumer Durables, and Oil and Gas indices rose today. Bank, auto, finance, IT and private bank indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today was equal for buyers and sellers. Out of 2904 stocks traded, 1472 gained and 1338 lost. Shares of 24 companies reached 52-

week highs while 46 lost 52-week lows.

Tech Mahindra's third quarter results were disappointing. Net profit fell 21.4% to Rs 938 crore from Rs 1250 crore. Wipro's rupee-based revenue was Rs 22,285 crore. The company declared a dividend of Rs 6 per share. The rupee weakened by 6 paise against the dollar to settle at 86.61. Stallion India Fluorochemicals IPO was subscribed 26.04 times by noon on the second day. Kotak Mahindra, RBL Bank and Can Fin Homes will release results on Saturday. Jefferies has maintained a buy rating on Infosys with a target price of Rs 2250. Sterlite Technologies' loss has been reduced to Rs 24 crore from Rs 57 crore. CLSA has maintained an outperform rating with a target price of Rs 1400 crore. KPI green energy shares have lost 10 times in the last 11 sessions. Zomato has provided Rs 500 crore in quick commerce unit Blinkit. SBI Life's net profit has increased by 71% to Rs 551 crore from Rs 322 crore. Shares of GHCL, RCF and FACT rose up to 9 percent on rising soda ash prices. Jefferies maintained a buy rating on Reliance with a target price of Rs 1660. 10 lakh shares changed hands in NMDC. RVNL shares rose 5% on the back of budget allocations.

## India's Gems and Jewellery Exports Fall 10.29% in December

India's gems and jewellery exports witnessed a decline of 10.29% in December 2024 compared to the same month in the previous year, according to data released by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC). The total exports for December 2024 were recorded at USD 1.97 billion, down from USD 2.19 billion in December 2023. This significant dip can be attributed to ongoing economic uncertainties, which have led buyers to shift their focus from luxury items like jewellery to more stable investments such as gold.



Economic volatility, both globally and domestically, has dampened consumer spending on non-essential items, including high-end jewellery. In uncertain times, investors typically seek safe-haven assets, with gold being a preferred option. As a result, demand for diamond and gemstone jewellery, which often sees its peak during festive seasons and special events, has slowed down considerably.

This decline also reflects the broader trend seen in the global market, where the luxury sector, including fine jewellery, is facing challenges due to inflationary pressures and a cautious approach by consumers. As markets remain jittery, spending on lifestyle goods like jewellery is likely to remain

subdued, further contributing to the slump in exports.

However, despite this short-term setback, industry experts remain optimistic about the long-term outlook of the gems and jewellery sector. The demand for Indian jewellery, especially in markets like the US and the Middle East, is expected to stabilize once global economic conditions improve. Additionally, India's gem and jewellery industry continues to benefit from its robust supply chains, skilled craftsmanship, and strong ties with international buyers.

Moving forward, the GJEPC is hopeful that the sector will recover in the coming months as the global economy stabilizes and consumer confidence returns. For now, the jewellery industry faces the challenge of navigating through uncertain times while maintaining its status as one of India's leading export sectors.

## World Bank Projects 6.7% Growth for India in 2025-26



The World Bank has projected India's economy to grow at 6.7% in the next fiscal year, beginning in April 2025, slightly higher than the 6.5% growth expected for the current fiscal year. Despite a slowdown from the previous year's 8.2% growth, India remains the world's fastest-growing major economy, outpacing both China and the US.

The World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report, released Thursday, highlighted the services sector's robust expansion, alongside the anticipated strengthening of manufacturing activity. This growth is expected to be supported by government initiatives aimed at improving the business environment, helping to maintain India's top position in global growth projections.

In contrast, the global economy is projected to grow at a modest rate of 2.7% annually from 2023 to 2026, with India continuing to lead the charge among large economies. China, which follows India in growth projections, is expected to grow by 4.5% in 2025,

before slowing to 4% in the following year. The United States is expected to experience slower growth, projected at 2.3% this year and 2% next year, down from 2.8% in 2024.

The report also pointed out the risks to global and Indian economic stability posed by potential adverse trade policy shifts. While the World Bank did not directly name US President-elect Donald Trump, it referenced trade tensions and tariff hikes as risks that could disrupt economic momentum. These changes in trade policies are noted as a significant threat to global growth, including for economies like India's, which are highly dependent on international trade.

India's projected growth rate aligns closely with the United Nations' forecast of 6.6% growth for 2025 and 6.8% in 2026. The World Bank attributed the current dip in India's growth to a slowdown in investment and weak manufacturing growth but expressed confidence in a rebound as structural reforms take effect.

## Union Budget 2025: Nirmala Sitharaman to present Budget on February 1

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is set to present the Union Budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 on February 1, marking the first full Budget of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term in office. This highly anticipated announcement comes amid expectations for policies aimed at boosting economic growth, addressing inflation concerns, and stimulating investment.

The Budget session of Parliament will begin on January 31 with the presentation of the Economic Survey, which provides an overview of the country's economic performance and outlines key challenges and growth prospects. The session will run until February 13, during which discussions on the Budget and other critical legislative matters are expected to take place.

As India continues its post-pandemic recovery, the upcoming Budget will be scrutinized for measures to strengthen the economy, support job creation, and enhance infrastructure development. Key sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and



services are likely to receive attention, with a focus on policy reforms to further India's growth trajectory.

The presentation of the Economic Survey will set the stage for the Budget, offering insights into economic trends and highlighting government priorities. Following the Budget announcement on February 1, detailed discussions will be held in Parlia-

ment, with the opposition expected to raise pertinent concerns and propose alternative approaches to managing the economy.

With the Budget expected to address ongoing economic challenges and lay the foundation for future growth, all eyes will be on February 1 as Nirmala Sitharaman unveils the government's fiscal plans for the coming year.

## Indian stock market opens lower amid weak global cues

The Indian stock market opened lower on Friday, with major declines in the IT and private banking sectors following weak global cues. At 9:30 AM, the BSE Sensex stood at 76,717.03, down by 325.79 points or 0.42%. Meanwhile, the NSE Nifty was at 23,225, down by 86.80 points or 0.37%.

On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), 1,118 stocks were in the green, while 1,039 stocks were in the red, reflecting a mixed market sentiment. Despite the overall decline, experts point to two positive factors that could support the market: the declining dollar index and US bond yields, as well as better-than-expected Q3 results from major companies like Reliance Industries and Infosys.

The Nifty Bank index was down by 470.55



points, or 0.95%, trading at 48,808.15, while the Nifty Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 100 indices also saw declines of 0.38% and 0.10%, respectively.

Among the top losers in the Sensex pack were Infosys, Axis Bank, TCS, HCL Tech, and Kotak Mahindra Bank, while Re-

liance, Zomato, L&T, Sun Pharma, and Adani Ports were some of the top gainers.

Global markets provided little support, with the Dow Jones closing down 0.16%, the S&P 500 dropping 0.21%, and the Nasdaq slipping 0.89% in the previous session. In Asia, markets showed mixed performance, with Seoul, Bangkok, and Japan trading in the red, while China, Jakarta, and Hong Kong were in the green.

Market analysts suggest that the correction in the market has made large-cap valuations more attractive. Nifty is currently trading at around 19 times the estimated FY26 earnings, making it an opportune time for long-term investors to buy quality large-cap stocks, despite the short-term volatility driven by foreign institutional investors' (FIIs) selling.



## Don't share OTP: Woman Falls to Work-From-Home Banking Scam via Instagram

Sharvari (name changed) was on the lookout for a legitimate work-from-home opportunity when she stumbled upon an Instagram advertisement offering just that. The ad led her to a website where she was asked to fill in basic details to apply for the position. Eager to secure the job, Sharvari complied, not realizing the deceptive tactics that lay ahead.



The next step of the process requested her to provide sensitive information, including her bank account details. After entering this information, Sharvari received a one-time password (OTP) on her phone, which she promptly entered on the website, unknowingly advancing the scam further.

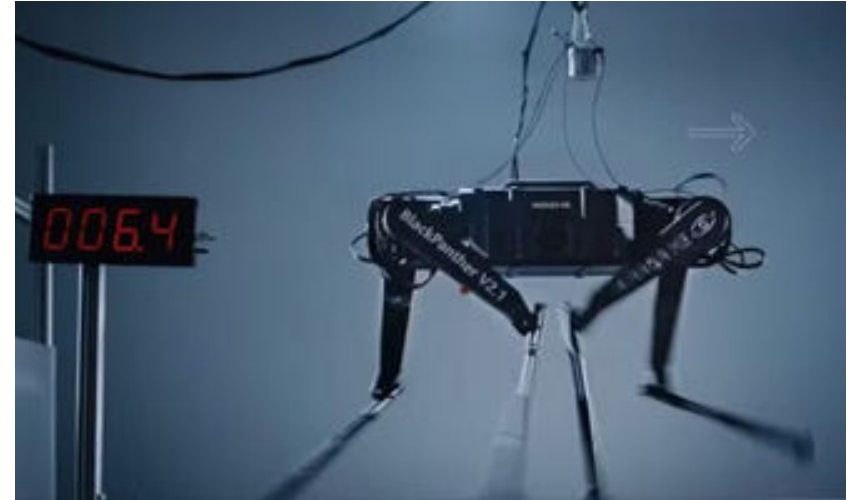
Soon after submitting her details, Sharvari received a payment request on her PhonePe application, asking for a "registration fee" to finalize her application. Trusting the process, she paid the amount, but little did she know, she was falling victim to a well-crafted banking scam. Shortly after completing the transaction, an unspecified sum was deducted from her account, and her PhonePe account was blocked.

This incident serves as a stark reminder of how banking frauds are increasingly taking place through deceptive online tactics. Scammers often use attractive ads and offers on social media platforms like Instagram to lure unsuspecting individuals into sharing their personal and banking information. Once the criminals have access to this data, they exploit it to steal money and cause other financial harm.

Sharvari's case is a cautionary tale, as it highlights the importance of being cautious when sharing sensitive information online, especially when dealing with offers or job opportunities that seem too good to be true. It is crucial for individuals to verify the authenticity of such opportunities, avoid sharing banking details on suspicious websites, and report any such incidents to authorities immediately.

## China Unveils Black Panther 2.0: A Robotic Dog That Runs 100 Meters in Under 10 Seconds

Chinese scientists have introduced an impressive technological breakthrough with the development of Black Panther 2.0, a quadruped robot dog capable of completing a 100-meter sprint in less than 10 seconds. This cutting-edge creation surpasses even the speed of many human athletes and showcases significant advancements in robotics.



Created by Zhejiang University, in collaboration with the Hangzhou-based startup Mirror Me, Black Panther 2.0 exemplifies the future of robotic mobility. The robot dog's remarkable speed is a product of its biomimetic design, which draws inspiration from the natural movement of animals. The robot's advanced AI-powered gait optimization system plays a crucial role in its agility, ensuring it moves efficiently and with precision.

The Black Panther 2.0's performance is a milestone in the field of robotics, particularly in terms of speed and stability. The robot is not just fast but also exhibits high levels of balance and coordination, even while navigating complex terrain. This ability makes it a potential game-changer for applications ranging from search and rescue missions to security operations.

The development of such high-performance robots also highlights the use of cutting-edge materials that enhance the durability and mobility of robotic limbs. These materials ensure that the Black Panther 2.0 can withstand the rigorous demands of high-speed running while maintaining its structural integrity.

Black Panther 2.0 is an example of how robotics is evolving to match and even exceed natural capabilities. As innovations in AI, machine learning, and mechanical design continue to progress, robots like the Black Panther 2.0 could soon become integral components in a variety of industries, pushing the boundaries of what machines can achieve. This breakthrough sets a new standard for robotic mobility, and the future promises even more exciting developments in this area.

## Advertisers with 'hair on fire' brace for US TikTok ban

As the deadline for a potential U.S. ban on TikTok approaches, advertisers who rely heavily on the platform for digital marketing are scrambling to devise contingency plans. The popular Chinese-owned social media app, which has become a central hub for advertisers, may face shutdown as early as Sunday, prompting a flurry of activity from marketing executives who are grappling with the looming uncertainty.

With TikTok's future in the U.S. hanging in the balance, many in the advertising world had hoped that a solution would emerge before the ban came into effect. However, as the deadline nears, the realization has set in that the app's status may not be resolved in time. One marketing executive described the situation as a "hair on fire" moment, illustrating the panic and urgency felt by those dependent on TikTok for reaching audiences.

The platform has seen explosive growth in re-



cent years, with its short-form videos becoming a staple for brands seeking to engage with younger, tech-savvy consumers. For many ad-

vertisers, TikTok is not just an optional marketing channel—it has become a cornerstone of their digital advertising strategies. As such,

the prospect of losing access to the platform has created significant disruption in the ad world.

While President Trump has suggested that a "political resolution" may be possible after his inauguration, the immediate concern for advertisers is how to navigate the next few days without a clear answer on TikTok's future. Companies are now facing the challenge of pivoting their marketing efforts and reallocating budgets to other platforms, all while racing against the clock to adapt to the rapidly changing digital landscape.

As Sunday draws closer, the pressure on brands to react swiftly and effectively increases, with many hoping that the resolution comes sooner rather than later. The TikTok ban saga has now become a key issue for the advertising industry, leaving many to wonder how the landscape will shift in the absence of the platform.

## Apple temporarily turns off feature amid hallucination concerns

Apple has confirmed that the AI-generated summaries of notifications from news apps will be temporarily unavailable for users of its latest beta software. The feature, which is part of the iOS 18.3, iPadOS 18.3, and macOS Sequoia 15.3 beta releases, has been disabled for the time being.



Apple Intelligence

A company spokesperson confirmed the disruption, explaining that users will not be able to access notification summaries in the News & Entertainment category while using the affected beta versions. The move is seen as a temporary setback, and Apple is expected to address the issue in upcoming software updates.

This feature, designed to provide users with concise, AI-generated summaries of news app notifications, was introduced as part of Apple's efforts to improve the overall user experience. It aimed to help users stay informed with streamlined notifications, summarizing important updates without overwhelming them with excessive information.

Apple has been working to enhance its AI infrastructure, splitting costs between its own data centers and third-party cloud providers with whom it contracts. This flexibil-

ity in managing AI infrastructure helps the company optimize performance and reduce overall costs while advancing its AI technology.

The company did not specify the exact reason behind the temporary removal of the feature, but users of the beta software can expect the functionality to return once Apple resolves the issue. Until then, users can rely on traditional notification methods to stay up-to-date with news and entertainment updates.

As Apple continues to refine its software offerings, this temporary disruption highlights the challenges of integrating AI features into its ecosystem. However, it is also a reminder that software development is a continuous process, and issues like this are often addressed with updates to improve the overall user experience.

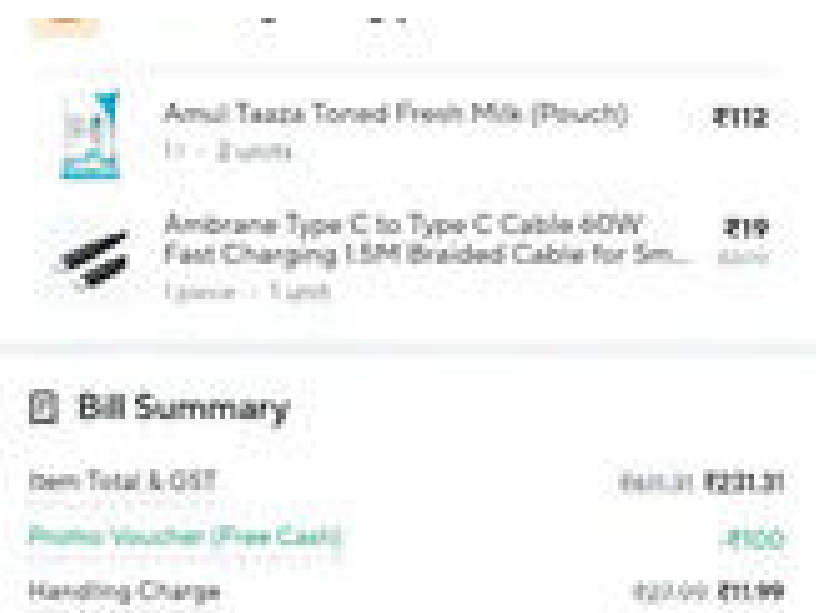
## Zepto's Discount Calculation On Checkout Page Triggers LOL Reactions

Zepto, the popular quick-commerce platform, has found itself at the center of an online debate after a Reddit user posted a screenshot of their baffling checkout page. The user, perplexed by the app's billing calculations, humorously captioned the screenshot, "I am too stupid to understand Zepto's maths, someone smart enough please help." The post quickly went viral as users on Reddit attempted to decipher the platform's puzzling calculations.

The order in question included two items: two 1-litre packs of Amul Taaza Toned Fresh Milk, each priced at Rs 112, and an Ambrane Type C to Type C Cable 60W that had been heavily discounted from Rs 499 to Rs 19. Initially, the app showed the item total and GST as Rs 611.31. However, after applying discounts, the amount dropped dramatically to Rs 231.31.

Further deductions were made, including a Rs 100 reduction from a promo voucher, listed as "Free Cash," and a handling charge that decreased from Rs 27.99 to Rs 11.99. Other fees, such as processing, rain, and delivery charges, were all displayed as Rs 0. Despite these substantial adjustments, the final bill amounted to Rs 145.29, with Zepto claiming the user saved a total of Rs 554.01.

While discounts are typically a welcomed feature in e-commerce, the perplexing nature of this cal-



culcation has led to confusion and plenty of LOL reactions online. Many users questioned how the original price of Rs 611.31 was reduced to such a low final price, with some even joking that they could use a calculator to make sense of the math.

This incident has drawn attention to potential flaws in Zepto's billing system and raised concerns about transparency in pricing. While some Redditors enjoyed the humor in the situation, others expressed frustration, urging the company to clarify how discounts and adjustments are calculated to avoid further confusion for customers in the future.



## Manu Bhaker, Gukesh receive's Khel Ratna from President Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan



World Chess Champion Gukesh Dommaraju expressed his heartfelt gratitude after receiving the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award from President Droupadi Murmu on Friday. The young chess prodigy shared his joy and appreciation on Instagram, highlighting how significant recognition is for athletes.

the prestigious 'Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2024' from our Honourable @presidentofindia mam! Feels great and encouraging when our hard work and achievements get proper recognition," he wrote.

The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award is In-

Alongside Gukesh, other prominent athletes, including double Olympic medalist Manu Bhaker, Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh, and Para Athlete Praveen Kumar, were also honored with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award during a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

Gukesh, who has made remarkable strides in the world of chess, took to social media to express his emotions. "Grateful to receive

India's highest sporting honor, given to athletes for their exceptional performance and contributions to their respective sports. Gukesh's achievement is especially significant, as it reflects not only his personal accomplishments but also the growing recognition of chess in India. His rise to prominence, culminating in his victory as World Chess Champion, has earned him admiration both nationally and internationally.

For Gukesh, receiving this honor is not just a personal achievement but also an acknowledgment of the dedication and hard work that goes into excelling at a global level. It serves as motivation to continue pursuing excellence and inspiring others to follow in his footsteps.

The award ceremony, attended by various dignitaries, was a moment of pride for all the athletes recognized for their contributions to sports. For Gukesh, it is a testament to his commitment and a reminder of how far hard work and perseverance can take an athlete in any sport.

## Bopanna Advance to Second Round in Mixed Doubles at Australian Open 2025

Rohan Bopanna and Zhang Shuai powered into the second round of the Australian Open 2025 mixed doubles competition on Friday, securing a 6-4, 6-4 win over Kristina Mladenovic of France and Ivan Dodig from Croatia.



This victory marks another milestone for Bopanna, who previously reached the mixed doubles semi-finals at the Rio 2016 Olympics alongside Sania Mirza. He also made it to the Australian Open 2023 final in mixed doubles with Mirza. Although Bopanna and his Colombian partner Nicolas Pietrangeli were eliminated in the opening round of the men's doubles event by Spain's Pedro Martinez and Jaume Munar, he will now

Competing on the hard courts of Melbourne Park, the Indo-Chinese duo came out strong from the start. They broke their opponents twice in the opening set, quickly racing to a 3-0 lead. Despite a brief resurgence from Mladenovic and Dodig, who managed a break of their own, Bopanna and Shuai maintained control, holding their serves to close out the set.

In the second set, both pairs struggled to hold serve initially, with no successful holds in the first four games. However, Bopanna and Shuai gained the upper hand when they broke Mladenovic in the seventh game. The pair continued their strong play, and Bopanna served out the match, securing their spot in the next round.

look to build on this mixed doubles win.

Meanwhile, in men's doubles, India's N Sriram Balaji and his Mexican partner Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela will face the Portuguese pair of Nuno Borges and Francisco Cabral on Saturday after winning their first-round match against Robin Haase of the Netherlands and Aleksandr Nedovyesov of Kazakhstan.

Unfortunately, India's singles campaign ended early as Sumit Nagal was defeated by Czechia's Tomas Machac in the first round.

## India Set to Defend U-19 Women's T20 World Cup Title in Malaysia

India's U-19 women's cricket team is all set to defend their ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup title as the tournament begins in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday. The GenNext cricketers, eager to maintain their dominance, are placed in Group A alongside the West Indies, Sri Lanka, and hosts Malaysia. India will kick off their campaign against the West Indies on Sunday at the Bayuemas Oval. The team had won the inaugural edition of the tournament in South Africa in 2023, defeating England by seven wickets in the final.



The opening day's fixtures feature semi-finalists from the previous edition, with Australia taking on Scotland in Group D, and 2023 runners-up England facing Ireland in Group B. Other Saturday matchups include Samoa against Nigeria (Group C), Bangladesh versus Nepal (Group D), Pakistan against the United States (Group B), and New Zealand against South Africa (Group C).

The 2025 edition sees 16 teams divided into four groups. The top three teams from each group will advance to the Super Six stage, where the top two from each group will progress to the semi-finals. The tournament will conclude with the final on February 2.

India's victory in 2023 was a historic moment for women's age-group cricket, with captain Shafali Verma leading by example. The squad, coached by Nooshin Al Khadeer, included notable players such as Titas Sadhu, Shweta Sehrawat, and the spin trio of Mannat Kashyap, Parshavi Chopra, and Archana Devi. With an ODI World Cup on the horizon later this year, the current squad, led by Niki Prasad, is eager to showcase their talent and secure a spot in the senior team.

Among the key players is Hyderabad's Trisha G, who has shown aggressive top-order batting, helping India win the U-19 Asia Cup last month. The team also boasts

a strong left-arm spin attack with Parunika Sisodia, Sonam Yadav, and Aayushi Shukla. India faces tough competition from England, Australia, and South Africa.

India's squad includes captain Niki Prasad, vice-captain Sanika Chalke, and promising talents like Trisha G, Sonam Yadav, and Aayushi Shukla. The groups for the tournament are as follows:

- Group A:** India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, West Indies
- Group B:** England, Ireland, Pakistan, United States
- Group C:** New Zealand, Nigeria, Samoa, South Africa
- Group D:** Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Scotland

## Zverev Cruises Into Fourth Round at Australian Open with Straight-Sets Win

Second seed Alexander Zverev continued his impressive form at the 2025 Australian Open, breezing past British qualifier Jacob Fearnley in the third round with a dominant 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 victory. The 27-year-old German needed just 2 hours and 2 minutes to dismantle his 92nd-ranked opponent on Margaret Court Arena, advancing to the next stage of the tournament.



Zverev, who is aiming for his first Grand Slam title, will now face the winner of the all-French clash between Ugo Humbert and Arthur Fils for a spot in the quarter-finals. This victory marked Zverev's 28th Australian Open win, bringing him just one behind Boris Becker for the most by a German player.

Following the win, Zverev praised Fearnley for his remarkable progress, highlighting the 23-year-old Briton's journey from college tennis and the Challenger series to competing in the third round of a Grand Slam. "He's an incredible player," said Zverev. "Massive respect for him. He's only getting better."

Zverev, who made it to the semi-finals last year, has been consistent throughout this year's tournament, winning every set so far. He broke Fearnley early in the first set following a double fault and a well-timed rally to seize control. Despite Fearnley's resistance in the second set, another double fault handed

Zverev a break to edge closer to the victory.

In the third set, Zverev once again showed his resilience after dropping an early break. He quickly regained control, breaking Fearnley's serve to lead 4-2 before closing out the match with a final flourish.

Zverev had an outstanding 2024 season, but with runner-up finishes at the 2020 US Open and last year's French Open, the German is eager to capture his first Grand Slam title in Melbourne this year.

## India to Announce Squads for Champions Trophy and England ODIs on January 18

India's squads for the upcoming Champions Trophy and the ODI series against England will be unveiled on January 18. The announcement will be made by India's ODI captain Rohit Sharma and chief selector Ajit Agarkar at a media briefing at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.



The much-anticipated squads will be finalized by the men's selection committee, headed by Agarkar. The selection meeting comes ahead of the prestigious Champions Trophy, set to return after a six-year hiatus, with India drawn in Group B alongside Pakistan, New Zealand, and Bangladesh. The tournament will begin on February 19 in Karachi, with Pakistan facing New Zealand, while India will take on Bangladesh in Dubai the following day.

Rohit Sharma is expected to lead the squad, though concerns remain over the fitness of pacer Jasprit Bumrah. Bumrah, who had suffered from back spasms during the fifth and final Test of India's tour of Australia earlier this month, has not received an official update from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on his injury. Bumrah himself dismissed reports suggesting he was advised to rest and take a break, calling them "fake news."

There is also speculation surrounding the inclusion of Karun Nair, who has been

in outstanding form in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy, scoring 752 runs in seven innings as Vidarbha's captain. Despite playing only two ODIs, the 33-year-old's domestic form has sparked calls for his inclusion in the Champions Trophy squad or the England ODIs.

In addition, there is speculation over the potential selection of Yashvi Jaiswal as a backup opener for the squad. Jaiswal, who has represented India in Tests and T20Is but has yet to debut in ODIs, is a strong contender due to his recent performances in domestic cricket.

With these developments, the squad announcement on January 18 is eagerly awaited by fans and analysts alike.





## Pawan Kalyan's Maata Vinali: A Song Across Five Languages for 'Hari Hara Veera Mallu'

The highly anticipated film Hari Hara Veera Mallu Part-1: Sword vs. Spirit has entered its promotional phase, with a new song release that has already caught the attention of fans. Titled Maata Vinali, this track was launched by the makers of the movie on social media, creating a buzz among fans of the lead actor, Pawan Kalyan.

Composed by Oscar-winning music director M.M. Keeravani, Maata Vinali carries a profound message of positivity and virtue. The lyrics, penned by Penchal Das, resonate with themes of justice and strength. Pawan Kalyan himself has lent his voice to the Telugu version of the song, performing it while

surrounded by followers near a bonfire in a forest, adding to the track's deep emotional connection.

In a unique move, the song has been localized in five languages—Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Hindi. While Pawan Kalyan sings the Telugu version, the other versions utilize artificial intelligence technology to replicate his vocals, with different singers performing the song in each language. This innovative approach allows the song to maintain its original essence across various linguistic audiences.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu is a

grand period action drama produced under Mega Surya Productions by A. Dayakar Rao and A.M. Ratnam. The film is directed by Jyothi Krishna, with Krish Jagarlamudi contributing to the creative vision. The storyline revolves around Pawan Kalyan's character, a warrior who fights for justice and stands up for the oppressed, embodying themes of resilience and righteousness.

The film's release is set for March 28, 2025, and with its powerful music, strong performances, and compelling narrative, Hari Hara Veera Mallu promises to be a major cinematic event for audiences across India.

## NETIZENS BUZZ OVER 'EMERGENCY': KANGANA IS "INDIRA"

Mumbai, Jan 18: Kangana Ranaut's highly anticipated film Emergency released on Friday, sparking a wave of reactions online. While many lauded her performance as former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, others critiqued the film's box office turnout, painting a mixed picture of the ambitious political drama.

Social media users flooded platforms with praise for Ranaut, with some calling her portrayal of Gandhi "extraordinary" and the film "honest and full of integrity." Fans hailed her dual role as director and lead actor, echoing sentiments like "Kangana is Indira," referencing the iconic line, "India is Indira. Indira is India."

One user wrote, "Kangana Ranaut has done it again! Both as director and actor, she delivered a masterpiece. This one deserves all the praise." Another added, "One of the best films in a long time. Kangana is outstanding. Kangana is Indira!" However, not all feedback was positive. Critics highlighted empty theaters and underwhelming audience turnout. A user quipped, "Kangana's film is releasing today... but 'emergency' conditions continue at the theater." Another noted, "Almost three people are here to watch. I don't know why more aren't coming."



### About the Film

Emergency explores the turbulent 21-month period of the 1975 Emergency, one of India's most controversial chapters. The film focuses on Gandhi's leadership during a time marked by political crackdowns and societal unrest.

Kangana Ranaut stars as Indira Gandhi, with Anupam Kher portraying Jayaprakash Narayan. The ensemble cast also includes Manisha Koirala, Milind Soman, Bhumika Chawla, and the late Satish Kaushik. Despite the polarizing reactions, Emergency is stirring conversations about history, politics, and Kangana Ranaut's bold cinematic choices.

## Naga Chaitanya Cooks Fish Curry for Fishermen in Heartwarming Gesture

Naga Chaitanya, known for his down-to-earth nature, has shown his caring side once again, this time through a heartfelt gesture towards the fishermen of Vishakhapatnam. The actor, who is gearing up for his much-anticipated film Thandel, took time out from his busy schedule to fulfill a promise he had made during a previous visit. Chaitanya, who plays the role of Thandel Raju in the film, had promised the fishermen that he would cook them a fish curry, and he did just that.

In an intimate gathering, Chaitanya prepared Chepala Pulusu (fish curry) with his own hands, showcasing his cooking skills. The fishermen were full of praise for the dish, calling it delicious and expressing their gratitude. In return, they wished him and the film team the best of success with Thandel.

This personal connection with the locals is part of the actor's deep involvement in his role and the film's storyline, which is based on real-life events. Thandel marks one of Naga Chaitanya's most ambitious projects, with the highest budget of his career to date. Directed by Chandoo Mondeti and



produced under the Geetha Arts banner, the film's pre-production phase was meticulously crafted to stay true to the source material and its characters.

Sai Pallavi stars alongside Naga Chaitanya as the female lead in this gripping tale. The music for the film is composed by the renowned Devi Sri Prasad, and the first two songs from the soundtrack have already

struck a chord with audiences, becoming chartbusters.

Presented by Allu Aravind and produced by Bunny Vasu, Thandel promises to be a cinematic journey rooted in reality, with Naga Chaitanya's personal touch adding to the film's authenticity. Fans and filmgoers are eagerly awaiting its release as it builds momentum.

## Shahid Kapoor's 'Deva' Trailer Released: A Glimpse of His Ruthless Cop Role



Bollywood actor Shahid Kapoor's much-anticipated film Deva has dropped its official trailer, generating excitement among fans and film enthusiasts alike. Directed by Malayalam filmmaker Roshan Andros, Deva promises to offer an intense and gripping narrative, with Shahid Kapoor taking on the role of a ruthless policeman.

The film draws inspiration from Amitabh Bachchan's iconic Deva, with Shahid's character set to embody a tough and no-nonsense law enforcement officer. The trailer gives a sneak peek into the gritty world of Shahid's character, who is determined to clean up the streets with his unwavering approach. His powerful portrayal of the cop is a major highlight of the trailer, leaving audiences eager to see more of his commanding screen presence.

In addition to Shahid Kapoor, the movie features a talented ensemble cast, including Pooja Hegde and Pavel Gulati in pivotal roles.

Both actors add their charm and depth to the story, supporting Shahid's intense performance. The film, which has already completed shooting, is set to hit the theaters on January 31, and the trailer has raised the bar for what promises to be an action-packed thriller.

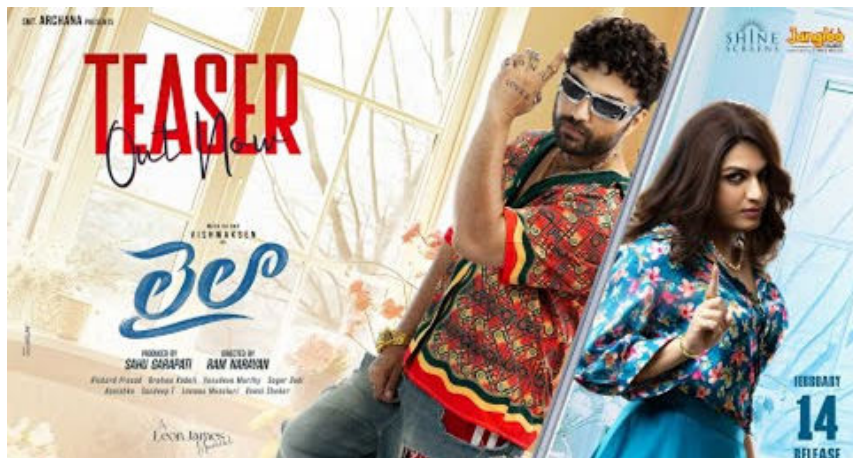
The trailer showcases thrilling action sequences, emotional moments, and a gripping storyline, making it one of the most awaited films of the year. The film's dynamic direction by Roshan Andros and the stellar performances from the cast are expected to captivate audiences.

With the trailer going viral, the excitement around Deva continues to grow. Fans are eagerly waiting for its release to witness Shahid Kapoor in a completely different avatar, as the ruthless cop in Deva. As the release date approaches, the buzz surrounding the film is expected to intensify, and it is poised to be a major contender at the box office.

## Vishwaksen Shines in Dual Role in 'Laila' Teaser

Vishwaksen's upcoming film Laila has generated significant buzz following the release of its official teaser. In this intriguing project, Vishwaksen showcases his acting versatility by portraying both male and female roles, a challenge he pulls off with remarkable ease. The teaser has already captivated audiences, thanks to the striking visual contrast of his characters, Sonu Model and Laila.

The teaser begins with the character of Sonu Model, played by Vishwaksen, being accused by locals of engaging in romantic escapades with the women in the area. However, a surprising twist occurs as Sonu undergoes a transformation into the beautiful and enigmatic Laila. This shift in identity piques the curiosity of the audience, creating a sense of suspense and intrigue



that promises an engaging narrative.

Vishwaksen impresses with his portrayal of this multifaceted character, effortlessly switching between the energetic, mischievous Sonu and the alluring, graceful Laila. His dynamic performance hints at the depth of the role and sets the stage for an exciting cinematic experience.

Director Ram Narayan deserves credit for conceptualizing such a unique storyline, where gender roles and identities blur in a way that is both entertaining and thought-provoking. Cinematographer Richard Prasad's visual direction complements the narrative, enhancing the allure of the story with beautiful shots. Music director Leon

James also adds to the overall impact with a score that promises to heighten the emotional appeal of the film.

Produced by Sahu Garapati under the Shine Screens banner, Laila boasts impressive production values, ensuring a high-quality cinematic experience. The teaser has certainly stirred anticipation, and with the release date set for February 14th, the film is poised to offer a captivating blend of romance, drama, and intrigue.

With the growing buzz surrounding Laila, Vishwaksen's dual performance and the intriguing concept are sure to make this film a highly anticipated release. Fans are eagerly awaiting what promises to be a standout performance on the big screen.