

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 27° C L 14° C	H 30° C L 19° C	H 26° C L 21° C

Back in 1995- IT, Now in 2025-AI

CM Naidu Meets Bill Gates at Davos, Discusses Developmental Collaborations

TPN Correspondent
Davos, Jan 23

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minister for IT, Education, and Electronics Nara Lokesh met Microsoft chief Bill Gates during the World Economic Forum in Davos. Bill Gates expressed happiness at meeting Chandrababu after a long time and assured that he would discuss the AP government's proposals with his team before making decisions.

During the meeting, CM Chandrababu reminded Bill Gates of his pivotal role in transforming Hyderabad by establishing a Microsoft center during his tenure as Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh. He sought Bill Gates' support in making Andhra Pradesh the gateway for Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation activities in South India.

- **AI University Advisory Board:** Chandrababu invited Bill Gates to join the advisory board of a world-class AI University planned for Andhra Pradesh, emphasizing that Gates' insights would accelerate the state's IT development.
- **Health Innovation & Diagnostics Center:** Chandrababu proposed partnering with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to set up a Center of Excellence in health innovation and diagnostics in AP.



- **Social Entrepreneurship Expertise:** Drawing inspiration from health dashboards in Africa, the CM sought Gates' expertise to enhance Andhra Pradesh's innovation incubation ecosystem and promote social entrepreneurship.

CM Chandrababu Naidu assured Bill Gates that his government is committed to implementing global innovations locally and would prioritize the

development of IT and healthcare sectors with Gates' collaboration. Bill Gates appreciated the proposals and highlighted his foundation's interest in supporting sustainable development initiatives. This high-profile meeting has sparked optimism for a transformative partnership between the AP government and Microsoft, further boosting the state's global standing in technology and healthcare.

Three Chief Ministers Met at 'Country Strategic Dialogue' in Davos

TPN Correspondent
Davos, Jan 23

In a rare display of unity, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis shared the same platform at the 'Country Strategic Dialogue' meeting in Davos. The event, organized by the Union Ministry of Commerce, aimed to attract investments and foster strategic collaboration between states.

The meeting covered a broad spectrum of topics including state development, economic growth, green energy, artificial intelligence (AI), and defense sector investments. The three CMs discussed the key priorities for their respective states and explored opportunities for boosting investment in various sectors.

This gathering highlighted the growing importance of inter-state cooperation and the role of strategic dialogues in enhancing economic development. The participation of three prominent leaders underscores their commitment to shaping a prosperous future for their states, while also attracting global attention to India's investment potential in the global market.



Minister Lokesh Pushes for Data Center Investments in Vizag and Tirupati at Davos

- Minister Lokesh urged Ravi Lamba to set up industrial parks and data centers in Vizag and Tirupati.
- Requested investments in renewable energy, green hydrogen, and power transmission via Sembcorp.
- Announced plans for three AI Centers of Excellence and a skilled workforce by 2047.

TPN Correspondent
Davos, Jan 23

As part of his visit to Davos, Minister Nara Lokesh met with Ravi Lamba, India Head of Temasek Holdings, to discuss potential investments in Andhra Pradesh. Lokesh emphasized the need for CapitalLand, a Temasek subsidiary, to establish industrial parks and data centers in Vizag and Tirupati. He also proposed developing infrastructure in industrial clusters supported by AI systems.

Lokesh requested collaboration with Sembcorp in renewable energy and green hydrogen sectors. He highlighted the importance of setting up data center parks through Sematec Telemedia to strengthen Andhra Pradesh's IT ecosystem. Additionally, he sought investments to improve power transmission and grid stability through Sembcorp India. Ravi Lamba shared plans to double Temasek's investments in India's real estate sector by 2028 and assured discussions on AP's proposals.

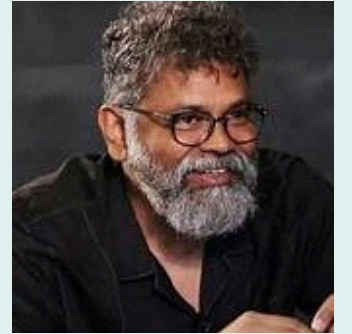


During the Education Governors' Meeting in Davos, Lokesh outlined Andhra Pradesh's ambitious plans for workforce development. He announced the allocation of ₹255 crore in the 2024-25 Interim Budget to establish three Artificial Intelligence Centers of Excellence (CoE). These centers aim to provide AI training, foster innovation, and create a skilled workforce. Lokesh stressed the importance of STEM and AI education in boosting competi-

tiveness and achieving the state's vision of creating a 95% skilled workforce by 2047. He reiterated the government's commitment to transforming Andhra Pradesh into a global talent hub by promoting widespread employment and establishing upskilling programs tailored to industry needs. Minister Lokesh's proactive engagements at Davos reflect Andhra Pradesh's focus on innovation, sustainability, and global partnerships to drive economic growth.

IT Raids Pushpa 2 Director Sukumar's Home

- Raids target Sukumar, Dil Raju, and film companies.
- Sukumar's financials and tax payments questioned.
- IT officials probe film investments and income.



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 23

The Income Tax (IT) department is continuing its raids on the residences of prominent film industry figures, including director Sukumar, for the second consecutive day. Sukumar's residence, along with the offices of producer Dil Raju, Telangana Film Development Corporation (FDC) Chairman, and major production companies like Mythri Movie Makers, Mango Media, and Venkateswara Creations, are being searched by IT officials.

The investigation focuses on Sukumar's remuneration for the film Pushpa 2, his sources of income, and related tax payments. IT teams have conducted coordi-

nated raids at multiple locations, including Banjara Hills, Jubilee Hills, Kondapur, and Gachibowli. A total of 55 teams are involved in the searches across eight locations in Hyderabad since Tuesday morning. IT officials have also questioned Dil Raju regarding investments and income related to films produced by his companies. During questioning, Dil Raju reportedly stated that his film Varisu, starring Vijay, grossed Rs. 120 crore, and the actor received a remuneration of Rs. 40 crore. There were also reports that Rs. 60 crore were paid to distributors and exhibitors to cover the losses from the film. The ongoing raids are part of a broader investigation into the financial dealings of the industry.

President Approves Appointment of Judges to Telugu States High Courts

TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Jan 23

President Draupadi Murmu approved the appointment of several judges to the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, as per orders released by the Union Law Ministry on Wednesday.

For the Telangana High Court, four judges have been appointed:

- Justice Renuka Erra
- Justice Narsingarao Nandikonda

- Justice Tirumala Devi Eda
- Justice Madhusudhanrao Bobbili Ramaiah
- For the Andhra Pradesh High Court, two judges have been appointed:
- Justice Avadhanam Hariharanatha Sharma
- Justice Yadavalli Lakshmana Rao

The Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna, recently convened in New Delhi to finalize the selection of judges for the Telugu states' High

Courts. Based on the Collegium's recommendations, the President issued the appointment orders.

The Andhra Pradesh High Court, which has a sanctioned strength of 37 judges, currently has 28 judges. With these new appointments, the number will rise to 30, leaving seven vacancies. Similarly, the Telangana High Court, which also has several vacancies, will benefit from the addition of four judges.

The newly appointed judges are expected to take their oaths soon, filling



critical gaps and enhancing judicial efficiency in both states. This development marks a significant step to-

wards addressing the backlog and improving the functioning of the judiciary in the Telugu states.



Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

Sanatana Dharma preaches equality and says no to caste inheritance by birth.

- Sanatana Dharma emphasizes equality, rejecting caste by birth.
- Bhagavad Gita highlights societal roles based on actions, not lineage.
- Lord Krishna's life exemplifies the transcendence of caste distinctions.
- Rishi Vedavyas' legacy proves greatness comes from actions, not caste.

Sanatana Dharma, commonly known as Hinduism, advocates for a society liberated from the limitations imposed by caste distinctions, asserting that caste is not an intrinsic characteristic linked to one's birth. This belief is founded on the idea that an individual's actions, character, and decisions shape their identity, rather than the family caste of their birth. This principle is clearly expressed in Chapter 4, Verse 13 of the Bhagavad Gita, which states that societal divisions are determined by qualities and actions (guna and karma) rather than by family and birth lineage. Lord Sri Krishna was born into the Yadu royal family and, by nature, embraced the role of a cowherd caretaker. However, when the circumstances required it, he transformed into a warrior, engaging in battle against demons such as Kamsa and Narakasura. He served as an ambassador for the Pandavas, acted as Arjuna's charioteer, and emerged as a universal teacher through the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita. He exemplified the various roles associated with the divisions of labor, including Shudra, Kshatriya, and Brahmin. Additionally, Lord Krishna's sister married Arjuna, highlighting the acceptance of inter-caste marriages. This illustrates the fundamental message that individuals can assume any role based on their preferences and inherent qualities. The narrative of Lord Shiva, often portrayed as a wanderer in cremation grounds, serves as a com-

elling representation of this principle. Known as Layakaradu, he transcends societal conventions and embodies the notion that divinity is not restricted by caste or social status. His connection to the cremation grounds symbolizes a profound relationship with the cycle of life and death, reinforcing the idea that spiritual advancement is available to everyone, irrespective of their social position. In a similar vein, the tale of King Satyachandra, who assumed the role of a caretaker in a cremation ground, exemplifies the rejection of caste hierarchies. His actions reflect a deep sense of duty and service, illustrating that nobility and honor stem from one's deeds rather than their lineage. The character of Dronacharya, a Brahmin teacher who fought bravely on the battlefield of Kurukshetra, further exemplifies this principle. Despite his Brahmin background, his courage and dedication to his role as a warrior emphasize that an individual's place in society is defined by their choices and actions, not solely by their caste identity. The Rishi Vedavyas, born to a fisherwoman, is well-known for his pivotal role in the survival of the Kuru dynasty and as the author of the Mahabharata epic. These examples collectively demonstrate that greatness and leadership can emerge from any background, effectively challenging the rigid caste system.



Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar Meets with Telugu Nadu Workers' Union and Aqua Farmers

- Union leaders present demands for integration of junior linemen and departmental salary payments.
- Minister assures action on issues and praises electricity department workers.
- Aqua farmers' concerns over high load and transformer fees addressed.

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 23

Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar held productive meetings with both Telugu Nadu Electricity Workers' Union leaders and aqua farmers on Wednesday at the Secretariat, aiming to address their respective concerns. During the meeting with the union leaders, issues were raised regarding the integration of around 7,400 Grade 2 Junior Linemen under the Secretariats into the Power Department and the merger of four Discs under the Transco purview. Additionally, the leaders requested that contract workers in the Power Department be paid their salaries on a departmental basis and that duties be assigned to alleviate work pressure. They also appealed for the Rs. 25,000 crore paid by the previous government to AP Beverages Corporation for retired employees to be deposited back into the company. Minister Gottipati responded positively, assuring the union leaders that the issues would be addressed appropriately. He also acknowledged the exceptional services provided by electricity department employees during cyclones, floods, and other natural disasters, as well as their effective performance during the recent elections. In a separate meeting, aqua farmers expressed concerns about the high load and transformer fees. Minister Gottipati immediately spoke to relevant electricity department officials and instructed them to take necessary steps to resolve these issues. Notable figures like Kamireddy Eswar Rao and DVVS Chowdary were among those present during the meeting. The Minister's assurance and prompt action demonstrate his commitment to resolving the challenges faced by both workers and farmers in the region.

Amaravati Gets HUDCO's Financial Boost, Says Minister Narayana

- HUDCO approves ₹11,000 crore loan for Amaravati's construction.
- Coalition government accelerates development under Chandrababu's leadership.
- Domestic and foreign investments pour in, signaling economic growth for Andhra Pradesh.

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 23

In a significant development for Andhra Pradesh, the Chandrababu-led coalition government has announced that HUDCO (Housing and Urban Development Corporation) has approved a ₹11,000 crore loan for the construction of the state capital, Amaravati. Minister for Municipal Administration P. Narayana clarified that this decision was finalized during the HUDCO board meeting in Mumbai, which will now expedite Amaravati's development. Minister Narayana highlighted that discussions with HUDCO for this financial assistance had been ongoing and praised the positive response, calling it a key step to accelerate work on the capital. The Minister expressed optimism, stat-

ing that this decision would ensure rapid progress for Amaravati, fulfilling the long-pending aspirations of the people. The 2024 assembly elections saw Andhra Pradesh voters decisively supporting the Chandrababu-led coalition government the mandate to make it a reality. This followed a period of uncertainty under the previous administration, during which no industries were established, and some existing companies, such as Amara Raja, relocated to neighboring states. The central government under Prime Minister Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah has also pledged financial support for the Polavaram project and the capital. This alignment between the NDA government at the center and the coalition government in the state has brought renewed focus on Andhra Pradesh's de-



velopment. Minister Narayana noted that domestic and foreign investors are increasingly showing interest in the state, with companies like Lulu Group now willing to invest in Visakhapatnam, Tirupati, and Vijayawada. These developments, coupled with the allocation of HUDCO funds, have raised hopes among Amaravati residents of rapid growth and industrial expansion. The coalition government's efforts, including international engagements such as CM Chandrababu Naidu's visit to Davos, underline its commitment to positioning Andhra Pradesh as a leading destination for investment and development. Residents and stakeholders alike are optimistic that Amaravati will soon transform into a thriving hub of growth and prosperity.



Victims Seek Justice Against Alleged YCP Scams at TDP Grievance Program

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 23

Several victims of alleged scams and irregularities under YCP leaders presented their grievances during a TDP public petition program at the party's central office. The petitioners highlighted issues ranging from job scams and financial fraud to land disputes and harassment. Uppala Anil Kumar from Krishna district alleged that Morla Mahidhar, a close associate of former YCP minister Jogi Ramesh, took ₹16 lakhs promising a job in the housing department but failed to deliver. Similarly, Varra Sagar Reddy, linked to Byreddy Siddharth Reddy, was accused of scamming people, including Ganjarapalli Chinnayya of Guntur, by stealing money under the pretense of processing bank loans. Srilakshmi from Palnadu district claimed that Videkula Krishna Rao harassed her and her daughter after she sought repayment of dues. In another case, Eedulamudi Dayamma from Palnadu alleged that Pachala Suresh forged land documents and occupied her property. Other grievances included KS Priya from Guntur accusing B. Narayana Reddy of taking ₹9.50 lakhs for a fake job offer, and Bandaru Suryadevi from Amaravati seeking action against a tenant, Sheikh Mastanavali, for attempting to occupy her house. Victims also reported crop payment issues and illegal land occupations, including Kesani Sambasivarao from Bapatla district and Venkata Ramanayya from Nellore district. Dharmala Apparao from Vizianagaram appealed for the restoration of his ancestral land, allegedly transferred under the previous government.

Chief Secretary Vijayanand Assures Support to Gazetted Officers Association

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 23

Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary Vijayanand assured the Gazetted Officers Association of his support in resolving any issues faced by officers across the state. Speaking at an event where he unveiled the 2025 calendar of the association, Vijayanand emphasized that he would stand by the officers whenever their concerns were brought to the government's attention through the association. He further assured that he would work towards resolving the problems of gazetted officers in any district of the

state. State President Vinukonda Raja Rao of the Gazetted Officers Association spoke about the various challenges the officers are currently facing. He requested the Chief Secretary to designate a specific grievance day to address these issues promptly. The event also saw the participation of key association leaders, including General Secretary K.V.S. Narayana, Vice Presidents N.K.V. Prasad Rao, G. Prabhakara Rao, R. Srinivas, and Dr. R. Srinivas Rao, who collectively emphasized the need for a systematic approach to resolve the officers' concerns.



Home Minister Anitha Highlights Police Efforts and Technology Integration

- Criticizes the previous government for neglecting police infrastructure.
- Emphasizes use of technology for better policing and crime control.
- Assures efforts to make the state free of drugs and ensure public safety.



TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 23

Home Minister Vangalapati Anitha expressed concerns over the corruption in police systems during the previous government, stating that basic facilities for police officers were severely lacking. She pointed out that Chief Minister Chandrababu

Naidu serves as an exemplary model in utilizing technology for effective governance, and the police have been working diligently to maintain security without compromising on public safety. Anitha acknowledged the dedica-

tion of public representatives to ensure the safety of the people and emphasized that the security programs provide an opportunity for law enforcement to engage more closely with the community. She also praised the police services for their effectiveness during natural disasters and emergencies, including the successful handling of the Budameru floods.

She highlighted ongoing efforts to integrate technology, such as drones, to control crime and address traffic management issues in major cities. Additionally, she mentioned the government's focus on combating drugs and marijuana, asserting that multiple strategies are being explored to make the state free of such substances. Anitha assured the public that the police would continue to work tirelessly to uphold peace and security across the state.

MLA Bojjala Lauds CM Chandrababu Naidu for Efforts to Save Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

TPN | C. Sekhar
Tirupati, Jan 23

MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy praised Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu for his resolute efforts in securing a financial guarantee of ₹11,400 crore from the Central Government, aimed at preventing the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. In a press release on Wednesday, Bojjala emphasized that Naidu's "steel resolve" had successfully protected the plant, which is considered a vital asset for the state.

Bojjala expressed gratitude to the Central Government for providing financial support to help the plant recover from its financial struggles. He described the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant as a "jewel" for Andhra Pradesh, built with considerable sacrifices from the people.



The MLA sharply criticized former Chief Minister YS Jagan for failing to support the plant and accused his government of negligence, which contributed to the plant's financial

difficulties. Bojjala pointed out that Jagan's lack of effort in securing assistance from the Central Government had led to discussions on privatization.

He credited Chandrababu Naidu, who, as the opposition leader at the time, devised a strategic plan to protect the plant from privatization. Bojjala also expressed thanks to the Centre for its immediate ₹1,650 crore assistance and highlighted the collective efforts of TDP, Janaseena, and BJP to secure this financial aid.

The MLA condemned Jagan for his attempts to undermine the steel plant and stated that no Telugu person would forgive him for such actions, emphasizing the unity of the people in defending the state's resources.

Varudu Kalyani Criticizes Coalition Leaders for Ignoring Women's Issues

- YSRCP leader Varudu Kalyani warns of action against belt shops.
- Criticizes coalition leaders for focusing on politics and scams instead of women's safety.
- Accuses government of inaction on rapes, attacks, and illegal activities.

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 23

YSRCP leader Varudu Kalyani raised serious concerns at a media conference, accusing the coalition government of failing to address incidents of violence against women. She pointed out that despite ongoing cases of rapes and attacks, the coalition leaders, including Home Minister Anitha, have remained silent and have not responded to any such incidents.



Kalyani criticized the coalition leaders for prioritizing politics, corruption in liquor and sand scams, and vying for positions, rather than addressing the pressing issues of women's safety. She particularly called out the inaction surrounding illegal belt shops, which continue to operate under the government's watch.

In a strong statement, Kalyani warned that if the government does not shut down these illegal belt shops, the YSRCP would take matters into their own hands and destroy them. Her comments reflect growing frustration among opposition leaders over the perceived lack of government accountability on critical issues affecting women.

JAC Demands Apology from BJP MLA Vishnu Kumar Raju for Objectionable Remarks



TPN Correspondent
Visakhapatnam, Jan 23

A protest was held at the GVMC on Wednesday under the banner of the Visakhapatnam District All-Party Workers' Public Unions Joint Action Committee (JAC), demanding an apology from BJP MLA P Vishnu Kumar Raju for his controversial comments against steel plant workers. The JAC leaders strongly condemned his remarks, stating that as a representative of raw corporates, Raju had shown disrespect for the workers who have tirelessly contributed to the steel plant's operations. JAC Chairman M Jaggu Naidu and Vice Chairman M Manmadha Rao accused Raju of making insensitive statements, including telling workers to either resign or avoid taking Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS). They demanded that Raju retract these comments and apologize to the workers for undermining their efforts.

The JAC also addressed the central package of Rs 11,440 crore allocated to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, which they welcomed but insisted was not enough. The workers and public felt that Raju's dismissal of their struggles was unjust. They pointed out that the steel plant has generated significant

income for both the central and state governments, and suggested that merging it with SAIL and allocating its own mines could further enhance its profitability.

Raju's remarks regarding the central package, claiming that it was a result of the coalition government and not worker struggles, were met with criticism. The JAC highlighted that the steel industry's survival was due to the efforts of workers and public struggles, not corporate interests.

The protestors also demanded that the government cancel the Prime Minister's decision to sell the steel plant and merge it with SAIL. They called for the restoration of jobs for 8,500 displaced workers, filling of 5,000 vacant positions, and immediate payment of salary arrears to officers and permanent workers.

In conclusion, the JAC warned that if these demands were not met, they would be forced to call for the resignation of Vishnu Kumar Raju and coalition leaders in the future. The event saw participation from prominent leaders of various unions and organizations, including AITUC District General Secretary S. J. Achyuta Rao, CITU District Leaders, and several others.

Minister Achhennaaidu Calls for Restoration of Pensions and TIDCO Houses

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 23

Minister Achhennaaidu has emphasized the need to restore TIDCO houses and pensions cancelled by the previous government and called for an inquiry into alleged land-grabbing activities by YSRCP leaders. Addressing grievances at the TDP central office, he assured victims that justice would be delivered and directed officials to take necessary action.

Among the petitions received, Lakshmi Devi of Mylapuram (Yarraguntla, Kadapa district) alleged that her TIDCO house, sanctioned by the TDP government in 2018, was unfairly cancelled by the YSRCP government. Similarly, B. Uttam Reddy of Chinnathip-pasamudram (Annamayya district) stated that her NTR Bharosa pension, which she received before 2019, was terminated in a partisan manner, and she appealed for its restoration. In Chittoor district, Yashwanth accused YSRCP leaders of attempting to encroach on his family's cultivated land in Krishnapuram through intimidation tactics. Meanwhile, Vadde



Erriswamy of Sheksanupalli (Anantapur district) claimed that records of his five-acre farm in Jarutla Ramapuram were tampered with to create a fraudulent Chandappa Patta under YSRCP influence.

Minister Achhennaaidu pledged to investigate these complaints thoroughly and ensure that rightful beneficiaries receive their due. He reiterated TDP's commitment to addressing the grievances of the poor and reversing the alleged injustices of the previous government.

Case Filed Against Former YSRCP Minister Kakani Govardhan

TPN Correspondent
Nellore, Jan 23

Former YSRCP minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy has been booked by Kavali One Town Police following allegations of making inappropriate comments against the police and threatening TDP leaders. The incident



stems from a violent clash between TDP and YSRCP members in Kolladinne, Bogolu mandal, which resulted in injuries to members of both parties. The injured were taken to Kavali Government Hospital, where tensions flared again as YSRCP supporters allegedly wielded knives, causing another serious altercation with TDP ranks. During his visit to the hospital, Kakani reportedly accused the police of supporting TDP members and made threatening remarks, including claims that the YCP government would retaliate by taking action against officers. TDP leader Vanteru Prasanna lodged

a complaint at the Kavali One Town Police Station, leading to cases being registered against Kakani under sections 224, 351/2, 352, and 353/2 of the IPC. TDP leaders believe these incidents reveal political conspiracies in the region. Additionally, allegations have surfaced against Kakani regarding intimidation in a separate rape case. It is reported that his follower, Venkata Seshiah, sexually assaulted a woman under the pretext of offering a job. When the woman approached the police, Kakani allegedly pressured officials, including CI Subbarao and RI Ravi, with threats of removing them from their posts once YSRCP regains power.

Kakani's alleged behavior has become a topic of widespread discussion, highlighting concerns about misuse of power and threats directed at law enforcement and political opponents.

Talashila Raghuram Criticizes AB Venkateswara Rao's Comments

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 23

Talashila Raghuram, Member of Legislative Council (MLC), strongly criticized AB Venkateswara Rao for using indecent language in his recent remarks, questioning how such language could come from an individual in an IPS position. Raghuram called for society to condemn such offensive remarks, stressing that such behavior was unbecoming of a person in a respected position.



Raghuram also spoke about the impressive electoral performance of YS Jagan despite facing opposition from multiple parties. He highlighted that Jagan secured over 40% of the votes, ruling without considering caste, re-

gion, or regional lines, a fact that speaks to his broad acceptance across the state.

In a pointed remark, Raghuram noted that it was unfortunate and shameful that AB Venkateswara Rao, who hails from Krishna district—a region known for producing great personalities like Puchalapalli Sundarayya and Kakani Venkataratnam—would make such comments.

Raghuram further urged Pawan Kalyan to respond to AB's comments about caste and class, stating that if Pawan Kalyan remains silent, it would appear as if he is endorsing caste-based animosity. He called for an apology from AB Venkateswara Rao for his derogatory remarks against YS Jagan.

Chinta Mohan Demands Pawan Kalyan's Stand on SC Classification

TPN Correspondent
Kakinada, Jan 23

Former Tirupati MP and former Union Minister Chinta Mohan expressed strong concerns regarding the division of Dalits in Andhra Pradesh, alleging that it all began with the formation of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). Speaking at a media conference in Kakinada on Wednesday, Mohan claimed that the issue of reservation classification had caused a rift among Dalits, a community that was previously united. Mohan further criticized Pithapur-

am MLA and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for remaining silent on the issue of SC classification. He demanded that Kalyan publicly state his opinion on the matter, urging the leader to clarify his position, as the issue continues to be a point of contention among various political factions. Chinta Mohan's remarks reflect ongoing debates about the reservation system and the division it has caused within Dalit communities, particularly concerning the state's stance on classification and the lack of clarity from prominent political leaders.

MP Kesineni Shivanath Advocates for Friendly Policing Across the State

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada, Jan 23 : Vijayawada MP Kesineni Shivanath emphasized the need for friendly policing services in Vijayawada to be extended across the entire state. Speaking as the chief guest at the security inauguration program held at the Vijayawada A Plus Convention, Shivanath highlighted the efforts of Police Commissioner Rajasekhara Babu, who has been successfully implementing friendly policing services in Vijayawada. He praised the Commissioner for his efficient leadership, particularly noting his contributions during the recent floods, where the police provided numerous essential services to the public. During the event, Shivanath, alongside Home Minister Vangalapati Anitha, inaugurated the security committees and honored members of the security core committee. Eagle Vehicles were also launched, aimed at enhancing the city's security. In addition, the program saw the distribution of free helmets to the



public under the auspices of the Police Department. Shivanath lauded the current police leadership for its coordination with public representatives, contrasting it with the previous Commissioner's tenure, which he claimed had caused issues in the city. He pointed out that under Rajasekhara Babu's leadership, all police stations in NTR District are now equipped with drones—an accomplishment not seen in other districts across the state. He also expressed pride in the 1100 CC cameras



provided through the cooperation of local businesses. Further, the MP acknowledged the increased workload of the Vijayawada police due to the city's location in the capital region and urged Home Minister Anitha to provide more personnel and vehicles to support the police force. Shivanath also requested the renovation of the police quarters in Vijayawada One Town and the modernization of older police station buildings to improve working conditions and efficiency.

MLA Giddi Satyanarayana Receives Public Petitions at Janavani Program

- Public meeting held at Jana Sena Party Central Office to address grievances.
- MLA Giddi Satyanarayana, along with party leaders, listens to petitions from the people.
- Leaders from various wings of Jana Sena participated in the event.



TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri, Jan 23 : P. Gannavaram MLA Giddi Satyanarayana received several petitions from the public during a Janavani program held at the Jana Sena Party Central Office on Wednesday. The program provided a platform for

people to voice their concerns, and Satyanarayana actively engaged with them, addressing their grievances. During the event, Party Palmaru Coordinator Sri Tadiseti Naresh, Veera Mahila Wing Leader Smt. Ravi Soujanya, Legal Wing Member Sri B. Narasimha Rao, and other party officials participated, showing solidarity with the public and offering their support. The Janavani program allowed the Jana Sena Party to connect with citizens, ensuring that their issues are heard and that efforts are made to resolve them.

Janasena Activist Shiram Santosh Kumar's Suicide Attempt Shocks Pedana Constituency

TPN Correspondent | Pedana, Jan 23

A recent suicide attempt by Jana Sena activist Shiram Santosh Kumar in Kankata village of Gudur Mandal has shocked the local community. Santosh, who had been expressing frustration over the lack of recognition for Jana Sena workers in the current coalition government, attempted suicide due to feelings of helplessness and impatience.

For some time, Jana Sena activists, including Santosh, had been dissatisfied with what they saw as the TDP mandal leaders' dictatorial tendencies and lack of responsiveness towards their concerns. MLA Kagita Krishna Prasad was informed about Santosh's grievances before the tragic incident occurred. Santosh had been deeply committed to the party, contributing in many ways, including working tirelessly to help elect the Pancha-



yat President. Despite facing personal challenges and leaving his job, Santosh continued his service, even putting aside personal financial gain to help others in his village. The villagers, devastated by the incident, have expressed their anger at the lack of support for dedicated party workers like Santosh. They have called on the government to respond quickly to address the injustice Santosh faced. The community also expressed their hope that Santosh recovers and is able to return to the village, with many villagers praying for his swift recovery.

MLA Venigandla Ramu Inspects Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Gurukul School in Motur

TPN Correspondent | Gudivada, Jan 23

MLA Venigandla Ramu conducted a surprise inspection of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Gurukul School in Motur, Gudivada Rural Mandal, on Wednesday afternoon. The MLA began his visit by inspecting the school's surroundings and then made his way through the classrooms, interacting directly with students. He inquired about the facilities, including the hostel menu and other amenities, and showed a keen interest in the digital learning tools being used in the classrooms.



dissatisfaction with the conditions and advised the Principal, Sanjeevini Devi, to improve them. The MLA also spoke with the Health Supervisor, urging them to pay special attention to the students' health and to utilize the services of the nearby Mandal PHC in case of any medical issues.

MLA Ramu also took the time to inspect the quality of the mid-day meals provided to the students. After tasting the food, he expressed satisfaction and suggested

improvements based on his observations. Speaking to the media, MLA Ramu emphasized the revolutionary changes taking place in the state's education system under the coalition government. He expressed his happiness with the steps taken by Minister Lokesh to improve education and highlighted that these efforts are showing positive results. He urged the authorities to focus on providing better facilities for students, particularly in the hostels, and promised to address any issues raised by the students in his constituency.

The inspection was attended by Mandal EOPRD Srinivasa Rao, Moturi Panchayat Secretary P. Janardhan, TDP leaders Chekur Jagan Mohan Rao, Moturi Seshagiri, Katari Prasad, and others.

Director V. Vijayarama Raju Outlines Plans to Strengthen Education in Govt Schools

TPN Correspondent | NTR Dist, Jan 23

Director V. Vijayarama Raju outlined the education department's efforts to strengthen the education system in government schools during a regional conference held at the Mary's Stella College auditorium on Wednesday. The conference, which included human resource officers and principals from the joint Krishna district, focused on implementing the new education policy. Vijayarama Raju emphasized the establishment of model primary schools in every village and the creation of foundation schools in areas with classes 6, 7, and 8. He highlighted the importance of district administration involvement to ensure the smooth implementation of these plans. The goal is to have a model primary school in every village, which will serve as the cornerstone for educational development.

As part of the new system, satellite foundation, model primary, and basic primary schools will be upgraded based on the number of students in each area. The education department plans to form clusters of 15 to 25 schools in each district, ensuring that schools are grouped effectively for better management. To support this process, committees have been formed to study potential changes and improvements in the school system.

Vijayarama Raju stated that a comprehensive report will be prepared after gathering feedback from these committees, which will help guide the establishment of model primary schools in every gram panchayat and municipal ward. The meeting was attended by several notable officials, including Samagra Shiksha State Project Director B. Srinivasa Rao, Krishna District Collector Dr. G. Lakshimisha, NTR District Collector DK Balaji, Regional Joint Director of School Education G. Nagamani, and District Education Officers.



Dwama Ramu Warns of Legal Action in Case of Irregularities in Employment Guarantee Scheme



TPN Correspondent | NTR Dist, Jan 23

Dwama PD A. Ramu has issued a stern warning regarding irregularities in the employment guarantee scheme, stating that cases will be filed against individuals found responsible. This announcement came during a social audit public forum held at the Mandala Parishad office, where the works carried out under the scheme between 01-04-2023 and 31-03-2024 were reviewed.

During the forum, the details of the works carried out in the respective villages were discussed, and Ramu emphasized the importance of transparency and accountability. He stated that if any irregularities were identified during the

social audit, the individuals responsible would be required to immediately pay back the recovery amounts. Ramu warned that if the recovery was not made, legal action would be taken, including the registration of cases against those involved in the discrepancies.

The meeting was attended by key officials, including District Ombudsman N. Balaji, Vigilance Officer, MPDO N. Ramababu, APD Parthasarathy, APOS, and village sarpanchs, who participated in monitoring the progress and ensuring that the scheme's implementation was on track.

Walk Marathon Held to Promote National Road Safety Month in Mangalagiri

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri, Jan 23

As part of the National Road Safety Month, the Mangalagiri Transport Department and the Police Department organized a walk marathon to raise awareness about road safety. The event, held on Gautama Buddha Road, saw active participation from students of New Kennedy School and Nalanda Vocational College in Mangalagiri.

During the program, RTO Satyanarayana addressed the gathering, emphasizing the alarming number of youth fatalities in road accidents, particularly among two-wheeler riders.

He urged drivers of all vehicles, including car drivers, to wear helmets and strictly follow traffic rules to ensure their safety. Satyanarayana stressed that everyone should adhere to traffic regulations to reach their destinations safely.

The walk marathon was supported by Assistant Motor Inspector Pawan Kumar, Balakrishna Anil, DSP Muralikrishna, CI Vinod, SI Haribabu, and several students, who actively participated in promoting road safety awareness in the community. The event aimed to highlight the importance of safe road practices and encourage responsible behavior among youth on the roads.



Airport Construction in Ongole to Begin Soon, Says MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy

- Construction approved as part of five new airports in Andhra Pradesh.
- Ongole airport to initially operate with 72-seat aircraft.
- Boeing aircraft services planned for future expansion.



TPN Correspondent | Prakasam Dist, Jan 23 : Ongole MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy announced that the long-cherished dream of an airport in Prakasam district is set to become a reality soon. Accompanied by aviation officials and local MLA Janardhan, he inspected the site allocated for the airport's construction. Highlighting the state government's vision, the MP stated that Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has approved the construction of five additional airports across Andhra Pradesh, including Ongole, fulfilling a promise made earlier. He confirmed that land acquisition for the project has been completed and initial operations will commence with 72-seat aircraft. Plans are underway to upgrade the airport to accommodate Boeing aircraft in the near future. Local MLA Janardhan emphasized the airport's significance for Prakasam district, calling it a vital step towards regional development. He assured that construction work would begin shortly, positioning Ongole as a key hub with expanding resources and infrastructure. The airport is expected to contribute significantly to the district's growth and connectivity.

Preparations Underway for Grand Shivayya Brahmotsavam in Srikalahasti



- Brahmotsavam scheduled from February 21 to March 6.
- Officials directed to ensure quick darshan for common devotees.
- Coordination among departments emphasized for smooth organization.

TPN | C. Sekhar | Srikalahasti, Jan 23 : District Administrative Officer Dr. Venkateswar stated that the upcoming Shivayya Brahmotsavam at the Srikalahasti Devasthanam temple will be organized with grandeur, ensuring convenience for common devotees. A review meeting was held under the leadership of temple EO Bapireddy and MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy at the temple administration building. The Brahmotsavam, scheduled from February 21 to March 6, coincides with the Mahashivratri celebrations. Dr. Venkateswar stressed the importance of departmental coordination for the smooth conduct of the event. Special measures were discussed to enable devotees to have quick darshan during the festivities. The Collector, as the chief guest, highlighted the preparatory tasks for the departments involved and assured full support for the event's success. Temple AEO Krishna Reddy Vidyasagar and officials from various departments participated in the meeting, marking the first planning session for the festival.

Sri Srinivasa Kalyanam Celebrated with Devotion at Chitrakoot Maha Kumbh Mela



TPN | K. kannaiyah | Tirumala, Jan 23 : On the occasion of the Maha Kumbh Mela, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) conducted Sri Srinivasa Kalyanam with grandeur at the Uttaradi Ahobila Mutt in Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh. This sacred location holds historical significance as the site where Lord Rama, Sita Devi, and Lakshmana spent 12 years during

the Treta Yuga. The event commenced with the chief priest of the Tirumala Srivari Temple, Sri Venugopalan Dikshitulu, leading a team of priests to escort the idols of Sri Devi and Bhudevi to the Kalyanam venue. From 11 AM to 12 noon, the marriage ceremony was performed with strict adherence to scriptural guidelines. The rituals included Sri Vishwakshenaradhana, Punyahavach

ana, Kankan Dharana, Agni Pratishtapana, Akali Sankalpa, Bhakta Sankalpa, Maha Sankalpa, Mangalya Puja, and Mangala Sutra Dharana, culminating with the Nakshatra Aarti and Mangala Aarti. The enchanting Vedic chants and auspicious instruments created a spiritually uplifting atmosphere, leaving devotees in awe.

Sri Sri 1008 Rajguru Peethadeeshwar Swami Badri Prapannacharyaji Maharaj, TTD Estate Officer Sri Gunabhushan Reddy, Bokkasam In-charge Sri Gururaja Swamy, and other officials were present during this divine celebration. Devotees who participated in the Kalyanam were deeply moved and filled with devotion, cherishing the experience of witnessing this sacred event.

DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao Calls for Hard Work to Boost APSRTC

- RTC earned Rs. 83 crore in a single day during Sankranti.
- Night duty allowances provided; pending dues to be cleared.
- Gouru Charitha Reddy submitted a petition to address worker issues.

TPN Correspondent | Kurnool, Jan 23 : DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao emphasized the importance of continued hard work by employees to ensure the growth of Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC). Speaking during his visit to Kurnool's first depot, he addressed the workers, acknowledging their efforts in boosting RTC's income. He highlighted a remarkable achievement, stating that RTC recorded an unprecedented one-day income of Rs. 83 crore during the recent Sankranti festival.

Dwaraka Tirumala Rao also spoke about his efforts to improve employee welfare, including solving long-standing issues such as providing night duty allowances. He assured that he would discuss with Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu to settle all pending dues before his retirement. During the event, Panyam MLA Gouru Charitha Reddy submitted a petition urging the RTC MD to resolve specific issues faced by the workers, further underlining the organization's commitment to employee welfare.



zation's commitment to employee welfare.

Constable PET Candidate Passes Away During Treatment



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram, Jan 23 : A candidate, Baudupalli Ravi Kumar (22) from Komati-palli village in Dattirajuru mandal, who appeared for the Physical Efficiency Test (PET) for cadet police constable recruitment on January 21, tragically passed away while receiving treatment, District SP Vakul Jindal, IPS, announced on January 22. The incident occurred during the 1600-meter run, a primary qualifying test at the Police Parade Ground in Vizianagaram. Ravi Kumar fell ill and lost consciousness mid-event. Medical staff

and police personnel immediately provided primary treatment before rushing him to Maharaja Sarvajana Hospital in a 108 emergency vehicle. When his condition showed no improvement, Ravi Kumar was transferred to Tirumala Medicovert Hospital with his family present. Upon further advice from doctors, he was shifted to Medicovert Hospital in Visakhapatnam for advanced treatment. District SP Vakul Jindal personally visited the hospital, spoke to the doctors, and ensured support for the family. Despite the efforts of the medical team, Baudupalli Ravi Kumar succumbed to his condition at 3 AM on January 22. Additional SP P. Soumyalatha and other officials extended their assistance to the grieving family, highlighting the district administration's efforts to provide immediate support during the crisis.

Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy Announces Renovation of Welfare Hostels with Corporate Improvements

TPN | C. Sekhar | Srikalahasti, Jan 23 MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy announced that government social welfare hostels in Srikalahasti will be renovated with corporate-level improvements to provide students with enhanced living conditions. Speaking at a program held at the Government Social Women's Hostel in Telugu Ganga Colony on Wednesday, the MLA recalled his initial visit to the hostel, where he was shocked by the lack of basic facilities. After conducting a thorough inspection of welfare hostels in the area, he prepared proposals to address the issues, with the goal of completing the work in two months. However, he proudly mentioned that the work was completed within just one month. Bojjala emphasized that his efforts were not limited to this particular hostel. Seven hostels in Srikalahasti town were inspected, and basic facilities were provided in four of them, with steps being taken to improve the remaining three. He also mentioned that the welfare hostels will be renovated with corporate-level facilities and will be inaugurated as a gift by State IT Minister Nara Lokesh on his

upcoming birthday. The MLA thanked Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu for allocating funds and supporting the development of Srikalahasti. He further explained that plans are underway to improve the local hospital and schools, with a focus on providing corporate-level medical services to the people. District Collector Dr. Venkateswar praised the steps taken by the MLA, highlighting that all necessary facilities, including computers, beds, wash areas, internet access, and CCTV cameras, would be made available to students. He also mentioned that girls would be provided Rs. 250 per month for cosmetic expenses. Dr. Venkateswar added that Rs. 6 crore has been sanctioned by the government for the repair and renovation of social welfare hostels in Tirupati district. Earlier, MLA Bojjala, along with the District Collector, Temple EO Bapireddy, RDO Bhanuprakash Reddy, and District Social Welfare Officer Chennaiyya, inspected the welfare hostels. The program also saw the participation of hostel wardens, students, and other community members.

Tributes Paid to Brave Soldier Karthik by Former MLA Dr. Sunil Kumar

TPN | C Sekhar | Puthalapattu, Jan 23 : Former MLA Dr. Sunil Kumar paid tribute to the late soldier Karthik, who sacrificed his life in a terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir. Speaking at the event, he emphasized the soldier's unwavering commitment to the nation and urged the government to support the bereaved family. Dr. Sunil Kumar highlighted that ₹50 lakh had been provided to families of previous martyrs during the Jagannanna government and demanded the same compensation be announced immediately for Karthik's family. Additionally, he requested the government to offer a suitable job to a



family member to provide long-term support. The program saw participation from several notable figures, including State Pala Ekari President MB Kumar Raja, Mandal Vice MPP Sirish Reddy, Mandal Co-option Member Sheikh Feroz Ahmed, Sarpanch Sri Hari, and Former Single Window Chairman Dattu Reddy. Other attendees included State Minority Leader Sardar Garu, Deputy Sarpanch Kama Raju, SC Cell Presidents Nagaraju and Govindaswamy, along with Baliji Palli Babu, Shailesh Somu, Naveen, and Balaji. The event served as a heartfelt acknowledgment of the soldier's ultimate sacrifice and a collective call for the government to ensure justice and support for his grieving family.

National Lok Adalat to be Held on March 8

TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram, Jan 23 : The District Chief Justice has urged for the successful organization of the National Lok Adalat scheduled to be held on March 8. A preparatory meeting, chaired by the District Judge, was attended by managers and lawyers from Shriram City Union Finance Company, Margadarshi Chits and Finance, Kapil Chits, and Shriram Motor Finance Company. During the meeting, the District Chief Justice emphasized the importance of using the Lok Adalat platform to resolve all pending Execution Petition (E.P) cases related to finance and chit companies. Special attention was directed toward

issuing timely notices and implementing resolutions effectively. The Judge highlighted the need for conciliation to settle most cases, ensuring that litigants save both money and time. The collaborative effort aims to provide quick and efficient justice to all parties involved. SC/ST Court Judge Appalaswamy, Additional Senior Civil Judge and District Legal Services Authority Secretary Sri TV Rajesh Kumar, along with company officials and standing lawyers, actively participated in the discussions. The meeting concluded with a call to make the National Lok Adalat a platform for amicable and speedy resolutions.

The Next 20 Months: A Defining Period for Congress in Karnataka



always been a crucial factor in ensuring electoral success. The Congress won the 2023 Assembly elections by presenting a united front, despite internal differences over the Chief Minister's post. However, since coming to power, internal strife has resurfaced, particularly between the camps of Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar. The Congress party has had to address these tensions, even as the BJP struggles with its own internal divisions. The next 20 months will be critical for both parties as prolonged infighting could lead to significant political fallout. A stable, unified leadership with a clear focus on policy continuity is essential for Congress to retain its hold on power.

Building Confidence and Social Harmony

The third pillar of good governance is social harmony, which includes ensuring law and order, women's safety, and peaceful inter-group relations. Maintaining social stability requires proactive measures and efforts to build confidence among various societal groups. In the coming months, the government will need to demonstrate its ability to manage these challenges effectively. Any failure to uphold social harmony can erode public trust and impact the Congress's standing in the state. The next 20 months will be a defining period for Karnataka's Congress government. Its success will depend on its ability to address these challenges effectively, maintaining governance efficiency, party unity, and social peace.

As the Congress government in Karnataka marks 20 months in office, it finds itself at a crucial juncture in its five-year term. With a third of its tenure already completed, the next 20 months will determine the party's future in the state. Historically, Karnataka has seen a trend where governments tend to lose their focus in the second phase, which often leads to a decline in governance and eventual electoral defeat. The state has experienced a revolving-door politics cycle since 1985, with no ruling party managing to retain a clear majority by the end of its term.

Key Principles for Success

There are three key principles that shape the fate of any state government: efficiency in governance, unity within the ruling party, and social harmony. A look at past administrations reveals that most have struggled with at least two, if not all three, of these elements. Failure to meet the expectations of governance, resulting in a loss of focus or efficiency, has historically led to the downfall of several governments.

Responding to Public Aspirations

Empirical evidence shows that governments are more likely to be re-elected when voters perceive them as delivering on essential governance indicators. A post-poll study by Lokniti after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections revealed that Congress's improved performance, particularly among women voters, was driven by the successful implementation of key guarantees. This was a significant factor in their recent by-election sweep. Therefore, maintaining a focus on governance that addresses the aspirations of different voter segments is a critical path to success. However, public perception can change dramatically in the face of scandals or controversies involving government leaders, which can shift focus from governance to crisis management. For Karnataka's Congress, the next 20 months will test whether it can overcome current challenges and maintain its governance momentum.

Avoiding Internal Divisions

Unity within the ruling party has

Bangladesh's Constitutional Reforms: A Shift in Core Principles



The Constitution Reform Commission, appointed by the interim government in Bangladesh, has recommended significant changes to the country's fundamental principles. Among the most notable proposals is the deletion of the terms "secularism," "socialism," and "nationalism" from the preamble of the constitution. If these suggestions are approved, they would mark a drastic departure from the foundational principles established at the time of Bangladesh's independence.

A Departure from Traditional Principles

The inclusion of secularism, socialism, and nationalism in the constitution was a defining feature of Bangladesh's identity post-independence. Secularism aimed to ensure a separation of religion and state, promoting equal treatment for all religious communities. Socialism was intended to reflect the nation's commitment to economic equality and justice,

while nationalism emphasized unity and national identity among the people.

The proposed changes suggest replacing these terms with values that focus more on individual rights and societal justice, namely "equality," "human dignity," "social justice," and "pluralism." These new principles aim to promote a broader and more inclusive framework, which advocates for the protection of human rights and equal treatment for all citizens, regardless of their background.

Rationale Behind the Reform

The recommendations reflect a desire to shift the focus from ideological terms to more universally accepted values that align with modern democratic and human rights principles. The shift could be seen as an effort to address contemporary challenges such as religious tensions, social inequality, and the need for a more pluralistic society. By removing terms like

national discourse, appealing to a broader demographic, including religious groups that have historically been opposed to secularism.

Implications for Bangladesh's Future

If implemented, these changes could have far-reaching consequences for the political landscape of Bangladesh. The removal of secularism might invite criticism from those who view it as a step backward in terms of religious freedom and equality. On the other hand, emphasizing principles such as pluralism and equality could foster a more tolerant and balanced society, reflecting the nation's evolving needs. Ultimately, the proposed constitutional changes represent a major shift in the country's governing philosophy, potentially altering its socio-political dynamics in the years to come.



Can the BCCI's 10 Diktats End Team India's Superstar Culture?

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) recently introduced a set of 10 guidelines aimed at curbing the growing "superstar culture" within the Indian cricket team. These rules, which echo standards from previous eras, have sparked significant debate. While some argue that they are a necessary reminder, others believe they reflect deeper issues that need addressing.

A Return to Basics: Why These Rules Matter

Many of the 10 diktats, such as mandatory availability for domestic cricket, attending all scheduled practice sessions, and staying with the team even after a Test series concludes early, were already in place. The concern now is that certain players, perhaps emboldened by their stardom, have ignored or bypassed these rules, potentially affecting team cohesion. The BCCI's move to reinforce these rules is not just about discipline; it's about fostering a sense of unity and accountability among players.

However, this intervention raises the question: Why were these basic principles not enforced earlier, especially when the team was performing well? Often, when a team is winning, complacency sets in, allowing star players to operate outside the established norms. Only when things start to unravel, as seen in recent Test performances, does the need to revisit these rules emerge.

Boosting Domestic Cricket and Player Development

One key aspect of the new rules involves encouraging players to participate in domestic cricket, which not only helps curb the

superstar culture but also strengthens the domestic circuit. High-profile players like Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, and Rishabh Pant making themselves available for domestic matches, including the Ranji Trophy, is a step in the right direction. This move not only boosts the standard of domestic cricket but also provides match practice for players struggling with form.

Handling Personalities and Logistical Changes

While some rules are unlikely to raise concerns, others, like restrictions on personal staff and family travel, have already drawn complaints. Reports suggest that some players have traveled with personal chefs, bodyguards, and nannies, a practice that the BCCI is seeking to curb. Additionally, the rule limiting family visits during long tours has sparked disagreement, with players like Rohit Sharma voicing dissatisfaction.

Despite these challenges, the rule about family travel is not new; it was part of player contracts since 2018 and was relaxed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, enforcing uniformity in such matters is crucial to maintain discipline within the team.

Striking a Balance

While the new diktats are aimed at reining in individualism for the greater good of the team, it's essential that the BCCI finds a balance. The emphasis on discipline, team unity, and cohesion should not come at the cost of team morale. The reintroduction of these rules must be handled with care to avoid deepening any rifts, especially when the team is in a phase of consolidation.

Hyderabad's Food Scene: Why Online Lists Often Miss the Mark

As a passionate foodie from Hyderabad, I find myself regularly frustrated by online lists claiming to highlight the best places to eat in the city. Recently, I came across a list by the international food guide TasteAtlas, which ranked Hyderabad 50th in its '100 Best Food Cities' category. While I don't expect these lists to get everything right, the lack of accuracy, particularly when it comes to Hyderabad's culinary gems, is hard to ignore.

The Biryani Blunder

Biryani is more than just food for us—it's a part of our lives. So, when TasteAtlas included well-known names like Hotel Shadab, Paradise, and Bawarchi for biryani recommendations, I was left shaking my head. While these places aren't bad, they hardly reflect the best of what the city has to offer. Missing iconic spots like Grand Hotel, Fanooz, and Biryaniwalla & Co. is a glaring omission. Even more perplexing is the exclusion of Nayaab Hotel, a local favorite for kheema-roti and khichdi khatta, both beloved breakfast dishes. These dishes are staples of Hyderabad's Old City and should be on any list of must-try foods. Moreover, while the list rightly includes Haleem, it overlooks kheema-roti, a dish that holds a special place in the hearts of Hyderabadi. For a true taste of local breakfast culture, Nayaab Hotel is unbeatable—its absence from the list feels almost criminal.

A Disservice to Hyderabadi Food Culture

One major issue with TasteAtlas's list is the



inclusion of mirchi ka salan in its 'Originally From Hyderabad' category. While this dish is indeed commonly served with biryani, it is a side dish, not a main attraction. Its status on the list would likely infuriate most Hyderabadi, who take their food culture very seriously. Similarly, the listing of MoMo Cafe as a traditional Hyderabad restaurant is baffling. This multicuisine spot has little to do with the city's rich culinary traditions, and mentioning it in such a list does a disservice to the many true-blue Hyderabad eateries.

My Hyderabad Food Recommendations

If you're truly looking for the best food in Hyderabad, here's my take. Start your day at Nayaab Hotel with some kheema, gurda, and khichdi khatta for breakfast. Don't miss out on their kesar biryani either—it's excellent. For biryani, skip the overhyped spots like Paradise and head to Fanooz or Biryaniwalla & Co. These places offer a more authentic, home-style experience. Also, make sure to stop by Karachi Bakery for their legendary fruit biscuits and Nimrat Cafe for Osmania biscuits, both of which are must-tries.

CBI Seeks Death Penalty For RG Kar Rape Convict, Approaches Calcutta HC

TPN Correspondent | Kolkata

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has approached the Calcutta High Court, seeking the death penalty for Sanjay Roy, the convict in the RG Kar rape and murder case. The lower court had sentenced Roy to life imprisonment, but the CBI argues that the sentence is inadequate given the heinous nature of the crime. In a move that has sparked significant controversy, the CBI contended that only the union government or the agency itself could challenge the sufficiency of the lower court's sentence. The state government's attempt to petition for the death penalty



high court. The case has caused widespread protests, particularly in Kolkata, where clashes have

frustration, questioning whether society should forgive such criminals, given their potential to commit further crimes.

The trial court had deemed the crime "particularly heinous" but emphasized the need for reformative justice in sentencing. Justice Anirban Das, who sentenced Roy to life imprisonment, stated that the CBI failed to provide enough evidence to warrant the death penalty in this instance. The Supreme Court has also taken suo moto cognizance of the case and will resume hearing the matter today. In a previous hearing, the Court denied a request to transfer the trial outside of West Bengal.



Saif Ali Khan Attacker Reveals Motive Behind the Crime

Bangladeshi national admits to attacking actor due to financial hardships and desire to help sick mother.

TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

Shariful Fakir, the Bangladeshi national arrested for attacking Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan, has disclosed the reasons behind his crime. Fakir revealed that severe financial strain and his mother's illness in Bangladesh drove him to rob a wealthy individual to fund her medical treatment.

In a police statement, Fakir explained that on the night of January 16, he targeted Saif Ali Khan's residence with the intention of stealing valuables. He had hoped to flee to Bangladesh with the loot and use it to support his ailing mother. Fakir confessed to randomly selecting Khan's residence as the victim, intending to steal from a rich target.

Fakir, who was working with a housekeeping company, had lost his job in December 2024, leaving him with limited funds. He had previously worked at a restaurant in Worli, earning ₹13,000 per month, most of which he sent to Bangladesh for his mother's treatment. Surviving on just ₹1,000 in Mumbai, Fakir saw the robbery as a desperate option after his second job loss.

The attack on Saif Ali Khan occurred in the early hours of January 16, when Fakir stabbed the actor multiple times, including one injury to the neck. Khan was rushed to Lilavati Hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery.

Fakir was apprehended on January 19 at Hiranandani Estate in Thane while attempting to flee to his home country.

Priyanka Chopra Offers Prayers At Chilkur Balaji Temple



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Priyanka Chopra, the global icon, recently arrived in Hyderabad to participate in a grand announcement for SS Rajamouli's much-awaited upcoming film, starring Mahesh Babu. The actress, known for her international success, took time during her visit to offer prayers at the Chilkur Balaji Temple in the city. On Tuesday, Priyanka shared her visit to the temple on Instagram, revealing the start of a "new chapter" in her life. Dressed in a light blue salwar suit and with a dupatta draped over her head, she was seen walking inside the temple and speaking with the pandit. Priyanka also shared a heartfelt message, thanking Upasana Konidela, wife of actor Ram Charan, for her support. In her caption, Priyanka wrote, "With the blessings of Shri Balaji, a new chapter begins. May we all find peace in our hearts and prosperity and abundance all around us. God's grace is infinite. Thank you @upasanakaminikonidela." Upasana Konidela responded warmly to the post, confirming Priyanka's involvement in a new film.



ISRO Captures Maha Kumbh Mela From Space

Advanced satellite imagery reveals the scale of the world's largest religious gathering

TPN Correspondent | Prayagraj

India's space agency, ISRO, has released stunning satellite images of the ongoing Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. The event, recognized as the world's largest religious gathering, is expected to draw approximately 40 crore devotees over 45 days. Using the EOS-04 (RISAT-1A) microwave satellite, ISRO captured detailed time-series images showcasing the massive infrastructure, including tent cities, pontoon bridges, and extensive road networks. Dr. Prakash Chauhan, Director of the National Remote Sensing Cen-

tre (NRSC), highlighted the radar's ability to penetrate the cloud cover enveloping Prayagraj, providing unparalleled insights into the event's layout and planning.

- Images reveal a network of 1,50,000 tents, 3,000 kitchens, and 1,45,000 restrooms.
- Uttar Pradesh administration utilizes satellite data for disaster management and crowd control.
- Nearly 26 hectares of land reclaimed, with 12 km of new bathing ghats created.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh praised the initiative, stating, "These advanced technologies represent a

paradigm shift in managing large-scale religious gatherings. The Maha Kumbh Mela stands as a testament to how technology and tradition can coexist for a cleaner, healthier future."

A new district, Mahakumbh Nagar, has been established to manage the vast crowds converging at the Triveni Sangam, where the Ganga, Yamuna, and mythical Saraswati rivers meet. As of now, over eight crore devotees have taken the sacred dip, which is believed to purify the soul and cleanse sins. The Maha Kumbh Mela, hosted this year from January 13 to February 26, rotates between four sacred sites in India every 12 years.

Sudha Murty Serves Mahaprasad, Tours ISKCON Kitchen At Maha Kumbh



TPN Correspondent | Prayagraj

During her three-day visit to the ongoing Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, philanthropist Sudha Murty took part in serving Mahaprasad at the ISKCON camp, spreading her warmth and blessings to the devotees attending the spiritual event.

Dressed in a green saree with a black bag slung over her shoulder, Murty was seen distributing chapattis at the food counter, serving the thousands of pilgrims present. In addition to her service at the food counter, she also toured the ISKCON Mahaprasadam Kitchen, which is responsible for preparing food for the devotees. During the tour, Murty interacted with volunteers and learned about the modern equipment being used to prepare large quantities of food.

ISKCON, in collaboration with Adani Group, has undertaken the task of preparing and distributing Mahaprasad to more than 40,000 devotees every day at the Maha Kumbh. The kitchen, located in Sector 19 of Prayagraj, is equipped with cutting-edge facilities such as boilers for heating water and boiling vegetables, and automated machines to prepare massive quantities of rotis. These machines can produce up to 10,000 rotis an hour.

Excited about her visit, Murty expressed her joy and reverence for the event, calling the Maha Kumbh a "Teerthraj" (king of all pilgrimage sites). She also took a holy dip in the Sangam on the first two days of her visit and plans to do so again on the final day. Speaking to ANI, she shared her emotional connection to the event, stating, "My maternal grandfather, maternal grandmother, grandfather, none of them could come - that is why I have to offer tarpan in their name, and I am very happy..."

The Maha Kumbh Mela, which began on January 13 and will continue until February 26, is expected to host a staggering 45 crore people who believe that a holy dip in the Sangam Triveni will cleanse them of their sins.

JDU Manipur Chief Pulls Support From BJP Govt In State, Party Sacks Him

TPN Correspondent | Imphal

In a significant political development, the Janata Dal (United), led by Nitish Kumar, has withdrawn its support from the N Biren Singh-led BJP government in Manipur. Following this, the lone JDU MLA in the state assembly, Md. Abdul Nasir, has moved to the Opposition benches. This decision, however, is not expected to affect the BJP's majority in the 60-member assembly, where it holds 37 seats and is supported by five Naga People's Front MLAs and three independents. The JDU's state unit chief, Ksh Biren Singh, officially communicated the withdrawal of support to Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, stating that the decision aligns with the party's affiliation to the INDIA opposition bloc. However, the party immediately acted against him, removing him

from his position.

- JDU's lone MLA, Md. Abdul Nasir, shifts to the Opposition benches.
- The BJP-led government maintains a stable majority in the assembly.
- JDU's move reflects its alignment with the INDIA bloc against the BJP.

In the 2022 Manipur Assembly elections, JDU won six seats, but five of its MLAs defected to the BJP soon after, strengthening the ruling party. This development follows a similar move by the Conrad Sangma-led National People's Party, which also withdrew support to the BJP government in Manipur months earlier. The BJP's numbers in the assembly remain unaffected, ensuring that the government continues its tenure without any major challenges.

Top Maoist Leader Evaded Cops For Decades..

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Jayaram Reddy, a top Maoist leader and mastermind behind the 2008 Nayagarh attack, was killed this week in a joint operation by central and state forces along the Chhattisgarh-Odisha border. Known by his alias "Chalapati," Reddy had evaded security forces for decades, but a selfie with his wife led to his identification and eventual demise.

Reddy, who carried a bounty of ₹1 crore, was notorious for his role in the Nayagarh attack in Odisha, where 13 security personnel were killed, and the police armoury was looted. He had masterminded the escape plan for the Maoists and blocked police reinforcements by felling trees to obstruct roads. Reddy's elusive nature made him a significant target for authorities.

The turning point came in May 2016, when a selfie with his wife, Aruna (also known as Chaitanya Venkat Ravi), was found on an abandoned smartphone following an encounter in Andhra Pradesh. This discovery led to his identification, and a reward was announced for information on his whereabouts. To avoid detection, Reddy had started traveling with a personal security detail of 8-10 guards. Reddy's escape from Chhattisgarh's Bastar region and relocation near the Odisha border did not save him. He was killed during the latest encounter, along with 19 other Maoists.

In First Quad Meet Under Trump 2.0, Clear Warning Sent to China

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

On his first day in office, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio convened the inaugural Quad ministerial meeting under President Trump's second term. Held in Washington, the meeting brought together Australia's Penny Wong, India's Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, and Japan's Takeshi Iwata to discuss regional stability in the Indo-Pacific. The meeting concluded with a joint statement signaling firm opposition to any attempts to alter the status quo through coercion or force—an implicit warning to China.

The Quad ministers reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, emphasizing the importance of upholding democratic values, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. In a joint statement, they declared, "We strongly oppose any unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo by force or coercion." This was widely interpreted as a stance against China's claims over Taiwan and its assertive actions in the South China Sea.

- **Quad reaffirmed its stance on a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, opposing coercive actions.**
- **US Secretary of State Marco Rubio emphasized countering China's influence as a top priority.**
- **Quad Summit in India planned, signaling early collaboration under Trump 2.0.**

India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar highlighted the meeting's significance, stating on X, "Significant that the Quad meeting took place within hours of the inauguration of the



Trump administration. This underlines the priority it has in the foreign policy of its member states."

China has consistently criticized the Quad, labeling it a US-led effort to encircle its rise in Asia. The grouping, initially envisioned by Japan's late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, gained prominence as a leaders' summit under the Biden administration and now continues its strategic focus under President Trump.

The Quad's discussions reflected shared concerns over China's growing power in the Indo-Pacific, particularly regarding

territorial disputes involving the Philippines, a US ally. Analysts see the meeting as a message that countering Beijing remains a top priority for the Trump administration. Secretary Rubio, in his confirmation hearing, vowed to deter any invasion of Taiwan and emphasized working closely with allies to address regional challenges.

A Quad summit, planned for later this year in India, is expected to further advance collaboration among member nations and strengthen the alliance against regional threats.



22 US States Sue Trump Over Birthright Citizenship Order

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

A coalition of 22 Democratic-led states, civil rights groups, and immigrant organizations has filed lawsuits challenging US President Donald Trump's executive order to end birthright citizenship. The controversial order, signed hours after Trump took office, declares that individuals born in the United States will not be granted automatic citizenship if their mother was in the country unlawfully and their father was not a citizen or lawful permanent resident.

Legal experts argue the order directly contradicts the Citizenship Clause of the 14th Amendment, which has guaranteed citizenship to anyone born on US soil since 1868. This constitutional provision, established after the Civil War, was reinforced by the Supreme Court's 1898 ruling in *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, which affirmed citizenship rights for children of immigrants regardless of their parents' status.

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell emphasized the constitutional stakes, stating, "President Trump does not have the authority to take away constitutional rights." Civil rights groups have also highlighted the broader implications, including loss of access to federal programs and voting rights for affected individuals.

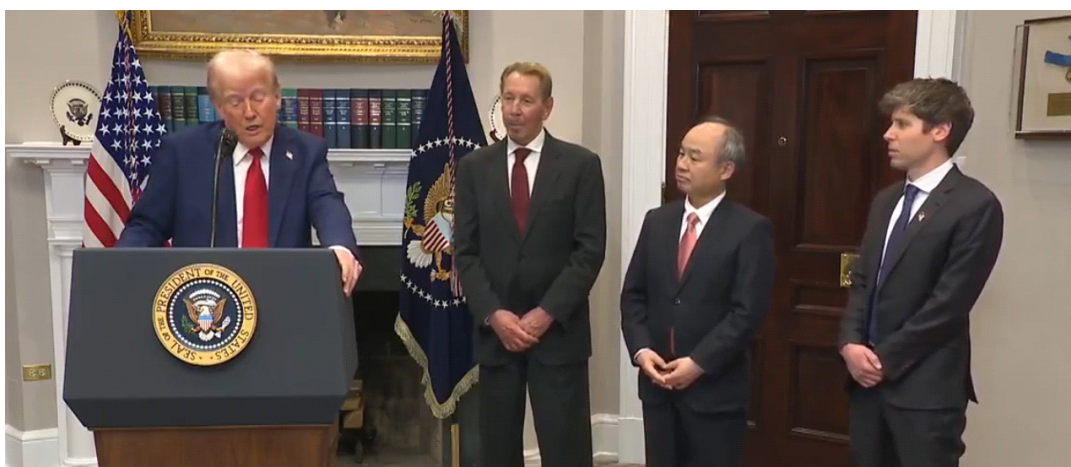
The lawsuits, filed in federal courts across Boston, Seattle, and Maryland, argue that Trump's order exceeds presidential authority. Legal experts suggest that while the President can direct federal agencies to interpret citizenship narrowly, such an action would inevitably face legal challenges.

According to Saikrishna Prakash, a constitutional expert at the University of Virginia Law School, "Ultimately, this will be decided by the courts... This is not something he can decide on his own." Amending the Constitution to end birthright citizenship would require overwhelming bipartisan support, a near impossibility given the current political landscape.

The lawsuits underscore a broader opposition to Trump's immigration policies, with many viewing the order as part of his administration's agenda to curb unauthorized immigration. Federal courts are expected to issue temporary restraining orders while the cases progress, potentially culminating in a landmark Supreme Court decision.

SoftBank, Oracle, OpenAI to Build \$500 Billion AI Infrastructure in the US

Major tech companies team up for groundbreaking AI infrastructure project in the US.



TPN Correspondent | United States

US President Donald Trump announced a historic collaboration between SoftBank, Oracle, and OpenAI to invest up to \$500 billion in artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure in the United States. The ambitious initiative, named Stargate, is set to transform the AI landscape with a focus on building both physical and virtual infrastructure necessary for the next generation of AI advancements.

- **SoftBank, Oracle, and OpenAI pledge up to \$500 billion for US AI infrastructure.**
- **The project, named Stargate, aims**

to build data centers and support advancements in AI technology.

- **The first construction phase is underway in Texas, with more sites under consideration.**

At the White House on Tuesday, Trump hailed the project as a "monumental undertaking" that reflects immense confidence in America's technological potential. The collaboration, spearheaded by OpenAI's CEO Sam Altman, SoftBank's CEO Masayoshi Son, and Oracle founder Larry Ellison, will involve a \$100 billion initial investment, with a potential total investment of \$500 billion over the next four

years. "This is a resounding declaration of confidence in America's potential," Trump remarked, noting the scale and strategic importance of the project.

Stargate aims to develop "colossal data centers" and other critical AI infrastructure to meet the growing demands of AI technology. The project also intends to play a key role in the re-industrialization of the United States, with national security considerations at the forefront, according to OpenAI.

Key players in the project include the UAE's MGX technology fund, with major technology partners such as Arm, Microsoft, NVIDIA, Oracle, and OpenAI contributing to its development. The first phase of construction is underway in Texas, with further sites being evaluated across the country.

"This venture is not only about advancing AI, but also about ensuring that America remains at the forefront of the technology race," Altman said during the announcement. The news was followed by a surge in SoftBank's stock prices, reflecting the market's optimism surrounding the project. This investment comes at a time when the US tech sector is looking to secure its dominance in the global AI landscape.

Panama Canal Was "Not Gift From US"

TPN Correspondent | Davos

Panama's President Jose Raul Mulino firmly rejected US President Donald Trump's claims regarding the Panama Canal during a panel at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Trump had suggested the canal was a "gift" from the United States to Panama and threatened to "take it back," especially citing China's growing influence around the waterway.

Mulino responded sharply, stating, "The Panama Canal was not a concession or a gift from the United States," and reaffirmed Panama's complete ownership of the canal, which was transferred to the country on December 31, 1999, under the terms of treaties signed decades earlier.

Trump's comments, made in his inaugural address, implied that China was effectively "operating" the canal. However, China swiftly denied this, emphasizing its non-inter-



ference in the canal's affairs. Mulino also noted Panama's formal complaint to the United Nations, referencing international law protections regarding territorial integrity. Despite the controversy, Mulino re-

mained resolute, expressing that Panama would not be swayed by such statements and was focused on international cooperation, particularly with the United States, on issues like security and migration.

Canada Warns of Strong Response to Trump's Tariff Threats

TPN Correspondent | Ottawa

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a stern warning to US President Donald Trump on Tuesday, vowing a robust response if the US imposes a 25% tariff on Canadian imports, as Trump has threatened. Trudeau confirmed that Ottawa's reaction would be "robust and rapid," with a dollar-for-dollar matching of the tariffs.

Trudeau's remarks came at a cabinet retreat where officials strategized how to respond to economic threats posed by the new US administration. Trump had announced on his first day in office that he planned to impose tariffs on Canada and Mexico, citing concerns over immigration and the flow of illicit drugs like fentanyl.

The tariff announcement could affect a significant portion of Canadian exports, especially energy and auto sectors, which make up the majority of goods sent to the US. A Canadian government source revealed that potential counter-tariffs could include steel, ceramics, glassware, and orange juice, targeting specific US goods.

The economic ramifications of a trade war could be severe, with some forecasts predicting a 5% reduction in Canada's GDP, a spike in unemployment, and rising inflation. Trudeau warned that while the US would feel the impact, Canada would bear costs as well, but would not back down from defending its economic interests.

Australia Probes Possible Foreign Funding Behind Anti-Semitic Attacks

TPN Correspondent | Sydney

Australia is investigating whether foreign funding is behind a series of anti-Semitic attacks that have occurred in recent weeks. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese revealed on Wednesday that local criminals may have been paid by foreign actors to target Jewish communities in the country.

The wave of attacks includes the firebombing of a synagogue in Melbourne in December, the torching of a Sydney childcare center, car fires in predominantly Jewish neighborhoods, and vandalism of synagogues with red paint and graffiti. Albanese stated that some of these incidents appeared to be the work of "paid actors" rather than individuals with ideological motivations.

"It's unclear who or where the payments are coming from," Albanese said. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) have launched an investigation into whether these attacks were funded by overseas sources. Commissioner Reece Kershaw mentioned that authorities are exploring the possibility that local criminals were paid by foreign entities to carry out these crimes. So far, authorities have charged a 33-year-old man with attempting to set fire to a Sydney synagogue, and eight others have been charged in connection with a series of hate crime-related incidents dating back to November.



Markets Rebound Amid Volatility; Relief Rally Provides Stability

Domestic stock markets were volatile on Wednesday. Investors were relieved as a relief rally took place today. Benchmark indices found support at key levels. Indices initially fell on mixed signals internationally. HDFC Bank's good results and IT and finance stocks showed aggression led to a return to gains. Nifty found support at the crucial 23000 level. Investors should remain vigilant until the markets stabilize.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 75,838 in the previous session, opened at 76,114 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 75,816. It reached an intraday high of 76,463. It finally closed at 76,404 with a gain of 566 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,099, touched a low of 22,981 and a high of 23,169. It closed at 23,155, up 130 points. The Nifty Bank rose 153 points to settle at 48,724.

In the Nifty50, 26 companies gained while 24 lost. Wipro, Infosys, TCS, TechM, and HDFC Bank were the top gainers. BEL, Tata Motors, Trent, Power Grid, and Axis Bank were the biggest losers. Today, IT, pharma, healthcare, and finance indices rebounded. The realty index fell by 5%. Metal, media, PSU banks, and consumer durables suffered moderate

losses.

Today, the market breadth in NSE has completely shifted in favor of sellers. 2894 shares were traded, while 2052 lost. Only 780 gained. Shares of 14 companies touched 52-week highs. 155 shares reached 52-week lows.

BPCL's net profit rose by 94% to Rs. 4649 crore from Rs. 2397 crore. Hindustan Unilever's net profit was Rs. 3001 crore and revenue was Rs. 15,408 crore. The rupee strengthened by 23 paise to settle at 86.33 against the dollar. Persistent Systems' profit increased to Rs. 373 crore from Rs. 325 crore. Jefferies has maintained a buy rating on Dalmia Bharat with a target price of Rs. 2070. Hudco's profit rose from Rs 519 crore to Rs 735 crore. Tata Communication's net profit rose from Rs 45 crore to Rs 236 crore. HDFC's net profit rose by 2% to Rs 16,736 crore from Rs 16,372 crore. Net interest income rose by 8%. HSBC has maintained a buy rating on Dixon Technologies with a target price of Rs 20,000.

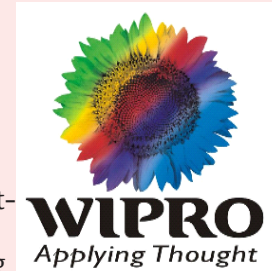


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Britannia is a leading player in the packaged food segment, specializing in biscuits, dairy products, and baked goods. The company has a strong market presence in India and growing international operations. Revenue Growth: Consistent annual growth driven by new product launches and distribution expansion. Profit Margins: Healthy EBITDA margins (~15-17%). Debt Levels: Low leverage with a focus on maintaining financial discipline. Strong brand equity with a diversified product portfolio. Widespread distribution network across rural and urban India. Robust innovation pipeline.

Wipro is one of India's largest IT services companies, offering software development, business consulting, and IT outsourcing. Revenue: Steady growth (~8-10%) driven by digital transformation deals. Operating Margins: Moderately pressured (~15-17%) due to wage inflation and increasing competition. Dividend Yield: Attractive, consistently rewarding shareholders. Global presence with a strong client portfolio. Investments in emerging technologies like AI and cloud computing.



Bajaj Finserv operates in lending, insurance, and wealth management. It is known for its strong brand in consumer finance. Loan Book Growth: Consistently growing at ~25% CAGR. Asset Quality: Stable with a low NPA ratio. Profitability: Strong return ratios (ROE ~18-20%). Diversified financial offerings across lending, insurance, and investments. Robust technology integration for digital-first customer service.

Avanti Feeds is a market leader in shrimp feed and a significant player in shrimp exports. Revenue: Subject to fluctuations due to shrimp demand and export trends. Margins: Highly sensitive to raw material price volatility (soybean and fishmeal). Strong distribution network and established presence in the shrimp industry. Focus on R&D and product innovation for feed quality. Dependency on international shrimp demand and pricing. Regulatory changes and disease outbreaks in aquaculture.



Manappuram specializes in gold loans, microfinance, and housing finance, catering mainly to rural and semi-urban customers. Loan Book: Dominated by gold loans (~65% of portfolio). Profit Margins: High net interest margins (~14-15%) due to the secured nature of loans. Asset Quality: Resilient NPA levels due to gold-backed loans. Quick disbursement process and strong penetration in rural areas. High loan recovery rates due to gold collateral.



India's Refined Petroleum Consumption Set to Reach New High in FY26

India's consumption of refined petroleum products is poised to hit a new peak in the financial year 2025-26 (FY26), driven by continued growth in energy demand across various sectors of the economy. According to the latest projections from the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC) under the Ministry of Petroleum, petroleum product consumption is expected to rise by 4.7% over the revised estimate for FY25, reaching a total of 252.93 million tonnes.

This growth in consumption is primarily attributed to the increased demand for key fuels and products, including petrol, aviation turbine fuel (ATF), liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), diesel, and petroleum coke. The surge in petrol consumption is fueled by the expanding automotive sector, while the rise in LPG use is linked to the continued push for clean cooking solutions in households across the country. Diesel demand remains robust, supported by the transportation and industrial sectors, and ATF consumption is expected to grow with the recovery in the aviation industry as travel demand rebounds post-pandemic.

Petroleum coke, which is used in industries like aluminum, cement, and steel production, is also seeing a steady rise in demand. These trends highlight the broad-based nature of India's growing reliance on refined petroleum products, as the country's economic recovery continues to gain momentum.

As India advances its economic development and urbanization, the demand for energy is expected to keep climbing, further contributing to the country's increasing petroleum consumption. The projections underscore the crucial role of the energy sector in supporting India's growth, with petroleum products continuing to be a key component in meeting the country's energy needs.

Hindustan Unilever Reports 19.18% Growth in Q3 Net Profit



Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) reported a 19.18% increase in its consolidated net profit for the December quarter, reaching Rs 2,989 crore, up from Rs 2,508 crore during the same period last fiscal year. The growth was primarily driven by the sale of its Pureit business, the company stated in a regulatory filing.

Key Financial Highlights

For the third quarter of the ongoing fiscal year, HUL's consolidated total income stood at Rs 16,050 crore, compared to Rs 15,781 crore in the previous year. Total expenses increased to Rs 12,576 crore from Rs 12,305 crore year-on-year. HUL also had an exceptional item benefit of Rs 507 crore during the quarter.

The company reported an underlying sales growth of 2%, though its underlying volume growth (UVG) remained flat for the period. Despite strong absolute volume growth, this was offset by a negative product mix. HUL's CEO and Managing Director, Rohit Jawa, mentioned that while FMCG demand trends remained subdued, particularly in urban areas, the rural market showed gradual recovery.

Strategic Acquisitions and Future Outlook

In line with its strategy to expand into fast-growing sectors, HUL announced the acquisition of a 90.5% stake in Uprising Science Pvt Ltd, the company behind the premium beauty brand Minimalist. The acquisition, worth Rs 2,670 crore, will be funded through a combination of secondary buyouts and primary infusion. HUL plans to acquire the remaining stake in two years. Jawa emphasized that the acquisition aligns with HUL's goal to enhance its beauty and wellbeing portfolio and capitalize on the growing masstige beauty segment. HUL's homecare segment posted strong volume growth, while its beauty and wellbeing category saw momentum in hair care, though skincare was impacted by delayed winter conditions. The company's personal care revenue faced challenges due to a decline in the hygiene segment of skin cleansing. Looking ahead, Jawa expressed confidence in HUL's medium- to long-term prospects despite short-term economic uncertainties, reaffirming the company's potential in India's FMCG sector.



Industry Eyes Key Announcements in India's Union Budget 2025-26 for Railway Sector

As the Union Budget 2025-26 approaches, industry stakeholders are hopeful for significant announcements aimed at boosting the railway sector, particularly in freight operations and infrastructure development. Experts believe that the upcoming budget could bring much-needed reforms and investments to enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of India's freight services.

Focus on Freight Speed and Infrastructure

One of the key areas of focus for the railway sector is the need to increase the average speed of freight trains to 50 kmph. Currently, India's freight trains operate at a significantly lower speed, which hampers the timely delivery of goods across the country. The industry has also called for the deployment of advanced 12,000 HP electric locomotives, which are expected to improve operational efficiency and reduce transit times. In addition to speed improvements, the industry is eagerly awaiting announcements related to infrastructure development, particularly in freight corridors. The creation of dedicated freight corridors has been a long-standing demand of the sector to streamline freight movement and reduce congestion on passenger routes.

Wagon Orders and Investment Opportunities

Texmaxo Managing Director Sudipta Mukherjee voiced optimism about the government's continued commitment to the railway sector, particularly regarding the wagon orders. He expressed hope for a substantial order of new wagons, building on the government's 2022 announcement of approximately 1.2 lakh wagon orders over three years. This initiative is seen as a crucial step in modernizing the railway freight network and ensuring that it meets the growing demands of the logistics industry. The railway sector is also anticipating further investments in modernization, including upgrading tracks, expanding terminal facilities, and improving safety measures. Such investments are expected to enhance the overall efficiency of India's freight transportation network, positioning the railways as a key player in the country's logistics and supply chain ecosystem. As the Union Budget approaches, industry players remain hopeful that the government will prioritize the development of the railway sector to further strengthen its role in India's economic growth.

Uncovering Ancient Ice Sheets Beneath the North Sea: New Insights into Climate History



Landforms buried beneath the North Sea, formed by a massive ice sheet that existed around 1 million years ago, have been uncovered using advanced high-resolution imaging. These newly discovered features, dating back to the mid-Pleistocene transition (MPT), provide valuable insights into the glacial dynamics of the past and how they relate to shifting climate patterns.

A study published in *Science Advances* highlights the findings, which were detected using sound wave data. Researchers, including Christine Batchelor, a senior lecturer in physical geography at Newcastle University, suggest that these structures were left behind by a single, expansive ice sheet that covered regions from present-day Norway to the British

Isles. This discovery challenges previous theories that multiple smaller ice sheets shaped the region during the MPT.

The ice sheet's movement created distinct patterns under more than 1 kilometre of sediment, offering a glimpse into how it advanced and retreated over time. These patterns are key to understanding the mechanics of past ice sheet dynamics. Grounded ice sheets sculpt the underlying sediment, producing both erosional and depositional features. Batchelor notes that streamlined features aligned with the ice flow direction were created during the ice's advance, while transverse imprints, such as crevasse-squeeze ridges, formed as the ice sheet retreated. These ridges develop when soft sediment is pushed into

cracks at the base of the ice before it lifts off, often aided by water undercutting the ice.

The findings hold significant implications for climate change research. The mid-Pleistocene transition was a critical period in Earth's glacial history, marked by longer and more intense ice ages. By studying these ancient landforms, scientists aim to better understand how ice sheets respond to climate shifts, using this knowledge to model past ice sheet behavior and make comparisons with current environmental changes. This research offers crucial insights into the processes influencing today's climate systems and how they may evolve in the future.

Retrieve Lost WhatsApp Messages: Methods for Android and iOS Users

WhatsApp's "Delete for Everyone" feature allows users to remove messages within a certain timeframe, but this can leave recipients curious about what was deleted. Whether it's an accidental message or something important, there are ways to retrieve these deleted messages. Android users can take advantage of the Notification History feature, which logs all incoming notifications. By enabling this feature in the settings, users can view deleted messages if the notification was received before the message was deleted. However, this method only works for messages that triggered a notification. Additionally, WhatsApp offers a chat backup feature that allows users to restore deleted messages if they were included in a previous backup. By uninstalling and reinstalling WhatsApp and restoring from a

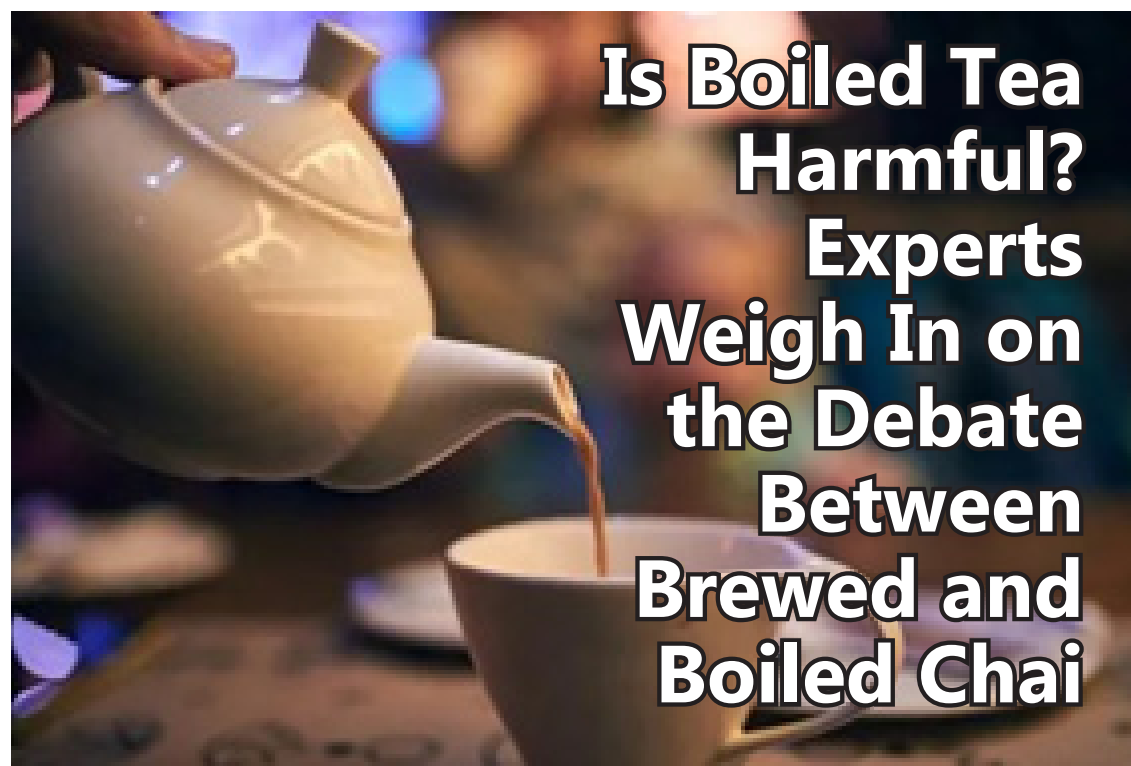


apps can only recover messages that were delivered as notifications, not those that weren't. On the iOS side, users can restore deleted WhatsApp messages using iCloud backups. If you have iCloud backups set up, simply checking the last backup date and restoring from it can help you retrieve deleted messages. However, this method replaces current chats with the backup data. iPhone users who use iTunes for regular backups can also restore deleted WhatsApp messages by rolling back to an earlier backup, but this also means any new data since the backup will be lost.

backup, users can recover lost messages, though this will not restore content received after the backup.

For Android users, third-party apps like Notisave also offer a way to retrieve deleted WhatsApp messages. These apps save incoming notifications, including deleted ones, allowing users to view content that was deleted after it appeared in the notification bar. However, these

While these methods provide ways to recover deleted WhatsApp messages, they all depend on prior actions, such as enabling notifications or creating backups. Users should exercise caution, particularly when using third-party apps, to ensure their privacy is protected.



Is Boiled Tea Harmful? Experts Weigh In on the Debate Between Brewed and Boiled Chai

Nutritionist Suman Agarwal recently made waves on social media when she suggested that brewed tea is a healthier option compared to the traditional boiled tea, commonly known as masala chai. According to Agarwal, boiling tea can release harmful elements like acrylamide, which is considered carcinogenic with long-term exposure. She emphasized that tea should be brewed, not boiled, to preserve its health benefits and avoid these potential risks. "Tea leaves should be steeped in hot water to extract the taste, flavor, and aroma within three minutes," Agarwal explained in an interview with *Traya.Health*.

effects if consumed regularly over time. The prolonged exposure to high heat during boiling can degrade the tea's antioxidants and other beneficial compounds, making it less effective in promoting overall health.

While brewing tea at the right temperature can preserve its flavor and health benefits, it's important to note that occasional consumption of boiled tea isn't likely to cause harm. However, for those seeking the maximum health benefits from tea, brewing it gently and avoiding excessive boiling could be a wise choice for the long run.

But is there any truth to this claim? Experts in the field of nutrition are weighing in on the brewing vs. boiling debate. Apeksha Chandurkar, a nutritionist and the founder of *Balanced Bite*, supports Agarwal's stance on brewing tea as a healthier alternative. She explains that brewing tea is a gentler process that helps maintain its delicate flavors and health-promoting compounds. "When tea leaves are brewed at the right temperature, they release their full potential. However, boiling the tea at high temperatures can destroy these delicate compounds, making the tea more bitter and less beneficial," Chandurkar said.

Furthermore, she acknowledged that Indian masala chai, which is typically boiled at high temperatures, could have some adverse effects if consumed regularly over time. The prolonged exposure to high heat during boiling can degrade the tea's antioxidants and other beneficial compounds, making it less effective in promoting overall health.

Apple Set to Launch New iPad Pro and iPad Air Models in 2025: What to Expect

Apple is reportedly gearing up for the release of new iPad Pro and iPad Air models in 2025, with some exciting upgrades over the current versions. According to recent leaks and reports, the upcoming iPad Pro models, including the 11-inch and 13-inch variants, are expected to receive minor upgrades, while the iPad Air lineup could see a significant boost with the addition of new chipsets and features.



The next-generation iPad Pro models are likely to retain a similar design to the current OLED tablets. However, Apple is expected to incorporate some internal enhancements, including better performance and new features. One major update could involve the display drivers, with South Korea's LX Semicon reportedly supplying components for the upcoming models. Mass production of these components is expected to begin in April or May 2025, suggesting an official release later in the year.

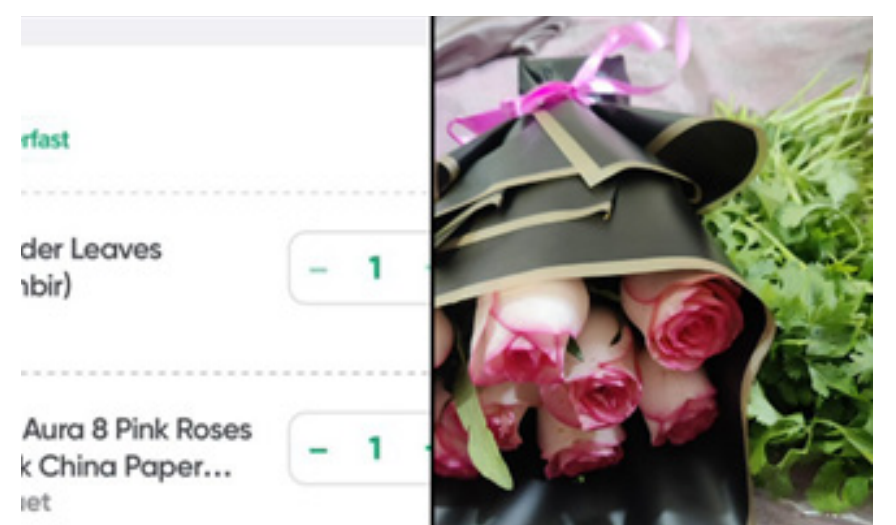
The upcoming iPad models are also expected to run on iPadOS 18.3, with support for 8GB of RAM and new Apple Intelligence features, which will improve the overall performance and functionality of the devices. While the exact details of the upgraded

iPad Pro are still unclear, these improvements will likely offer a more powerful and refined user experience compared to the current models.

In addition to the iPad Pro refresh, Apple is also expected to launch the new iPad Air lineup in 2025. These new models could feature 11-inch and 13-inch displays and are expected to be powered by the M3 chipset, a significant upgrade over the current M2-powered iPad Air models. This move is likely aimed at providing users with better performance and more capabilities, making the iPad Air a more attractive option for those seeking a high-performance tablet at a more affordable price point.

The new iPad models, including the iPad Pro and iPad Air, are expected to be launched alongside the rumored iPhone SE 4, potentially marking a major update to Apple's tablet and smartphone lineup in 2025.

Woman Receives "Free" Dhaniya With Roses From Swiggy Instamart, Internet Reacts



In an unexpected and humorous turn of events, a social media user recently shared her surprise when online grocery delivery platform Swiggy sent her free dhaniya (coriander leaves) along with a bouquet of roses. The bouquet, a thoughtful gift from her partner, was accompanied by a surprise addition — coriander leaves labeled as "free" on the Swiggy Instamart page.

The woman took to X (formerly Twitter) to express her confusion and amusement, writing, "He sent me flowers and Swiggy sent free dhaniya with that bro why would I need that?" Along with her post, she shared two images: one showing the Swiggy Instamart page where the rose bouquet was listed alongside coriander leaves with the word "free" next to it, and the second showing the actual bouquet of roses paired with the free dhaniya.

part of a promotional strategy by Swiggy, which has long been known for surprising customers with free items like coriander and green chillies when they buy vegetables or grocery items. However, in this case, the free dhaniya was given with a completely different purchase — a bouquet of flowers.

The post quickly went viral, with users amused by the unusual pairing and wondering why an online grocery store would pair flowers with a culinary ingredient. Some Twitter users joked about the unexpected addition, with others suggesting that it could be a humorous marketing tactic.

Whether a simple mistake or a clever promotional move, Swiggy's free dhaniya offer certainly caught the attention of many, proving that in the world of online shopping, anything is possible.

This quirky offer appears to be

Jasprit Bumrah Retains ICC No. 1 Test Bowler Spot; Noman Ali Joins Top 10

India's pace spearhead, Jasprit Bumrah, continues to hold the top position in the ICC Test Bowler Rankings, cementing his status as the world's No. 1 bowler. Bumrah has consistently performed at the highest level, and in the latest rankings, he has achieved a career-best rating of 908 points, surpassing his previous record of 907 points set ahead of the fifth Border-Gavaskar Test against Australia in January. This impressive feat keeps him firmly ahead of his closest rivals: Australia's Pat Cummins, who is ranked second with 841 points, and South Africa's Kagiso Rabada, who holds the third spot with 837 points.



he took a remarkable six-wicket haul. His performance helped him reach the No. 10 spot with a rating of 761 points, making him one of the most promising bowlers in Test cricket today.

Meanwhile, the top positions in the ICC Test All-Rounder Rankings remain unchanged. Ravindra Jadeja continues to occupy the top spot, holding steady at 400 rating points. South Africa's

Marco Jansen is ranked second with 294 points, while Bangladesh's Mehedi Hasan remains third with 263 points. There has been no movement in the all-rounder rankings, reflecting the consistency of these top players.

As Bumrah leads the bowling rankings and Jadeja dominates the all-rounders' list, Indian cricket continues to shine on the global stage with some of the world's most outstanding players.

In addition to Bumrah's dominance, the rankings also see a significant move from Pakistan's Noman Ali, who has broken into the top 10. Noman's rise comes after his stellar performance in the first Test against the West Indies in Multan, where

Madison Keys Wins 10th Match In A Row, Enters Australian Open 2025 Semi-Finals

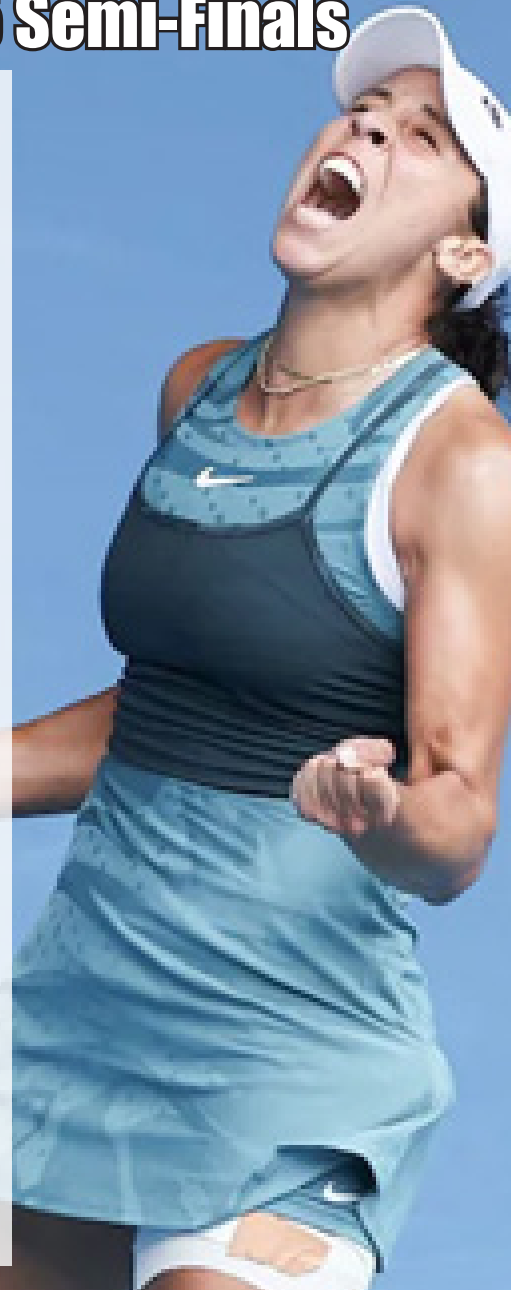
Madison Keys continued her stunning run at the Australian Open 2025 by coming from a set down to defeat Elina Svitolina 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, securing a spot in the semi-finals. This victory marked her 10th consecutive win, extending her unbeaten streak to 10 matches after claiming the Adelaide title earlier this year. The 19th seed American is now set to reach the semi-finals of Melbourne Park for the third time, a decade after her first appearance in the last four.

Keys, who will celebrate her 30th birthday next month, showed tremendous resilience in the match, recovering from a difficult first set. "I felt like I kind of just had to start playing a little bit more aggressive and try to get to the net a little bit quicker," she admitted after the win. Svitolina had the upper hand early on, controlling the points and forcing Keys to chase down rallies. However, Keys adjusted her strategy and began to dictate the play, especially in the second set.

The first set saw both players starting cautiously, with Svitolina taking the initiative in the eighth game when she converted her first break point. She sealed the set after just 33 minutes when Keys hit a ball into the net. In the second set, Keys increased her pace, creating several break points and eventually leveling the match with a forehand winner.

The deciding set was a tight contest, with both players holding serve until Keys capitalized on her opportunities. She broke Svitolina's serve at 2-2 with a backhand return winner, and from there, she held on to her lead to secure the win in 1 hour and 53 minutes.

Keys will now face either Iga Swiatek or Emma Navarro in the semi-finals, with a place in the final on the line. This victory also sees Keys move back into the top 10 in the WTA rankings, as she continues to build momentum ahead of the season's first Grand Slam final.



Zverev becomes first semifinalist in Australian Open 2025, Beating Tommy Paul in quarterfinal

Top German tennis player Alexander Zverev has secured his spot in the semifinals of the Australian Open 2025 after a hard-fought victory over Tommy Paul in the quarterfinals. Zverev triumphed 7-6(1), 7-6(0), 2-6, 6-1, becoming the first player to reach the semifinals in this year's tournament. The 27-year-old will now await the winner of the match between Carlos Alcaraz and Novak Djokovic in his quest for a first Grand Slam title.

Tuesday's match marked Zverev's third appearance in a Grand Slam quarterfinal and his second at the Australian Open. His previous best performance in Melbourne came in 2023 when he reached the semifinals. Despite

his impressive resume, Zverev faced a tough challenge from American Tommy Paul, who put up a strong fight in the opening sets.

After the match, Zverev was quick to praise his opponent for playing the better game. "To be honest, I should have been down two sets to love," said Zverev. "He played better than me. I was not playing great, and I thought he was. I somehow won the first set, somehow won the second set, and I'm up two sets to love all of a sudden and I need only one more set." Zverev admitted that he was lucky to take the first two sets but acknowledged his strong performance in the fourth set. "The fourth set was definitely the best that I've played, and

I'm obviously extremely happy to be back in the semi-finals now," he added.

Tommy Paul fought valiantly, taking the third set in a thrilling display, but Zverev responded with sheer dominance in the fourth. The German closed it out 6-1, sealing his place in the semifinals with a dominant performance.

Earlier in the tournament, Zverev had extended his remarkable streak against left-handed opponents to 26 consecutive wins, defeating Ugo Humbert in the fourth round. With his solid form continuing, Zverev remains a formidable contender for the title as the tournament



PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen to Lead India at Badminton Asia Mixed Championship

Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and World Championship bronze medallist Lakshya Sen will spearhead a 14-member Indian team for the prestigious Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship, which will be held in Qingdao, China, from February 11-16, 2025. India had a successful campaign in the previous edition in Dubai in 2023, where they clinched a bronze medal, and the team is hopeful of improving on that performance this year.

The selection of the team was based on the players' world rankings and current form, as stated by the Badminton Association of India (BAI). Joining Sindhu and Sen will be other top players, including HS Prannoy and Malvika Bansod, who will feature as the second men's and women's singles players respectively. The squad also boasts of star doubles players Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who have been instrumental in India's success in international competitions.

The women's doubles pairing will consist of either Gayatri



Gopichand and Treasa Jolly or Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto. In mixed doubles, Tanisha Crasto will pair up with Dhruv Kapila, while Sathish Kumar K and Adya Variyath will form the second combination.

Sanjay Mishra, the secretary general of the Badminton Association of India, emphasized the team's ambitious goals for the tournament. While they were proud of their bronze finish in 2023, the target this year is to reach the finals and potentially secure a gold medal. Mishra added that the team is determined to give their best and make the country proud.

The Indian squad for the Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship includes the following players:

Men's: Lakshya Sen, HS Prannoy, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, Chirag Shetty, Dhruv Kapila, MR Arjun, Sathish Kumar K.

Women's: PV Sindhu, Malvika Bansod, Gayatri Gopichand, Treasa Jolly, Ashwini Ponnappa, Tanisha Crasto, Adya Variyath.

With a strong lineup and high hopes, India will look to make a deep run in the tournament, aiming for their first gold in this prestigious event.

Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek Storm Into Semis at Australian Open 2025

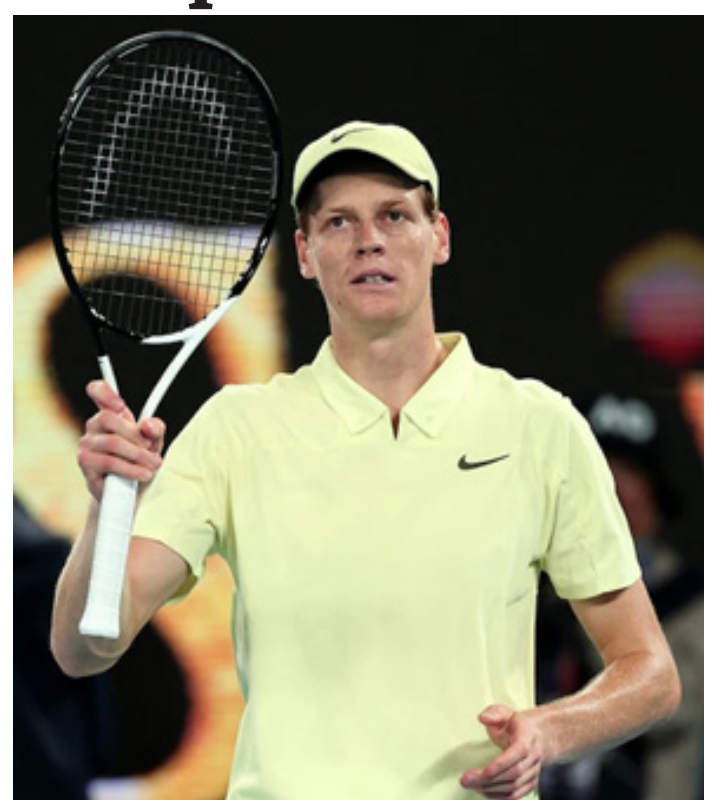
Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek continued their dominant runs at the Australian Open 2025, each securing a place in the semi-finals with commanding performances on Wednesday. Sinner, the defending champion, cruised to a 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 victory over Australia's Alex de Minaur, extending his unbeaten streak against the 8th seed to 10 matches. The Italian world number one, who had struggled with heat exhaustion earlier in the tournament, looked refreshed in the evening's cooler conditions and was in sublime form. "Today I felt like I was feeling everything," Sinner said, noting the ease with which he broke early in each set.

Sinner, who is aiming to defend his Grand Slam title for the first time after his triumph over Daniil Medvedev in last year's final, will next face 21st seed Ben Shelton. The American delivered a gritty 6-4, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7/4) win over Italian Lorenzo Sonego to reach his first Australian Open semi-final. Shelton's performance, highlighted by a powerful 232kph ace, has earned him praise, though he expressed frustration over post-match interviews, calling them "embarrassing" and "disrespectful."

On the women's side, Swiatek continued her impressive form with a dominant 6-1, 6-2 win over American Emma Navarro. The Polish world number two has yet to drop a set at the tournament, making her the favorite to clinch

her first Australian Open title. Swiatek will next meet American 19th seed Madison Keys, who made a strong comeback to beat Elina Svitolina 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, advancing to her third Australian Open semi-final.

Swiatek remains cautious about her upcoming clash with Keys, stating, "Madison is a great player and experienced, so you never know." The women's semi-finals are set to take place on Thursday, with Swiatek and Keys battling for a spot in the final.





Naga Shaurya's next titled **Bad Boy Karthik**, first look revealed

Actor Naga Shaurya is all set to thrill audiences with his new film *Bad Boy Karthik*, where he teams up with debut director Raam Desina. The film is being produced by Srinivasa Rao Chintalapudi under the banner of Sri Vaishnavi Films. To celebrate Naga Shaurya's birthday, the makers not only unveiled the title of the film but also released its first-look poster, creating a buzz among fans.

The poster gives a glimpse into the high-energy, mass-appealing vibe of the film. Naga Shaurya, portraying the titular role of Karthik, is seen sitting with an air of authority on the back of a van. His forehead bears a blood mark, and the sacred namalu (lines) etched on it suggest a deep connection to his character's spiritual beliefs. His blood-stained hands further allude to the intense, violent journey his character will undertake. The first look hints at an action-packed nar-

ative that promises to captivate fans of high-octane thrillers.

Bad Boy Karthik features Vidhi as the female lead, with talented actors Samuthirakani and Sr Narresh playing pivotal roles. Music for the film is being composed by Harris Jayaraj, known for his memorable soundtracks, while Rasool Ellore handles the cinematography. With these experienced names on board, the film is expected to deliver both visually striking action sequences and a gripping musical experience.

The production of the film is currently in its final stages, and fans are eagerly awaiting its release. *Bad Boy Karthik* looks set to be an engaging action entertainer, with Naga Shaurya's intense portrayal promising to bring a fresh dimension to his acting career. This film could be a major milestone in his journey, blending mass appeal with a strong, compelling character.

First Look of **Thalapathy69** (Bhagavanth Kesari Remake) to Release on Republic Day

Thalapathy Vijay's upcoming film, tentatively titled *Thalapathy69*, is generating massive buzz as it marks his final project before he transitions into full-time politics. Directed by renowned filmmaker H. Vinoth, this film is an official adaptation of Balakrishna's *Bhagavanth Kesari*. As Vijay prepares to bid farewell to the silver screen, fans eagerly await his last cinematic appearance in this action-packed drama.

According to the latest reports, the first look of *Thalapathy69* will be unveiled on Republic Day, January 26, 2025. The movie is said to feature significant army-related sequences, which is why the team is choosing this special occasion for the big reveal. Along with the first look, fans can also expect clarity on the final title of the film. While an official announcement is still awaited, the anticipation for the first look is reaching a fever pitch.

Thalapathy69 is set to release in October 2025, and the star-studded cast includes Pooja Hegde, Bobby Deol, Mamitha Baiju, Prakash Raj, Priya-



mani, Narain, and Gautham Vasudev Menon, who will play pivotal roles. The film is produced by KVN Productions, marking the production house's foray into Tamil cinema. The music for the film will be composed by the acclaimed Anirudh Ravichander, adding to the excitement surrounding the movie.

With its stellar cast, high-octane action sequences, and Vijay's final performance before his political journey, *Thalapathy69* is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated releases of 2025. Fans and cinephiles alike are eagerly awaiting the first look, which will offer a glimpse into what promises to be an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Anupama Parameswaran's **PARADHA** Teaser: A Promising Rustic Drama

The much-anticipated rustic drama *Paradha*, directed by Praveen Kandregula of Cinema Bandi fame, has just dropped its official teaser, and it's already creating a buzz. The film stars Anupama Parameswaran in the lead role, alongside Darshana Rajendran and Sangitha in pivotal roles. The teaser offers a glimpse into the world of Subbu, played by Anupama, a character deeply rooted in her village's customs and traditions.

Set against a rural backdrop, the teaser introduces Subbu, who embarks on an adventurous journey alongside two other women. One notable feature of Subbu's character is her adherence to the tradition of covering her face with a *paradha* (veil), a custom that represents the village's deep-rooted beliefs and superstitions. The teaser hints at the villagers' strong commitment to these traditions, which influence their actions and decisions for the betterment of their community.

The storyline appears to be a fascinating blend of humor, intensity, and

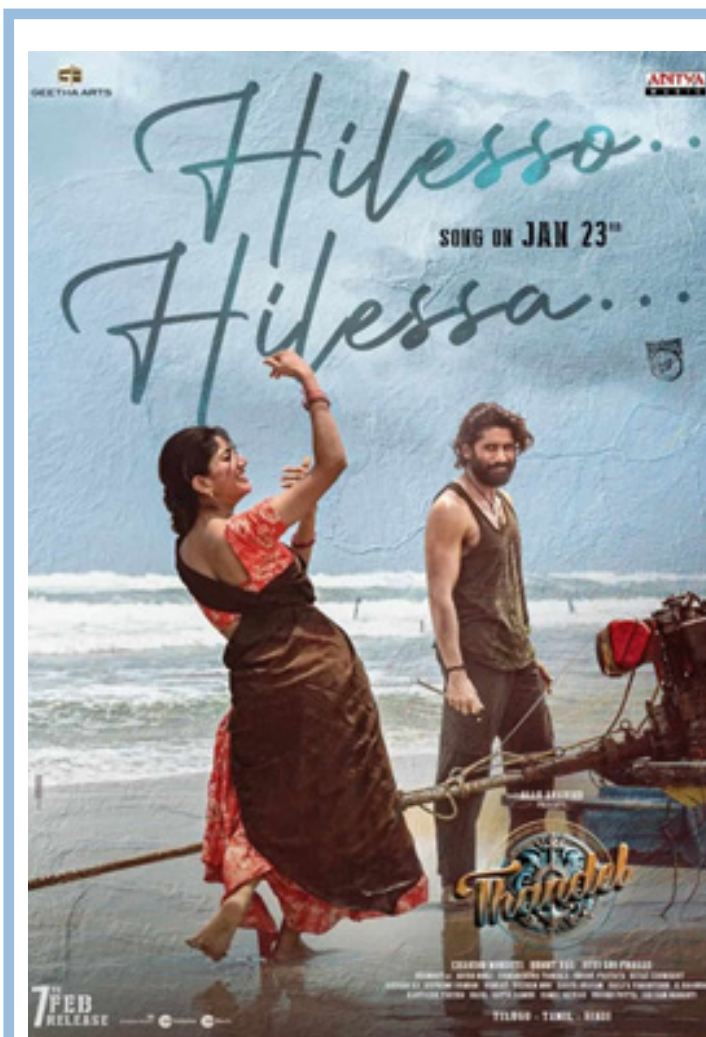


Anupama Parameswaran shines in her portrayal of Subbu, a village girl bound by tradition. Her performance is compelling, especially in moments that reveal the internal conflict between following customs and stepping out of them. Darshana Rajendran and Sangitha also make a significant impact, adding depth to their respective roles.

The cinematography by Mridul Sujit Sen is striking, perfectly capturing the rural setting with visually immersive shots, while Gopi Sundar's background score heightens the emotional atmosphere. The film's production, led by Vijay Donkada, Sreenivasulu PV, and Sri-dhar Makkuva under Ananda Media, reflects high production values that are clearly evident in the teas-

emotional depth, capturing the essence of rural life with authenticity. Praveen Kandregula's direction and writing stand out for their realism, highlighting the strong cultural elements while ensuring the story remains engaging and relatable.

With a strong premise and solid performances, *Paradha* has generated significant curiosity. The film will be released in both Telugu and Malayalam, with the official release date to be announced soon.



Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi's Romantic Tune **Hilesso Hilesso** Released from **Thandel**

The much-loved duo of Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi is all set to share the screen again in the upcoming romantic action entertainer *Thandel*. Known for their incredible chemistry, the pair is expected to create magic once more, captivating audiences with their performances. The film, which features a mix of romance and action, also boasts music by the talented Rockstar Devi Sri Prasad, with the songs *Bujji Thalli* and *Namo Namah Shivaya* already receiving a positive response from listeners.

The excitement around *Thandel* continues to build, with the release of its third single, *Hilesso Hilesso*, scheduled for January 23rd. The announcement was made through a charming poster that showcases Naga Chaitanya

gazing affectionately at Sai Pallavi, who is seen dancing joyfully. Set against a tranquil beach backdrop, the image perfectly encapsulates the song's serene and romantic mood. Fans are eagerly anticipating this melody, which promises to be a soulful addition to the film's soundtrack.

Directed by Chandoo Mondeti, *Thandel* is produced by Allu Aravind and Bunny Vasu under the Geetha Arts banner. The movie is slated for release on February 7th, and with the promising chemistry between Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi, along with a memorable soundtrack, expectations are high for this much-anticipated film. The trio of music, direction, and on-screen magic from the lead pair is sure to make *Thandel* a film to remember.

Akshay Khanna Unveils First Look as Aurangzeb in **Chhaava**

Bollywood actor Akshay Khanna is set to portray the infamous Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in the upcoming biographical film *Chava*. The movie, directed by Laxman Utekar, is based on the life of Shambhaji Maharaj, the eldest son of the legendary Maharashtra warrior, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Actor Vicky Kaushal stars in the titular role as Shambhaji Maharaj, while Rashmika Mandanna plays the female lead, Esu Bai. The film, produced by Dinesh Vision under the Madak Films banner, is set for release on February 14, 2025, just in time for Valentine's Day.



formance. The first-look poster showcases Khanna in full Mughal attire, exuding the authority and cruelty associated with the historical figure. Alongside Khanna's look, the first looks of Vicky Kaushal as Shambhaji Maharaj and Rashmika Mandanna as Esu Bai have also been released, further building anticipation for the film.

To mark the occasion, the filmmakers have revealed the first look of Akshay Khanna as the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. Known for his ruthless reign over the Mughal Empire, Aurangzeb's portrayal in *Chava* promises to be an intense and powerful per-

The trailer for *Chava* will be released tomorrow, giving fans an exciting preview of the movie's epic scale and historical significance. The music for the film is being composed by the legendary A.R. Rahman, adding another layer of anticipation for what promises to be a grand cinematic experience. With a powerful cast, a gripping historical narrative, and a renowned director at the helm, *Chava* is shaping up to be one of the most awaited films of the year.