



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	DELHI
TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE	TEMPERATURE
H 29° C L 16° C	H 30° C L 19° C	H 20° C L 10° C

BAAHUBALI Vs THE REST

Inflated Box Office Numbers and the Rise of Corporate Bookings

G Avinash | TPN
Hyderabad, Jan 24

The legendary success of Baahubali 2: The Conclusion has become a benchmark many in the Indian film industry are desperate to surpass—often at any cost. Recent Income Tax raids in Hyderabad have exposed a murky underbelly of inflated box office collections involving Pushpa 2, Devara, and Jawan, tarnishing their claims of overtaking Baahubali 2.

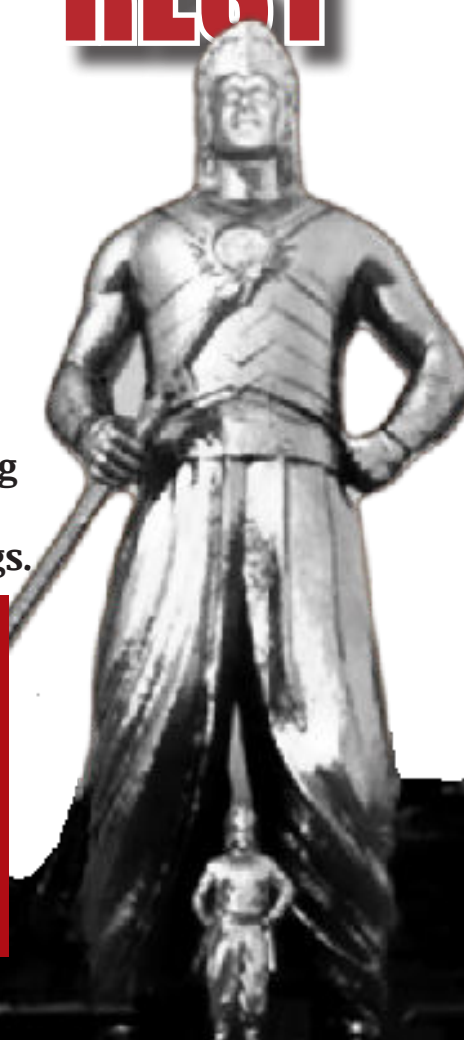
Baahubali 2 grossed ₹1,416.90 crore and achieved 10 crore footfalls without manipulation.

Income Tax raids targeted Dil Raju, Mythri Movies, and Mango Media for financial irregularities.

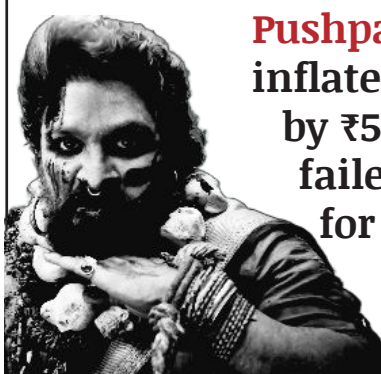
Big stars opting for profit-sharing models are driving the trend of corporate bookings.

Films like Pushpa 2, Devara, and Jawan face allegations of inflated box office numbers.

PR campaigns and fake reviews are hurting genuine competition.



Pushpa 2: Allegedly inflated collections by ₹550 crore and failed to account for taxes on the unverified earnings.



Devara: Involved in community-driven corporate bookings, with organizations like TANA allegedly contributing to inflated figures.



Jawan: Kickstarted this trend with multiplex chains being questioned for facilitating corporate bookings to amplify its success narrative.



The Income Tax Department recently conducted raids on prominent Tollywood players, including producer and Telangana Film Development Corporation Chairman Dil Raju, Mythri Movie Makers, and Mango Media. These raids uncovered financial irregularities, including the strategic use of corporate bookings to inflate earnings. Corporate bookings involve bulk purchasing of tickets by production houses or affiliates for shows that often remain empty. This tactic creates an illusion of box office success, misleading audiences, distributors, and stakeholders alike.

Why Are Corporate Bookings Increasing?

A significant shift in the remuneration model of big stars is fueling this trend. Many top actors have moved away from fixed fees, opting instead for a share of the profits. In most cases, the distribution ratio between producers and distributors stands at around 60:40, though it may vary slightly. If a film underperforms at the box office, stars risk losing face in the industry and damaging their market value. To avoid this, they actively participate in corporate bookings, using their share of the profits to inflate numbers

artificially. This practice not only boosts the perception of a film's success but also secures their brand image. Additionally, heavy investments in public relations (PR) and paid reviews are killing competition in the industry. For instance, Ram Charan's latest release Game Changer has reportedly faced negative campaigns, allegedly orchestrated by rival PR teams aiming to discredit the film before its release.

A Call for Transparency

The exposure of these practices through IT raids underscores the urgent need for reforms in box office reporting. As the race to surpass Baahubali 2 intensifies, the industry must prioritize transparency and fairness over artificial hype and inflated numbers.

The Real Legacy

While Baahubali 2 continues to be celebrated for its authentic achievements, the exposure of these inflated claims has left audiences questioning the legitimacy of modern blockbusters. As the investigation widens, the industry faces a stark choice: uphold transparency or continue chasing fake glory. The battle to beat Baahubali might have just revealed more losers than winners.

BIG Alert for Hyd Residents

**7.50 Lakh Applications Scrutinized
Survey Completion in Sight
Ward Assemblies Post-Survey
Online Access to Survey Details
New Opportunities for Housing Applicants**



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: The Housing Corporation of Telangana has announced significant updates regarding the Indiramma Housing Scheme in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) area. According to the latest figures, a total of 10.71 lakh applications have been received for the scheme. So far, 7.50 lakh of these applications have been scrutinized, with plans to complete the examination of the remaining 3.21 lakh within the next week. The process involves a thorough survey, details of which will be available on the official portal, indirammaindlu.telangana.gov.in/applicantsearch. Once the survey is finished, ward assemblies will be convened across the GHMC area to further process these applications.

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MLC Kavitha Challenges CM Revanth on BC Reservation Delay

**Kavitha's Open Letter to CM Revanth Reddy BC Reservation Promises Unfulfilled Delays in Local Body Elections
Kamareddy Declaration: A Year On Unscientific Census or Strategic Delay?**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: In an open letter to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has raised serious concerns regarding the delay in increasing reservations for Backward Classes (BCs) in local bodies.

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Telangana Shines at Davos

Historic Investment Influx Under CM Revanth Reddy



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: In a landmark event at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Telangana, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, has secured investments amounting to a staggering Rs. 1,64,050 lakh crore, setting a new record for the state. This year's investment haul is more than three times what was achieved last year, showcasing the state's burgeoning appeal as an investment destination.

- * Investment Surge in Davos
- * Record-Breaking Deals for Telangana
- * CM Revanth Reddy's Strategic Vision

- * New Jobs for 46,000: Telangana's Employment Boost
- * From IT to Energy: Diverse Investment Sectors
- * Telangana's Clean and Green Policy Attracts Investors
- * Global Giants Bet on Hyderabad

CM Revanth Reddy, accompanied by the 'Rising Telangana' team, including IT and Industries Minister Sridhar Babu, signed agreements with 16 companies. These agreements are not just a testament to the state's industrial policy but also to its vision for sustainable and inclusive growth.

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Krishna Water Dispute Hearing Set

- * AP Challenges Center's Notification
- * Two References in Dispute

- * Tribunal's Recent Verdict
- * Supreme Court's Intervention



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: The ongoing Krishna water dispute among Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Maharashtra has taken a new turn with the Andhra Pradesh (AP) government approaching the Supreme Court. This action follows the Center's notification on October 23, 2023, to investigate water sharing, culminating in a recent decision by the Brijesh Tribunal on the distribution among AP, Maha-

raashtra, and Karnataka.

The two Telugu states, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, have filed two references before the tribunal concerning water shares. However, the AP government has now escalated the issue by challenging the Center's notification in the Supreme Court.

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Telangana Shines at Davos

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The state's strategic initiatives like the 'Telangana Rising 2050 Vision', the development of Future City in Hyderabad, the Young India Skill University, the Regional Ring Road, and Metro expansion have played crucial roles in attracting these investments. The government's recent introduction of a Clean and Green Policy has further cemented its reputation as an environmentally conscious investment hub.

Key highlights include:

- Unilever setting up a palm oil center in Kamareddy.
- Square Root Aerospace committing Rs 500 crores for a private rocket manufacturing company.
- A mega company investing Rs 11,000 crores to create 1,250 jobs with a 2160 megawatt pumped storage energy production center.
- A battery energy center investing Rs 3,000 crores, promising 4,000 jobs.
- Control S establishing an AI-based data cluster in Hyderabad.
- JSW investing Rs 800 crores in unmanned aerial systems.
- Amazon pledging Rs 60,000 crores for various projects in the state.
- Tilman Global Holdings and Ursa Clusters AI Data Center with investments of Rs 15,000 crore and Rs 5,000 crore respectively.

These investments are expected to generate approximately 46,000 new job opportunities, marking a significant boost to the local economy and employment rates. The agreements span across sectors like IT, AI, energy, and environmental initiatives, reflecting a balanced approach to development.

The success at Davos not only underscores CM Revanth Reddy's strategic vision but also positions Telangana as a leading state in India for business and innovation. The state's liberal industrial policies and focus on sustainable growth have evidently struck a chord with global investors.

This event marks the biggest investment record since Telangana's formation, heralding a new era of economic prosperity for the region.

Hyd Residents

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Additionally, it has been noted that 2,249 individuals within the GHMC area are currently engaged in examining these applications. Minister for Revenue, Housing, Information, and Public Relations, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, emphasized that the construction of Indiramma Houses is an ongoing commitment. He stated that the government is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible applicants are provided with housing, underlining the scheme's continuous nature.

Residents who have not previously applied for Indiramma houses are encouraged to do so during the upcoming ward assemblies. This initiative marks a significant step towards addressing housing needs in one of India's fastest-growing urban regions.

BC Reservation Delay

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The Kamareddy BC Declaration, made by the Congress party, promised an increase in BC reservations within six months of assuming power. However, after a year, there has been no action on this front.

Kavitha accused the CM of using an unscientific BC census and a dedicated commission as excuses to delay the implementation. She emphasized that although the caste census was completed long ago, the government has not made the details public. Moreover, she pointed out that while a report from the dedicated commission reportedly exists, there's no clarity on follow-up actions.

"Why is your government neglecting the BCs? Why is the Congress party so careless about the BCs?" Kavitha questioned, criticizing the government for not moving forward on the promise to elevate BC reservations to 42 percent. She warned that ignoring this issue would lead to unrest, and the society of Telangana would not forgive the government if it failed to fulfill its promise.

Kavitha also highlighted the government's failure to adhere to the financial commitments made to BCs in the Kamareddy Declaration. She noted the discrepancy between the promised annual allocation of Rs. 20,000 crores over five years and the meager budget allocations for 2024-25.

Furthermore, she addressed the ongoing delay in local body elections, pointing out that even after a year since the term of Gram Panchayats ended, elections are still pending, with special officers managing village affairs. This, she suspects, indicates a reluctance to increase reservations or hold elections.

Kavitha concluded her letter by demanding immediate action to increase BC reservations in local bodies and to conduct elections. She warned that if justice is not served to BCs, the BRS would take it upon themselves to ensure the promise is implemented, stating, "We will bend our necks and implement it."

New Energy Policy Boosts Investments and Employee Welfare

- * **New Energy Policy: A Game Changer for Investments**
- * **Decade of Neglect Addressed**
- * **Uninterrupted Power Supply Assured**
- * **Massive Subsidies to Support Electricity for All**
- * **Employee Promotions and Welfare**



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu has announced that the newly introduced New Energy Policy will usher in a wave of investments to Telangana, addressing a decade-long gap in policy-making by the previous government. Speaking at the launch of the Telangana State Power Engineers Association's 2025 diary and calendar, he emphasized the policy's role in making Telangana a global energy competitor.

Vikramarka highlighted the government's commitment to ensuring a stable power supply to industries, consumers, and agriculture, promising no interruptions this coming summer. He

revealed that the state has paid out substantial subsidies, including Rs. 12,486 crores for free electricity to farmers, Rs. 1,538 crores under the Griha Jyoti scheme for poor families, and Rs. 199 crores for government educational institutions, to maintain the financial health of the power sector.

In terms of employee welfare, he announced the promotion of 5,000 power sector employees and the implementation of compassionate appointments, showcasing the government's support for its workforce. He assured that the public government is dedicated to solving employee issues with a democratic approach, promoting freedom of expression among staff.

Furthermore, the Deputy CM discussed the revival of long-stalled projects like Yadadri and Bhadradi Thermal Power Stations, indicating a proactive stance in operationalizing these assets to meet energy demands.

This policy and the accompanying actions signal a significant shift towards transparency, accountability, and development in Telangana's energy sector, aiming for a prosperous future for all stakeholders involved.

IT Raids Extend to Third Day on Film Personalities

- * **Dil Raju's Offices Under Scrutiny**
- * **Seizure of Business Documents**
- * **Anil Ravipudi's Take on IT Raids**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: The Income Tax Department's raids have entered their third day in Hyderabad, focusing on the offices of well-known film producer and Telangana Film Development Corporation Chairman Dil Raju, along with Mythri Movies and Mango Media. The investigations have uncovered discrepancies between the reported income and tax payments of these production companies. Documents related to business transactions from multiple companies were seized, and officials are now examining bank lockers for further evidence. These actions follow the registration of a case based on initial evidence.

Amidst the ongoing raids at his residence, a personal crisis emerged when Dil Raju's mother fell seriously ill. She was urgently transported to the hospital in an IT officials' vehicle due to the emergency. In response to these developments, director Anil Ravipudi, who has worked with Dil Raju, commented on the situation. He noted that such IT raids are not uncommon in the film industry,

- * **Financial Discrepancies Uncovered**
- * **Emergency Hospitalization Amid Raids**



occurring roughly every two years, and are not limited to Dil Raju alone. Ravipudi humorously remarked on the coincidence of the raids with the Sankranti festival, referencing his film 'We are coming to Sankranti', suggesting that the IT officials have also "come for Sankranti." He clarified that he has not been subject to any Income Tax raids himself.

The raids continue to stir discussions within the Telugu film industry, highlighting the scrutiny faced by its prominent figures.

BRS Working President Defends IT Sector, Critiques Politicians

- * **IT Talent vs. Political Money**
- * **Criticism of Political Practices**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: In a strong statement, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President has come out in defense of IT employees while taking a jab at certain politicians. Addressing those who might attempt to belittle him by referring to his background as an IT employee, he emphasized the value of the IT industry.



"To be in the IT industry, real talent, education, and dedication are very necessary. But none of these are necessary to buy MLAs with a few bags of money and send money to Delhi bosses," he stated, highlighting the contrast between the merit-based IT sector and political practices he deems corrupt.

He went on to salute IT employees worldwide, acknowledging their hard work and pivotal role in advancing technology. "IT employees all over the world are working very hard to earn their livelihood. Salute to my sisters and brothers in IT and IT-affiliated companies. Your intelligence and tireless work are the

- * **Praise for IT Workforce**
- * **The Backbone of Modern Tech**

backbone of the modern technological world. Without you, the wheels of progress would have stopped," he remarked.

The BRS leader further criticized some politicians, calling them "accidental politicians" who lack the educational qualifications and commitment of IT professionals. He pointed out the adverse effects of poorly conceived policies introduced by such figures, underscoring the pride he takes in his educational background and IT experience.

This statement serves as both a defense of the IT sector's integrity and a critique of political practices, reflecting the ongoing discourse on merit versus money in Indian politics.

Rural Development Gets Boost in TG



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Rural Development Minister Seethakka has outlined a significant commitment to rural development in Telangana, following a meeting with Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka at Praja Bhavan. The minister revealed that the government has already allocated Rs. 2,682 crores in the first phase for rural development, with an additional Rs. 2,773 crores recently sanctioned. Seethakka also highlighted that Rs. 197 crores have been allocated under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), adding to the Rs. 110 crores previously released for the same initiative, aimed at constructing roads, drainage, and other village infrastructure. She assured that further funds would be forthcoming.

In a move to support rural engineering officers, the government has provided vehicle facilities for field-level supervision. Rs. 5 crores have been sanctioned for 237 engineering officers, with a monthly vehicle rental allowance of Rs. 33,000. This initiative addresses the previous lack of vehicle allowance, which had posed challenges for engineers, particularly in remote areas. Panchayat Raj Department ENC Kanakarathnam expressed gratitude for these developments, noting the past difficulties engineers faced due to the absence of vehicle support. This step is seen as a significant enhancement in the efficiency and oversight of rural development projects in Telangana.

Revanth Reddy's U-Turn on Megha Projects

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: K.A. Paul, a prominent political figure, has raised questions about Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's apparent U-turn regarding Megha Krishna Reddy, the head of Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL). Previously, when Revanth Reddy was in the opposition, he publicly insulted Megha Krishna Reddy, labeling him "a big thief" in relation to the Kaleshwaram project.

Recently, however, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Uttam Kumar Reddy, both ministers, have made statements against the Kaleshwaram project, with Uttam Kumar Reddy claiming it has been "closed". Despite these criticisms, Paul highlighted that CM Revanth Reddy has now signed off on contracts worth Rs. 15,000 crores for Kaleshwaram projects to Megha Krishna Reddy. Paul criticized this move, pointing out that Revanth Reddy had accused the previous government of corruption amounting to Rs. 2 lakh crores in relation to the Kaleshwaram project, yet now appears to be favoring the same contractor. He went on to allege that Megha Krishna Reddy might be providing significant "black money" to the Congress party, with claims of Rs. 4,000 crores spent to ensure their win. Paul promised to reveal more details soon regarding these financial transactions.



Krishna Water Dispute Hearing Set

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In response to the AP government's mention, the Supreme Court has acknowledged the plea and scheduled a hearing for February 13 at 2 PM. This hearing will address the two references filed in the tribunal, marking a significant step in resolving the contentious water sharing issue that has persisted between these states.

The Krishna Tribunal has previously addressed water sharing matters, but with this new development, the judicial process continues as the Supreme Court prepares to delve into the specifics of the dispute. All eyes will be on the upcoming court session as it could potentially redefine water distribution policies in the region, affecting millions of lives dependent on the Krishna River's resources.

Komatireddy Unveils Development Plans in Adibhatla

Ratan Tata Statue Planned for Adibhatla New Road Project Kicks Off Welfare Schemes and Employment Opportunities Infrastructure Boost with Highway Expansions

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy, Jan 24: Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy laid the foundation stone for the Adibhatla-Mangalpalli road, valued at Rs 25 crore, in the Ibrahimpatnam constituency. Speaking at a public meeting, he outlined various welfare and development programs initiated by the government.

Reddy announced plans to honor Ratan Tata with a statue in Adibhatla for his philanthropy and the employment opportunities his companies provide. Post the Chief Minister's return from Davos, they will finalize the location for this tribute. He also detailed the upgrade of ITIs with CSR funds from Tata, aiming to develop skill centers for youth employment.

The minister highlighted the ongoing infrastructure projects like the expansion of NH-65 and Regional Ring Road (RRR), crucial for state development. He assured the continuation of welfare schemes like Indiramma Indlu, Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa, Rythubharosa, and ration card distribution, with 40 lakh cards to be given out the next day.

Reddy criticized opposition leaders for their lack of vision, affirmed the government's commitment to humane policies, and opposed the Pharmacy



project due to its potential to displace communities. Instead, he emphasized development through education and technology with initiatives like Skill University and data centers.

He also addressed criticisms, stating the government welcomes constructive advice while continuing its welfare programs. The minister reassured the public that gram sabhas would remain an ongoing process, ensuring continuous support for the needy.

This event was attended by Ibrahimpatnam MLA Mal Reddy Ranga Reddy and Adibhatla Municipal Chairman Niranjan Reddy, highlighting a collaborative effort towards regional development.

Husnabad Bus Station Modernized; Inaugurated by Minister Ponnam

TPN Correspondent | Husnabad, Jan 24: State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated the newly modernized Husnabad bus station, constructed at a cost of Rs. 2 crores. The revamped station now boasts 11 platforms, including three new ones, with enhancements like aluminum sheeting, granite platforms, stairs, drinking water facilities, bus pass counters, and toilets.



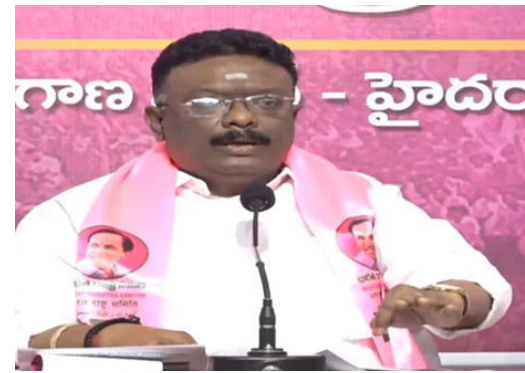
The minister appreciated the drivers for their safe operations since December 9, 2023, and highlighted the government's commitment to public transport, noting that 134 crore people have traveled for free in the last year, supported by a government grant of about Rs. 4,500 crores to the RTC.

He announced that the new bus station would serve the residents of 129 villages

around Husnabad, emphasized ongoing recruitment for RTC staff, and plans to introduce electric buses for environmental conservation. The minister also spoke about celebrating Road Safety Month and promoting traffic awareness.

The event was attended by TGRTC Deputy Director Srinivas, District Collector M. Manuchaudary, and various regional managers.

Dasoju Sravan Criticizes CM Revanth Reddy's Davos Statements



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: BRS senior leader Dasoju Sravan has slammed Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his remarks at the Davos World Economic Forum, suggesting they tarnished Telangana's reputation. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, Sravan advised Reddy to be more responsible while representing the state abroad to attract investments.

Sravan was particularly critical of Reddy's comments about IT employees, calling them disrespectful and belittling. He emphasized the significant contribution of the IT sector to India's GDP and demanded an apology from Reddy to IT workers for his derogatory remarks.

He also defended K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), highlighting his professional background and achievements in attracting investments and creating jobs in Telangana. Sravan argued that Reddy's critique of KTR was misplaced and inappropriate, especially given Reddy's own journey from a painter to Chief Minister.

Sravan expressed concern over the lack of clarity in Reddy's statements, like the "China plus one" concept, questioning the advisory circle around the CM. He accused Reddy of damaging the state's prestige on international platforms.

Are they only giving 21 houses per village? Where is the justice in this?



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy voiced strong criticism of the government's welfare schemes during a recent Gram Sabha in Challur, Veenavanka Mandal, Huzurabad constituency. He expressed frustration over the government's failure to deliver on its promises, particularly regarding farmer assurance and housing schemes.

Reddy pointed out that the Congress government had promised Rs. 15,000 per acre for farmers during elections but is now offering only Rs. 12,000. He also criticized the government's claim to provide 3,500 Indiramma houses to each constituency but questioned why only 306 houses were approved for his constituency. "Are they only giving 21 houses per village? Where is the justice in this?" he asked.

He further challenged officials, stating that they had previously identified 900 eligible people for housing, yet only 306 houses were being allocated. Reddy demanded that the officials disclose the names of the 21 people selected for each village during the Gram Sabha meeting, emphasizing the need for transparency and fairness in the process.

Reddy's remarks reflect growing discontent among local leaders regarding the implementation of government schemes and the perceived lack of fairness in welfare distribution.

Tummala: BRS Leaders Inflicting Pain on People

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Agriculture Minister Tummala Nagaswara Rao recently attended the swearing-in ceremony of the Bhuvanagiri Agricultural Market Committee Chairman as the chief guest, where he made significant remarks. Minister Tummala highlighted that his government had waived off loans to support farmers, while criticizing the previous administration. He accused the previous government of mortgaging the Outer Ring Road and providing Rythu Bandhu to only a select few farmers. Furthermore,



he pointed out that the BRS has failed to distribute ration cards in the past ten years and has been obstructing Gram Sabhas.

Addressing the ongoing farm-

er's maha dharna in Nalgonda, Tummala called on the people to question the BRS leaders on why loan waivers have not been implemented over the past decade. He further emphasized that his government would provide assurances to farmers starting January 26 and noted that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is actively working to bring investments to the state. Minister Tummala concluded by asserting that the BRS leaders are now forcing the people to bear the consequences of their lost positions.

Ponguleti Slams Opposition for Criticizing Welfare Schemes

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: State Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy strongly criticized opposition leaders, accusing them of making excuses and obstructing the welfare initiatives of the Indiramma government. Speaking at the foundation stone laying ceremony for development works in Tirumalayapalem mandal, the minister expressed his dissatisfaction with the opposition's behavior. He stated that the Indiramma government, which focuses on uplifting the poor, would not be ignored, even if opposition leaders acted like "street urchins."

During his visit to Jallepalli village, Ponguleti took aim at the opposition's inability to recognize the welfare measures implemented by the Indiramma government. He questioned whether opposition parties had been able to solve issues such as providing new ration cards, organizing village councils, and constructing homes during their ten years in power.

The minister also expressed frustration over the opposition's failure to address people's problems during their time in office. He advised opposition leaders to be quiet if they had done nothing,



and suggested that those who acknowledged the good work of the government would fare better in local elections. Ponguleti assured that those left off welfare lists need not worry, as the government would continue to focus on improving the lives of the poor.

MLA Mahipal Reddy Warns Kata Srinivas Goud

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Tensions within the Congress party in Patancheru constituency have reached a boiling point, with MLA Gudem Mahipal Reddy issuing a stern warning to Congress leader Kata Srinivas Goud. Reddy, speaking at a media conference in Patancheru, expressed his frustration over Srinivas Goud's continued defiance despite losing three elections. He criticized Goud for failing to heed previous warnings and for making personal attacks, which he deemed inappropriate in a democratic setup.

Reddy emphasized that the main goal is to strengthen the Congress party, not engage in baseless attacks. He further warned Goud to change his approach or face consequences. "If this continues, resistance is inevitable," Reddy stated. He also condemned the attack on his camp office, likening it to an attack on his home, and demanded severe

punishment for those responsible. A formal complaint has been lodged with the district SP, IG, and the Congress high command regarding the attack.

The ongoing factionalism in the party has intensified, with Goud's supporters staging protests in Bollaram, accusing Mahipal Reddy of abusing veteran Congress leaders. Tensions escalated as they vandalized the MLA's camp office, prompting the deployment of a heavy police force in the area.



MLA Nayini Rajender Faces Criticism Over Gram Sabha Protests

TPN Correspondent | Warangal, Jan 24: Warangal West MLA Nayini Rajender Reddy has come under fire for his comments regarding the protests by BRS leaders in gram sabhas. He emphasized that the government is fulfilling its pre-election promises, albeit with a four-month delay. Reddy accused the BRS leaders of disrupting gram sabhas and provoking people with lies, claiming that the schemes are only for Congress supporters.



Reddy stated that the government is providing ration cards, houses, and pensions to the poor and that the welfare schemes will be available to deserving beneficiaries from January 26. He criticized the BRS and BJP leaders for making baseless allegations against the government and accused them of confusing the poor and causing unrest.

The MLA's remarks, including his controversial statement to "tie up and beat those who provoke people with lies," have sparked

outrage. He assured that the government is committed to providing welfare schemes to all deserving individuals and that the irregularities seen under the BRS regime will not be tolerated.

Reddy's comments have drawn sharp criticism, with many calling for a more measured and respectful approach to addressing political disagreements.



No-Confidence Motion Against Hyderabad Mayor: Talasani

Talasani to Decide on No-Confidence Motion BRS Criticizes Congress Over City Issues Talasani Demands Action on Public Issues

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: BRS key leader and former minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav made a significant statement regarding the no-confidence motion against Hyderabad Mayor Gadwala Vijayalakshmi and the Deputy Mayor. Speaking to the media on Thursday, Yadav announced that a decision on the motion will be made at a party meeting scheduled for tomorrow. He further revealed that a petition regarding public issues has already been submitted to

the Commissioner.

Yadav also criticized the Congress-led government, claiming that since their rise to power, the construction of flyovers in the city has come to a halt. He called for ration cards to be provided to all those who had applied through the public administration system.

Highlighting his party's strength in the GHMC Council, Yadav pointed out that the BRS holds more seats than the ruling Congress. He



also criticized the Congress for not addressing the questions raised by BRS members.

In addition, a lunch meeting was held at Yadav's resi-

dence in Jubilee Hills, where Greater MLAs gathered for a discussion that lasted approximately two and a half hours. The meeting focused on pressing political issues in the city.

GHMC Launches Special Drive Against Adulterated Food in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: The GHMC has launched a special drive targeting adulterated food in Hyderabad. For the second consecutive day, food safety officials conducted inspections across the city, seizing adulterated food items from various shops, hotels, and bakeries. Several cases were registered during the operation. GHMC Mayor Gadwala Vijayalakshmi joined the food safety officials during the inspections in Quthbullapur, where significant amounts of adulterated food were confiscated from GP Foods.



Mayor Vijayalakshmi highlighted the growing problem of food adulteration in the city, emphasizing that banned and substandard ingredients are being used in the preparation of food at hotels, restaurants, and eateries. She

expressed concern over the use of prohibited colors in juice bottles and other food items, which pose a serious health risk.

The Mayor also pointed out that many people continue to commit food adulteration despite being aware of the rules and regulations. She stressed the financial burden of medical treatment for illnesses caused by adulterated food, which can run into lakhs of rupees. Vijayalakshmi called for strict action against food adulteration and urged citizens to remain vigilant about the quality of food they consume.

Thieves Steal Road Roller in Unusual Heist in Jeedimetla

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: In an unexpected turn of events, thieves in Hyderabad stole a road roller in a heist that baffled authorities. Afroz, Mustafa, and Sheikh Anwar from Gulbarga targeted the heavy machinery, which was parked in a deserted area in Balanagar under Jeedimetla police jurisdiction. Using two cranes, the thieves loaded the road roller onto a DCM truck and headed towards Maharashtra with the stolen item.



suspects, including Afroz, Mohammed Ibrahim, Sheikh Anwar, and Balla Ram Satyanarayana, were arrested. Saeed Mustafa remains at large.

Further investigation revealed that the thieves intended to sell the stolen road roller at a scrap shop in Maharashtra, having previously committed similar thefts in Dhulapally and Petbashirabad.

The owner of the road roller realized it was missing and immediately reported the theft to the police. Authorities launched an extensive investigation, reviewing footage from 64 CCTV cameras. The stolen road roller was later recovered, and the

Police Investigate Bangalore Doctor's Role in Kidney Racket

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: The police investigation into the kidney racket case at Alaknanda Hospital in Saroornagar, near LB Nagar, has revealed significant developments. Authorities have identified the involvement of eight middlemen and confirmed that the illegal kidney transplant operations have been ongoing at the hospital for the past six months. The police suspect that a doctor from Bangalore may have played a key role in orchestrating the scam. Investigations are still underway to uncover the full extent of the network involved.

Sumanth, the manager of Alaknanda Hospital, has already been arrested in connection with the case. Meanwhile, the Health Department's investigation uncovered that the middlemen had exploited the financial hardships of two single women from Tamil Nadu, who were reportedly coerced into becoming victims of the racket.

A team of doctors led by Dr. Nagender submitted a preliminary report to the government after interviewing the victims for over five hours. The report highlights that the middlemen took advantage of the victims' financial difficulties to carry out these illegal operations. Local leaders have expressed outrage, questioning how such major surgeries could be performed without proper authorization, and criticizing the disregard for the lives of the people involved.



Danam Nagender Slams Footpath Demolitions



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender has strongly criticized the authorities for their unilateral demolition of footpaths in Hyderabad, accusing them of harming the livelihood of poor people. He expressed his anger over the demolitions, questioning how they could proceed without public notices if there was an existing government policy.

ments from the old city, where the situation is more urgent. He further criticized the demolition of structures in Chintal Basti, where over a hundred small traders lost their shops. These traders, who depended on their businesses for daily survival, were not given prior notice.

The MLA became visibly upset during his visit to the site, stating, "How can the local MLA carry out demolitions without notice?" He warned that he would sit in front of the JCB if the demolitions continued, even at the risk of losing his MLA post. Despite his protests, the demolitions proceeded uninterrupted, with authorities ignoring the locals' concerns about losing businesses they had operated for decades.

Nagender suggested that if the authorities were truly sincere, they should begin demolishing encroach-

Nagender also urged the authorities to consider exemptions, such as the one granted to Kumari Aunty in Madhapur, before carrying out such actions.

Tension Escalates at Musheerabad Hebron Church Over Control Dispute



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Tension flared at Musheerabad Hebron Church in Hyderabad following a clash between two groups vying for control over the church. Pastor Veerachari's group locked themselves inside the church while another group protested outside the gates. Upon receiving reports of the situation, police arrived at the scene and deployed around 100 officers to ensure peace. Both groups were dispersed without any further incidents.

Recently, members of the church trust accused society members of forcibly taking control of the church with the help of bouncers, preventing them from praying. In response, trust members attempted to enter the church, but the doors were locked by the opposing group. When they tried to break down the gates, police intervened to prevent any violence.

The ongoing dispute over the church has been brewing for some time.

Currently, the area around the church remains under heavy police surveillance as authorities work to maintain order and prevent further confrontations between the two factions.

New Angle in Meerpet Case

Who is the Woman on Gurumurthy's Phone?

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: A new twist has emerged in the murder case of a woman in Meerpet, Hyderabad. Police discovered photos of another woman on the mobile phone of the accused, Gurumurthy. It is suspected that he killed Madhavi to eliminate his illicit relationship with her. Gurumurthy allegedly dismembered her with a mutton knife, placed her body in a bucket, and used a water heater to cook it. He then crushed her remains and disposed of them in a pond. Gurumurthy later informed her parents that Madhavi was missing.



there was a premeditated plan to kill Madhavi. However, the accused is reportedly not fully cooperating with the investigation.

Gurumurthy, a retired army personnel now working as a security guard, had an argument with Madhavi on the 15th of this month about the photos. The police suspect that he attacked her during this argument. After dismembering her body, he reported Madhavi as missing to her parents on the 17th of this month. Gurumurthy filed a missing person's complaint with the police in Meerpet.

Venkata Madhavi, a resident of Dandupalli, Thupran Mandal, Medak District, married Gurumurthy, a resident of J.P. Cheruvu, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh, ten years ago. They have a daughter and a son. Gurumurthy had previously served in the army and retired. He is currently working as a security personnel at DRDO on a contract basis.

The police examined the CCTV footage of Gurumurthy's house and detained him for questioning, as Madhavi did not appear to have left the premises. The CCTV footage revealed his relationship with another woman, leading the police to believe

The police are continuing their search for more evidence in this case. They are investigating traces in the Jillela Lake where the body was dumped, collecting information from the accused, and gathering technical evidence to solve the case.

R. Krishnaiah : Congress Neglecting BC Welfare

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 24: Rajya Sabha member and National President of the National BC Welfare Association, R. Krishnaiah, has accused the Congress party of exploiting Telangana and failing to fulfill its promises to the backward classes (BCs). Speaking at a conference organized by the BC Welfare Association at Abhinandan Hotel in Kacheguda, Krishnaiah criticized the Congress for not providing loans to a single BC despite being in power for a year.



mandated a subsidy of up to Rs. 50 lakh for BC professionals to purchase machinery and called for an amendment to the constitution to further the cause of BCs.

Krishnaiah emphasized that the BC ideology is strong in Telangana and called for direct loans to BC caste professions through BC corporations, bypassing banks. He expressed concern over the lack of industrial growth, which he claimed has led to unemployment among BC communities. Krishnaiah de-

He urged BCs to rise in the same way they did during the Telangana movement, adopting leadership qualities for a better future. The event saw participation from several leaders, including Gorige Mallesh, Neelam Venkatesh, and G. Anji.

Palamuru-Rangareddy Project Renamed to PRLI



TPN Correspondent | **Telangana, Jan 24:** In a recent cabinet decision, the Telangana state government has officially renamed the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme in honor of former Union Minister S. Jaipal Reddy. The Irrigation Department issued the formal orders on Thursday, confirming the new name for the scheme, which will now be referred to as the PRLI project.

In addition to the name change for the Palamuru-Rangareddy scheme, the cabinet has also decided to rename the Singur project after Rajanarsimha, the late father of Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha and a senior Congress leader.

The second package of the Palamuru-Rangareddy project has been approved with a revised estimate of Rs. 1,784 crore. The government has also approved the work to link the Dindi lift scheme from the Yedala reservoir at a cost of Rs. 1,800 crore. These projects are expected to significantly contribute to the state's irrigation infrastructure and support agricultural development in the region.

Farmer Attempts Suicide by Consuming Pesticide in Village Council



TPN Correspondent | **Mulugu, Jan 24:** A tragedy has occurred in Telangana Minister Seethakka's constituency, Mulugu. A farmer attempted suicide by consuming pesticide in front of officials at the village council, as his name was not on the list of those eligible for government schemes. The incident took place in Buttaigudem, Kannaigudem mandal, Mulugu district.

The farmer, Kumari Nageswara Rao, had applied for various welfare schemes under the Praja Prajaya initiative adopted by the Congress government in the past. When the list of eligible persons for various schemes was announced in the village council, he became upset that he was not eligible for any of the applications he had submitted. In his distress, he consumed pesticide in front of the officials.

Despite efforts by officials and villagers to stop him, Rao had already consumed more than half of the pesticide. He was rushed to the local hospital, and as his condition became critical, he was shifted to the Mulugu area hospital. He is currently receiving emergency treatment.

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar Inspires Girls at Hadiya Ceremony

TPN Correspondent | **Husnabad, Jan 24:** State Transport and BC Welfare Minister, Ponnamp Prabhakar, participated in the Hadiya ceremony at the Telangana Minority (Girls) Gurukul School in Husnabad on Thursday. The event also saw the participation of District Collector M. Manu Chowdhury, Library Chairman Lingamurthy, and the Gurukul School's principal and staff.

In his address, Minister Prabhakar encouraged the girls to stand confidently in modern society without fear. He emphasized the importance of fluency in speech, drafting skills, and advised

them to stay away from distractions like social media. He stressed that efficiency and hard work are essential for achieving one's goals and called for a focus on the educational principles taught by teachers for a brighter future.

District Collector Manu Chowdhury also shared motivational words, urging the students to remain persistent and avoid wasting time. He advised the students to approach problems from different angles and encouraged them to ask more questions to deepen their understanding of the subjects. He concluded with best wishes for the girls to successfully achieve their goals.



Central Team Inspects Site for Proposed Airport Near Nagarjunasagar

TPN Correspondent | **Nagarjunasagar, Jan 24:** A central team of aviation services visited Vijayapuri South on Thursday to inspect the site for a proposed airport near the Nagarjunasagar Dam. The team arrived in the region on Wednesday night and were welcomed by local protocol officials, including RI Danda Srinivas Reddy. On Thursday, they conducted an inspection of the old airport site in Vijayapuri South and the surrounding areas in Andhra Pradesh to assess their suitability for the construction of a new airport.

The proposed airport would be built on approximately 1600 acres of

land, and it is hoped that its development will boost tourism, particularly in Telangana. The inspection team from Delhi included ASN Murthy, Pravindra Tiwari, Arun Kumar, Aman Chippa, Sajeez Abhilaj, and Usman. They were joined by local officials, including Gurajala RDO Muralikrishna, Macherla Tahsildar Kiran Kumar, Revenue Inspector Anil Kumar, and irrigation and agriculture officials.

This proposed airport project is part of ongoing efforts to improve infrastructure and attract tourism to the region. Further assessments and discussions will determine the viability of the project.



Villagers Submit Applications for Vacant Chairs

TPN Correspondent | **Mahabubnagar, Jan 24:** Tensions have risen at Gram Sabhas across Telangana, with officials unable to answer villagers' questions regarding the government's welfare schemes. The situation took a dramatic turn in Venkatapuram, Thorrur Mandal, Mahabubabad district, when officials abruptly left the Gram Sabha after being unable to address concerns raised by the villagers.

The villagers had gathered to discuss the six guarantees under the government's welfare program but were met with frustration when officials failed to provide satisfactory answers. Amid growing unrest, the officials left the venue without resolving the issues. In their absence, the villagers took matters into their own hands and submitted applications for the vacant chairs, a move that has since gone viral on social media.

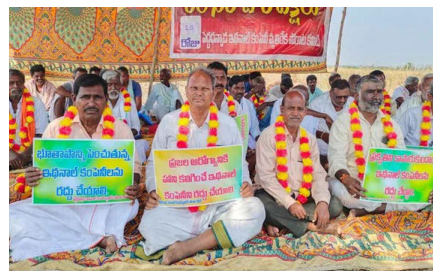
The incident highlights growing dissatisfaction with the ongoing selection process for government schemes and the lack of communication between officials and the public. It has raised questions about the effectiveness of the Gram Sabha process and the ability of officials to address the concerns of the people.



Farmers Protest Ethanol Factory with Hunger Strike

TPN Correspondent | **Gadwal, Jan 24:** Farmers in Jogulamba Gadwal district have initiated a relay hunger strike to demand the immediate cancellation of permits for an ethanol factory. The protest began on Thursday in Pedda Dhanwada village, Rajoli mandal, located in Alampur constituency. People from surrounding villages gathered in large numbers to show their support for the farmers.

The farmers expressed concerns



that land in the area had been sold under the guise of agricultural use, but later linked to the ethanol factory. They revealed that if they had been fully informed about the purpose of the land acquisition, they would not

have sold their property. They now demand that the government withdraw its plans for the ethanol factory.

Farmers have issued a warning that, if their demands are not met, they will escalate their protest into a large-scale movement. The hunger strike marks the beginning of their efforts to prevent the establishment of the factory, which they believe could harm local agriculture and livelihoods.

Congress Schemes: Broken Promises, Lives at Risk

TPN Correspondent | **Hyderabad, Jan 24:** The Congress government's promises of welfare have turned into a tragic reality for many citizens in Telangana. Under the banner of Indiramma schemes, the hopes of common people to build their own homes with minimal government assistance have been shattered. Many, who believed in the government's assurances, are now grappling with the grim consequences of unmet expectations.

In the run-up to elections, Congress had promised various welfare schemes, including Rs. 15,000 per acre for farmers. However, this assurance has been re-



duced to just Rs. 12,000, leaving farmers disillusioned. The situation worsened as village assemblies, meant to select beneficiaries for Indiramma houses and ration cards, have turned into battlegrounds. Discontent has escalated, with Congress party workers and officials allocating

benefits to ineligible individuals and ignoring deserving beneficiaries.

Protests have erupted, with angry villagers chasing away public representatives and even resorting to violent acts like demolishing tents and breaking chairs. In extreme cases, people, unable to bear the disappointment, have attempted suicide by consuming pesticide.

The Indiramma regime's promises of hope have now become a haunting reminder of broken dreams and lives at risk.

Govt Will Stand by Every Poor Person: Minister Damodar

TPN Correspondent | **Sangareddy, Jan 24:** State Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha reaffirmed the government's commitment to supporting every poor individual during his speech at the Neradigunta Gram Sabha in Sangareddy district. The Minister assured that all eligible beneficiaries would receive their entitled benefits, including houses, ration cards, and Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa assistance. Rajanarasimha also announced that the farmer's loan waiver would be completed soon, and the distribution of Farmer's Bharosa would begin on

January 26. He emphasized that pensions for widows, elderly, and disabled individuals who are still awaiting them will be disbursed soon, assuring them not to worry.

Furthermore, the Minister revealed that construction of houses would begin in Neradigunta within the next 10 days. He mentioned that the RDO would conduct a survey of five acres of government land, which would be allocated to provide houses for the poor. Rajanarasimha assured the public that all government promises would be fulfilled in a timely manner.

Minister Sridhar Babu's Gram Sabha Turns Unproductive Amid Protests

TPN Correspondent | **Telangana, Jan 24:** The Gram Sabha held in Minister Sridhar Babu's constituency in Telangana on Thursday witnessed a lack of participation, creating a dull atmosphere. The meeting in Gangapuri, under the Manthani Municipal limits, saw minimal attendance from both the local people and women. The absence of a crowd left officials with little to do, and the proceedings appeared unproductive. The visuals of this lackluster event have since gone viral on social media.



This incident highlights the growing dissatisfaction among the public, especially in light of ongoing protests and agitations across the state. Critics have claimed that government schemes are being unfairly distributed to Congress workers, and many citizens are disillusioned with the current allocation process. The lack of enthusiasm in the minister's own constituency adds to the growing concerns over the government's effectiveness in engaging the people.

BRS leaders have criticized the turnout, suggesting that the people in Sridhar Babu's constituency have lost faith in the government's promises. The controversy surrounding these assemblies continues to escalate, with many questioning the legitimacy of the ongoing scheme distributions.

The Economic Response to the Trauma of Partition: Lessons from Early Indian Budgets



The partition of India in 1947 was one of the most traumatic events in the country's history, displacing nearly 1.8 crore people and claiming approximately 10 lakh lives. It altered the social, political, and economic landscape of the affected regions in profound ways. In the years following this catastrophic upheaval, the government had to deal with the immediate challenges of rehabilitation and relief. The tragedy was so immense that its impact is still felt today, and the early Indian budgets provide crucial insights into how the young nation sought to address the aftermath of such devastation.

The first budget of independent India, presented in 1947-48, acknowledged the partition as the "most poignant human tragedy" outside of war. In response to the massive displacement, the government allocated Rs 27 crore—26% of the total non-defence expenditure—toward relief and rehabilitation. This

was more than double the amount set aside for health and education combined. The government's focus on rehabilitation reflected the immediate and urgent need to resettle millions of displaced people and provide them with basic necessities.

The 1948-49 budget continued this focus, noting that while only the "fringe" of the problem had been addressed, there was a strong commitment to placing refugees into productive occupations. The government allocated Rs 25 crore for rehabilitation, including Rs 10 crore for establishing the Rehabilitation Finance Administration, which played a significant role in addressing the crisis. The expenditure on refugees and food subsidies in 1949-50 amounted to Rs 52.82 crore, nearly a third of the total expenditure.

These early budgetary provisions highlight the Indian government's recognition of the deep scars left by partition

and its effort to tackle them head-on. In today's terms, the amount spent on rehabilitation would be a significant sum, ensuring that many resettlement colonies became key drivers of post-Independence growth.

However, some critics argue that by diverting such substantial resources toward rehabilitation, the government neglected other vital areas such as health, education, and infrastructure during the early years. The lack of investment in these sectors may have limited the country's economic potential in the long run, hindering its growth in the subsequent decades.

While one can debate the effectiveness of the government's choices, what is clear is that the trauma of Partition shaped India's early economic policies. The question remains—have we learned the right lessons from this period of history to avoid such grave mistakes in the future?



India's Immigration Dilemma: The Need for a National Perspective

Immigration has once again become a pressing topic of discussion, both globally and within India. Recently, Mumbai police reported that the man who attacked Saif Ali Khan was an illegal migrant from Bangladesh, underscoring the growing concerns about unauthorized immigration. In the United States, President Donald Trump's rhetoric has largely focused on immigration, especially illegal immigration, framing it as one of the nation's most significant challenges.

Until recently, many Indians didn't think much about immigration in an anti-immigrant context. After all, Indians have been among the biggest beneficiaries of immigration policies, particularly those of Western countries. My own family, for instance, thrives in the United States thanks to the opportunities provided by the U.S. immigration system, which has welcomed highly qualified individuals from around the world. This sentiment holds true for many prominent Indian immigrants, such as Sundar Pichai, Satya Nadella, and Rishi Sunak, who have risen to notable positions globally.

However, the rise of anti-immigration sentiments—seen in both the U.S. and India—may soon turn the spotlight on issues that we, as a nation, might not have fully confronted. Trump's policies, though aimed at curbing illegal immigration, have led to growing apprehensions about how they might affect legal Indian immigrants, especially with reports suggesting thousands of Indians attempting to enter the U.S. illegally, primarily via the southern border. India is likely to face the ramifications of this, as deportations may soon increase, with 1,800 deportees expected soon.

On the domestic front, India is increasingly concerned about illegal immigration, particularly from Bangladesh. Many politicians and citizens now echo the sentiments expressed by leaders like Trump regarding illegal immigration. While it is important to address this issue, the larger question remains: how should India respond to the broader issue of immigration in the West?

In the past, India has prioritized the rights of its emigrants, advocating for policies like H-1B visas for skilled professionals. Yet, it's time to question whether such efforts truly serve India's national interest. Should India's foreign policy be shaped by the rights of individuals seeking to emigrate, or should it prioritize the welfare of those choosing to stay?



Union Budget : Align aspirations with emerging opportunities, prepare for challenges ahead

As January unfolds and the excitement of the New Year wanes, the focus inevitably shifts back to the more pressing matters at hand, particularly financial ones. With the Union Budget just around the corner, there's a surge of hope and expectation about the relief it might bring to different sectors of society. However, understanding the various forces that shape the Budget can help temper these hopes with a dose of realism, ensuring we remain grounded in our expectations.

In today's world, the conversation often intertwines economic growth with sustainability and social responsibility. These two concepts are increasingly viewed as inseparable, but it's important to remember that growth and equity do not always go hand in hand. For growth to be inclusive, it needs to reach all segments of society, particularly the rural, economically disadvantaged, and vulnerable populations. This requires targeted investments in reskilling and upskilling programs, soft loan schemes, housing, and infrastructure projects that aim to create a nurturing environment for all to thrive.

At the same time, we cannot ignore the middle class, which often faces the dilemma of being economically comfortable on the surface, but at risk of financial instability due to unforeseen circumstances, such as health emergencies. Ensuring that the middle class doesn't fall into this precarious situation is a key focus that demands attention in the upcoming Budget.

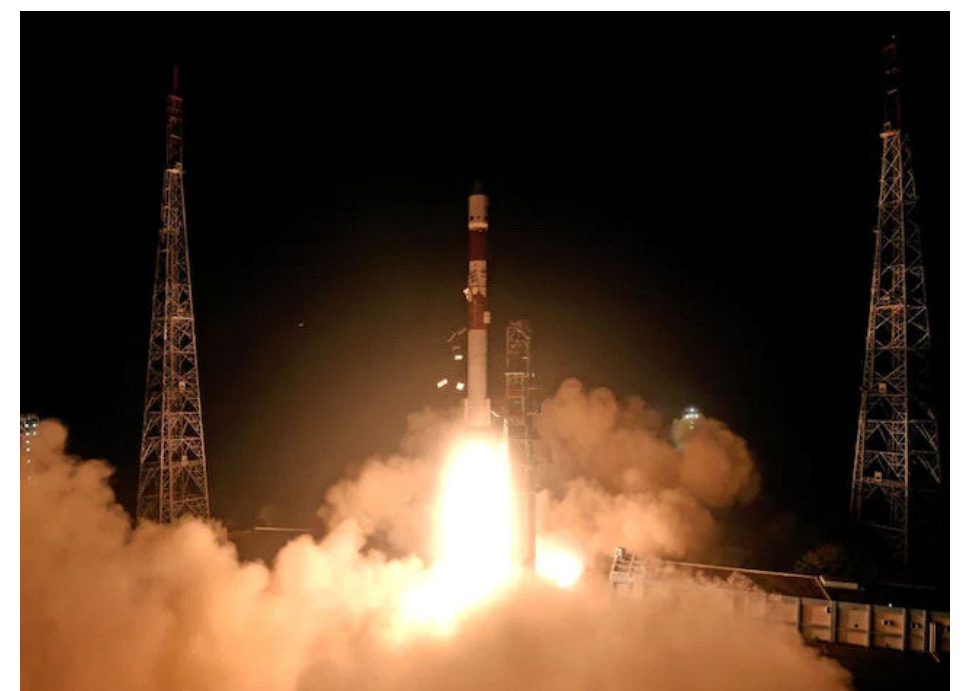
Achieving robust economic growth, particularly the 7% target set by the government, is no small feat, especially in the face of geopolitical challenges. This requires a sharp focus on capital formation and investment in key sectors that can drive sustained growth. The Budget will need to support initiatives that foster capital investments while simultaneously driving employment and production. However, the balancing act between public spending and inflation remains one of the most crucial aspects of Budget planning.

India's Space Triumph: A Major Step Towards Global Leadership

India has achieved a significant milestone in space exploration with the successful docking of two unmanned spacecraft, placing the country alongside the United States, Russia, and China as only the fourth nation to master this complex technology. This breakthrough, executed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), signals a new chapter in the country's ambitious space program, showcasing its growing capabilities in the global space community.

The Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) involved two small spacecraft, named Target and Chaser, each weighing approximately 220 kilograms. Launched aboard India's PSLV rocket on December 30, the spacecraft rendezvoused and successfully docked on January 11, 2025, after overcoming minor technical hurdles. This docking not only highlights India's technological achievements but also sets the stage for future missions involving satellite servicing, in-space construction, and even human space exploration, such as missions to the Moon.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised the accomplishment, calling it a significant stepping stone for India's space ambitions. The success of SpaDeX underscores India's technical sophistication, enhancing its reputation as a rising space power. Spacecraft docking is crucial for a variety of advanced missions, including refueling spacecraft, transferring materials, and building



in-space infrastructure. These capabilities are essential for satellite servicing, human spaceflight, and the potential establishment of a space station in the future.

This achievement comes on the heels of India's successful Chandrayaan-3 mission, which made history by landing a spacecraft on the Moon's South Pole. The country has also set its sights on launching its first crewed mission in the coming years, with a goal to land an astronaut on the Moon by 2040. Additionally, India plans to establish its own space station, the Bharatiya Antariksha Station, by 2035, further cementing its position as a leader in space exploration.

India is also making strides in space commercialization. By opening up its space sector to private companies and encouraging foreign investment, the country has created a dynamic environment for innovation. The successful collaboration between public and private entities, like Ananth Technologies' role in SpaDeX, highlights the country's ability to leverage both sectors for more cost-effective and efficient space exploration.

As India continues to advance its space program, it strengthens its geopolitical influence and positions itself as a formidable player in global space exploration, challenging traditional space powers like the United States, Russia, and China.

PM Modi Pays Tribute to Bal Thackeray on 99th Birth Anniversary

Remembers Shiv Sena founder's contributions to Maharashtra and Indian pride.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray on his 99th birth anniversary, lauding his unwavering dedication to public welfare and the development of Maharashtra. In a post on X, Modi wrote, "He is widely respected and remembered for his commitment to public welfare and towards Maharashtra's development. He was uncompromising when it came to his core beliefs and always contributed towards enhancing the pride of Indian culture."

Bal Thackeray, a staunch proponent of Hindutva, was instrumental in intertwining the ideology with the notion of "Marathi pride," which became the cornerstone of the Shiv Sena's political agenda. Under his leadership, the party grew into a dominant force in Maharashtra, particularly in Mumbai, where it played a critical role in shaping the city's political and social fabric.

PM Modi highlights Thackeray's dedication to Hindutva and Maharashtra's progress.

Thackeray's legacy shaped by his fusion of nativist and nationalist ideologies.

Shiv Sena founder remembered for championing Marathi pride and Indian culture.

Thackeray's political journey began with his background as a cartoonist, which he



utilized to voice issues of regional identity and local employment. In 1966, he founded the Shiv Sena to address the grievances of Marathi-speaking communities, rallying them under the banner of cultural and linguistic pride. Over time, his leadership expanded the party's reach, making it a significant player in Maharashtra's political landscape.

Known for his fiery oratory and steadfast positions, Thackeray was revered by supporters for championing the rights of the common man and Marathi people while

staying committed to a broader nationalist vision. His legacy continues to influence Maharashtra's politics, with the Shiv Sena playing a pivotal role in state and national governance under various factions and alliances.

As the nation commemorates Thackeray's contributions, his vision for a culturally proud and economically robust Maharashtra remains a guiding light for many. The tributes on his 99th birth anniversary reflect the lasting impact of his leadership on Indian politics and society.



Wayanad rehabilitation: No assistance from Centre yet, says CM Vijayan

Rs 712.98 crore from CMDRF to aid survivors as state seeks additional funds

TPN Correspondent | Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan expressed concern over the lack of central assistance for the rehabilitation of Wayanad landslide survivors, despite the disaster being declared of "severe nature." Addressing the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, the CM announced that Rs 712.98 crore from the Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund (CMDRF) will be utilized to aid the survivors.

The state initially demanded Rs 2,221 crore from the Centre for rehabilitation efforts. However, Vijayan noted that the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report indicates that additional funds will be required. "I have written to MPs across the country to contribute up to Rs 1 crore from their MP funds," he added.

Kerala seeks Rs 2,221 crore from Centre for rehabilitation.

Rs 15 lakh to be provided to those opting out of proposed townships.

Opposition demands clarity on housing fund and treatment cost for survivors.

The CM assured that rehabilitation efforts would be expedited, including Rs 15 lakh allocations for individuals preferring to live outside the planned townships. Addressing opposition concerns, Vijayan promised immediate action to resolve delays in disbursing treatment costs to severely injured survivors and to finalize the Rs 30 lakh allocation for proposed housing.

Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan highlighted the uncertainty surrounding housing costs and emphasized the need for decisive steps to conclude the rehabilitation process.

As Kerala continues its rehabilitation efforts, the lack of central support has sparked debate, with the state government urging collective contributions from MPs nationwide to support Wayanad's recovery.



Tamil Nadu CM Stalin Lays Foundation for Open-Air Museum at Keeladi

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday laid the foundation stone for an open-air museum at Keeladi, the renowned Sangam-era archaeological site, currently in its tenth phase of excavation. The museum, with an estimated cost of ₹17 crore, will exhibit key finds such as brick structures, ring wells, and other archaeological discoveries, further cementing Keeladi's importance in understanding Tamil history.

In addition to the open-air museum, Stalin inaugurated a website dedicated to the Keeladi excavations and released a report titled Antiquity of Iron, which hypothesizes that Tamil Nadu's Iron Age began 5,300 years ago, dating back to the first quarter of the third millennium BCE.

₹17 crore open-air museum planned for Sangam-era site Keeladi. CM Stalin highlights Tamil Nadu's Iron Age as starting 5,300 years ago.

Gangaikondacholapuram to house a grand museum for Chola-era artefacts.

As part of the state's initiatives to preserve and celebrate Tamil heritage, Stalin also broke ground for a grand museum at Gangaikondacholapuram in Ariyalur district. The site, built by Rajendra-I in honor of his father Raja Raja Cholan, holds historical significance for the Chola Kingdom, which extended its influence as far as China centuries ago.

Speaking at the event, Stalin emphasized the government's commitment to showcasing the ancient history of Tamils through scientific methods. "The history of the Indian subcontinent should be rewritten from the Tamil landscape," he asserted, underlining the rich contributions of Tamil civilization to the region's heritage.

Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah Rejects BJP's Allegations as Politically Motivated

Counters claims of fund misuse and defends governance priorities.

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah dismissed accusations by BJP state president BY Vijayendra that his government misused welfare funds for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Siddaramaiah labeled the allegations as false and politically motivated, aimed at undermining his administration.

Vijayendra had alleged that Rs 87 crore from the Karnataka State Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation was illegally transferred ahead of the Lok Sabha elections. He further criticized the Congress government for delaying the appointment of a chairperson for the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, rendering it ineffective in addressing the grievances of oppressed communities.

BJP accuses Congress of misusing Rs 87



crore meant for SC/ST welfare. Siddaramaiah dismisses allegations as false and politically driven.

CM denies intra-party rifts over leadership change, citing high command's role. In a post on X, Vijayendra revealed that a public interest litigation (PIL) had been filed in the High Court regarding the delay in appointments. He claimed the court had issued notices to the government on

this matter.

Addressing intra-party disputes within the Congress over leadership, Siddaramaiah clarified that any decision on the Chief Minister's post would be made by the party's high command. This comes amidst speculation fueled by aspirations expressed by Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi.

Siddaramaiah also explained his absence from the World Economic Forum in Davos, stating he prioritized preparations for the state budget over international engagements. His decision to skip the forum for two consecutive years underscores his focus on state governance.

As Karnataka's political landscape heats up, Siddaramaiah's rebuttals reflect a strategy to counter BJP's criticism while maintaining internal party unity ahead of critical governance milestones.

BJP's Annamalai Calls IUML MP's Actions 'Disrespectful' at Temple, Kani Disagrees

TPN Correspondent | Tamilnadu

Tamil Nadu BJP president K Annamalai launched a sharp critique against Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader and Lok Sabha MP from Ramanathapuram, Navas Kani, accusing him of consuming non-vegetarian food at the sacred Thiruparankundram Subramanya Swamy hill in Madurai. The hill is home to the revered Murugan temple and the Sikandar Badusha Dargah, making it a site of religious significance.

Calling the alleged incident "deeply unfortunate," Annamalai demanded Kani's dismissal. "This MP went up the hill and ate non-vegetarian food. This is very unfortunate. Appeasement politics have taken hold. He created a law and order problem," Annamalai told India Today.

BJP's Annamalai accuses MP of disrespecting temple sanctity. IUML's Navas Kani denies allegations, claims mediation role. Sacred hill hosts both Murugan temple and Sikandar Badusha Dargah.

Annamalai further alleged that Kani's actions were an affront to the Murugan temple's sanctity and an attempt to foment division. "This is not only completely wrong but also a religious riot," he wrote on X.

Kani, however, denied consuming non-vegetarian food, stating, "I haven't consumed non-vegetarian food, someone else did." He explained that his visit to the hill was to mediate between clashing parties during a standoff over animal transportation for sacrifice. "Him saying I consumed non-vegetarian food is wrong," Kani clarified.

Indian Foreign Secretary to Visit China for Key Talks on Bilateral Relations

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri will visit China on January 26-27 to explore ways to strengthen ties between the two nations. Discussions with the Chinese Vice Minister will focus on political, economic, and people-to-people relations, alongside critical topics such as visa policies, direct flight routes, and economic cooperation.

The visit follows recent efforts to ease tensions between India and China, including National Security Advisor Ajit Doval's meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi last month. Doval emphasized the need for a fair framework to resolve the boundary dispute while maintaining a broader political perspective on bilateral relations.

Misri's visit follows NSA Ajit Doval's talks with China's Wang Yi.

India and China agreed to resume patrolling along the LAC in eastern Ladakh.

Both nations stress that normalcy hinges on peace in border areas.

This diplomatic engagement comes after a milestone agreement in October 2024, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met for the first time in five years during the BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia. The agreement enabled patrolling to resume along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, marking de-escalation in a region fraught with tensions since the 2020 Galwan Valley clash.

31,000 People Ordered to Evacuate After Wildfire Erupts Near Los Angeles

Ferocious flames engulf Castaic hills, spreading rapidly across 8,000 acres

TPN Correspondent
Castaic, United States

A new wildfire erupted north of Los Angeles on Wednesday, forcing 31,000 residents to evacuate. The blaze, dubbed the Hughes Fire, spread rapidly near Castaic Lake, consuming over 8,000 acres in just a few hours and threatening nearby communities.

Fueled by strong, dry Santa Ana winds, the wildfire sent plumes of smoke and embers across the region, intensifying fears of further spread. The fire broke out just as Los Angeles County was still reeling from two previous deadly blazes that claimed over two dozen lives and destroyed thousands of structures.

Robert Jensen, from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, emphasized the importance of immediate evacuation. "We've seen the devastation caused by people failing to follow those orders in the Palisades and Eaton fires. If you've been issued an evacuation order, please get out," he said.

- **Over 31,000 residents around Castaic Lake evacuated as wildfire spread.**
- **Firefighters battled the blaze with helicopters, planes, and ground crews.**
- **Strong Santa Ana winds and**



dry conditions worsened the situation.

The fire's rapid growth disrupted traffic on the I5 freeway, a key route along the West Coast, with sections of the road closed. Evacuations also extended to the Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic, with 500 inmates moved to safer locations. Cal Fire officials described the conditions as highly volatile, with Brent Pascua noting,

"We're getting the winds, low humidities, and extremely dry brush. These factors are making the fire spread at an alarming rate." Helicopters and Super Scooper planes were deployed to douse the flames with water and retardant. However, meteorologist Daniel Swain warned of worsening conditions, predicting stronger winds that could hinder firefighting efforts and potentially drive the fire

into Ventura County. This wildfire highlights the increasing threat posed by climate change, with prolonged droughts and rising temperatures leaving landscapes dry and susceptible to fire even during the rainy season. Southern California, which typically receives rain in January, has seen no significant precipitation for eight months, further exacerbating the crisis.

"We Didn't Stop Trading," Says Jaishankar On Trade With Pakistan

TPN Correspondent | Washington

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar clarified India's position on trade with Pakistan, stating that New Delhi never ceased trading but that Islamabad unilaterally halted trade in 2019. Speaking at a press conference in Washington DC on Wednesday, he emphasized that Pakistan made the decision to stop trading, not India.

"We did not stop trading. Their administration made the decision in 2019 to not continue trading with us," Jaishankar said. He also reiterated India's concern regarding the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status, which India extended to Pakistan but was never reciprocated.

- **Jaishankar clarified that India did not halt trade; the decision came from Pakistan in 2019.**
- **India had extended MFN status to Pakistan, but Pakistan failed to reciprocate.**
- **Stressed strong trust and convergence in India-US relations, calling for bolder cooperation.**

The EAM added that there have been no recent discussions or initiatives on trade between the two nations. "Neither such talks have taken place with Pakistan regarding trade from our side, nor did they take any initiative from their side," he noted. Shifting focus to India-US relations, Jaishankar highlighted the growing trust and shared global vision between the two countries. "We have a very strong degree of trust today between India and the United States, a very high level of convergence of our interests," he stated.

He further remarked on the potential for the India-US partnership to serve national and global interests alike. "While we serve our national interest and build our bilateral partnership, there's a lot of good we can do on regional and global issues," he said. Jaishankar hinted at a more ambitious trajectory for India-US ties, calling for bolder and larger initiatives in the bilateral relationship.

Trump Redesignates Iran-Backed Houthi Rebels as Foreign Terrorist Organization

Reverses Biden's earlier move to ease restrictions on the Yemen-based group



TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order reinstating the designation of Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels as a "foreign terrorist organization," the White House announced on Wednesday.

This decision reverses the earlier move by former President Joe Biden, who had lifted the designation in 2021 after assuming office. Biden had instead classified the group as a "specially designated global terrorist" en-

tire—a less severe designation that ensured humanitarian aid could continue flowing into Yemen, a country devastated by war. The reinstatement of the "foreign terrorist organization" label is expected to have significant implications for Yemen's conflict and international efforts to provide relief to its population. Trump's decision underscores his administration's hardline stance on Iran's influence in the region, as the Houthi rebels are widely recognized as Tehran's allies in the Yemeni conflict.

Trump Speaks on Pardons, Office Return, and Key Policies in First Interview Back

Ex-president addresses past decisions, challenges, and plans for America's future.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump sat for his first interview since returning to the White House, offering insights on a range of topics, including his predecessor Joe Biden's pardons, his return to office, and his stance on key issues such as immigration and TikTok. Speaking to Fox News' Sean Hannity, Trump defended his past decisions and outlined his vision for the nation.

Trump claimed he had been advised to pre-emptively pardon himself and others during his first term but chose not to. "I said I'm not going to pardon anybody, we didn't do anything wrong," he asserted, calling his supporters "incredible patriots."

Trump claims he rejected a self-pardon option during his first term. Plans to cut federal funds to sanctuary cities if necessary. Defends pardons of Capitol rioters, calling many "absolutely innocent." On returning to office, Trump reiterated unsubstantiated claims



about the 2020 election, stating, "We wouldn't have inflation, the Afghanistan disaster, October 7 in Israel, or the Ukraine war. But I believe this moment is bigger than if it were traditional." Despite challenges, he expressed optimism, saying America's problems are "all solvable."

Addressing illegal immigration, Trump suggested cutting off federal funding to sanctuary cities, emphasizing, "Sometimes that's the only thing you can do." On TikTok, he downplayed security concerns, questioning whether the app posed a significant threat, given its focus on

young users and entertainment content.

Trump also defended his pardons of nearly 1,600 January 6 Capitol rioters, stating, "Most of the people were absolutely innocent." The former president framed his actions as part of a broader effort to safeguard the nation's values and restore unity.

The interview marked Trump's renewed focus on his administration's priorities, signaling bold plans to address the country's pressing issues while defending his contentious decisions.

World Leaders Call for AI Regulation and Global Reforms at Davos

TPN Correspondent | Davos

Leaders from across the globe convened at the five-day World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting, urging action on artificial intelligence (AI) governance, climate change, and socio-economic reforms. The event concluded Friday, showcasing diverse initiatives aimed at addressing pressing global challenges. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez emphasized the need to curb misinformation and cyber harassment by reforming social media governance within the European Union. He called for stronger enforcement of the Digital Services Act and enhanced authority for the European Centre for Algorithmic Transparency, stating, "The values of the European Union are not for sale."

UN Secretary-General warns of unchecked AI and climate crisis risks.
Spain pushes for stricter social media regulations across the EU.
Congo announces the world's largest tropical forest reserve.

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres highlighted AI and climate change as two critical global threats. While acknowledging AI's transformative potential, he warned of the risks posed by unregulated advancements and urged international collaboration under frameworks like the Global Digital Compact.

In a groundbreaking announcement, Democratic Republic of Congo President Felix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo revealed the creation of the Kivu to Kinshasa Green Corridor Reserve. Spanning 550,000 sq km, the reserve aims to protect tropical forests while supporting economic development and livelihoods for millions of citizens. As Malaysia prepares to lead the ASEAN union, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim expressed confidence in the region's future, promising collaborative efforts to drive growth and stability. The Davos summit underscored the importance of global unity in tackling shared challenges, with leaders emphasizing sustainable development, technological innovation, and proactive governance.

Imran Khan Ends Talks with Government After 14-Year Jail Term

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan has ended reconciliatory talks with the government, just a week after being sentenced to 14 years in prison on graft charges. The talks, initiated last year to address political instability, have collapsed following the judgment in a high-profile land corruption case involving the former cricket star-turned-politician.

Khan's party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), confirmed the decision, citing unmet demands. "Khan has called off negotiations," PTI Chairman Gohar Khan told reporters after visiting the ex-PM in jail. Imran Khan had issued a seven-day ultimatum to the government, which expired without a response.

Talks aimed at stabilizing Pakistan collapse post-sentencing.

Imran Khan seeks judicial commissions to probe key incidents.

PTI alleges unfair treatment in land corruption verdict.

The corruption case, Khan's most significant legal challenge, centers on allegations of financial impropriety. A real estate tycoon reportedly transferred land to a welfare institution run by Khan and his wife in exchange for illegal favors.

PTI's demands include forming judicial commissions to investigate events leading to Khan's August 2023 arrest and the violent protests that followed, particularly the May 9, 2023 rallies that saw his supporters vandalize public property. As political tensions deepen, Khan's decision to halt negotiations casts a shadow over efforts to restore stability in Pakistan, leaving the government and opposition at loggerheads amidst ongoing unrest.

Markets Edge Higher as IT and Pharma Lead the Recovery Amid Volatility



Stock market indices gained on Thursday on the back of gains in IT and pharma sectors and buying in heavyweights. Despite the weekly derivatives closing, investors invested in selected stocks, which led to a moderate rise. The markets were initially volatile due to mixed signals from international markets. They remained range-bound for a while. The benchmark indices performed well as some companies reported good results and sectoral indices also rebounded. The Nifty ended above 23,200. It is not possible to say that the markets have turned around unless there is a gap from consecutive selling. Consolidation is expected for some time.



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ly closed at 76,520 with a gain of 115 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,128, reached a low of 23,090 and a high of 23,270. It fell by 50 points in total and closed at 23,205. The Nifty Bank fell by 135 points and settled at 48,589.

In the Nifty50, 30 companies gained while 20 lost. UltraTech Sem, Grasim, Wipro, Shriram Finance, Sun Pharma were the top gainers. BPCL, Kotak Bank, HCL Tech, SBI, Reliance were the biggest losers. Auto, IT, Media, Pharma, Realty, Healthcare, Consumer Durables indices rose the most today. Bank, finance, oil and gas indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today turned slightly more in favour of buyers than sellers. Out of a total of 2888 stocks traded, 1575 gained and 1236 lost. Shares of 18 companies touched 52-week highs. Shares of 81 compa-

nies touched 52-week lows.

Rupee weakened by 13 paise to settle at 86.46 against the dollar. Citi has given a buy rating to Polycab with a target price of Rs 8600. Zee Entertainment's third quarter net profit rose 180% to Rs 164 crore. Citi has maintained a sell rating on Persistent Systems with a target price of Rs 5000. Maruti Suzuki is increasing the prices of cars by Rs 1,500 to Rs 32,500 from February 1. Sinjin's net profit rose 18% to Rs 131 crore from Rs 111 crore. Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders gave clarity on a submarine project worth Rs 70,000 crore. Adani Green Energy's net profit rose 73% to Rs 561 crore from Rs 325 crore. 25 lakh shares changed hands in Fortis Healthcare and 24 lakh shares in Federal Bank. 10 lakh shares each in Hindalco and Paytm changed hands.

1. Berger Paints

One of the largest players in the Indian decorative and industrial paints segment. Strong demand in urban and rural housing, new product launches, and focus on premium paints. Around 15-17%, supported by premium product portfolio.

Consistently growing, aided by operational efficiencies. Brand recognition, wide distribution network, innovative products. Fluctuating raw material costs (crude oil derivatives), competition from Asian Paints and other key players. Positive due to in-



BERGER PAINTS INDIA LIMITED

creasing housing demand and urbanization.

2. IRCTC (Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation)

Monopoly in catering, ticketing, and tourism services for Indian Railways. Significant contributor due to convenience fees. Revenues tied to passenger volume. Growing steadily post-pandemic. High due to minimal competition in its segments. Attractive for income-focused investors. Monopoly, asset-light model, and strong cash flows. Government regulation and reliance on Indian Railways. Long-term positive with India's growing rail network and digital adoption.



3. LTIMindtree (LTIM)

Top-tier IT services company post-merger of L&T Infotech and Mindtree. Digital transformation, cloud services, data analytics, and enterprise IT solutions. Double-digit growth driven by demand for digital services globally. Robust with long-term contracts from Fortune 500 clients. Strong parentage (L&T), diversified client base, and focus on high-growth digital segments. Intense competition from Infosys, TCS, and Accenture; currency fluctuations. Promising due to global digital trans-



formation trends and enterprise IT spending.

4. Havells India

Leading player in electrical goods and appliances with premium branding. Product Portfolio: Cables, switches, fans, lighting, and home appliances. Consistently in the range of 13-15%. Low, reflecting a strong balance sheet. Brand trust, wide distribution, and innovation. Rising input costs (copper and aluminum) and competition from V-Guard, Bajaj, and others. Positive, driven by infrastructure growth and increasing penetration in rural areas.



HAVELLS (Havells India Limited)

5. Ambuja Cements

Among the top cement producers in India, part of the Adani Group. Construction and infrastructure projects. Moderate, aligned with the cyclical nature of the industry. Around 16-20%, supported by efficient operations and cost management. Low, ensuring financial stability. Strong brand presence, cost leadership, and environmentally sustainable practices. Cyclical demand, rising energy and transportation costs. Positive, supported by government infrastructure push and urban housing demand.



Ambuja Cement

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 76,404 in the previous session, opened at 76,414 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 76,202. It reached an intraday high of 76,743. It final-

Rupee's fall is due to dollar's rise, any RBI intervention can harm Indian exports: Rajan



Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Raghuram Rajan has cautioned against any RBI intervention aimed at reversing the weakening of the Indian rupee, which he attributes primarily to the strengthening of the US dollar. Speaking on the global economic situation, Rajan emphasized that the US dollar's rise is largely due to the potential impact of tariffs imposed by the US and a strong economic performance in the country.

According to Rajan, while the dollar has appreciated against several global currencies, including the rupee, any attempt by the RBI to prop up the rupee could negatively affect Indian exports. "If the RBI strengthens the rupee against the dollar, it would inadvertently make the rupee more expensive against other currencies, which could hurt our exporters," he said. He also noted that the RBI's traditional approach has been to intervene only when depreciation causes significant volatility, not to try and preserve the rupee at a specific level.

Rajan explained that the US economy is growing robustly, attracting more capital inflows, and leading to a stronger dollar. This is further compounded by a reshoring of production back to the US due to tariff policies, which also enhances the appeal of the US as an investment destination.

On India's economy, Rajan highlighted concerns over slowing growth and a lack of private investment. He emphasized that the recent growth had been recovery-based, and now the focus should shift to sustainable growth driven by investments and consumption. Rajan stressed that a key challenge for the Indian economy is the softening of demand across income groups, including the upper middle class.

Looking ahead to India's Union Budget, Rajan urged policymakers to prioritize job creation, better employment opportunities, and boosting household consumption. "A strong focus on creating more jobs and confident households will create a virtuous cycle of increased consumption and investments," he concluded.

Used car sales in India likely to touch 10.8 million in 2030

The used car market in India is on a fast-paced growth trajectory, with projections indicating that sales will rise from 4.6 million units in 2023 to 10.8 million by 2030, marking a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13%. According to a report released on Thursday, 2024 has emerged as a pivotal year, with used car sales surpassing new car sales at a notable ratio of 1.3:1.

One of the key trends in the market is the increasing number of eco-conscious buyers, as the demand for electric vehicles (EVs) grew fivefold in 2024. Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Delhi led the EV charge, further influencing the used car market. The report also highlights that SUVs continued to dominate, capturing 16.7% of the market share in 2024.

"The used car market, once considered a niche segment, has now redefined car ownership in India. With shifting custom-



er preferences towards more affordable and reliable options, the used-car market has seen significant growth compared to the new car market," said Gajendra Jangid, Co-founder of CARS24.

The report also points out that while the average selling price (ASP) of new cars has increased by 32%, used cars have seen a

24% rise. Despite these price hikes, used cars remain a more budget-friendly alternative, offering great value without compromising on quality.

In terms of financing, the report notes a significant rise in loans for both new and used cars. Financing for new cars has surged from 60% in 2010 to 84.2% in 2024, while the used-car financing market has grown from 15% to 23%. The post-COVID era has also seen a shift in consumer priorities, with 12% of buyers opting for personal mobility for convenience and safety rather than relying on shared transportation.

As India's used car market continues to expand, it is reshaping the automotive landscape and providing consumers with a more accessible option for vehicle ownership.

"Adani Energy Solutions Sees 80% Profit Surge in Q3 FY25

Adani Energy Solutions (AESL) has announced a remarkable 80% surge in its consolidated profit after tax (PAT), reaching Rs 625 crore for the third quarter (Q3) of the financial year 2025 (FY25). Excluding one-time tax items, the adjusted PAT grew by 26% to Rs 440 crore.

The company also saw a robust 24.4% year-on-year growth in total income, reaching Rs 6,000 crore for Q3 FY25. Operating revenue stood at Rs 4,173 crore, a 15.4% increase compared to Rs 3,615 crore in Q3 FY24. For the nine months ended FY25, total income surged by 44.4% to Rs 17,850 crore.

CEO Kandarp Patel highlighted the company's focus on timely project commissioning and operational efficiency, emphasizing that AESL continues to outperform both operationally and financially. He credited the strong quarterly performance to newly commissioned transmission projects, including MP Package-II, Kharghar-Vikhroli, and Warora-Kurnool lines,

as well as higher energy sales in Mumbai and Mundra utilities.

"The key highlight of this quarter is the new project wins in AESL, which have strengthened our position as the largest private transmission player in India," said Patel. With a total order book of Rs 54,761 crore in transmission and Rs 13,600 crore in smart metering, AESL remains confident in its ability to maintain growth, thanks to strong project execution and capital management.

The company's EBITDA for the quarter grew by 6%, reaching Rs 1,831 crore, driven by strong revenue growth across segments, including EPC income in transmission, treasury income, and steady regulated EBITDA from Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited (AEML). Operational EBITDA increased by 9% to Rs 1,579 crore.

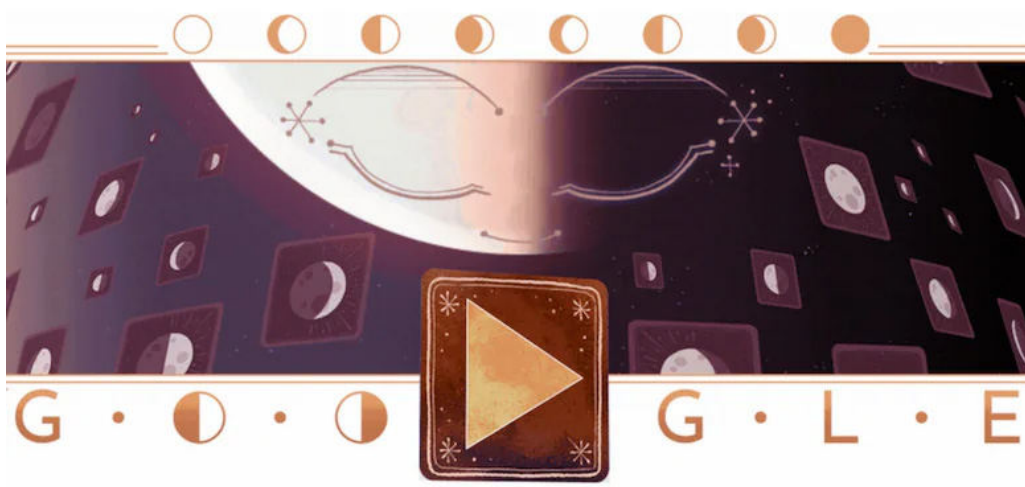
AESL also secured two new transmission projects—Khavda Phase IV Part-D and



Rajasthan Phase III Part I—adding 3,044 circuit kilometers (ckm) to its under-construction network. With this, the company's under-construction transmission pipeline now totals Rs 54,761 crore.

Smart meter deployment is progressing rapidly, with an average installation rate of 15,000 meters per day, set to rise to 20,000 meters per day in the coming quarter.

Google's 'Rise of the Half Moon' Doodle Educates with Fun Lunar Game



Google's latest doodle, titled "Rise of the Half Moon," is an interactive and educational celebration of the lunar cycle, launched on Thursday, January 23, 2025. In honor of the final Half Moon of January, the doodle offers users a fun and engaging card game designed to teach them about the moon's phases while providing entertainment.

The objective of the game is to match different moon phases by strategically placing cards to score points. Players must compete against the half moon, with the game concluding once the board is filled. As users progress, they gain valuable insights into

the lunar cycle, making it both an enjoyable and educational experience.

Titled "Rise of the Half Moon," the doodle is described as a recurring card game series. According to the description page, players are invited to connect the phases of the lunar cycle to earn points and "beat the moon." Successful players might be rewarded with special surprises. The game also invites users to join the pack, a nod to January's full moon, traditionally known as the "Wolf Moon." This name is inspired by the howling of wolves during long winter nights, adding cultural depth to the doodle.

The doodle is accessible on both mobile and desktop devices, ensuring that a wide audience can participate in this lunar celebration. To further enhance the experience, Google offers users the option to download a "Half Moon Rises" wallpaper for their devices. The doodle's page also features a world map, showing where the doodle has appeared.

Google's doodles, since their debut in 1998, have become a unique way to celebrate significant events, cultural moments, and anniversaries. Over the years, these doodles have evolved in creativity and interactivity, sparking curiosity, educating users, and bringing joy to millions across the globe.

Japanese Aquarium Puts Cutouts Of People To Comfort Lonely Sunfish



A Japanese aquarium has come up with an innovative solution to cheer up its lonely ocean sunfish during renovations. The Kaikyokan Aquarium in Shimonoseki, which has been closed to the public since December 2024, noticed that its resident sunfish was struggling without the usual visitors. The aquarium staff observed the fish becoming unwell, refusing to eat its jellyfish, and even rubbing its body against the tank.

Initially, the staff thought the sunfish might have developed digestive problems or contracted a parasite. However, after further observation, one staff member suggested the possibility that the fish was simply lonely without the pub-

lic around. Although the idea seemed far-fetched, the team decided to give it a try.

In a creative effort to alleviate the sunfish's apparent loneliness, the aquarium staff placed cardboard cutouts of visitors, dressed in staff uniforms, around the tank. They set up the cutouts to mimic the presence of people observing the sunfish. The aquarium then shared an image of this unique setup on social media, showing the sunfish seemingly comforted by the fake visitors.

The results were surprising. The next day, the sunfish appeared to be feeling better. It began swimming in front of the tank and waving its fins, indicating that it had regained

its health and energy. The staff was amazed by the turnaround and credited the cutouts for helping the sunfish feel more at ease.

This isn't the first time an aquarium in Japan has used creative methods to support its animals. During the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown, Tokyo's Sumida Aquarium engaged volunteers to FaceTime its spotted garden eels, encouraging them to come out of hiding and stay active.

Kaikyokan Aquarium's inventive solution highlights the emotional sensitivity of animals and the lengths to which caretakers will go to ensure their well-being, even in the face of unusual circumstances.

What Is Blue Monday? Understanding the 'Most Depressing Day of the Year'

Blue Monday, often referred to as the "most depressing day of the year," falls on the third Monday of January, and in 2025, it lands on January 20th. The concept of Blue Monday was coined in 2005 by the UK travel company Sky Travel, which claimed it to be the day when people experience the lowest mood. Factors such as the end of the holiday season, post-New Year's financial strain, cold weather, and unfulfilled New Year's resolutions contribute to this low point.

While the idea has become a part of popular culture, Blue Monday is more associated with controversy than scientific validation. The term originated from a Sky Travel press release that used a formula to calculate the most depressing day of the year. The formula included factors such as debt levels, weather conditions, the

number of days until the next holiday, time since the last payday, and the average number of daylight hours. This "depression factor" was meant to explain why people feel down and encourage them to take action to improve their mood, such as planning a holiday.



Despite its widespread recognition, there's little scientific evidence supporting the claims of Blue Monday being the actual "most depressing day." Mental health experts argue that the day is just a marketing tool rather than a reflection of genuine psychological phenomena. However, many people may experience a

dip in mood around this time due to seasonal changes, the return to work after the festive period, or the pressure of unachieved resolutions.

How to Beat Blue Monday

Take a walk: Getting outside or even bringing nature inside with plants can help lift your mood. Research shows exposure to nature can benefit psychological well-being.

Dance it out: Music and dancing are great ways to improve your mood, offering a fun and effective way to boost happiness.

Connect with loved ones: Spending time with friends or family and checking in on each other's mental health can provide support.

Reframe failure: Rather than focusing on setbacks, see them as opportunities for growth and learning, which can motivate you to keep moving forward.

'Volcanoes Will Erupt': Scientists Sound The Alarm, How Life On Earth Will End

According to a study by scientists at Bristol University, Earth is heading toward a catastrophic future where all life, including humans and animals, will be wiped out due to extreme heat. The study, which used a computer simulation, predicts that Earth will face a total destruction event in the next 250 million years. The temperature on Earth will soar to a staggering 70 degrees Celsius, a level too hot for any living creature to survive.

The research also highlights the role of rising carbon levels, with the accelerated increase of carbon emissions contributing to an earlier extinction event. Scientists warn that this escalating carbon buildup could trigger an event similar to the mass extinction that wiped out the dinosaurs 66 million years ago. The last

supercontinent, Pangaea, existed from 330 to 170 million years ago, and researchers believe that Earth's continents will eventually merge again to form a new supercontinent known as Pangaea Ultima in 250 million years.

As the planet heats up, life will become unsustainable. Volcanoes, which cover much of the Earth's surface, will erupt due to the pressure of extreme temperatures. These eruptions will release vast amounts of carbon dioxide, exacerbating the already critical situation, leading to the collapse of ecosystems and the eventual death of all organisms. With the temperature rising and oxygen levels depleting, Earth will become inhospitable.

Alexander Farnsworth, the leader of the research team,



stated that with doubled levels of carbon dioxide, people would perish from heatstroke, and the overall quality of life would be unbearable. The Earth's atmosphere would be filled with carbon dioxide, making it almost impossible for humans and animals to breathe. As life forms die off in massive waves, only the edges of the supercontinent Pangaea Ultima might remain habitable, offering a bleak future for the planet.

US Court Rules Elephants Cannot Be Freed From Zoo, Declaring They're Not 'Human'



In a controversial ruling, a US court has decided that five elephants held at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado cannot be released based on their lack of legal rights, as they are not considered "human." The case was brought forward by the animal rights group Nonhuman Rights Project (NRP), which sought to have the elephants freed under a legal process called habeas corpus. The group argued that the elephants—Missy, Kimba, Lucky, Lou-Lou, and Jambo—who were born in Africa and have spent years in captivity, showed signs of brain

damage. NRP claimed the zoo conditions amounted to a "prison" for these highly intelligent and social animals.

NRP's goal was to relocate the elephants to a sanctuary where they could live more naturally, but the Colorado Supreme Court ruled that the animals did not meet the legal criteria to pursue such a claim. In its decision, the court explained that the legal question at hand was whether an elephant could be considered a "person." Since elephants are not legally recognized as persons, the court determined that

they did not have standing to seek their release.

This decision follows a similar one in 2022, when the New York courts ruled against freeing an elephant named Happy from the Bronx Zoo.

In response, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo criticized the NRP, accusing the group of abusing the court system to raise funds rather than genuinely advocating for the welfare of animals. The zoo stated that the NRP's ongoing legal battles were part of a strategy to manipulate the public into donating to their cause.



West Indies Crush Malaysia to Reach Super Six in Women's U19 T20 World Cup

West Indies clinched a spot in the Super Six stage of the 2025 Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup with a commanding 53-run victory over hosts Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday. Despite posting a modest total of 112/7 in their 20 overs, the West Indies bowlers delivered a clinical performance, bowling out Malaysia for a mere 59 runs. The win helped them finish third in Group A and advance to the next stage of the tournament.

For Malaysia, this loss marked their exit from the competition, as they ended the group stage with three consecutive defeats and were unable to progress further.

West Indies captain and all-rounder Samara Ramnath was the standout performer in this crucial encounter. Although her contribution with the bat was minimal, scoring just 5 runs, she was exceptional with the ball, claiming 4 wickets for only 6 runs. Her outstanding bowling performance ranks as the third-best in the tournament, following Vaishnavi Sharma (India) and Maisie Maceira (Scotland) who each took five-wicket hauls.

At one point, Malaysia seemed to be in control at 38/2 after 10 overs while chasing a target of 113. However, Ramnath's spell triggered a dramatic collapse, as she took four vital wickets—three through bowled or lbw dismissals—helping reduce Malaysia to 59 all out. Malaysia lost their last eight wickets for just 21 runs.

Ramnath struck early in her second over, dismissing Malaysia's captain, Nur Daniya Syuhada, and trapping Nur Izzatul Syafiqah lbw. She later returned to clean-bowl Suabika Manivannan, completing the demolition in the 18th over. Off-spinners Najanni Cumberbatch and Erin Deane also played key roles, combining for four wickets and keeping relentless pressure on the Malaysian batters.

Earlier, after being asked to bat first, West Indies struggled to accelerate but managed to post a competitive total, with Assabi Callender anchoring the innings with a patient 30 off 42 balls.

With India and Sri Lanka already securing their places in the Super Six, West Indies join them as the third team from Group A to advance.

Sachin Tendulkar Foundation Celebrates 5 Years of Transforming Lives

The Sachin Tendulkar Foundation (STF) marked a significant milestone as it celebrated five years of empowering the less privileged and fostering dreams. The celebration, held at The Bombay Club in Mumbai, was a heartfelt gathering that reflected on STF's impactful journey and reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing lives through health, education, and sports, particularly for children.

The evening's theme, "Shine Brighter Together," underscored the Foundation's core mission of creating lasting change, especially for young people, by supporting their aspirations in these key areas. The event was a blend of tributes from well-wishers, family, friends, and non-profit partners, all of whom have been integral to STF's success.

A highlight of the evening was Sara Tendulkar, daughter of cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, marking her first official engagement as the Foundation's Director. Reflecting on her upbringing, Sara spoke about the influence her family had on her understanding of giving back and the transformative power of the Foundation's work. "Over the last five years, the Sachin Tendulkar Foundation has touched over 100,000 young lives, and that's a hundred thousand reasons to keep going," Sara shared.

The Foundation's journey was intro-



duced through a short film, showcasing the dedication of the Tendulkars and their NGO partners. Over 15 organizations work alongside STF to bring positive change to communities. Chris Martin of Coldplay also attended and engaged in a conversation with Sachin Tendulkar about the Foundation's journey.

Sachin Tendulkar reflected on the inception of STF, explaining that the idea began with a simple vision: to ease the

lives of the underprivileged and inspire young dreamers. With Sara now leading the Foundation, he expressed confidence that STF will continue to impact millions of lives. Looking forward, STF plans to expand its sports-for-development initiatives, improve infrastructure in rural areas, enhance healthcare access, and introduce innovative education programs. With a renewed focus, STF aims to make the next decade a transformative period for millions of children and youth.

India Outclass Sri Lanka by 60 Runs to Enter Super Six in U19 T20 Women's World Cup

India cruised to a dominant 60-run victory over Sri Lanka in their final Group A match of the ICC U19 T20 Women's World Cup, securing their place in the Super Six as group toppers. Openers G Trisha and India's pacers were the stand-out performers in this lopsided encounter.

Trisha played a composed knock of 49 off 44 balls, including 5 fours and a six, guiding India to a total of 118 for 9 on a challenging pitch. Her innings anchored the team's score, allowing them to set a competitive target. Despite some late contributions from VJ Joshitha (14 off 9 balls) and Mithila Vinod (16 off 10 balls), India's total appeared to be a challenging one for Sri Lanka to chase.

Sri Lanka's chase got off to a disastrous start as India's pacers VJ Joshitha and Shabnam tore through the top order. Sri Lanka were reduced to 9 for 4 in just 3.2 overs, and



a run out of skipper Manudi Nanayakara soon after left them reeling at 12

for 5. The Sri Lankan innings never recovered, and they were eventually restricted to 58 for 9 in 20 overs.

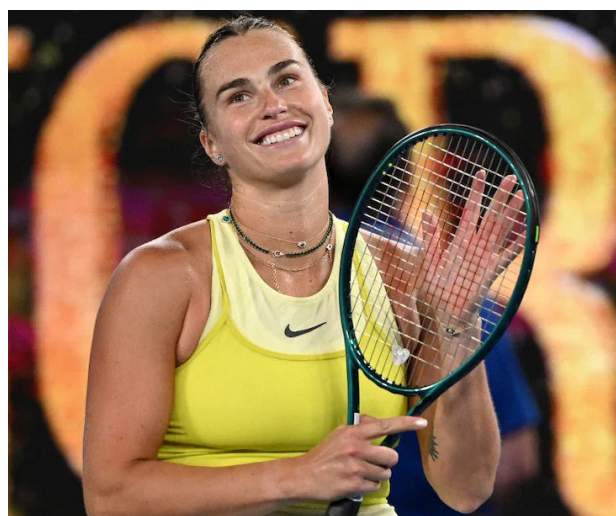
While Rashmika Sewwandi (15 off 12 balls) showed some resistance, the mounting required run rate forced her to take risks, leading to her dismissal. Sisodia (2/7) was the standout spinner for India, along with Ayushi Shukla and Vaishnavi Sharma, who played crucial roles in dismantling Sri Lanka's lower order.

Earlier, India had to battle through a tough patch in their innings, but Trisha's maturity at the top of the order held the innings together. Her aggressive six off Shashni Gimhani was a highlight. Despite a few wickets falling, India's strong finish ensured they set Sri Lanka a difficult target.

With this win, India maintained an unbeaten record in the group stage and are poised for the Super Six phase of the tournament.

Aryna Sabalenka Beats Paula Badosa To Reach Australian Open 2025 Women's Singles Final

Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka displayed her exceptional form by defeating Spain's Paula Badosa 6-4, 6-2 to advance to the Australian Open 2025 women's singles final. The world number one from Belarus, who has been on a stunning 20-match winning streak at Melbourne Park, will now look to secure her third consecutive Australian Open title. She will face either Polish second seed Iga Swiatek or American 19th seed Madison Keys in Saturday's final.



In what was a hard-fought match between close friends, Sabalenka showcased her powerful game on Rod Laver Arena, overcoming early challenges from Badosa. The match began with Badosa taking a 2-0 lead, capitalizing on a few early mistakes from Sabalenka. However, the Belarusian quickly found her rhythm, breaking back after Badosa's error-prone service game. Sabalenka then surged ahead, winning three games in a row to take a 4-2 lead, wrapping up the first set in 53 minutes with a strong display of 19 winners.

The second set saw a more dominant Sabalenka as she capitalized on Badosa's double faults and lack of consistency, breaking early for a 2-1 lead. Badosa, who had stunned world number three Coco Gauff in the previous round, could not recover from Sabalenka's aggressive baseline play and was broken again to seal the match in

straight sets.

Sabalenka's victory not only takes her one step closer to a third consecutive Australian Open title but also keeps her in contention for the top spot in the women's rankings. If she had lost, Iga Swiatek would have reclaimed the number one position. Badosa's run, though ending in the semifinals, marked a remarkable comeback after battling back from a serious back injury in 2023. She will return to the top 10 for the first time since October 2022, a testament to her resilience and determination.

Lakshya Sen, Satwik-Chirag pair bow out of Indonesia Masters

Indian badminton players faced disappointment at the Indonesia Masters Super 500 tournament as Lakshya Sen and the men's doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty were knocked out in the second round on Thursday.

Lakshya Sen, ranked 10th in the world, continued his struggle on the international circuit with a hard-fought loss to Japan's Kenta Nishimoto. The match ended 16-21, 21-12, 21-23 in Nishimoto's favour, lasting 50 minutes. Despite a strong comeback in the second game, Sen couldn't maintain the momentum, and he fell short in the decider.

The disappointment continued for India with the exit of the Asian Games champions, Satwik Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty. The men's doubles pair, who had reached back-to-back semifinals at the Malaysia Super 1000 and India Super 750 tournaments in the past two weeks, lost a tense match to Thailand's Kittinupong Kedren and Dechapol Puavaranukroh. The match was decided by narrow margins, with the Thai pair clinching a 22-20, 23-21 win.

Earlier in the day, the mixed doubles team of Dhruv Kapila and Tanshia Crasto also suffered an early exit. Despite initially taking the lead,



the Indian pair lost 21-18, 15-21, 19-21 to Malaysia's Pang Ron Hoo and Su Yin Cheng in a closely contested second-round match.

Lakshya Sen, who had previously won an Asian Games silver and a Commonwealth Games gold, started poorly in his match, losing the first game. Although he managed to bounce back in the second game, the lack of consistency proved to be his downfall, and he was ultimately unable to close out the match.

With all the Indian players eliminated in the second round, the Indonesia Masters has turned out to be a disappointing outing for India's shuttlers, raising concerns about their form going into upcoming international tournaments.



Bollywood Struggles in 2025: Can Sky Force Revive the Industry's Fortune?

The Hindi film industry has been grappling with a tough phase in recent years, with South Indian films dominating the pan-India box office. While Bollywood continues to struggle, a few standout films like Pathaan, Jawan, Gadar 2, Animal, and Stree 2 have managed to perform well, but they have been the exception rather than the rule. The primary reasons for Bollywood's decline have been attributed to lackluster scripts, repetitive storytelling, and a shortage of fresh ideas.

Even 2025 hasn't brought much relief. The year started on a disappointing note with the release of Sonu Sood's action thriller Fateh on January 10, which quickly became a box office failure. Just a week later, Ajay Devgn's Azaad and Kangana Ranaut's Emergency hit theaters on January 17, only to fall flat with audiences despite featuring prominent stars. These films struggled to create a lasting impact and join the ranks of Bollywood's successful releases.

The upcoming Republic Day weekend is expected to bring a glimmer of hope for the industry with the release of Ak-



shay Kumar's Sky Force. Akshay, who has been facing a rough patch in recent years with several low-performing films, is under pressure to deliver a hit. However, there are no high expectations surrounding Sky Force, as its trailer has not received a positive reception. Many have expressed concerns that it's yet another generic patriotic military-based film that fails to offer anything new or exciting.

The real test for Sky Force will be whether Akshay Kumar can defy all odds and deliver Bollywood's first major hit of 2025. If the film fails to make a mark, the Hindi film industry may have to face yet another month of disappointing box office returns, potentially marking January as a dud for Bollywood. Only time will tell if Akshay can bring the much-needed revival to the industry.

Tamil Hit Madha Gaja Raja Set to Release in Telugu on January 31

After a long wait of 12 years, the Tamil comedy film Madha Gaja Raja, starring Vishal, Santhanam, Anjali, and Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, was finally released in Tamil Nadu on January 12, 2025, as a special treat for Pongal. Directed by Sundar C, the film has proven to be a moderate success at the box office, capturing the interest of audiences with its light-hearted humor and engaging performances.

Following its successful theatrical run in Tamil, Madha Gaja Raja is now gearing up for its Telugu release, set for January 31, 2025. The Telugu version will be released globally by Sathya Krishnan Productions, with Gemini Film Circuit handling the presentation. The film's music, composed by popular Kollywood actor Vijay Antony, has already been well-received and adds another layer of appeal to this comedy entertainer.



The release of Madha Gaja Raja was initially planned for 2023, but the film faced multiple delays for reasons that were not publicly disclosed. Despite the setbacks, the excitement surrounding its release remains high, especially with the star power of its cast, which includes leading actors who enjoy a significant fan base in both Tamil and Telugu cinema. This ensures that the film is poised to make a strong impact when it opens in theaters across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Shahid Kapoor's Deva to Keep Audiences on Edge with a Multiple-Ending Climax Twist

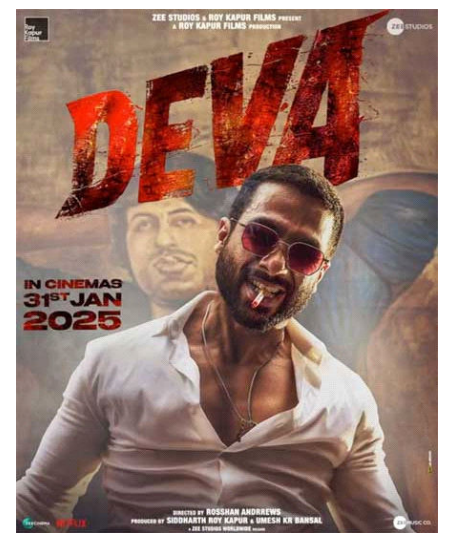
Shahid Kapoor's upcoming film Deva is already generating immense buzz, thanks to its gripping trailer and intriguing storyline. Directed by Rosshan Andrews, the film stars Kapoor as a cop, with Pooja Hegde playing the female lead. The film's suspenseful plot and action-packed sequences have captured the attention of fans, making it one of the most anticipated films of the year.

In a recent interview, Shahid Kapoor revealed that the film's climax played a key role in his decision to take on the project. According to the actor, the intensity and unexpected twist in the film's conclusion were major factors that drew him to the role. This revelation has sent waves through the media, with fans eagerly speculating about the shocking twist that awaits them.

However, there's a growing buzz in Mumbai's film circles that the makers of Deva have shot multiple versions of the climax and are still undecided about which one to include in the final cut. According to reports, the film's ending will be nothing short of surprising, promising to leave audiences on the edge of their seats.

Shahid Kapoor looks impressive as a tough, no-nonsense cop, and early reactions to his performance have been positive. Meanwhile, Pooja Hegde, who has been away from the limelight for a while, is making her big comeback with this film. Her performance has been described as solid, and fans are hoping that Deva will mark a successful return for the actress to the top of the box office.

With a mix of action, drama, and an unpredictable climax, Deva is shaping up to be a film that's not to be missed. As the release date approaches, anticipation continues to build for what promises to be an unforgettable cinematic experience.



Pushpa 2 Celebrates 50 Days in Theaters with Special Fan Show at Iconic Hyderabad Theater

The massive success of Pushpa 2: The Rule, starring Allu Arjun and directed by Sukumar, continues to captivate audiences across the globe. Since its release on December 5, 2024, the film has been breaking records and receiving rave reviews for its gripping storyline, stellar performances, and powerful direction. With a worldwide gross of over Rs. 1800 crore, Pushpa 2 has firmly established itself as one of the biggest blockbusters in recent cinema history.

Today, the film celebrates a major milestone—its 50th day in theaters. To mark this special occasion, a fan screening has been scheduled at the renowned Sandhya 70mm theater in Hyderabad, where fans will get a chance to relive the magic on the big screen. The evening show promises to be a memorable event, as fans eagerly await the possibility of appearances from the film's stars and crew.

The film boasts a talented ensemble cast, including Rashmika Mandanna, Fahadh Faasil, Sunil, Anasuya, Rao Ramesh, and Jagapathi Babu, each delivering compelling performances that have contributed to the film's widespread appeal. The music, composed by Devi Sri Prasad and Sam CS, enhances the emotional depth of the movie, with its unforgettable tracks resonating with fans everywhere.

Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, Pushpa 2 continues to be a cinematic marvel, capturing the hearts of moviegoers with its gripping narrative and impressive visuals. As the film enters its 50th day in theaters, it remains a cultural phenomenon, solidifying its place in Indian film history. Fans are sure to cherish this special event and eagerly anticipate the future of the Pushpa franchise.

Vikram's Veera Dheera Sooran Sets Release Date for March 27, 2025

Chiyaan Vikram, known for his diverse and powerful performances, is all set to return to the big screen with his highly anticipated gangster action drama, Veera Dheera Sooran. Directed by SU Arun Kumar, best known for his work on Chithha, the film has already generated significant buzz with its intriguing glimpses, leaving audiences eager for more. Dushara Vijayan stars opposite Vikram in the film, taking on the role of the female lead.

As the movie enters its final stages of post-production, the makers have officially locked in the release date. Veera Dheera Sooran is slated to hit theaters on March 27, 2025. The film will face competition at the domestic box office, going up against highly anticipated titles like Sikandar, L2E (Lucifer 2), Robinhood, and Mad 2. Originally, Veera Dheera Sooran was planned for a Pongal 2025 release, but with Ajith's Vidaamuyarchi al-

ready slated for the festive season, the makers decided to postpone their film to avoid direct competition.

Produced by Riya Shibu under the HR Pictures banner, Veera Dheera Sooran promises to be an intense action-packed drama, combining gangster elements with Vikram's powerhouse performance. The music for the film is composed by the talented GV Prakash Kumar, who is known for his memorable soundtracks in Tamil cinema.

The Telugu states' distribution rights for the film have been secured by NVR Cinema, ensuring a wide release across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. With Vikram's immense popularity and the film's thrilling storyline, Veera Dheera Sooran is set to make a strong impact upon its release, and fans are eagerly awaiting to see the actor in yet another compelling role.

