



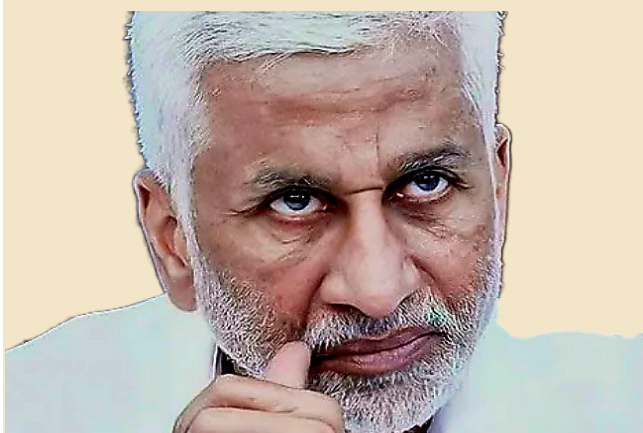
Weather Forecast

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



- The decision of Vijaya Sai is shocking for Jagan.
- Internal rifts have been going on between Jagan and Vijaya Sai for a long time.
- Many are suspecting BJP's play behind the scenes.
- Vijaya Sai may align with BJP in the future.
- Governor post for Vijaya Sai...?
- Bharati backed Sajjala, YV Subba Reddy, and distanced Vijaya Sai.
- Vijaya Sai contested in Nellore against his wish.
- Returning the Kakinada SEZ to the actual holders is a big twist.
- ED inquiry with Vijaya Sai Reddy on it led to the present situation.
- BJP ends its illicit affair with YSRC.
- Weakening YSRC in RS, BJP will leave Jagan.
- Replacing YSRC with BJP-JSP jointly is a strategy.

- Earlier, YSRC had 11 RS MPs.
- Mopidevi, Beeda, and Krishnaiah have gone out.
- Now, Vijaya Sai Reddy leaving.
- The remaining MPs are YV Subba Reddy, Ayodhya Ramireddy, Niranjan Reddy, Golla Babu Rao, M. Raghunath Reddy, Pilli Subhash Chandrabose, and Parimal Natwani.
- Except for YV Subba Reddy and Niranjan Reddy, others may leave.



Mr. Ayodhya Rami Reddy also has a close association with Jagan in terms of business and finances. When his brother Alla Ramakrishna Reddy quit the party, he managed to bring him back. Now, as per the sources this person is also inline to leaving the party. Although Ayodhya Rami Reddy clarified that rumours of him leaving YCP are false but looking at trend in YCP it might happen very soon.

It seems BJP's affair with YSRC has come to an end. BJP, which had cooperated with Mr. Jagan in many ways, has changed its strategy because of Janasena leader Pawan Kalyan. Actually, YSRC had 11 Rajya Sabha MPs. Out of them, Mopidevi, Beeda, Krishnaiah have already left, and now Mr. Vijaya-sai Reddy going out. The rest are Mr. YV Subba Reddy, Ayodhya Rami Reddy, Niranjan Reddy, Golla Babu Rao, Meka Raghunath Reddy, Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, and Parimal Natwani. Out of these six MPs, except YV Subba Reddy and Niranjan Reddy (who is an advocate for Jagan), there are chances of the exit of four MPs. Then, BJP will leave YSRC to its fate, and BJP will plan to replace it with the joint strength of BJP and Janasena for sure.

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 25

Really, it's shocking news for YSRC followers. Mr. Vijaya Sai Reddy, who is presently Rajya Sabha MPs on behalf of YSRC, have announced that he going to resign from his posts. He further clarified that he is going to leave politics forever. Everybody knows that there are internal fights between YSRC leaders, which led to this situation. But, the pressure from BJP, as per their own sketch, is the reason behind the present announcements, allegedly. Mr. Vijaya Sai Reddy is very loyal to the YSR family and the first president of YSRC. He is accused no. 2 in the cases of YS Jaganmohan Reddy. He has also spent time in jail along with Mr. YS Jaganmohan Reddy. He was number two before the emergence of Mr. Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy. The exit of such a leader is a major setback for YSRC and Mr. Jaganmohan Reddy. Actually, the rift between Jagan and Vijaya Sai started in 2021. The conflicts between Vijaya Sai and Sajjala over gaining domination in the government and the party led to

differences with Jaganmohan Reddy. The involvement of YS Bharati has allegedly made this situation worse. YS Bharati spouse of YS Jagan has backed Sajjala, YV Subba Reddy, and distanced others, including Vijayasai Reddy and Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, allegedly. As per a buzz, Mr. Sajjala has complained about Vijaya Sai, claiming that huge amounts were collected and not reached the party. Because of Vijaya Sai Reddy's close association with BJP, Jaganmohan Reddy entertained him later on. But he was removed from Uttarandhara and made to contest from the Nellore Parliamentary constituency against his wish. Recently, the forcible encroachment of Kakinada SEZ was exposed, and a case was registered. After that, ED summoned Mr. Vijaya Sai Reddy, and later he returned the land to KV Rao, the actual owner. Getting a summons from ED, despite having good relations with BJP, surprised everybody. Allegedly, something was done at that time between BJP and Vijayasai Reddy. According to that direction, the decision was announced.

CM Naidu Urges Union Finance Minister to Prioritize AP in Upcoming Budget

- CM Chandrababu Naidu meets Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
- Discussion focuses on financial needs of Andhra Pradesh
- Appeal made to prioritize AP in Union Budget 2025



TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Jan 25

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday morning, following his return from Davos. The meeting gained significance with the Union Budget set to be presented in Parliament on February 1. During the meeting, CM Chandrababu Naidu discussed the financial priorities of Andhra Pradesh and emphasized the need for greater allocations

to the state in the upcoming budget. The CM highlighted key issues and projects that require urgent attention and funding from the Central Government. Chandrababu Naidu's efforts come as part of his broader mission to ensure Andhra Pradesh secures the necessary resources to drive economic growth, infrastructure development, and welfare programs. With this meeting, he has reaffirmed his commitment to advocating for the state's interests at the national level.



"Mystery illness" that caused panic in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri

- Union Minister Jitendra Singh confirms toxic metal as the cause of 17 deaths.
- Cadmium Poisoning Behind Rajouri Mystery illness.
- Neurotoxins led to irreversible brain damage in victims.
- 200 close contacts quarantined
- Budhal declared a containment zone.

2 PAGE

Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Allocates ₹3.9 Crore for Road Construction to Kotappakonda

P:2

Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Allocates ₹3.9 Crore for Road Construction to Kotappakonda

- MLA Chadalawada Arvind Babu extends thanks and invitation to the Dy CM
- Work ordered to be completed quickly ahead of Maha Shivaratri celebrations

TPN Correspondent
Mangalagiri, Jan 25

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has approved funds of Rs. 3.9 crore for the construction of an eight-kilometer road to Kotappakonda Thirunallam, ensuring better connectivity for devotees visiting the temple for the Maha Shivaratri celebrations.

The initiative came after Narasaraopet MLA Chadalawada Arvind Babu brought the issue to the Deputy CM's attention last month, highlighting the difficulties faced by devotees due to poor road conditions. Responding immediately, Pawan Kalyan sanctioned the funds and instructed that the work be completed promptly to avoid inconvenience to pilgrims.

On Friday, MLA Arvind Babu visited the Deputy CM's camp office to express his gratitude on behalf of



the devotees of Lord Shiva. He acknowledged Pawan Kalyan's swift action in addressing the issue and ensuring that the road works would be completed in time for the grand event. The MLA also extended a formal invitation to the Deputy Chief

Minister to attend the Kotappakonda Thirunallam celebrations, scheduled for next month, and expressed confidence that the upgraded road infrastructure would enhance the experience for thousands of devotees.

Minister Narayana Inspects Amaravati Projects, Assures Completion in Three Years



Amaravati, January 24

Minister Narayana visited Amaravati to inspect ongoing projects, including the water pumping system at the administrative towers and the High Court Raft Foundation near Nelapadu. He reviewed the progress and reiterated the government's commitment to developing Amaravati into a world-class capital city.

Speaking to the media, Minister Narayana highlighted the contributions of farmers, stating that 34,000 acres of land were voluntarily pooled within 58 days of the 2015 land pooling notification. The government, in collaboration with Norman Foster, de-

signed iconic buildings to rank among the top five globally. He noted that before 2019, work had commenced on 4,053 apartments for officials, employees, and judges. However, the previous government halted these projects due to political bias, leaving 3 crore square feet of infrastructure in limbo.

Key Features of Amaravati's Design:

- 250-meter-tall Assembly building designed to serve as a tourism spot.
- Five administrative towers planned to house all state-level officials in one location.

- Underground installation of power lines, drainage, and drinking water systems for sustainability.

The minister criticized the YSRCP government, accusing it of turning Amaravati into a "forest" and stopping critical projects. He attributed YSRCP's limited success in the 2024 elections—winning only 11 out of 175 seats—to their neglect of Amaravati's development.

Minister Narayana assured that tenders have been issued for 40 works and construction will begin by mid-February. He promised to complete Amaravati's construction within three years, restoring its vision as a global capital.

Arrangements for Rath Saptami Completed: TTD EO Reviews Preparations

TPN | K. Kanaiah
Tirumala, Jan 25

Key instructions and arrangements for Rath Saptami:

TTD Executive Officer (EO) J. Shyamala Rao has instructed officials to complete all preparations for Rath Saptami on February 4, which will be celebrated on a mini Brahmotsavam scale. The EO reviewed the arrangements during a meeting with Additional EO C.H. Venkaiah Chowdhury and department officials at Annamaya Bhavan in Tirumala. The EO emphasized vigilance at the gallery entry and exit points, timely distribution of Anna Prasadam and drinking water to devotees, and precautions to avoid security and traffic problems. The EO also inspected the arrangements on the four Mada streets.

On the day of Rath Saptami, Sri Malayappa Swamy will bless devotees with a grand procession featuring seven vehicles:

- 5:30 AM - 8 AM: Surya Prabha Vahanam
- 9 AM - 10 AM: Chinna Sesha Vahanam
- 11 AM - 12 PM: Garuda Vahanam



- 1 PM - 2 PM: Hanumantha Vahanam
- 2 PM - 3 PM: Chakrasnanam
- 4 PM - 5 PM: Kalpavriksha Vahanam
- 6 PM - 7 PM: Sarvabhupala Vahanam
- 8 PM - 9 PM: Chandrababha Vahanam

Cancellations for the day: The TTD has canceled several ser-

vices, including Ashtadala Pada Padmaradhana, Kalyanotsavam, Oonjal Seva, and others. VIP break darshans will be canceled except for protocol dignitaries.

Devotees with Special Entry Darshan (SED) tickets are instructed to report at the Vaikuntam Queue Complex at the specified time. The EO also reviewed preparations for food, security, and infrastructure for the event.



MP Kesineni Sivanath Welcomes CM Naidu After Successful Davos Visit

- CM Chandrababu Naidu returns from Davos and Delhi visits
- Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath greets CM at his residence in Undavalli
- Meeting organized with MPs and MLAs to discuss progress in industrial investments

TPN Correspondent
Undavalli, Jan 25

Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) extended a warm welcome to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at his residence in Undavalli. The CM recently returned after successfully concluding visits to Davos and Delhi, aimed at advancing Andhra Pradesh's industrial development.

MP Kesineni congratulated the CM for opening new avenues for the state's progress during his Davos visit and presented him with a bouquet.

Later, a meeting was held at Chandrababu Naidu's residence, attended by prominent leaders, including:

- Government Whip MLA Tangirala Soumya

- MLAs Gadde Rammohan, Sriram Rajagopal, Tenali Shivan Kumar, Nakka Anand Babu, Bhashyam Praveen, and Burla Ramanjeyu

During the meeting, CM Chandrababu Naidu shared insights from his interactions with leading companies in Davos, highlighting potential investments and collaborations that would benefit Andhra Pradesh. The discussions revolved around strategies to further industrial progress and the government's efforts to position the state as a hub for innovation and sustainable growth. The gathering reaffirmed the government's commitment to creating opportunities for industrial development and employment generation in Andhra Pradesh.



IT Past, Renewable Energy Present, Evidence of CM Naidu's Vision – Minister Gottipati

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 25

Power Minister Gottipati Ravikumar lauded Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for his visionary leadership during the Research Conclave-2025 held at VR Siddhartha Engineering College, Vijayawada. He credited Naidu's reforms for the development of the IT sector, which uplifted many rural youth into global positions, and emphasized that renewable energy is now poised to play a transformative role in Andhra Pradesh's future.

The minister highlighted that IT policies introduced by Chandrababu Naidu two decades ago brought jobs and respect to Telugu families worldwide. Similarly, the CM's focus on renewable energy, including solar and wind power, will ensure 24/7 quality electricity, reduce pollution, and position Andhra Pradesh as a pollution-free state. He noted that Anantapur and Kurnool districts are emerging as clean energy hubs, with projects providing thousands of jobs and improving livelihoods.

Key Renewable Energy Initiatives:

- 500 GW of renewable energy to be generated in the next decade.
- Promotion of solar and wind energy in areas unsuitable for agriculture.
- Implementation of the Kusum scheme to benefit farmers and the Suryagarh scheme for the general public.

Innovation for Farmers:

Minister Ravikumar urged students to focus on research that addresses practical issues, such as theft prevention of agricultural motors and transformers. He suggested developing innovations like alarm systems to alert farmers of theft attempts.

The conclave concluded with Minister Gottipati inspecting student innovations like electric bicycles and medical equipment. The event saw participation from Siddhartha Academy leaders, faculty, and students, who pledged to

DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao Announces Statewide Installation of CCTV Cameras

TPN | N. Kasirao
Bapatla, Jan 25

Andhra Pradesh Director General of Police (DGP) Dwaraka Tirumala Rao announced that one lakh CCTV cameras will be installed across the state by March 31 to enhance surveillance and control crime. The initiative will utilize both government funds and support from donors to achieve this target. Highlighting the importance of CCTV in crime prevention, the DGP stated that all cameras will be connected to a centralized Command and Control Center, enabling real-time monitoring and swift action. He noted that 1,150 cameras were recently installed in Vijayawada as part of

this effort. During his visit to Bapatla district, DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao inaugurated the Coastal Monitoring Command Control Room at Chirala Town Police Station No. 1. He also inspected the installation of 30 CCTV cameras in the coastal areas of Chirala and Vetapalem mandals.

In addition, the DGP inaugurated a new staff rest building at Karamchedu Police Station. He emphasized that the use of technology, including CCTV cameras, plays a crucial role in crime control, particularly in sensitive coastal areas. DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao reiterated the commitment of the police department to utilize technology effectively and ensure safety across Andhra Pradesh.

MLA Somireddy Accuses Vijayasai of Escaping Accountability for Past Actions

- Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy criticizes Vijayasai Reddy's resignation
- Questions whether resignation is to escape accountability
- Demands clarification on looted funds and corrupt practices



five years. Somireddy demanded an explanation for the Rs. 43,000 crore that was allegedly looted during the previous government and the Rs. 1 lakh crore of public property stolen during Jagan's rule. He called on Vijayasai to reveal the whereabouts of these funds and accused him of attempting to protect himself and his son-in-law's company, Aurobindo, through this resignation.

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 25

TDP Senior Leader and MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy has made sensational comments following the resignation announcement of YSRCP MP Vijayasai Reddy. Somireddy expressed disbelief over the timing of Vijayasai's decision, accusing him of trying to escape accountability for past misdeeds.

He questioned Vijayasai's claim that he would shift to agriculture, sarcastically asking, "Will you do it with the black money you have stolen?" Somireddy went further, alleging that Vijayasai had been involved in corruption from 2004 to 2009 and continued to be a key figure in the "anarchic rule" under YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for the past

The TDP leader also hinted that Vijayasai's resignation might be just the beginning, suggesting that other YSRCP leaders could follow suit. He speculated that it would not be surprising if one or two more leaders resigned in the coming days.

My Future Plan is Agriculture - Vijayasai Reddy

- Vijayasai Reddy announces resignation from Rajya Sabha on January 25
- Clarifies no plans to join any political party
- Future plans focused on agriculture
- Thanks YS family, Prime Minister Modi, and Union Home Minister Shah



his political career, both as an MP and as the party's national general secretary. He acknowledged the immense recognition and support he received from Prime Minister Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the last nine years.

Regarding his political journey, Vijayasai Reddy clarified that while he had political disagreements with the TDP, he had no personal issues with Chandrababu Naidu's family. He also noted his long-standing friendship with Pawan Kalyan.

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) Rajya Sabha MP Vijayasai Reddy has made a sensational announcement, revealing that he will be resigning from his position on January 25. This marks his formal exit from politics, with no plans to join any political party in the future.

In his statement, Vijayasai Reddy emphasized that his decision to quit politics is a

personal one, made without any external pressure or influence. He expressed deep gratitude towards the YS family, which has supported him for over four decades. While his resignation has sparked curiosity about his next steps, Vijayasai Reddy clarified that his future lies in agriculture. He stated that he had worked sincerely in

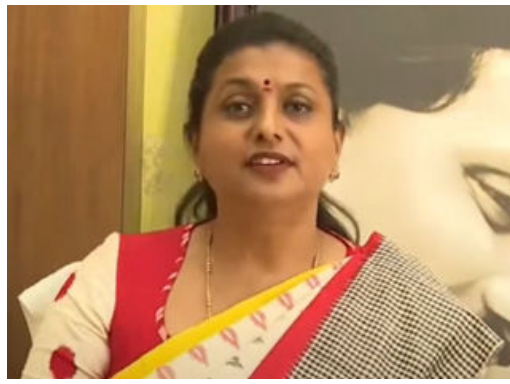
while he had political disagreements with the TDP, he had no personal issues with Chandrababu Naidu's family. Vijayasai's decision has raised questions about his next phase, but his focus on agriculture indicates a significant shift in his career.

RK Roja Accuses Chandrababu and Lokesh of Failing to Bring Investments from Davos

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 25

In a strong statement, YSR Congress Party leader RK Roja criticized former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh for bringing zero investments from the Davos summit. She claimed that while neighboring states had signed MoUs worth crores of rupees, Chandrababu Naidu had wasted public funds on promoting his son in national media instead of focusing on attracting investments to the state.

Roja also accused Lokesh's "Red Book rule" for the lack of investments, stating that industrialists were being falsely accused, threatened, and blackmailed, which has discouraged them from in-



vesting in Andhra Pradesh. She further criticized the filing of cases against senior state officials as a partisan move, adding that this harassment has only deterred potential investors. Roja pointed out that even the funds re-

quired for Davos expenses had not been met with signed MoUs, and accused Chandrababu of defaming the state by presenting it as a poor, debt-ridden region during the international summit.

In contrast, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy signed MoUs worth Rs. 1.26 lakh crore at Davos and organized a global investment summit in Visakhapatnam, resulting in MoUs worth Rs. 13.5 lakh crore. Notably, Jagan secured major projects like the green energy project and the bulk drug park, competing with 17 states.

Roja concluded that Chandrababu's leadership has instilled fear among industrialists, and if Jagan were to hold another summit, major industrialists like Adani, Ambani, and Jindal would flock to AP.

Minister Bala Veeranjanyaswamy Criticizes YSRCP's Propaganda Over CM Davos Tour

Minister Highlights Investments in Prakasam Dist

TPN | N. Kasirao

Prakasam Dist, Jan 25

Social Welfare Minister Dola Sri Bala Veeranjanyaswamy expressed strong criticism of the YSRCP's propaganda regarding Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's visit to Davos. He termed the criticism as "shameful," asserting that the investments brought to the state in just six months under the current government have amounted to lakhs of crores.

Minister Veeranjanyaswamy pointed out the irony of those who once made light of investment discussions by telling "chicken egg stories" now criticizing the development efforts underway. He lamented that despite the visible progress, including investments and industrial growth in Uttarandhra, the YSRCP leaders failed to acknowledge these achievements. He emphasized that the government is successfully bringing in investments and creating job opportunities for the youth, and described the baseless criticisms from the YSRCP as unhelpful and unfounded.



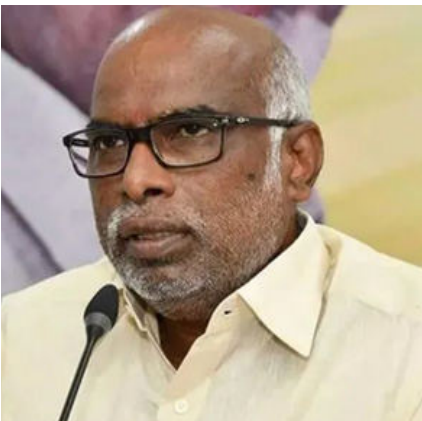
Minister Veeranjanyaswamy participated as the chief guest at a special event organized by the Women Development and Child Welfare Department at the Ongole Collectorate, commemorating National Girl Child Day. The event saw the signing of a banner in support of 'Girl Freedom - Prevention of Child Marriage' by the minister, District Collector Taman Ansaria, Ongole Mayor Gangada Sujatha, and other senior officials. The event was formally inaugurated with the lighting of a lamp, marking the beginning of the celebrations and discussions on empowering girls and preventing child marriage.

"YCP is Being Destroyed by Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy" - Dokka Manikyavaraprasad

TPN Correspondent
Guntur, Jan 25

Former minister Dokka Manikyavaraprasad has made sharp remarks about the state of the YSR Congress Party (YCP) and its leadership. Speaking about Vijayasai Reddy's resignation from the Rajya Sabha, Dokka said he welcomes the move, calling it a gratifying decision.

He criticized Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy, a senior leader in YCP, alleging that his actions and leadership style are causing the party's destruction. Dokka claimed that many leaders are unable to function within the party due to the mental anguish caused by Sajjala's influence. Dokka further stated that if TDP and Jana Sena were to open their gates for new members, YCP would witness a mass exodus, leaving the party empty. He



expressed confidence that many YCP leaders are already keen to join the coalition parties, seeing better prospects outside their current political platform. These statements reflect the growing dissent among some political leaders over the internal dynamics within YCP and raise questions about the party's stability ahead of the upcoming elections.

Srikanth Reddy Criticizes Chandrababu for Wasting Funds on Publicity

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 25

YSRCP leader Srikanth Reddy has criticized Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for wasting public funds during his visit to Davos, claiming it brought no tangible investments to Andhra Pradesh.

Srikanth Reddy alleged that the entire effort was a publicity stunt, pointing out that only Rs. 2 crore worth of MoUs were signed during the visit, which he labeled as a futile exercise. He mocked Chandrababu's efforts, saying the "shave" (a sarcastic reference to a failed effort) yielded zero results for the state.



This criticism comes amidst ongoing political debates about the effectiveness of the Davos investment drives under different leaderships in Andhra Pradesh. Srikanth Reddy emphasized that such stunts only tarnish the state's image without bringing in any meaningful progress.

Sidiri Appalaraju Criticizes Govt's Medical College Closures and Privatization

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 25

Former Minister Sidiri Appalaraju addressed the media, strongly criticizing the coalition government for approving the temporary closure of medical colleges without damaging their infrastructure. He revealed that the cost of ensuring the safe closure of these institutions is estimated at Rs. 100 crore.

Appalaraju also accused Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of attempting to privatize medical colleges through the PPP (Public-Private Partnership) model. He pointed out that while YS Jagan Mohan Reddy had established 17 medical colleges with the vision of having one in each parliamentary constituency, Chandrababu Naidu failed to bring even a single government medical college during his tenure.

The former minister also slammed the coalition govern-

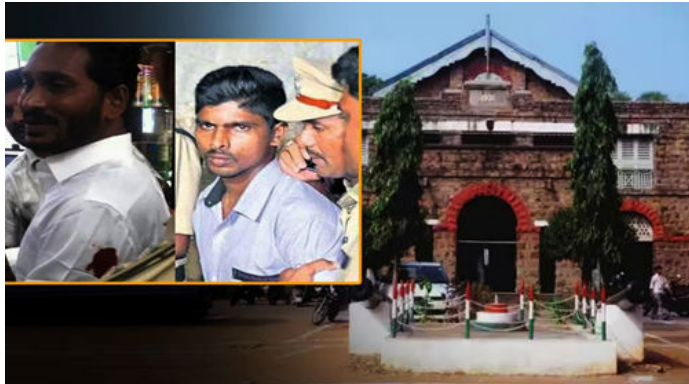


ment for losing 2,450 medical seats for the 2025-26 academic year, questioning if Chandrababu Naidu, who had criticized the previous government for selling medical seats, was now following a similar path by privatizing entire medical colleges. He further criticized Pawan Kalyan for not addressing the issue and running away from the matter. Appalaraju's statements come amid growing concerns over the privatization of the healthcare sector, with the coalition government's increasing involvement of private entities in Arogyasri and other government services.

Kodikathi Case: Srinu Appears in NIA Court, Jagan's Absence Questioned

TPN Correspondent
Visakhapatnam, Jan 25

Janapalli Srinivas, accused in the Kodikathi attack case on former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, appeared before the Visakh NIA court. However, Jagan did not attend the hearing, which led to criticism from Dalit leader Boosi Venkataramana. Venkataramana accused Jagan of deliberately avoiding court appearances, alleging that it was an attempt to harass a Dalit individual. He questioned why Jagan, as the complainant, was not present during the proceedings.



Lawyer Salim, representing Srinivas, demanded that Jagan appear in court to testify. He stated that if Jagan continues to remain absent, the court should issue

an ex-parte and decree judgment in favor of Srinivas. Salim also highlighted that the NIA had previously ruled out any conspiracy in the attack, emphasizing the need for Jagan's direct involvement in the case.

The lawyer further appealed to Jagan to comply with legal procedures and refrain from relying on deferred bail to avoid court appearances. The Kodikathi case, which initially drew significant political and public attention, continues to raise questions about the alleged motives and the handling of the legal proceedings.

All Set for State-Level 76th Republic Day Celebrations in Vijayawada

- Full dress rehearsals completed for Republic Day event
- State-level dignitaries to attend, including the Governor, CM, and Chief Justice
- Indian Army and various police and youth contingents to participate in the parade

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada, Jan 25

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha announced that all arrangements for the 76th Republic Day celebrations at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium are complete and the event is set to take place smoothly. Full dress rehearsals were held on Friday, with inspections conducted by Government Secretary Mukesh Kumar Meena, DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao, DIG B. Rajakumari, and other senior police and government officials.

Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha confirmed that the state DGP, Chief Secretary, Chief Justice of the State High Court, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, and the Governor Abdul Nazeer will be attending the event, with the Governor scheduled to unfurl the national flag at 9 AM. After inspecting the police parade, the Governor will return to receive the



police salute and deliver the Republic Day message.

The celebrations will feature a parade with various contingents, including the Indian Army, Kakinada APSP Battalion, Central Reserve Police, Visakhapatnam APSP Battalion, Tamil Nadu State Police Force, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Youth Red Cross, and AP Social Welfare Residential School students. Additionally, the brass band and pipe band performances by police will

add to the festivities.

The event will also include the presentation of mementos to the best-decorated banners and marching bands, and a display of the welfare and development schemes implemented by the state government. Public representatives, judges, officials, freedom fighters, and students from various schools and colleges will participate in the grand Republic Day program.

Mango Farmers Thanks MP Kesineni Sivanath for Subsidy Support

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada, Jan 25

Mango farmers from Reddy Gudem mandal, Reddygunta, and Mailavaram constituency expressed their heartfelt gratitude to MP Kesineni Sivanath for his efforts in ensuring 50% subsidies on root covers under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme.

led by the Reddy Gudem Farmers Producers Association (FPC) directors Chebrolu Srinivasa Rao and Chebrolu Raju, the farmers met MP Kesineni at the Parliament Office, NTR Bhavan, Vijayawada, to convey their thanks. They informed him that subsidies amounting to Rs. 10,000 per hectare helped cover 800 hectares of mango orchards. The farmers showcased the mangoes covered with the root covers and explained how the quality of the produce had significantly improved. To recognize the contributions of the farmers, MP Kesineni felicitated FPC Director Chebrolu Srinivasa Rao with a shawl for cultivating high-quality mangoes.



Speaking at the event, MP Kesineni Sivanath reiterated his commitment to supporting the development of Farmers Producers Associations (FPCs) and encouraged the adoption of innovative methods to enhance agricultural productivity. The program was attended by FPC Director Chebrolu Kriparaju, farmers Chebrolu Raju, Chebrolu Sambasiva Rao, Naga Prasad, and Horticultural Officer Narendra Kumar. This initiative is seen as a step toward empowering mango farmers and improving their livelihoods.

Receives Victims' Grievances Over YSRCP's Alleged Irregularities at Janavani Programm

- Government lecturer cheated out of Rs. 12 lakhs by a YSRCP follower
- Encroachment of 44 cents of land by a YSRCP sarpanch alleged
- Seven victims claim Rs. 70 lakhs were taken on false promises of railway jobs
- Janavani initiative resolves some issues on the spot

Amaravati | January 24: The Jana Sena Party's Janavani program at the party's central office provided a platform for victims to voice their grievances regarding irregularities, corruption, and exploitation during the last five years of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) rule. The event was attended by Government Whip and Narasapuram MLA Bommidi Naykar, who personally received petitions and addressed several issues on the spot.

A Kadiri Government Degree College lecturer, Sri B. Srinivas, alleged that G. Govinda Reddy, claiming to be a follower of YSRCP leader Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, cheated him out of Rs. 12 lakhs by falsely promising a deputation. The victim further claimed that he was threatened with death when he demanded his money back. MLA Bommidi Naykar assured action by contacting senior police officials.

Another victim, Mrs. Gorandla Sivakumari, from Palnadu district, alleged that her 44 cents of land was encroached upon by a YSRCP sarpanch. MLA Naykar immediately consulted the mandal Tahsildar, urging a resolution.

More Complaints Filed at Janavani:

- Seven victims from Nandyal district alleged that Pabbati Suresh took Rs. 70 lakhs, claiming he would secure railway jobs for them. When questioned, they said he issued threats.

- The Andhra Pradesh Gram Panchayat Data Entry Operators Association requested job security, implementation of minimum time scales, and direct salary credit to their accounts, benefiting over 2,000 families.

Victims also sought pensions for the elderly and disabled, financial aid for medical treatment, and justice for other grievances. Jana Sena Party State Joint Secretary Tadi Mohan, spokesperson Pagdala Sivaparvathi, and Legal Cell representative Vijayakumari participated, assuring victims of the party's support.



Minister Satyakumar Launched 10 Mobile ICTC Vehicles to Boost HIV Testing in Rural Areas

TPN Correspondent |
Vijayawada, Jan 25

In a significant step toward improving HIV testing accessibility, 10 mobile Integrated Counseling and Testing Centre (ICTC) vehicles were launched at Siddhartha Medical College. The initiative, organized under the auspices of AP State AIDS Control Society (AP SACS), aims to reach individuals in rural, tribal, and remote areas who cannot access hospitals for testing. The event's chief guest, Satya Kumar Yadav, along with officials from the Health and Family Welfare Department and Medical Education Department, emphasized the importance of testing and early detection in controlling HIV/AIDS.

Satya Kumar Yadav stated, "There are ap-



proximately 2.25 lakh HIV victims in Andhra Pradesh. These vehicles will enable individuals in underserved areas to access testing without hesitation." He further encouraged people to utilize the services when the vehicles visit their

villages.

Support for HIV Patients:

- Free medicines are being provided to infected individuals for six months.
 - A monthly pension of Rs. 4,000 is offered to patients to support their living.
- Yadav also clarified that AIDS is not an infectious disease and highlighted the importance of early detection for effective management. The ICTC vehicles are expected to play a crucial role in increasing awareness, providing early diagnoses, and extending treatment to those in need.

This initiative underscores the government's commitment to combating HIV/AIDS and improving healthcare access for vulnerable populations.

Swachhandra Corporation Chairman Pattabharam Assesses Garbage Management in Gudivada



TPN Correspondent |
Gudivada, Jan 25

Swachhandra Corporation Chairman Kommareddy Pattabharam, accompanied by MLA Venigandla Ramu, visited the Gudivada Municipal Office in Krishna District to assess the state of garbage removal, the local dumping yard, and sanitation management in the constituency. Chairman Pattabharam inquired with municipal authorities about the status of sanitation efforts and garbage collection. Following the meeting, he inspected the dumping yard and reviewed the progress of the ongoing cleanup operation.

In his remarks, Pattabharam strongly criticized the previous government, stating that they had made Gudivada's name synonymous with a "casino" due to their

poor waste management practices. He further emphasized that the previous government left two lakh tons of garbage in the city, but his administration has successfully cleared 50,000 tons so far.

Pattabharam assured the public that efforts are underway to clear the remaining waste by October 2nd and announced plans to revive the garbage collection program by implementing door-to-door waste collection. He also revealed that advanced machinery will soon be procured to improve the efficiency of waste management.

Additionally, he stated that waste collected from Gudivada will be redirected to the Guntur Waste Energy Plant for processing, rather than being left in the local dumping yard. This initiative aims to make Gudivada a cleaner and more sustainable city.

ACP Tilak Vows to Crack Down on Ganja Trade in Nandigama Sub-Division

- 13 arrested, 10 kg of ganja seized in two separate incidents
- Tight surveillance established on ganja transporters in Nandigama Sub-Division
- Efforts to keep students, especially in engineering colleges, free from ganja addiction

TPN Correspondent
Nandigama, Jan 25

ACP ABG Tilak has vowed to put an "iron foot" on the sale and transportation of ganja in the Nandigama Sub-Division, after a series of successful vehicle inspections and arrests. On Thursday and Friday, police seized 10 kg of ganja, one car, two motorcycles, and eight mobile phones in two separate operations in the jurisdiction of Kanchikacharla police station. Thirteen individuals were arrested in connection with the seizures. During a media conference held at the Kanchikacharla police station, ACP Tilak highlighted the recent efforts to curb the trafficking of ganja in the region, specifically targeting areas with many engineering colleges, including Kanchikacharla mandal. He emphasized the importance of schools and colleges, alongside parents, in guiding the youth to avoid substance abuse and preserve their futures. The recent raids included:

- Thursday evening: A car stopped in the Paritala real estate area led to the arrest of seven in-



dividuals and the seizure of 6 kg of ganja.

- Friday morning: A police checkpoint on Jujuru Road resulted in the arrest of six suspects, with 4 kg of ganja seized along with their motorcycles and cell phones.

The total value of the seized ganja was estimated at Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Cases have been registered, and the accused have been presented before the court.

ACP Tilak, along with Nandigama Rural In-charge CI YVL Naidu, Kanchikacharla SI Bonagiri Raju, and other police officials, vowed to continue the crackdown on ganja trafficking in the region, ensuring that the youth remain free from the dangers of drug addiction.

National Girls' Day Celebrated with Enthusiasm at Govt Degree College at Kuppam

TPN | C. Sekhar
Kuppam, Jan 25

The National Girls' Day was celebrated in a grand manner at the Government Degree College in Kuppam under the leadership of Dr. C. Rajyalakshmi, Coordinator of the Women's Empowerment Department. College Principal Narayana Murthy highlighted the significance of the day and the need to empower women for societal progress. Addressing the gathering, Principal Narayana Murthy emphasized the transformation in societal perspectives toward girls over time. He stressed that a country's development is closely linked to women's education, noting that women are excelling globally across various fields. However, he also expressed concern over social challenges such as early marriages and the pressures young girls face, urging them to develop resilience to overcome barriers and contribute to societal advancement. Vice Principal L.B. Pradeep Kumar spoke about the cultural significance of women in maintaining traditions and encouraged stu-



dents to uphold those values while embracing modern education. Dr. C. Rajyalakshmi, the Women Empowerment Coordinator, inspired the students by sharing real-life success stories of women who overcame challenges in backward areas. As part of the celebrations, various events such as singing competitions, cultural programs, and quizzes were organized to encourage the talents of female students.

Prizes were awarded to participants who excelled in these activities. Teachers Dr. Aparnadevi, Padmavati, Salamma, and Vennela, along with other faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students, actively participated in the event, ensuring its success. The program concluded with a message of empowerment and motivation for the girls to aim higher in their lives and careers.

Youth and Village Leaders Join Congress Party Under Thalapa Damodaram Reddy's Leadership



TPN | C. Sekhar
Sri Kalahasti, Jan 25

As part of efforts to strengthen the Congress Party, several youth and village leaders from Sri Kalahasti mandal joined the party under the leadership of Thalapa Damodaram Reddy. The initiative was guided by Tirupati District DCC President Balaguruvam Babu.

Among those who joined were:

- Jaggarajupalli village youth: Yanadi Naveen, Rayappa Sasikumar, Kukka Suresh Babu
- Muddamudi village leaders: Meka Pilla Lokesh, M. Venkateswara Rao
- Bonupalli village leader: Chinta Subramaniam Yadav

Thalapa Damodaram Reddy emphasized that the Congress Party is the only platform capable of ensuring development across all sections of society, from the grassroots to the national level. He expressed confidence in the party's victory in the coming elections and encouraged the newly joined members to actively engage with public issues, work for the party's revival, and build close connections with the people. Reddy urged the new members to work diligently to further the party's mission and help regain the trust of the public at all levels.



Villagers in Puttur Struggle to Perform Last Rites in Neck-Deep Water

TPN | C. Sekhar
Yerpedu, Jan 25

The villagers of Puttur in Yerpedu mandal, Tirupati district, are facing severe difficulties in performing last rites due to the lack of a dedicated cemetery. Since ancient times, cremations have been conducted on the banks of the Swarnamukhi river near the village. However, the recent rains have caused the river's water level to rise, making it unsafe to cross. On Thursday, a 98-year-old villager, Chintla Puttalamma, passed away. When the family tried to perform her last rites on Friday morning, they encountered neck-deep water in the river. Despite their best efforts, crossing to the cremation site was extremely challenging. Many

relatives couldn't attend the ceremony or offer the traditional handful of soil as a final tribute due to the flooding. Villagers expressed their deep frustration over the situation, highlighting the recurring hardships faced during the rainy season. They lamented that performing last rites becomes nearly impossible when the river overflows, forcing them to pray for no deaths during such times.

The villagers have urgently appealed to the authorities and local leaders to address the issue by providing a proper cemetery for the village. They pleaded for a permanent solution to ensure dignity in their last rites and relief from these recurring struggles.

Sattenapalli MLA Kanna Lakshminarayana Visits Srikalahasti Temple



TPN | C. Sekhar
Srikalahasti, Jan 25

Andhra Pradesh Sattenapalli MLA Kanna Lakshminarayana visited the revered Srikalahasti temple and was warmly received by BJP State Secretary Kola Anand and Temple Executive Officer (EO) Bapireddy.

A special darshan was arranged for the MLA, during which he offered prayers to the Goddess. The visit was marked by the presence of former board member Melagala Subramaniam and other dignitaries who participated in the program.

The MLA expressed his gratitude for the warm reception and praised the temple's management for facilitating the darshan arrangements.

CPM State Congresses Scheduled to be Held in Nellore City

TPN | C. Sekhar
Srikalahasti, Jan 25

District Secretary Vandavasi Nagaraju has urged the public and party workers to ensure the success of the 27th CPM State Congresses, scheduled to be held in Nellore city on February 1, 2, and 3. The posters for the state congresses were unveiled at Puchalapalli Sundarayya Bhavan on Friday.

Nagaraju announced that the event will culminate with a grand rally and public meeting at 3 PM on February 3. He confirmed the participation of All India Polit Bureau members MA Baby, BV Raghavulu, and Brinda Karat in the meeting.

The state congresses will focus on addressing the "anti-people" policies of the BJP-led central government and the coalition government in Andhra Pradesh. The discussions will aim to outline strategies for future public struggles. Nagaraju urged workers, sympathizers, and the public to attend in large numbers and actively participate. District Secretariat members Angeri Pullaiah, Area Secretary Gandham Mani, Penagadam Guravaiah, Venkatesh, Velivendram Gurunatham, Chuttu Guravaiah, and Sankaranthi Venkataiah were among those present at the event.



Kadapa Deputy Transport Commissioner Transferred Amid Harassment Allegations

TPN | Sudheer
Kadapa, Jan 25

Kadapa District Deputy Transport Commissioner (DTC) Chandrasekhar Reddy has been transferred and ordered to report to the State Commissioner's office following allegations of sexual harassment.

The DTC has been accused of harassing female employees, including a recent incident where he allegedly visited the house of a female brake inspector and behaved inappropriately. Family members of another female employee, who underwent a physical examination by the DTC on Thursday, have also raised concerns over similar misconduct.

The allegations have caused outrage among staff and locals, prompting authorities to take swift action by relieving Chandrasekhar Reddy from his position. Further investigations are expected to follow to address the complaints and ensure justice for the affected employees.



Vizianagaram Officials to Receive Best Election Officer Awards



TPN | A NARASIMHULU
Vizianagaram, Jan 25

District Collector Dr. BR Ambedkar, SP Vakul Jindal, and APSP 5th Battalion Commandant Malika Garg have been

recognized for their outstanding contributions to electoral practices. They will receive the Best Election Officer Awards under the Best Electoral Practices category at a ceremony in Ama-

ravati tomorrow. The awards will be presented during the National Voters' Day celebration at Tummalapalle Kalakshetra, Vijayawada, on Saturday.

In addition to these honors:

- Rajam Tahsildar S. Krishnam Raju was selected as the Best ARO for the district.

- M. Haimavati and M. Srinivasa Rao from Nellimarla constituency were recognized as the Best Booth Level Officers. These awards highlight the exceptional dedication of the district officials in ensuring fair and effective electoral processes.

Road Safety Awareness Seminar and Health Checkups Organized at DTC Office

TPN | N.Kasirao
Ongole, Jan 25

As part of the National Road Safety Month celebrations, the Deputy Transport Commissioner's (DTC) Office in Ongole organized an awareness seminar on road safety rules and a medical and eye health check-up camp for school and college bus drivers on Friday.

Deputy Transport Commissioner Smt. R. Susheela and Motor Vehicle Inspection Officer Sri K. Ramachandra Rao emphasized the importance of road safety. They advised school and college bus drivers to wear uniforms, avoid driving under the influence of alcohol, maintain speed limits, and ensure possession of valid documents and driving licenses.



Assistant Motor Vehicle Inspection Officer Sri K. Jayaprakash conducted a session on vehicle fire safety, including awareness of fire alarm and detection systems, and shared

precautions drivers should take in case of fire accidents. DTC Smt. R. Susheela Garu also inaugurated the medical and eye health checkup camps. The program

included services from medical experts such as:

- Dr. Aparna Calvin, MS from Modern Eye Hospital
- Dr. M.V. Ramana Reddy, MBBS, DO, DNB
- Dr. B. Ramanjaneyulu, MBBS from KIMS Hospital

Other participants included Motor Vehicle Inspection Officers Sri A. Kiran Prabhakar, Sri L. Surendra Prasad, Sri G. Bhaskara Rao, and Assistant Motor Vehicle Inspection Officers Sri K. Jayaprakash, U. Dharmendra, Sri B. Bhanu Prakash, and Srinivasulu Rao AO. The initiative aimed to enhance awareness among drivers and ensure safer road practices while prioritizing their health and well-being.

Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam: Vijay's Political Gambit and Emerging Alliances

Actor Vijay's TVK explores partnerships amid Tamil Nadu's polarized political landscape



TVK is positioning itself as an anti-Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) entity open to alliances with major opposition players like the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). Vijay's move follows the lessons learned by Tamil cinema colleagues Kamal Haasan and the late Vijayakanth, who struggled to make electoral impacts without aligning with dominant Dravidian parties.

Vijayakanth's Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK) gained 8% vote share in the 2006 assembly elections but won only one seat. However, his 2011 alliance with the AIADMK secured 28 seats. Similarly, Kamal Haasan's Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM) saw limited success in the 2019 and 2021 elections, eventually aligning with the DMK. Vijay's acknowledgment of coalition power-sharing underscores the necessity

anti-DMK vote.

Vijay's TVK aligns on key issues with AIADMK and BJP to challenge DMK.

Anti-DMK bloc faces hurdles over leadership roles and seat-sharing. BJP remains a minor player in Tamil Nadu's Dravidian-dominated politics.

Recent events suggest tacit coordination between TVK, AIADMK, and BJP. The Anna University sexual assault protests saw Vijay meet Tamil Nadu's Governor, aligning with AIADMK and BJP efforts to highlight law-and-order issues against the DMK. All three parties also boycotted the Erode East by-election, citing concerns over electoral manipulation.

Despite shared goals, obstacles remain. Leadership dynamics will play a significant role in shaping a

principal opposition, may resist conceding too many seats to TVK. Vijay, leveraging his star power, will likely demand substantial representation. Additionally, incorporating the BJP into this coalition presents a challenge, given Tamil Nadu's strong Dravidian identity and resistance to the BJP's ideology. For the AIADMK, reeling from losses in three consecutive elections, an alliance with TVK offers a chance to revitalize its voter base and challenge the DMK's formidable coalition. Vijay, too, risks fragmenting the anti-DMK vote if he contests alone, making collaboration a strategic necessity. While hurdles persist, the groundwork for a cohesive anti-DMK front is being laid. If successful, such an alliance could alter Tamil Nadu's political trajectory, demonstrating the enduring need for strategic partnerships in a polarized electoral landscape.

Repatriation of Illegal Immigrants: A Challenge for India Amid U.S. Policy Shift



The repatriation of illegal immigrants and trade tariffs are emerging as two key challenges for India, especially in the wake of United States President Donald Trump's recent policies. One of the most immediate threats to India is the potential deportation of thousands of undocumented Indian nationals living in the U.S.

Under the new administration, nearly 18,000 illegal immigrants from India could be repatriated, as part of Trump's commitment to protect the American public from the negative effects of unlawful migration. With approximately 725,000 undocumented Indian immigrants in the U.S., Indians represent the ninth-largest group of illegal immigrants, making up around 6.6% of the total, according to 2022 statistics.

While it may not be feasible to deport all of these individuals to India in a short period, the symbolic action of sending back a significant number could occur as Trump seeks to fulfill his promise. However, he may eventually recognize that the U.S. economy relies on both low-skilled and high-skilled migrant workers, which could make a large-scale repatriation more challenging.

In the past, undocumented Indian immigrants have already faced deportation from the U.S. In the 2024 fiscal year, over 1,500 Indian nationals were deported, and the U.S. has been repatriating Indian immigrants for several years. For example, in October 2023, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security collaborated with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to send back Indian nationals who were unable to legally stay in the U.S.

India has been working on agreements to manage the mobility of its labor force through Labour Mobility Agreements with countries like Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Additionally, India has Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements with nations like France, the UK, Germany, and Italy to streamline migration processes and address issues related to deportation and legal stay. These agreements may help India manage the potential impact of a large-scale repatriation from the U.S.

AI videos from China are coming for the world



Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) companies are relentlessly pushing forward in an effort to close the development gap with the United States. Despite Washington's ongoing efforts to restrict the growth of China's AI industry, Chinese firms are proving their ability to remain competitive with Silicon Valley's best.

One example of this innovation is Vidu 2.0, an AI video generator released last week by Shengshu Technology, a Beijing-based startup with strong ties to Tsinghua University, a key institution in China's AI development. Vidu 2.0, which has been touted as a domestic rival to OpenAI's Sora, allows users from around the world to generate short videos from images.

While I experienced some inconsistencies during my tests, such as strange facial expressions, unnatural limb movements, and other clear signs of AI involvement, I was most impressed by the platform's speed. Within seconds, I was able to produce video clips, including one of Donald Trump crying and another of him embracing Elon Musk in a romantic setting.

What's even more impressive is Vidu 2.0's cost-efficiency. The platform claims to produce short-

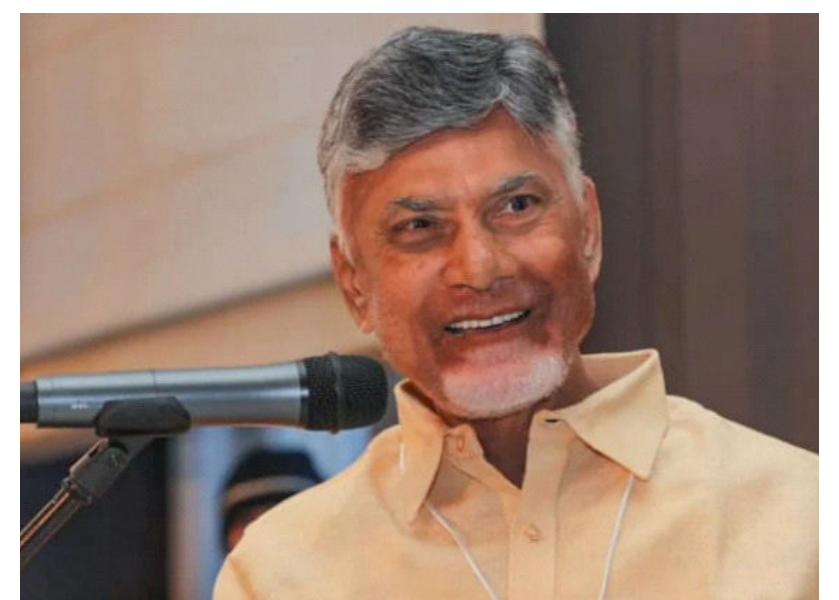
form video content at 55% lower costs than the industry average, showcasing China's ability to cut production costs in AI-driven technology.

Vidu 2.0's release follows another notable AI development from China: DeepSeek-V3, a large language model launched late last month. The model not only performed impressively on global AI benchmarks but was also reportedly developed at an astonishingly low cost. Andrej Karpathy, a founding member of OpenAI, remarked on the budget for DeepSeek-V3, calling it a "joke of a budget."

These consecutive advancements serve as a clear signal to the U.S. administration, highlighting the limitations of its export controls and policies aimed at stalling China's AI progress. They underscore the fact that Beijing's AI capabilities are advancing at an accelerated pace, making it evident that the U.S.'s current strategy may not be as effective as intended in hindering China's technological ambitions. China's rapid strides in AI innovation could reshape the global technology landscape, challenging the U.S.'s historical dominance in this field and prompting a reevaluation of how both nations navigate the future of artificial intelligence.

Chandrababu Naidu Calls for More Children: A Demographic Solution in a Growing State

In a surprising move, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has called for families to have more children, a stance that seems out of sync with the global trend of population control, especially in a country that is set to become the world's most populous nation. Known for his progressive policies, Naidu's recent decision to amend the rules for local body elections, allowing candidates to have more than two children, has raised eyebrows. This policy reverses a law introduced three decades ago, which capped the number of children public representatives could have.



The catalyst behind this change stems from Naidu's recognition of a demographic imbalance in the state. With Andhra Pradesh's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) at 1.7, below the replacement level of 2.1, the state's population is expected to peak at 54.4 million by 2034 and then begin to decline. This trend, combined with the growing elderly population—predicted to surpass the number of children by 2046—has prompted the Chief Minister to reassess the need for a policy that encourages larger families.

This shift is not solely based on population dynamics. There are political considerations at play, as well. Southern states like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, which have successfully managed to reduce birth rates, are concerned about losing political representation during the upcoming delimitation process. The number of Lok Sabha seats allocated to states is determined by population, and with northern states still experiencing higher growth rates, southern states fear their voices will be diminished in the future.

Historically, this has been a point of contention. In 2001, when the delimitation exercise was frozen until 2025, southern political leaders argued that states with controlled population growth should not be penalized. This concern has only grown more pressing as the demographic gap between the south and the north widens.

While Naidu's call for larger families may be driven by a desire to counterbalance the ageing population, encouraging a return to the "Small is Beautiful" mentality, which advocates limiting families to two children, will not be easy. Social norms take time to change, as evidenced by Japan's struggle to overcome similar demographic issues.

Ultimately, this debate is about more than just population numbers; it's about finding a balance between political representation and social sustainability. As India moves towards its goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047, policymakers must engage in thoughtful discussions to address demographic shifts pragmatically.

PM Modi to Co-Chair AI Action Summit in Paris in February

The visit marks Modi's first to France in his third term, spotlighting India's AI ambitions and global partnerships.

TPN Correspondent |
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to travel to Paris on February 10 and 11 to co-chair the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit, hosted by France. The summit, a key event in the global AI discourse, will be co-chaired by Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron. This visit, Modi's first to France in his third term, underscores the importance of India's strategic partnership with France. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal confirmed the trip, stating, "The Prime Minister has accepted the invitation to travel to France and will co-chair the summit at the invitation of President Macron."

Strengthening AI Collaboration

The summit provides a platform to deepen AI-related collaboration between India and France while fostering global



cooperation on responsible AI development. As AI continues to transform industries, the focus will be on ethical governance, innovation, and leveraging AI to address global challenges.

Modi to co-chair the summit with French President Macron.

Focus on ethical AI development and innovation to tackle global challenges. Opportunity for bilateral en-

gagements with other world leaders.

Potential High-Profile Interactions

Modi's visit may also include a meeting with US President Donald Trump, should he attend the summit. Such interactions would be significant in aligning AI strategies among global leaders and exploring bilateral and multilateral cooperation on emerging technologies.

Beyond AI discussions, Modi is expected to hold bilateral engagements with Macron and other attending leaders, strengthening India's ties with key partners in technology, trade, and innovation.

India's AI Ambitions

India has been actively positioning itself as a leader in AI development and adoption, emphasizing its potential to drive economic growth, improve governance, and enhance public services. The summit offers an opportunity for India to showcase its advancements and contribute to shaping global AI policies. PM Modi's participation highlights India's commitment to leveraging AI responsibly while collaborating with global partners to address its challenges and opportunities. The visit reinforces India's stature in the international AI ecosystem, paving the way for impactful collaborations and policies.

Madhya Pradesh CM Takes a Step Toward Liquor Prohibition with Ban in 19 Sacred Cities



TPN Correspondent | Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has announced a landmark decision to prohibit liquor sales in 19 religious cities and rural areas, marking a significant step towards a potential statewide alcohol ban. Drawing parallels to Bihar's prohibition policy, the move highlights the government's commitment to preserving cultural and spiritual values over revenue generation.

The new excise policy, approved during a cabinet meeting in the historic city of Maheshwar, mandates the permanent closure of all liquor shops and bars within urban limits of cities like Ujjain, Omkareshwar, and Orchha. Starting April 1, a total of 47 liquor outlets will be shut down without relocation options, underscoring the state's resolve to enforce the prohibition.

47 liquor outlets in sacred cities to shut by April 1, marking a cultural shift.

Decision echoes previous calls for prohibition by leaders like Uma Bharti.

Government expects a revenue loss of Rs 450 crore due to this policy.

Cultural Significance and Historical Context

The cabinet meeting in Maheshwar, a city revered for its spiritual heritage, provided a fitting venue for this announcement. Known as the erstwhile capital of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar, Maheshwar holds a deep connection to India's cultural and religious history, making it a symbolic backdrop for the policy shift.

The idea of prohibition is not new to Madhya Pradesh. Leaders across party lines, including Digvijay Singh, Uma Bharti, and Shivraj Singh Chauhan, have historically advocated for curbing alcohol consumption, albeit with limited success. Former Chief Minister Uma Bharti, a staunch proponent of liquor prohibition, lauded the decision as a long-awaited and commendable step.

Balancing Culture with Economy

While the decision aligns with the state's goal to preserve its spiritual ethos, it comes at an economic cost. The expected revenue loss of Rs 450 crore highlights the government's determination to prioritize public sentiment over financial gains. The move has sparked discussions about a potential statewide liquor ban, with Chief Minister Yadav hinting at broader plans for prohibition. For now, the closure of liquor vents in these sacred cities marks a pivotal moment in Madhya Pradesh's journey toward a transformative policy shift.

CM MK Stalin Credits Governor RN Ravi's Criticism for Boosting DMK's Support

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin asserted on Friday that criticisms from Governor RN Ravi have inadvertently bolstered public support for the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK). Addressing party workers, Stalin pledged that the DMK would stay committed to its Dravidian model of governance, undeterred by the Governor's remarks.

Stalin claimed that the DMK's ideology, deeply rooted in Dravidian principles, has only gained strength in the face of opposition. While some have demanded Ra-

vi's removal, Stalin noted that the DMK had refrained from passing any formal resolutions on the issue. Instead, he suggested that the Governor's criticisms have indirectly enhanced the party's standing among the people. Stalin says Governor's criticisms have unified and energized DMK supporters. DMK emphasizes commitment to the Dravidian model despite political rhetoric. Governor Ravi urged to symbolically skip reading next year's Assembly address. Stalin sarcastically proposed that Governor Ravi should attend the Tamil Nadu Assembly's annual session next year but leave without delivering the customary address, highlighting what he

perceives as a disconnect between the Governor's stance and the people's sentiment.

"He should be the Governor, and the DMK will grow further," Stalin remarked, suggesting that the Governor's actions are inadvertently strengthening the DMK's influence. Governor Ravi has previously been vocal in his critique of the DMK's policies, often clashing with the party's Dravidian ideology. Stalin, however, has used these criticisms to consolidate support, presenting the Governor's rhetoric as an opportunity for the DMK to reaffirm its commitment to its principles and governance model.

Uddhav Thackeray Admits Post-Lok Sabha Lapse

TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

In a rare moment of introspection, Uddhav Thackeray, the leader of the Shiv Sena (UBT), conceded that the Mahavikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition underestimated the challenges following its impressive performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Speaking after the alliance's dismal showing in the Maharashtra Assembly elections, Thackeray acknowledged that post-election complacency paved the way for the BJP to dominate the narrative.

Overconfidence and Negligence

"After the Lok Sabha elections, we got overconfident," Thackeray admitted. "There was negligence on our part to assume that the Assembly elections would naturally favor us. The BJP exploited this to spread a fake narrative against us."

The MVA, which helped thwart the BJP's bid for a majority in the general elections, failed to replicate its success at the state level. The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) secured a sweeping victory with 233 seats, including 132 for the BJP, while the MVA managed only 49.

Allegations of EVM Misuse

Thackeray raised concerns about electronic voting machines (EVMs), echoing a familiar grievance among opposition leaders. "Even those who have won don't know how it happened. If you have guts, take one election with ballot papers," he challenged the BJP.

Thackeray accuses BJP of exploiting EVMs to secure a landslide win.

Calls for reverting to ballot papers for transparency. BJP denies allegations, calling them baseless.

Defending Campaign Remarks



Thackeray also addressed controversies from the campaign trail, including his emphasis on patriotism and references to the 1992 riots. He clarified that his remarks aimed to unite people rather than divide them, rejecting claims that he apologized for the riots as "fake news."

"Deshbhakt Muslims embraced the MVA," he said, challenging the BJP to prove their commitment to unity by removing the "green color" from their flag.

Maharashtra's Identity

The Shiv Sena (UBT) leader underscored the importance of respecting Maharashtra's cultural heritage. "In Maharashtra, you must say both 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Jai Shivrai,'" he asserted, emphasizing the legacy of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Lessons for the Opposition

The MVA's failure to maintain its Lok Sabha momentum in the Assembly elections highlights the challenges of sustaining a coalition. Thackeray's candid admission signals the need for recalibration as the INDIA bloc prepares for future electoral battles.

For now, the BJP's decisive win solidifies its grip on Maharashtra, leaving the opposition to rethink its strategy to stay relevant in the state's political landscape.

Gold Prices Surge Past ₹83,000 for the First Time Amid Global Uncertainty



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Gold prices continued their rally for the eighth consecutive session, crossing the ₹83,000-mark per 10 grams for the first time in history. On Friday, gold of 99.9% purity surged ₹200 to hit ₹83,100 in the national capital, according to the All India Sarafa Association. This milestone reflects increasing investor interest amid global market uncertainties.

The yellow metal's 99.5% purity variant also climbed ₹200, reaching a record high of ₹82,700 per 10 grams. Silver prices followed suit, rising ₹500 to ₹94,000 per kilogram. Analysts attribute this trend to escalating geopolitical and economic concerns.

Gold prices hit ₹83,100 per 10 grams, marking an all-time high in India.

Silver prices climbed ₹500 to reach ₹94,000 per kilogram.

Market volatility driven by U.S. tariff uncertainties boosts safe-haven assets.

The Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) mirrored this bullish sentiment, with February gold futures gaining ₹334 to ₹79,960 per 10 grams. Intraday trading saw prices approach ₹80,050, nearing the October 2024 peak of ₹80,282. Similarly, silver futures for March delivery surged ₹835 to ₹91,984 per kilogram.

Globally, Comex gold futures rose \$15.50 per ounce to \$2,780.50, while silver increased 1.53% to \$31.32 per ounce. These gains were driven by concerns over U.S. tariff policies under President Trump and expectations for critical economic data releases.

Experts like Saumil Gandhi from HDFC Securities and Deveya Gaglani from Axis Securities emphasized that safe-haven demand will likely persist. Upcoming events, including the Union Budget and U.S. Federal Reserve's policy decisions, will be pivotal in determining future trends for bullion prices.

End Ukraine War Or Face Sanctions; Trump warns To Putin

US President calls for negotiations to end the "ridiculous war" as tensions persist.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Newly sworn-in US President Donald Trump has urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to negotiate a peace deal with Ukraine, describing the ongoing conflict as "ridiculous" and unprecedented in its scale of devastation. Speaking on Truth Social on Wednesday and later to reporters in the Oval Office on Thursday, Trump reiterated his willingness to mediate, emphasizing the need to halt the loss of lives on the battlefield.

"I think he (Putin) should make a deal," Trump stated, expressing openness to meet Putin "as soon as possible." He warned Russia of further sanctions and high tariffs if progress toward a ceasefire is not made, underscoring his administration's firm stance on resolving the conflict.

- **Trump signals readiness to mediate peace talks between Russia and Ukraine.**
- **Warns of high tariffs, taxes, and sanctions if ceasefire negotiations fail.**
- **Describes the battlefield as unprecedented since World War II in terms of human loss.**

Trump criticized the human cost of the war, describing images of battlefield casualties as "pictures you don't want to see." He claimed that Russia has lost an estimated 800,000 soldiers, while Ukraine has also endured significant losses. "It



would be nice to end that war. It's a ridiculous war," he remarked.

The president noted that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is prepared to negotiate. "He's ready to make a deal... He'd like to stop. He's somebody that lost a lot of soldiers," Trump said. However, he stopped short of confirming whether sanctions alone would compel Russia to engage in talks, adding, "I don't know."

Trump's comments came with a stern warning to Moscow. "If there is no ceasefire deal soon, I'll have no other choice

but to impose tariffs, taxes, and sanctions on anything being sold by Russia to the United States, and various other participating countries," he declared, signaling a tough economic response if the conflict continues. As the war grinds on, Trump's remarks highlight the urgency of diplomatic intervention to prevent further loss of life and economic destabilization. His administration's approach underscores both willingness to mediate and readiness to exert economic pressure on Russia to bring about peace.



PM Modi Congratulates Micheal Martin on Securing Second Term as Irish PM

India reaffirms commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with Ireland.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

PM Modi Congratulates Micheal Martin on Securing Second Term as Irish PM
India reaffirms commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with Ireland.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Micheal Martin on his re-election as the Prime Minister of Ireland for a second term. Taking to X, PM Modi emphasized India's dedication to enhancing its bilateral partnership with Ireland, rooted in shared values and strong people-to-people connections.

"Congratulations @MichealMartinTD on assuming the office of Prime Minister of Ireland. Committed to work together to further strengthen our bilateral partnership," PM Modi posted.

Micheal Martin, leader of the Fianna Fáil party, secured his return to the top office following a vote in the Irish parliament on Thursday, receiving 95 votes in favor and 76 against. He will helm a coalition government that includes his party's historic rival, Fine Gael, along with independent lawmakers.

PM Modi expresses commitment to enhancing India-Ireland relations.

Micheal Martin elected for a second term after a delayed parliamentary vote.

Coalition includes Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, and independents, replacing the Green Party.

Martin's nomination faced a brief delay after parliamentary proceedings were disrupted by opposition protests over speaking rights for independent lawmakers. The impasse was resolved through overnight talks, allowing the vote to proceed.

This marks the second consecutive coalition between Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael, two parties that have dominated Irish politics since 1937. Independent ministers will replace the Green Party, which lost considerable ground in the November elections.

Micheal Martin, 64, previously served as Prime Minister from 2020 to 2022. Under the coalition arrangement, Simon Harris of Fine Gael is slated to succeed Martin as Prime Minister in 2027. Harris, currently positioned to take over as Deputy Prime Minister, is expected to serve as Foreign Minister initially.

Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025: A Grand Showcase of India's Mobility Future

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 concluded on a high note, highlighting India's growing dominance in the global mobility ecosystem. Spread across three premier locations—Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in Delhi, and India Expo Mart in Greater Noida—the event featured concurrent shows like the Auto Expo, Battery Expo, Cycle Expo, Construction Equipment Expo, and Component Expo. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the event on January 17, 2025, setting the tone for a landmark showcase of innovation.

The expo recorded an unprecedented footfall of 9,83,522 visitors, a significant leap from its inaugural edition in 2024, which attracted over 1,50,000 attendees. This surge underscored growing public and industry interest in India's sustainable mobility revolution.

239 launches across diverse mobility sectors mark the event's success. Over 9.8 lakh visitors attend, cementing the expo's status as a major global event. Electric vehicles, advanced batteries, and urban air mobility steal the spotlight. Launches Highlight the Future of Mobility The expo saw a staggering 239 product and technology launches, underscoring industry commitment to smart, sustainable transportation. Key highlights included:

Auto Expo Motor Show 2025: Featuring 90 vehicle launches, dominated by electric and alternative powertrains like flex-fuel vehicles. **Auto Components Show:** With 97 launches, this segment highlighted advancements in supply chain readiness for a transformative future. **Bharat Construction Equipment Expo:** Twenty-four new products, including BS (CEV) Stage 5-compliant and hydrogen-powered equipment, showcased India's construction mobility evolution. **Battery Show:** Showcasing 21 new products in storage and charging solutions, emphasizing advancements in EV infrastructure.

India Engages UK Over Disruptions of Kangana Ranaut's 'Emergency' Screenings

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Indian External Affairs Ministry has expressed strong concerns over disruptions to screenings of Kangana Ranaut's film *Emergency* in the United Kingdom. The film, which portrays events during the Emergency declared by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975, faced protests and alleged intimidation from groups objecting to its content.

The ministry stated, "Freedom of speech and expression cannot be applied selectively. Those obstructing the film's screening must be held accountable." It added that the Indian High Commission in London is in contact with UK authorities and community members to ensure their safety.

Protests and Disruptions

Reports indicated that masked individuals, identified as Khalistani sympathizers, disrupted screenings in northwest London, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, and Manchester. Bob Blackman, a Conservative MP, highlighted an incident where "masked Khalistani terrorists" interrupted a screening at Harrow Vue cinema, threatening the audience and forcing the show to stop.

Screenings in UK disrupted by protests, allegedly led by Khalistani groups. British MP Bob Blackman condemned the incidents, defending constituents' rights to view the film. Two cinema chains reportedly pulled the



movie amid safety concerns.

Protests were organized by British Sikh groups, such as the Sikh Press Association, citing objections to the film's portrayal of Sikh-related events. They claimed the movie was "anti-Sikh" and misrepresented historical facts, leading to disruptions and cancellations.

The Film's Journey

Emergency faced challenges during its production and release in India as well. Objections from Sikh organizations delayed its clearance by the Censor Board, which required cuts and verifiable sources for controversial dialogues. The film was eventually cleared in November and released on January 17, 2025.

Responding to protests, government sources acknowledged "sensitive content"

in the film but emphasized the importance of addressing religious concerns while upholding freedom of expression.

India's Stand

The Indian government has urged the UK to take appropriate action against those responsible for the disruptions, emphasizing that acts of intimidation threaten democratic values. "We consistently raise concerns with the UK regarding violent protests and intimidation by anti-India elements," the ministry said. These incidents have reignited debates over freedom of speech, religious sensitivities, and the fine balance required to uphold both in democratic societies. As *Emergency* continues to spark controversy, the focus remains on ensuring safe and uninterrupted screenings for audiences worldwide.

Sri Lanka government slashes ministerial privileges

TPN Correspondent | Colombo

The Sri Lankan government has introduced stringent regulations to curtail the benefits afforded to Cabinet and deputy ministers, addressing widespread public discontent over political privilege and accountability.

A circular issued by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Thursday limits Cabinet ministers to two official vehicles. Caps have also been placed on fuel allowances and monthly payments for office, residential, and mobile phone expenses. The support staff is restricted to 15 for Cabinet ministers and 12 for deputy ministers. Notably, family members or close relatives are barred from holding key advisory roles such as Private Secretary or



Media Secretary.

Ministers limited to two vehicles and capped allowances. Restrictions on hiring relatives for key positions.

Move follows debate over privileges of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

These reforms come amid mounting criticism over the treatment of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, whose state-provided security was reduced from over 300 personnel to just 60 in December. Rajapaksa was also asked to vacate his state mansion, drawing sharp reactions from opposition leaders.

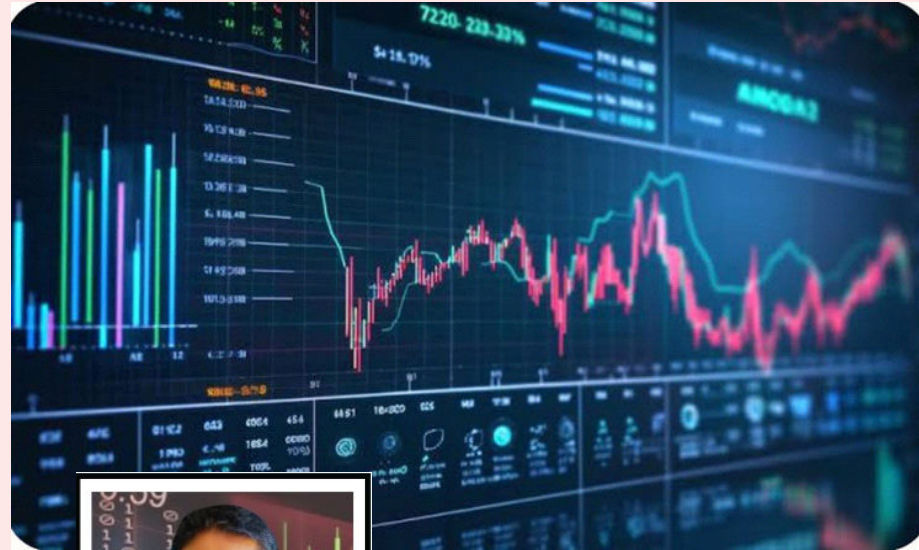
Sagara Kariyawasam, a spokesman for Rajapaksa's party, accused the government of political revenge, stating, "Mahinda Rajapaksa's personal security is under threat. The government wants to put him out on the road." Opposition members argue that benefits extended to former presidents are constitutionally protected and backed by legislation passed in 1986.

Sensex Slips 329 Points Amid Volatility; Nifty Manages to Hold 23,000 Mark

Domestic stock markets ended in losses on Thursday. There were mixed signals from international markets. The indices, which started in losses initially, continued in a range-bound mode for some time. At one stage, the Sensex rallied by 800 points as buying picked up. It fell into heavy losses again due to the Bank of Japan raising interest rates, disappointing corporate results and uncertainty. The markets may fluctuate between the tides for a few more days due to weak sentiment. The rise in bond yields and the dollar index is increasing concerns. However, the Nifty holding the 23000 level is a bit positive.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 76,520 in the previous session, opened at 76,455 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low at 76,091. It reached an intraday high at 76,985. It ended at 76,190, down 329 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,183, touched a low of 23,050 and a high of 23,347. It closed at 23,092, down 113 points. The Nifty Bank fell 221 points to settle at 48,367.

In the Nifty50, 19 companies gained and 31 lost. Hindustan Unilever, Britannia, Eicher Motors, Grasim, ICICI Bank were the top gainers. Dr. Reddy's, Trent, Mahindra & Mahindra, Adani Enterprises, BPL were the top losers. All but the FMCG and IT sector indices lost today. Bank, auto, finance, media, metal, pharma, PSU bank, realty, health-



care, consumer durables, oil and gas indices rose.

Today, the market breadth on the NSE completely favored sellers. Of the 2891 shares traded, only 635 gained. 2183 lost. Shares of 18 companies reached 52-week highs. Only 168 reached 52-week lows. Fear Index India VIX is at 16.75.

Shriram Finance has registered a net profit of Rs 3570 crore in the third quarter. This is almost double compared to the same period last year. The company declared a dividend of Rs 2.5 per share. Caffeine Tech shares gained heavily after it said that the Rs 250 SIP plan was positive. Laurus Labs' net profit increased from Rs. 23 crore to Rs. 92.3 crore. AU Small Finance Bank's net profit increased by 7.5% to Rs. 528 crore. Atul Limited's profit increased by 53% to Rs. 109 crore from Rs. 71 crore. Revenue increased from Rs. 1138 crore to Rs. 1417 crore. Jagil signed a customer service agreement with Tiger Capital. NTPC Renewable Energy won a 300 MW solar project. Jindal SA's net profit and revenue decreased. FIIs are increasing their stake in small-cap companies more than in large-caps.

India's Forex Reserves Drop by \$1.88 Billion to \$623.98 Billion



India's foreign exchange reserves dropped by \$1.88 billion to stand at \$623.983 billion for the week ended January 17, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday. This decline follows a larger reduction of \$8.714 billion recorded in the previous week (ended January 10), which brought the reserves down to \$625.871 billion.

The dip in the forex reserves has been attributed to a combination of factors,

including revaluation effects and the RBI's interventions in the forex market. The central bank has been actively managing the rupee's volatility, which has contributed to the reserves' downward trend in recent weeks.

Despite the decline, India's foreign exchange reserves are still significantly higher than the levels seen in the past. The reserves reached an all-time high of \$704.885 billion at the end of September 2021.

Breaking down the components of India's forex reserves, foreign currency assets — the largest part of the reserves — saw a decrease of \$2.878 billion, falling to \$533.133 billion. These assets reflect changes in the value of foreign currencies like the euro, pound, and yen, relative to the US dollar, which can lead to fluctuations due to exchange rate movements.

On a more positive note, India's gold reserves saw a slight increase, rising by \$1.063 billion to reach \$68.947 billion during the week. In addition, India's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) fell by \$74 million to stand at \$4.122 billion.

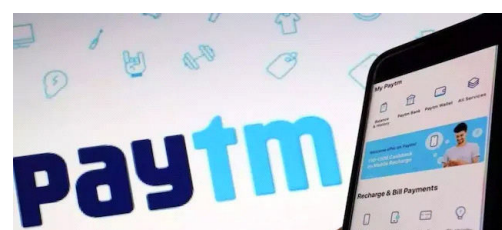
The overall dip in India's forex reserves signals a period of adjustment as the RBI continues to navigate global economic uncertainties and manage domestic currency fluctuations. However, the reserves remain at healthy levels, ensuring that India retains sufficient liquidity to meet its external payment obligations.

Paytm Shares Drop 9% Amid ED Probe, Company Denies Allegations

Shares of One97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, plunged by as much as 9% to an intraday low of Rs 773.90 on Friday following reports that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is investigating the company in connection with a cryptocurrency scam. The news sent shockwaves through the stock market, with Paytm's share price hitting Rs 773.05 on the NSE before partially recovering to trade 3.32% lower at Rs 820.95 by mid-morning.

In response to the reports, Paytm issued a clarification, stating that it had not received any inquiry or communication from the ED. The company described the media reports as "factually incorrect and misleading" and denied any new notices from the ED regarding the alleged investigation.

"We confirm that we have not received



any such new notice, communication, or query from the Enforcement Directorate," Paytm said in a stock exchange filing. The company added that the news article was based on incorrect information and clarified that they had not been contacted by the media before the publication of the report.

Paytm is one of several payment gateways, including Razorpay, PayU, and Easebuzz, under investigation by the ED in relation to the HPZ Token cryptocurrency scam, allegedly operated by Chinese nationals. The ED has been investigating the matter for

the past two years, freezing nearly Rs 500 crore in virtual accounts across various platforms, including Paytm.

According to the ED, the accused defrauded investors of over Rs 2,200 crore, with illicit funds being transferred out of India. Paytm is reported to hold around Rs 2.8 crore of the alleged "proceeds of crime," while other platforms like PayU and Easebuzz have larger amounts involved in the scam.

In addition to the ongoing investigation, Paytm's parent company, One97 Communications, recently posted a narrower consolidated loss of Rs 208.5 crore for Q3 FY25, compared to a loss of Rs 221.7 crore in the same period last year. However, the company's revenue from operations dropped by 35.8% to Rs 1,827.8 crore, primarily due to declines in payment processing, financial services, and marketing services.

Budget 2025 : Sitharaman Marks Final Preparations With Traditional 'Halwa' Ceremony



As preparations for India's Union Budget 2025-26 intensify, HSBC Global Research has laid out its expectations, forecasting a tax rationalization in the upcoming budget. While the research house does not anticipate significant cuts in taxes, it predicts adjustments aimed at simplifying the tax structure. Alongside this, there is an expected focus on boosting exports, improving center-state capital expenditure coordination, and continuing employment-linked benefits. Additionally, HSBC anticipates greater clarity on the structural reforms the government intends to pursue.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman marked the beginning of the final phase of the budget preparation process on Friday with the traditional 'halwa' ceremony. The ceremony, which took place in the basement of North Block, the Ministry of Finance's headquarters, was attended by the finance minister and senior ministry officials. The Union Budget is set to be presented on February 1 in the Lok Sabha.

In the lead-up to the Budget, Sushil Suri, Chairman and Managing Director of Morepen Laboratories, emphasized the importance of leveraging the immense potential of the pharmaceutical sector. The sector is projected to reach \$130 billion by 2030 and \$440 billion by 2047, and Suri called for a more streamlined regulatory approval process to drive investments and productivity. He also urged the government to expand the scope of the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes to foster further growth.

These discussions point to a broader emphasis on sectors like pharma, which are seen as key drivers of India's economic growth. By facilitating exports and strengthening the regulatory environment, the Budget could unlock significant opportunities for various industries.

With less than a week to go before the presentation, the focus on tax reforms, exports, and structural enhancements reflects the government's drive to build a resilient economy and encourage sustainable growth in the years ahead.

Adani Power's Growth Boosted by Coal Supply, Expansion; Target Price Rs 806



Adani Power Ltd's growth is being fueled by enhanced coal availability and its business expansion, according to brokerage firm Ventura. The firm has set a target price of Rs 806 for the stock over the next 24 months, which indicates a potential upside of 54.5% from its current trading price of around Rs 522.

India's rising power demand, driven by increased manufacturing activities and the growing use of white goods and gadgets, has created a significant energy gap. As renewable energy is unable to meet the country's growing power needs, the gap between peak demand and supply highlights the need for a stronger thermal power capacity. Adani Power, India's largest private pure-play thermal power producer, is well-positioned to meet this demand with its aggressive capacity expansion plans.

Ventura has revised its price target for Adani Power, recommending a "BUY" with an upwardly adjusted DCF-based price target of Rs 806 (13.8X FY27 EV/EBITDA), representing an upside of 54.5%. The brokerage firm noted that the company's installed capacity of 17.55 GW and its capacity to source coal from both domestic and international markets provides a strong competitive edge.

The firm also highlighted the company's operational improvements. Adani Power's plant load factor (PLF) surged from 48% in FY23 to 72% in H1 FY25, marking the highest level in seven years. This increase in PLF, along with improved coal availability and lower imported coal prices, has significantly boosted Adani Power's operational efficiency.

In FY24, the company recorded a year-on-year revenue growth of 29.9%, reaching Rs 50,351 crore, with EBITDA rising 81% to Rs 18,181 crore. Ventura also anticipates steady growth for the company, with revenue and EBITDA expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11.8% and 11%, respectively, over the FY24-27 period.

Adani Power is targeting a total capacity of 30.67 GW by FY31, which would increase its share in India's thermal power sector from 6% in FY24 to 11% by FY31.

Boiled Egg Turns into Fine Dining Materpiece for Rs 990 in Viral Video

High-end restaurants are known for their creativity in transforming even the simplest ingredients into gastronomic wonders. A recent viral video showcases a jaw-dropping example of this concept, as a basic boiled egg is elevated into a luxurious fine dining experience. The video, which has captured widespread attention, comes with the caption, "When you go fine dining and ask for one boiled egg."



The footage takes viewers through the meticulous and almost artistic process of preparing the humble boiled egg for a high-end meal. The chef starts by carefully placing the egg on a chopping board and presses it using a specialized machine. Next, the egg is sliced into six delicate pieces using thin threads, showcasing the precision involved in every step.

The egg pieces are then artfully arranged on a plate, with a layer of artistic sauce and garnishes that add both visual appeal and complexity to the dish. As the video progresses, the chef takes another boiled egg, cutting it into

a heart shape with a cutter. This piece is placed on a plate, once again adorned with sauce and garnishes, creating a picture-perfect dish.

What truly stands out is the price tag: this seemingly simple boiled egg, now transformed into an extravagant plate of fine dining, is priced at Rs 990. This surprising price reflects the effort, intricate plating, and creative presentation that go into turning a basic breakfast staple into an upscale culinary experience.

The viral video has sparked both amusement and amazement, showing how fine dining can take the most unexpected ingredients and turn them into an extraordinary dining experience.

AI Pets Are Helping China's Young Generation Deal With Social Anxiety

The use of smart Artificial Intelligence (AI) pets to help children cope with social anxiety and provide emotional support is rapidly growing in China, according to the South China Morning Post (SCMP). One notable example is BooBoo, a smart pet resembling a guinea pig, which has sold 1,000 units since its launch in May 2024.



Zhang Yachun, 19, shared with SCMP that owning a BooBoo has significantly eased her life. Having struggled with building friendships and anxiety at school, Zhang now feels more emotionally supported. She has named her AI pet "Aluo," a rugby ball-sized companion that she even outfits with winter clothes. Zhang, who lives with her parents and a real pet duck, explained that Aluo makes her feel needed and provides companionship, especially during moments of joy.

The rise in demand for AI pets is part of a broader trend where young adults, particularly in urban areas, are turning to "smart pets" for emotional support. This trend has led to a significant market forecast. The global market for "social robots," including AI pets like BooBoo, is expected to expand sevenfold, reaching \$42.5 billion by 2033.

Zhang's father, Peng, understands her attachment to Aluo, commenting that children today face more

pressures and may have fewer friends than in the past. He points out that while friendships were once formed easily, the urban lifestyle today can make it harder for kids to build meaningful connections.

However, the desire for AI pets is not confined to the younger generation. Guo Zichen, a 33-year-old father, also sees the benefit of these robots for his children. At a Weilan electronics store in Nanjing, Guo explained that AI pets can help children with studying and provide companionship when family members are busy. He acknowledges, however, that AI pets can never replace real ones.

Weilan, a provider of four-legged robots, states that 70 percent of their customers are families with young children, with their AI dog, BabyAlpha, priced between 8,000 and 26,000 yuan (Rs 95,000 to Rs 3 lakh).

Scientists finally make heads of giant stingray tails

Manta rays, known for their horn-like facial fins and diamond-shaped bodies that can stretch up to 30 feet, are among the ocean's most enigmatic creatures. However, it's their long, whip-like tails that have puzzled scientists for years. Unlike stingrays, whose tails are famous for their deadly stingers, mantas do not use their tails for propulsion or defense. The mystery of why these enormous creatures possess such elongated tails has now been partially solved.

A new study published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences sheds light on the purpose of these tails. Researchers examined the tails of cownose rays, a smaller relative of the manta,

and discovered that their long tails contain specialized organs. These organs help the rays sense underwater stimuli, essentially acting as finely tuned sensory antennae. This finding suggests that the long tails of mantas and related rays might play a critical role in detecting approaching threats in the open ocean.

Unlike most stingrays that dwell near the seafloor, mantas and their kin in the myliobatid family spend much of their time in open water. They are known for "flying" through the ocean, using their large, triangle-shaped pectoral fins to glide gracefully. The new research provides a possible explanation for why these rays might have evolved such lengthy tails—they likely use them to

sense the water around them as they navigate vast ocean expanses and avoid predators.

Júlia Chaumel, a marine biologist at Harvard University and one of the study's authors, expressed surprise at the complexity of the tail's function. "The complexity inside the tail was super surprising," Chaumel said. "We had no idea that this huge structure had a sensorial function."

This breakthrough gives scientists a deeper understanding of manta rays and their fascinating biology, opening the door for further exploration into how these giant creatures interact with their underwater environment.



ChatGPT outage: Netizens unable to access OpenAI's chatbot services globally

OpenAI's popular artificial intelligence chatbot, ChatGPT, is back online after experiencing significant outages earlier today. The disruptions affected millions of users globally, preventing access to the platform for hours.



The issue was traced to a "bad gateway error," which typically indicates a communication problem between the website's servers. Users were unable to interact with the chatbot for several hours, leading to widespread frustration, particularly among those who rely on ChatGPT for work, education, and various other tasks. Many took to social media to express their disappointment, with one user on X sharing, "Can't believe ChatGPT is down! I was in the middle of a project and now I'm stuck."

According to OpenAI, the problem was resolved at 15:09 GMT, and users can now access the service again. However, OpenAI has not yet provided a detailed explanation of the cause behind the outage. While service has been re-

stored, the outage had sparked a wave of disruption, as users across the globe reported being unable to use the chatbot for essential tasks.

This incident highlights the growing reliance on AI tools like ChatGPT, which have become integral for a wide range of activities. Whether for quick answers, brainstorming ideas, or solving complex problems, users are increasingly turning to AI for assistance, making such outages a significant inconvenience.

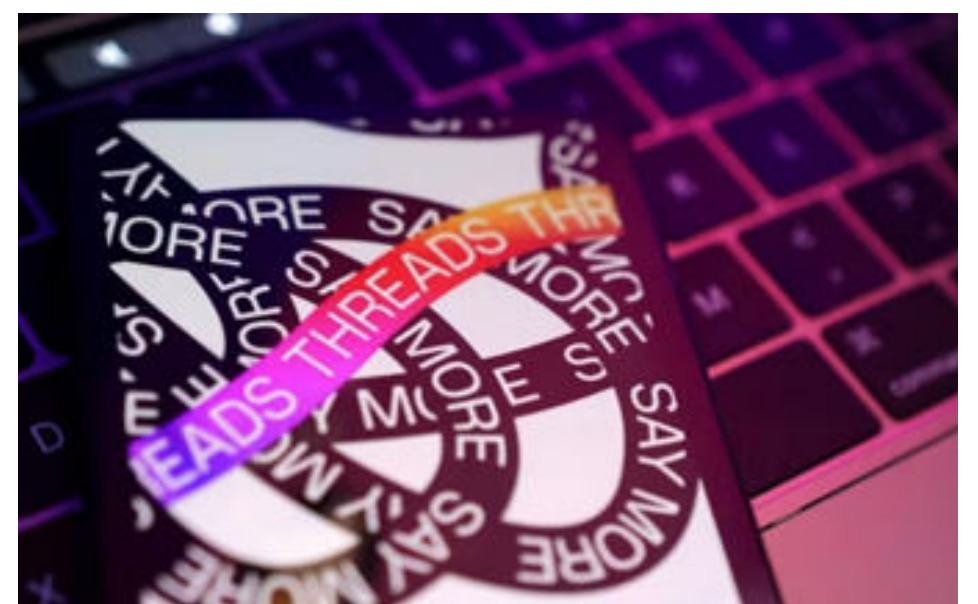
As of now, OpenAI's status page confirms that the issue has been resolved, and users are once again able to access the AI chatbot without interruption.

Threads Introduces New Features : Post Scheduling, Insights, and Markup Tools

Threads, the Meta-owned social media platform, has rolled out three new features designed to enhance user experience and engagement. On Thursday, Instagram head Adam Mosseri announced that the new features—Post Scheduling, Post Insights, and the Markup tool—will help users better manage their content and presence on the platform.

One of the most anticipated updates is the introduction of post scheduling, a feature that users have long requested. Until now, Threads did not allow users to schedule posts for a future time, but with this new addition, users can now plan and schedule posts ahead of time. To access the feature, users simply need to tap on the three-dot menu in the composer screen. Once scheduled, the post will appear in the user's drafts folder, where it can be edited or deleted before it goes live. The scheduling tool allows users to schedule posts up to 76 days in advance, offering flexibility in content planning.

Another new feature being rolled out is post insights, which provides users with detailed analytics on their posts. Available on both mobile apps



and the web client, post insights will give users information such as the number of views, interactions, likes, and replies for each post. A new insights icon has been added to the profile tab, where users can view metrics and filter posts based on a selected date range. This tool allows users to track their post performance and understand their audience better.

Additionally, Threads is introducing a Markup tool that allows users to add creative elements when

reposting or quoting content on the platform. However, this tool will be gradually rolled out, starting with select regions before being made available globally.

These updates come just a month after Threads enabled users to repost images without quoting the original post. With these new features, Threads continues to improve its functionality and user engagement, keeping up with the evolving needs of its growing user base.

Pat Cummins Leads ICC Test Team of 2024 with Three Indians Included

In a stellar year for Test cricket, Pat Cummins has been named captain of the ICC Test Team of 2024, which includes three Indian players—Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja, and Yashasvi Jaiswal. The squad also features prominent names from England, New Zealand, and Sri Lanka, but notably no players from South Africa, Pakistan, or the West Indies.

Jasprit Bumrah was a standout performer in 2024, taking 71 wickets at an exceptional average of 14.92, making him the highest wicket-taker in Test cricket that year. His dominant performances, including a remarkable 32 wickets in the Border-Gavaskar series against Australia, cemented his place in the team. Bumrah's ability to perform consistently against top teams, including a stunning 19-wicket haul against England, solidified his reputation as one of the greatest bowlers of all time.

Ravindra Jadeja also made his mark in 2024, contributing both with the bat and ball. Jadeja scored 527 runs at an average of 29.27 and picked up 48 wickets at an impressive average of 24.29. His all-round prowess played a crucial role in India's Test campaigns throughout the year.

Young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal's breakthrough year saw him become one of India's brightest batting stars. He amassed 1,478 runs at an av-



erage of 54.74, with two double centuries and three fifties to his name. Jaiswal's consistent performances, including a top score of 161 in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, helped him secure a spot in the all-star team.

Pat Cummins, the lone Australian in the squad, led his side to series victories over the West Indies, New Zealand, and India. He took 37 wickets in 2024 at an average of 24.02 while contributing 306 runs with the bat, showcasing his leadership and all-round skills.

Other notable players in the team include England's Joe Root, New Zealand's Kane Williamson, and Sri Lanka's Kamindu Mendis, who impressed with their batting exploits during the year.

Djokovic Withdraws from Australian Open Semifinal Due to Injury

Novak Djokovic was forced to retire from his Australian Open semifinal match against Alexander Zverev on Friday due to a torn muscle in his left leg. After losing the first set 7-6 (5) in a tiebreaker, Djokovic walked around the net to concede the match to Zverev. The crowd reacted with boos as the Serbian champion made his way off the court, but Djokovic responded with two thumbs-up gestures to acknowledge his supporters.

During a post-match press conference, Djokovic explained the severity of the injury, stating, "It was getting worse and worse." He revealed that the pain in his left leg, which he initially injured during his quarterfinal win over Carlos Alcaraz earlier in the week, had become unbearable. Despite losing the first set, Djokovic admitted that even if he had won, it would have been a tough battle to continue playing through the pain.

The 11-time Australian Open champion was aiming for a record 25th Grand Slam title, and the loss was particularly disappointing for the 35-year-old, who had been in strong form leading up to the semifinal. Last year, Djokovic withdrew from the French Open before the quarterfinals due to a torn meniscus in his



right knee, further compounding his recent injury woes.

The opening set between Djokovic and Zverev lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes, filled with long rallies and intense points. A total of 19 points in the first set featured exchanges that lasted for more than nine strokes, including the first four games, which alone took 31 minutes to complete. Despite Djokovic's injury, the set was a thrilling display of high-level tennis between two top-tier competitors.



Mandhana Shine in ICC Women's ODI Team of the Year, No Representation in Men's Side

In a notable recognition for Indian women cricketers, Smriti Mandhana and Deepti Sharma were included in the prestigious ICC Women's ODI Team of the Year for 2024. The all-star team, which includes players from across the globe, saw India represented by these two stellar athletes. However, the men's team had no Indian players, a gap attributed to the limited number of ODIs India played in 2024.

Mandhana's inclusion came after an outstanding year in which she scored 747 runs across 13 matches, making her the highest run-scorer in women's ODIs for 2024. Among her highlights were back-to-back centuries in the home series against South Africa, where she also earned the Player of the Series award. Mandhana's consistency has made her a strong contender for the ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year award as well.

Deepti Sharma, a key

all-rounder for India, also earned her place in the team for her impressive performances throughout the year. The 2024 Women's ODI Team also boasts players from England, Australia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the West Indies, with South African Laura Wolvaardt leading the squad as captain. Wolvaardt herself had an exceptional year, amassing 697 runs in 12 matches.

On the men's side, India was absent from the ICC Team due to a lack of ODI engagement in 2024. The men's team played only three ODIs during the year, all against Sri Lanka, losing two of them and drawing one. This limited exposure in the format left Indian players out of contention for selection.

Overall, Mandhana and Deepti's inclusion in the ICC Women's ODI Team of the Year highlights their stellar contributions to Indian cricket and global women's cricket in 2024.

On India's Big Win In 1st T20I, England Star Makes Bizarre 'Lucky' Remark

England fast bowler Jofra Archer expressed frustration after his team suffered a crushing seven-wicket defeat against India in the first T20I in Kolkata on Wednesday. Despite picking up 2 wickets, Archer felt that Indian batters were fortunate as many of their shots, including several mishits, found gaps rather than being caught in the field. India easily chased down a modest total of 132 with 43 balls to spare, driven by opener Abhishek Sharma's explosive 8 sixes in his innings.

Archer acknowledged that he had favorable conditions compared to his teammates but pointed out that luck played a significant role in India's success. "A few balls, well, a lot of balls, went up in the air but didn't go to hand, and probably next game they all go to hand and they're 40 for six," he said. He added that despite England's loss, they should not be discouraged, as such results are common in India when aggressive tactics are em-



ployed.

"It's just important to keep the head up, this happens a lot in India, especially in the IPL. The batters go hard, the bowlers go hard, and we were just on the unlucky side of it," Archer explained. He also em-

phasized the importance of trying to take early wickets in the powerplay to shift the momentum. "If you get them three or four down early, teams usually bat differently in the middle," he said, underscoring the need to continue challenging the opposition.

England captain Jos Buttler also reflected on the team's performance, attributing the loss to their inability to handle quality spin bowling. England collapsed to 132, struggling against the spin trio of Varun Chakravarthy, Axar Patel, and Ravi Bishnoi. Buttler admitted that his batters failed to "impose the game" in difficult conditions.

With coach Brendon McCullum's tenure beginning with a defeat, England will look to bounce back in the next game, hoping for better execution in their tactics and more favorable outcomes against India's spinners.

England Make One Change to Playing XI for 2nd T20I vs India

England have announced one change to their playing XI for the second T20I against India, scheduled to be held at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai on Saturday. Pacer Brydon Carse will replace Gus Atkinson in the lineup after the latter's poor performance in the series opener, where he struggled to contain the Indian batsmen.

In the first T20I, Atkinson had a tough outing, conceding 38 runs in just two overs, and he was unable to complete his full quota of four overs. Abhishek Sharma's brilliant knock of 79 off 34 balls, coupled with India's dominant chase, handed England a crushing seven-wicket defeat. This loss prompted England to make the tactical change, with Carse coming in to add more depth



to their pace attack.

Additionally, wicketkeeper-batsman Jamie Smith has been added to the 12-player squad for the match, though he is not expected to feature in the starting XI.

England captain Jos Buttler, reflecting on the first T20I defeat, said that the team would

assess the conditions in Chennai for the upcoming matches. He acknowledged that while the wicket offered some assistance to bowlers early on, it was a good pitch for batting once players got through the tough phase. Buttler praised the pace attack, especially Jofra Archer and Mark Wood, for their threatening spells, and emphasized that England

would continue to play aggressively while adapting to conditions at different venues throughout the series.

On the Indian side, captain Suryakumar Yadav was pleased with his team's performance, especially the energy after winning the toss, which set the tone for the victory. Yadav highlighted the strong execution of plans by the bowlers and praised the team's aggressive yet controlled batting. India currently lead the five-match series 1-0.

England's XI for the second T20I: Ben Duckett, Phil Salt (WK), Jos Buttler (C), Harry Brook, Liam Livingstone, Jacob Bethell, Jamie Overton, Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer, Adil Rashid, Mark Wood.



Oscar Nominations 2025: A Stellar Lineup of Films and Talent

The 97th Academy Awards promise a night of fierce competition and cinematic brilliance.

With the announcement of the 2025 Oscar nominations, anticipation for the 97th Academy Awards, scheduled for March 2nd, has reached new heights. This year's diverse slate of nominees celebrates the best in global cinema, featuring films and performances that have captivated audiences and critics alike.

Leading the race for Best Picture are *The Brutalist* and *Emilia Perez*, both of which made waves at the Golden Globe Awards. Other contenders include *Anora*, *A Complete Unknown*, *Conclave*, and *Dune: Part Two*, showcasing exceptional storytelling and visionary direction.

In the Best Director category, Jacques Audiard (*Emilia Perez*), Sean Baker (*Anora*), Brady Corbett (*The Brutalist*), and James Mangold (*A Complete Unknown*) are recognized for their outstanding contributions.

Best Picture contenders include *Dune: Part Two* and *The Brutalist*.

Adrien Brody, Timothée Chalamet, and Cynthia Erivo lead acting categories.

Inside Out 2 and *Memoir of a Snail* vie for Best Animated Feature.

The acting categories are no less competitive. Adrien Brody (*The Brutalist*), Timothée Chalamet (*A Complete Unknown*),



and Colman Domingo (*Sing Sing*) lead the Best Actor race, while Cynthia Erivo (*Wicked*), Carla Sofia Gascon (*Emilia Perez*), and Mikey Madison (*Anora*) headline the Best Actress category. Supporting performances by Kieran Culkin (*A Real Pain*), Guy Pearce (*The Brutalist*), and Ariana Grande (*Wicked*) have also earned acclaim.

In technical categories, *Dune: Part Two* and *The Brutalist* dominate, securing nods for Best Cinematography, Best Production Design, and more. Meanwhile, *Inside Out 2* and *Memoir of a Snail* are strong contenders for Best Animated Feature, showcasing the creativity of animated cinema.

Manoj Bajpayee Wraps Up Shooting for 'The Family Man' Season 3



The highly anticipated third season of *The Family Man*, starring Manoj Bajpayee in the lead role, has officially completed its shooting. This thrilling spy series, which first captivated audiences with its gripping storylines and stellar performances, continues to be a fan favorite on Amazon Prime Video.

Directed by Raj & DK, the show made waves with its unique blend of suspense, action, and drama. Season 1 delved into the world of terrorism, while Season 2 shifted its focus to the Sri Lankan rebel conflict. With Season 3, the stakes are set to rise even further, as it will take place in the scenic yet troubled backdrop of North East India.

The shooting of *The Family Man 3* began in May of the previous year, and the series has now wrapped up production. To mark the completion, Raj & DK shared a set of behind-the-scenes photos, capturing moments with the cast and crew, including a special appearance from Samantha, who played a pivotal role in the second season.

Season 3 promises to continue the journey of Srikanth Tiwari (played by Manoj Bajpayee), as he navigates both personal and professional challenges. In this season, Srikanth's children are now adults, and as Srikanth himself grows older, the challenges he faces intensify. Fans of the series will be eager to see how the character evolves and how the intricate plotlines unfold.

Raghava Lawrence's Kanchana 4: Pooja Hegde and Nora Fatehi Finalized for Key Roles



The popular horror-comedy genre has always had a massive following in both South and North India, and the *Kanchana* franchise is a prime example of this. The series, known for its thrilling yet comedic elements, has already seen three successful installments from the talented actor and director Raghava Lawrence. Now, fans are eagerly awaiting the next chapter in the series: *Kanchana 4*.

A major update has emerged about the cast of *Kanchana 4*, with two prominent actresses finalizing their roles. Pooja Hegde, known for her charm and versatile acting, has been confirmed as the female lead. Joining her is none other than the sizzling Nora Fatehi, the Bollywood dancing sensation, who will also play a crucial role in the film. Producer Manish Shah, who is backing the project, made the announcement

and revealed that the film will be produced by Gold Mine Films.

While the main cast has been decided, there are still a few more roles and technicians yet to be finalized. *Kanchana 4* is expected to go on the floors in January or February 2025, with production set to span multiple languages including Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam. The film is rumored to have a massive budget of Rs. 100 crore, further raising the anticipation.

Notably, *Kanchana 4* will be released in theaters first, followed by a digital release eight weeks after its theatrical debut. This is a strategic move, as the *Kanchana* series already enjoys a strong fanbase, particularly in the Hindi-speaking belt, where even Bollywood remade the original *Kanchana* as *Lakshmi* starring Akshay Kumar

Akhanda 2: Samyuktha Joins Nandamuri Balakrishna in Sequel's New Poster

The highly anticipated sequel *Akhanda 2* has created a buzz among fans, especially with the recent reveal of a new poster featuring Samyuktha as the leading lady opposite Nandamuri Balakrishna. Directed by Boyapati Srinu, *Akhanda 2* is set to continue the high-octane saga that began with the blockbuster *Akhanda*, which became a major hit due to its intense action and gripping storyline.



The film crew has already started shooting in parts of Andhra Pradesh, includ-

ing sequences tied to the Mahakumbh Mela. Regular shooting for the film will continue in the coming months. As excitement builds, the filmmakers have unveiled the first look at Samyuktha, who will be playing Balayya's partner in this high-profile film. Samyuktha, a popular Malayalam actress, is expected to bring a fresh energy to the screen alongside Balakrishna.

The film is being produced by Ram Achanta and Gopi Achanta under the banner of 14 Reels Entertainment, with Balakrishna's daughter, Tejaswini, also involved in the production. With a solid production team behind it, *Akhanda 2* is already generating massive anticipation, especially since it is set to delve into themes with a political undertone, adding more depth to the action-packed narrative.



Ravi Teja's Mass Jathara Glimpses Unveiled Ahead of Birthday Release

Tollywood's *Mass Maharaja* Ravi Teja is all set to thrill his fans with his upcoming film *Mass Jathara* (RT75), a highly anticipated project. With Sreeleela playing the female lead, the film promises high-energy action and entertainment. Recently, the makers shared a striking new look of Ravi Teja in the film, sparking excitement across social media. In this look, Ravi Teja is seen stroking his signature mustache while sitting down to eat, hinting that the film will be a "delicious feast" for fans.

The stills suggest that Ravi Teja's character, "Ravanna," is in for a thrilling ride, ready to start his "mass davat," indicating that the film will be a feast of entertainment, action, and drama for fans.

Directed by Bhanu Bogavarapu, who is making his directorial debut, *Mass Jathara* is shaping up to be a benchmark film for Ravi Teja. Known for his charismatic mass appeal, Ravi Teja's role in *Mass Jathara* is expected to be nothing short of iconic. The tagline "Lakshmana Bheri... I won't tell you the income... I will count the expenses... Rajya Pujyam Unlimited... Avamanam Zero" has already garnered attention, teasing the movie's grand scale and intense action.

On the occasion of Ravi Teja's birthday, set to be celebrated on January 26, the makers revealed that new glimpses from *Mass Jathara* would be coming soon, further raising expectations.

Teaser for Mohanlal's 'L2E' Set to Release on January 26, 2025

The much-anticipated sequel to the blockbuster *Lucifer*, *L2E* (Empuraan), is all set to take Mollywood by storm. Directed by Prithviraj Sukumaran and starring the legendary Mohanlal in the lead role, *L2E* is one of the most awaited releases in the Malayalam film industry. This action-packed thriller is not only gearing up for a grand release in Malayalam but will also have a Telugu version, expanding its reach to a broader audience.



Scheduled to hit theaters on March 27, 2025, *L2E* has already created a buzz among fans. To kick off the excitement, the makers have announced the release of the film's teaser on January 26, 2025, at 7:07 PM, coinciding with Republic Day celebrations. This strategic release date has fans eagerly awaiting the first glimpse of the highly anticipated film.

In addition to Mohanlal's powerful performance, *L2E* boasts an ensemble cast that includes Tovino Thomas, Indrajith Sukumaran, Manju Warrier, Saniya Iyappan, Sai Kumar, and Sachin Khedekar. Produced by Lyca Productions and Aashirvad Cinemas, the film is set to feature gripping action sequences and intense drama. Deepak Dev, known for his stellar music compositions, has been roped in to create the soundtrack, further adding to the excitement surrounding the film.