



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 33° C L 25° C	H 35° C L 26° C	H 36° C L 26° C

New Osmania Hospital in Goshamahal



- New Osmania Hospital to Feature Advanced Facilities**
- CM Revanth Reddy Reviews Plans for Goshamahal Hospital**
- CM Launches Welfare Schemes in Kodangal**

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Chief Minister Revanth Reddy held a review meeting with officials regarding the construction of a new Osmania Hospital in Goshamahal. The foundation stone for the new hospital will be laid on January 31st, with plans to create a state-of-the-art facility equipped with advanced healthcare amenities.

and other facilities typically found in corporate hospitals. Additionally, he proposed several improvements to the road designs and building layouts to optimize functionality and patient convenience.

The Chief Minister stressed that the structures should be designed to avoid any inconvenience for patients or medical staff. He called for comprehensive plans covering the layout, building designs, and landscaping, ensuring the hospital meets high standards of efficiency and accessibility.

In another development, CM Revanth

Reddy is set to visit his constituency, Kodangal, to mark Republic Day. This visit will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the implementation of the Constitution drafted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. During the visit, the Chief Minister will launch several public welfare schemes, including Rythu Bharosa, Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa, Indiramma Indlu, and a new ration card issuance program.

This series of initiatives reflects the government's commitment to improving healthcare infrastructure and supporting the welfare of the people in Telangana.

BJP Eyes Etela for Telangana Leadership

- BJP's strategy in Telangana leans towards Etela Rajender's leadership.
- Rajender's cross-party appeal boosts his chances for BJP's top role.
- BJP may prioritize BC community representation
- Kishan Reddy's comments hint at Rajender's potential leadership role.

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is reportedly planning a major leadership change in Telangana as part of its broader strategy to strengthen its position in South India. The spotlight is now on Malkajgiri MP Etela Rajender, who has emerged as a top contender to replace current state president, Kishan Reddy. As the BJP looks to consolidate its influence in Telangana, Etela's name is gaining prominence within party circles.




Kishan Reddy, the current president of Telangana BJP, also serves as a Union Minister, which has led to speculation that the party leadership may prefer someone who can dedicate full attention to the state. With multiple leaders expressing interest in the role, the BJP high command is reportedly leaning towards Etela Rajender, citing his experience and political acumen.

The BJP's decision also appears to be influenced by caste dynamics, with the party reportedly aiming to focus on the Backward Classes (BC) community. Etela, who belongs to the Mudiraj community, is seen as an ideal candidate to connect with this key voter base. Additionally, his wife's association with the influential Reddy community adds further strategic value, allowing the BJP to appeal to a broader section of Telangana's electorate.

Etela Rajender's credentials in Telangana politics are well-established. Having played a significant role in the Telangana movement, he was a key figure in the formation of the state. He served as a minister in both the first and second terms of the Telangana government, holding important portfolios. Known for his diplomatic approach and restraint, Etela has managed to maintain good relationships with leaders across political parties, including BRS and Congress. This widespread acceptability across party lines makes him a compelling choice for the BJP as it seeks to strengthen its position in the state.

Kishan Reddy's recent comments have added fuel to the speculation surrounding Etela's candidacy. While discussing the leadership change, Reddy clarified that an RSS background is not a requirement to be appointed as the state president. This remark has been interpreted as a signal that Etela, despite not having an RSS background, is a serious contender. It is also believed that BJP leader Amit Shah is supportive of Etela, further strengthening his chances.

Four Welfare Schemes to Be Launched on January 26



- CM Launches Key Welfare Programs on January 26
- Rythu Bharosa, Atmiya Bharosa to Be Rolled Out
- Telangana's Welfare Schemes Start on Republic Day

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Bandi Sanjay's Sensational Remarks on Indiramma Houses



- No Funds for Indiramma Housing, Says Bandi Sanjay
- Bandi Sanjay Questions KTR's Arrest in Formula-Race Case
- Bandi Sanjay Calls Out BRS Over Housing and Ration Cards

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Mahesh Goud Demands Apology from Bandi Sanjay

- Congress Hits Back at Bandi Sanjay's Remarks
- Goud Criticizes Bandi Sanjay Over Indira Gandhi Comments
- Goud Predicts BRS Division Ahead of Elections



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Telangana Congress President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud has strongly criticized Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay for his recent remarks on former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday, Goud demanded that Bandi Sanjay publicly apologize to the people of Telangana for his comments, calling them a sign of his degradation.

Goud took particular issue with Sanjay's comments about Indira Gandhi, referring to her as the "Iron Lady," and questioned the Union Minister's intentions. He also took the opportunity to highlight the impressive

ACB Issues Notices to FEO Company

- ACB Issues Notices to FEO Company in Formula E Case
- ACB Investigates Rs. 50 Crore Transfer in Formula E Case
- KTR and Others Questioned in Formula E-Race Investigation



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 26 : In a significant development in the Formula E-Race case, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has issued notices to the management of the FEO Company for questioning. This follows an ongoing investigation into the case,

which has captured widespread attention in Telangana's political circles. The case is being pursued by both the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and ACB, with both agencies intensifying their probes.

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Four Welfare Schemes to Be Launched on January 26

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka announced that four major welfare schemes—Rythu Bharosa, Atmiya Bharosa, Indiramma Illu, and Ration Cards—will be launched on January 26, marking the day the Constitution of India came into force. Speaking at a media conference on Saturday at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, Bhatti highlighted the government's commitment to implementing these schemes to benefit all eligible citizens.

Bhatti explained that the aim of the government is to ensure that the schemes reach every eligible beneficiary by organizing gram sabhas and processing applications according to a defined schedule. With lakhs of applications already received, the process of identifying eligible beneficiaries will continue until March.

The implementation of these schemes will begin with one village

in each mandal across the state, where all four welfare programs will be carried out in full. "Rythu Bharosa will be provided for every cultivable acre, while Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa will support those who have worked for at least 20 days in landless and employment guarantee schemes," Bhatti said.

He further emphasized the significance of these schemes, which aim to uplift the landless poor and provide welfare benefits to those who have contributed to rural employment programs. The government's goal is to ensure that the benefits reach the most deserving and underprivileged sections of society, reinforcing the vision of "Indiramma Rajyam," a welfare state.

With the ambitious implementation of these schemes, the Telangana government is taking another step toward fulfilling its promises and enhancing the welfare of its people.

Bandi Sanjay's Sensational Remarks on Indiramma Houses

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Union Minister Bandi Sanjay made controversial comments regarding the Indiramma housing scheme during a media interaction in Karimnagar. Speaking on the occasion of the mayor and corporators joining the BJP, Sanjay criticized the Telangana government's plans to launch four new welfare schemes. He claimed that the central government would not fund any housing project if it is named after Indiramma.

Sanjay emphasized that funds would only be provided if the housing scheme is named after the Prime Minister's Awas Yojana. He further stated that ration cards would not be issued if Congress party symbols or photos were included on them, asserting that the BJP government would print and distribute the cards

directly.

Sanjay expressed satisfaction over the recent joining of local leaders in Karimnagar to the BJP, attributing it to the recognition of the funds and development provided by Prime Minister Modi's government. He also criticized the BRS government, claiming that it caused significant difficulties for the people. He referred to Sunil Rao, a former BRS member, who he said failed to deliver due to political pressure.

In a pointed remark, Sanjay questioned why KTR, a prominent BRS leader, has not been arrested in connection with the Formula-Race case. He also raised concerns over the lack of progress in cases filed against BRS leaders, including the phone tapping issue.

Mahesh Goud Demands Apology from Bandi Sanjay

investments made in Telangana, stating that the Congress government had brought in a record Rs 1.78 lakh crore in investments since the state's formation.

Goud criticized Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) for failing to provide jobs to the people of Telangana in the last ten years, accusing him of driving the state into debt. He expressed frustration with the state government's failure to fulfill its promises, especially concerning job creation.

On a more positive note, Goud announced that the Congress government would fulfill the long-awaited promise of Indiramma houses for the people of Telangana. He stated

that despite economic challenges, the Telangana government, led by CM Revanth Reddy, continues to work on its promises to the people.

In addition, Goud revealed that the Congress government would launch key welfare schemes such as Rythu Bharosa, Indiramma houses, ration cards, and Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa on Republic Day. He also predicted that the BRS party would face division ahead of the next elections, with only the father-son duo of KCR and KTR remaining.

Goud's remarks reflect the ongoing political rivalry between the Congress and BRS, as both parties prepare for the upcoming elections in Telangana.

ACB Issues Notices to FEO Company

According to sources, the ACB investigation uncovered that over Rs. 50 crores were transferred from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) account to the FEO Company. As part of the ongoing inquiry, ACB officials have now directed the CEO of the FEO Company to appear for questioning. However, the company's management has requested an additional four weeks before they comply with the notice.

The ACB has already recorded statements from several prominent figures involved in the case, including BRS working president and former minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), who

is identified as A1 in the investigation. Additionally, statements have been taken from Arvind Kumar, the Special Secretary for Municipal and Urban Development, and BLN Reddy, former Chief Engineer of the HMDA, who are named A2 and A3 respectively.

The ACB has also questioned representatives from Green Co and Ace Next Gen Company regarding their roles in organizing the Formula E Race event on January 18th. The investigation continues as officials work to ascertain the full extent of the financial transactions and involvement of key figures in the case.

Government Submits Draft Bill to Regulate Private School Fees

- New Commission Proposed to Regulate Fee Hikes
- Legal Framework Suggested to Ensure Accountability
- Schools to Disclose Fee Structures and Facilities Online
- Mandatory Transparency in Private School Operations
- District Committees to Oversee Fee Regulation



TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : The Telangana government has introduced the Telangana Private Unaided School Fee Regulatory and Monitoring Commission Bill, 2025, aiming to regulate private school fees and ensure transparency in the education sector. The draft bill was presented by Telangana Education Commission (TEC) Chairman Aakunuri Murali, alongside members Prof. P.L.

Visveswara Rao, Dr. Charakonda Venkatesh, Jyotsna Siva Reddy, and Education Secretary Dr. Yogita Rana. Prof. P.L. Visveswara Rao announced that the government intends to introduce this bill in the next budget session. The proposed legislation seeks to establish the Telangana Private Unaided Schools Fee Regulatory Commission, which will oversee fee structures and prevent arbitrary hikes. The com-

mission will be chaired by a former Supreme Court or High Court judge and include senior educationists, professors, chartered accountants, and school management representatives. District-wise fee control committees, led by district collectors, will regulate fees locally. The bill proposes a three-year lock-in period for fee revisions and will set fees based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and other

factors like infrastructure, revenue, and facilities. Private schools will be categorized into five groups: International, Corporate, Private, Private Budget, and Rural Schools. Transparency measures include mandatory disclosure of fee structures and infrastructure details on school websites. Additionally, schools will be prohibited from forcing parents to purchase stationery, uniforms, and textbooks on school premises.

The commission will also monitor learning outcomes to ensure quality education. The government plans to consult stakeholders before finalizing the bill, aiming to strike a balance between benefiting students and supporting private institutions. If passed, this legislation will bring much-needed accountability to private school fee structures in Telangana.

KTR Slams Government Over Kalyana Lakshmi Funds Misuse

- Telangana Politics Heats Up Over Kalyana Lakshmi Controversy
- KTR Warns Revanth Reddy: 'Don't Interfere With Marriage Funds'
- Opposition Demands Accountability Over Welfare Fund Misuse
- BRS vs Congress: KTR's Allegations Spark Political Storm

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has launched a scathing attack on the Congress government over the alleged misuse of *Kalyana Lakshmi* funds. Taking to Twitter, KTR criticized the government for turning the welfare scheme into an "interest collection scheme" and questioned whether it was running a government or a recovery agency.



The controversy erupted when officials of the *Sircilla Telangana Gramina Bank* allegedly deposited Kalyana Lakshmi funds—meant for a woman's marriage—toward an outstanding crop loan instead of crediting it to the beneficiary. Expressing outrage, KTR accused the Congress government of failing the people and questioned the morality of such actions.

He pointed out that *₹60,000* out of the ₹1 lakh Kalyana Lakshmi benefit was taken by the bank, leaving only ₹40,000 for the beneficiary. He also took a dig at the government's "crop loan waiver scheme, alleging that despite promises of a *₹2 lakh waiver for farmers*, the reality on the ground was different. KTR demanded answers from the Congress leadership, asking who was responsible for the financial distress of beneficiaries like Sombai, whose money was allegedly withheld.

KTR went on to claim that corruption had even infiltrated welfare schemes like Kalyana Lakshmi, with funds being diverted or misused. He issued a strong warning to *Chief Minister Revanth Reddy*, urging him not to interfere with money meant for a girl's wedding. Calling it "disgusting," KTR accused the government of prioritizing collections and business over the welfare of the people.

The remarks have sparked intense political debate, with opposition leaders demanding accountability from the ruling Congress party. The government is yet to respond to KTR's allegations, but the issue is expected to escalate in Telangana's political landscape.

Four Judges Sworn In at Telangana High Court

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Four newly appointed additional judges took the oath of office at the Telangana High Court on Saturday. Chief Justice Sujay Pal administered the oath to Justice Renuka Yara, Justice Nandikonda Narsing Rao, Justice E. Tirumaladevi, and Justice B.R. Madhusudhan Rao. Justice Renuka Yara previously served as the Chief Judge of the City Civil Court, while Justice Nandikonda Narsing Rao held the position of Chief Judge of the City Small Causes Court. Justice E. Tirumaladevi was the Registrar General and Vigilance Registrar of the High Court, and Justice B.R. Madhusudhan Rao served as the Registrar (Administration) of the High Court.

With these appointments, the Telangana High Court now has 30 judges out of a sanctioned strength of 42. The addition of these judges is expected to enhance judicial efficiency, address the backlog of cases, and strengthen the judicial process in Telangana.

Governor Jishnu Dev Urges Citizens to Exercise Right to Vote

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Verma emphasized the importance of democratic participation on the occasion of the 15th National Voters' Day. Speaking at a grand event held at Ravindra Bharati on Saturday, the Governor urged every citizen above the age of 18 to exercise their constitutional right to vote, reinforcing the day's theme of voter empowerment. Governor Verma inaugurated the ceremony by lighting a traditional lamp and honored district collectors and booth-level officers with the Best Election Practice Awards-2024 for their outstanding contributions



to election management. Awardees included officials such as Hanumanthi Koniba, Rajarshi Shah, Ashish Sangwan, and Venkatesh Dotre. In his address, Governor Verma called on young citizens turning 18 to register and actively participate in elections. He underscored the importance of voting responsibly, free

from undue influence, and described National Voters' Day as a reminder of the sanctity of this democratic right. During the event, the Governor unveiled the Telangana Voter List Details Book, a comprehensive resource for voter information. Telangana Election Commissioner I. Rani Kumudini, Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy, and GHMC Commissioner Ilambarthi were among the dignitaries present.

The program featured a screening of a short film on the Telangana State Icon and concluded with attendees taking a pledge to uphold democratic traditions and vote fearlessly in all elections.

BJP Eyes Etela for Telangana Leadership

As the race for the Telangana BJP president's post heats up, other potential candidates include DK Aruna, Ramachandra Rao, and several other names like Raghunandan Rao, Dharmapuri Arvind, NVSS Prabhakar, and Chintala Ramachandra Reddy.

However, Etela Rajender remains the frontrunner, and his appointment could have significant implications for the party's future in Telangana. The BJP's final decision on the new state president will be crucial in determining its political strategy in

Telangana. While Etela Rajender's chances appear strong, the party's leadership is yet to make a formal announcement. The outcome of this leadership change will shape the BJP's approach to the upcoming political challenges in the state.

MP Chamala Slams Kishan Reddy

"Minister in Modi's Cabinet or KCR's Farmhouse Manager?"



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy launched a scathing attack on Union Minister and BJP Telangana President Kishan Reddy, questioning his role in politics. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday, Chamala praised Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, stating that in just one year, he had achieved what the BRS government could not in a decade. He highlighted that the Congress government is bringing investments and creating job opportunities for Telangana's youth.

Modi's cabinet or just a caretaker of KCR's farmhouse.

The MP further alleged that Kishan Reddy was blindly supporting former CM KCR, comparing him to someone who would pick out thorns from KCR's feet with his own mouth. He accused the BJP leader of misleading the people of Telangana and warned that any attempts to hinder the state's development would not be tolerated.

Referring to CM Revanth Reddy's success at the World Economic Forum in Davos, where he secured ₹1,78,950 crore in investments for Telangana, Chamala criticized Kishan Reddy's response. He likened Kishan's remarks to a wedding guest complaining about the bride instead of congratulating the groom. He concluded by urging Kishan Reddy to stop reading out scripted statements and instead acknowledge the state's progress under Congress leadership.

Chamala accused BRS leaders of being unable to digest Revanth Reddy's success and criticized their opposition. He also took a jibe at Kishan Reddy, saying that if he removed his "BRS-colored glasses," he would see the real progress happening in the state. The MP went on to mock Kishan Reddy, questioning whether he was a minister in

Remove Corrupt Police Officers Permanently: Raja Singh

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 26 : BJP MLA Raja Singh has strongly criticized the Congress-led Telangana government, alleging that the state has become a hub for bribery. He claimed that while police officers were once afraid to take bribes, the situation has now worsened.



Citing recent cases, he pointed to an alleged incident where a Karimnagar Jammikunta CI reportedly took a ₹3 lakh bribe, as revealed in a viral audio clip. He also mentioned Sainath Ganj PS Inspector Babu Chauhan, who was caught by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) while allegedly accepting ₹50,000 in his constituency, Goshamahal.

Raja Singh stated that many police officers have been caught taking bribes this year and questioned how people could expect justice when law enforcement itself was corrupt. He demanded that CCTV cameras be installed in all police stations and urged the government to introduce a special law to permanently remove corrupt officers from service.

Niranjan Reddy Criticizes Revanth Government

TPN Correspondent | Adilabad, Jan 26 : Former Minister Niranjan Reddy has criticized the Revanth government for its indifference toward the people of Adilabad and the declining cultivation in the district. Speaking to the media alongside the BRS Farmer Suicide Study Committee, Reddy expressed concern that farmers are struggling as they receive nominal prices for their crops and Rythu Bandhu has not been provided. He emphasized that crops like cotton and soy are not fetching remunerative prices, placing the blame on the government's failure to purchase them at minimum support prices.



tioned their allegiance to Revanth Reddy, accusing them of not addressing the people's hardships.

He also referred to promises made by the Congress government, including financial assistance to agricultural laborers and the construction of the Adilabad JNTU Engineering College, which remain unfulfilled. Reddy stressed that farmers' issues need immediate attention and the current government must take responsibility for ensuring fair prices and resolving irrigation problems.

Reddy also pointed to the lack of progress on the Korata Chana-ka project, which had its trial run but is still not providing irrigation water to the region. He expressed disappointment that BJP leaders have remained silent on this issue and ques-

Karimnagar Mayor Targets BRS MLA Gangula Kamalakar

TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar, Jan 26 : Karimnagar Mayor Sunil Rao, who recently joined the BJP, launched a scathing attack on former minister and Karimnagar MLA Gangula Kamalakar. Speaking in front of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay, Sunil Rao accused Gangula of corruption and irregularities, warning that he would not even secure a deposit in future elections.



Sunil Rao alleged that while Bandi Sanjay was responsible for Karimnagar's develop-

ment, Gangula was involved in corruption. He accused Gangula of focusing only on contracts and commissions and neglecting party work-

ers. He further claimed that Gangula had a history of fleeing after the BRS government fell in the last elections.

The mayor also mocked Gangula for engaging in foreign trips and alleged scams related to Maneru Dam, check dams, and sand mining. He blamed Gangula for obstructing development in the city. Declaring his loyalty to Bandi Sanjay and the BJP, Sunil Rao vowed to expose Gangula's alleged misdeeds.

Expressing gratitude to Bandi Sanjay, Sunil Rao emphasized that he joined BJP without any personal agreement and pledged to work towards Karimnagar's development.

Ration Cards for All Eligible Citizens: Minister Ponnam



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 26 : State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar reaffirmed the Telangana government's commitment to providing ration cards and Indiramma houses to all eligible beneficiaries. During his visit to RK Puram division on Saturday, he inaugurated development projects worth ₹41 lakh,

including ₹26 lakh for the RK Puram Colony Senior Citizens Community Hall and ₹15 lakh for the Haripuri Colony Senior Citizens Building.

Speaking at the event, he stated that the people had rejected authoritarian rule and chosen a democratic government. He criticized the previous administration for misleading the public by claiming to have spent ₹1.47 lakh crore on development projects before the elections. He also emphasized that the new government had released a white paper on the state's treasury and was systematically implementing welfare schemes.

Minister Prabhakar assured that all

development works in Maheshwaram constituency would be carried out under the leadership of Congress in-charge Kitchennagari Lakshma Reddy. He urged former ministers from the previous government to accept the new reality and move beyond illusions of power. Additionally, he directed officials to complete the senior citizens' buildings within a year.

The event was attended by Maheshwaram Congress in-charge Kitchennagari Lakshma Reddy, PCC official spokesperson Depa Bhaskar Reddy, and local leaders Chiluka Madhura Upendar Reddy, Punna Nirmala Ganesh Neta, Suresh, Chilukuri Lakshmi, among others.

Rajagopal Reddy Comments on Ministerial Aspirations



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Telangana Congress leader and Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy shared his thoughts on the ministerial post competition during a media interaction on Saturday. He stated that had he contested for a ministerial post, he would have chosen LB Nagar constituency, where he could have been appointed as a minister within a year. However, he clarified that he contested from Munugode due to his strong

bond with the local people, who supported him with a higher majority than in previous elections.

The race for ministerial positions within the Telangana Congress is intensifying, especially in the joint Nalgonda district. In addition to Rajagopal Reddy, other MLAs such as Aleru MLA and government whip Beerla Ilaiah, Nakirekal MLA Vemula Veeresham, and Devarakonda MLA Balu Naik are also vying for cabinet positions. Several leaders have expressed dissatisfaction with the underrepresentation of their communities and are lobbying the high command for inclusion.

Government leaders have indicated that the cabinet expansion will take place before the local elections, with official announcements from the high command still awaited regarding the new appointments.

Errabelli Dayakar Rao Accuses CM Revanth Reddy of Deceiving People

TPN Correspondent | Warangal, Jan 26 : Former Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao has accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Congress government of misleading the public with false promises ahead of the local body elections. Speaking to the media in Warangal, he criticized the government for collecting applications through Praja Darbar, Gram Sabhas, and door-to-door visits but failing to provide benefits to a single applicant.



Errabelli alleged that people were given false hope regarding ration cards and Indiramma houses. He claimed that farmers have been neglected for a year and that Congress representatives are losing public trust in villages. He further criticized the government's inconsistency on loan waivers and called the village councils a failure. He also dismissed the much-publicized Davos investments as a lie, accusing Revanth Reddy of making baseless claims.

Former MLA Vinay Bhaskar condemned Minister Ponguleti's comments on the Karimnagar Collector and warned that the public will express their discontent in the upcoming elections. Nannapaneni Narender accused Congress of coming to power through conspiracies and failing to fulfill any promises. He criticized the governance in Warangal, citing poor infrastructure and irregular water supply.

CPIM Telangana Holds Fourth Congress in Sangareddy



TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy, Jan 26 : The fourth congress of the Communist Party of India Marxist (CPIM) Telangana is underway at the district center, with key politburo members including Brinda Karat, BV Raghavulu, and state secretary Tammineni Veerabhadram in attendance.

During the congress, Brinda Karat spoke out strongly against Union Home Minister Amit Shah, accusing him of insulting Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Parliament. She demanded his resignation, asserting that the CPIM remains the only active communist party in the country, resisting the "bulldozer system" imposed by the government. She also condemned the Modi government's labor laws, which she claimed benefit only capitalists, neglecting the common people. Karat called for unified resistance to the NDA government.

In his address, BV Raghavulu criticized the BJP for pushing for Jamili Elections for political advantage, suggesting that such a move would endanger the BJP, BRS, TDP, and YSRCP. He also predicted that it would mark the end of Congress.

The congress will continue in Sangareddy until January 28th, with a public demonstration held on Saturday. From January 26th, Mahasabhas will be conducted at Gokul Gardens for three days, with Prakash Karat and A. Vijayaraghavan attending the opening session. State leaders, including Chukka Ramulu, Julakanti Rangareddy, and S. Veerayya, will also participate in the ongoing events.

Actress Anupama Parameswaran inaugurated Viyara Fine Silver Jewellery in Jubilee Hills

26Viyara Fine Silver Jewellery Opens Its First Flagship showroom in Telangana: A New Destination for Timeless Elegance

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Viyara, the name synonymous with exquisite fine silver jewellery, is thrilled to announce the grand opening of its first flagship showroom in Pillar no: 1604 Jubilee Hills Checkpost, Jubilee Hills. Designed to provide an immersive luxury shopping experience, the store will showcase Viyara's stunning collection of handcrafted fine silver jewellery in a sophisticated and inviting setting. The showroom was inaugurated by Actress Anupama Parameswaran, Kommuri Pratap Reddy - Ex MLA, DCC President, Jangaon Assembly Constituency Incharge, S.V. Krishna Reddy - Film Director, Justice Dr. V.R.K.K Sagar - Judge, High Court of A.P Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh along with Managing Director V.Lalith Kumar.



space to showcase our jewellery—it's a destination where our customers can connect with the artistry and passion that go into every piece. We want every visitor to feel inspired and special." Opening Day Offers: Special launch-day discounts and giveaways for the customers. Located at the heart of City Jubilee Hills the flagship Showroom embodies the brand's ethos of elegance, craftsmanship, and modernity. Every detail, from the store's contemporary design to the curated jewellery dis-

plays, reflects Viyara's commitment to offering customers an unparalleled 75 year's experience in Jewellery industry from Vijayawada's Bhama Emporio. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore Viyara's wide range of statement necklaces, intricate earrings, delicate bracelets, and more, all crafted with premium sterling silver and fine gemstones. We are excited to open the doors to our very first Viyara store," said V. Lalith Kumar, Managing Director of Viyara.

"This showroom is more than just a

Nine Arrested in Alaknanda Hospital Kidney Racket Case

- Police Crack Down on Kidney Racket
- Key Accused: Dr. Avinash and Sumanth
- Victims Exploited for a Mere ₹5 Lakh

- Tamil Nadu Gang Behind Illegal Transplants
- Modus Operandi of the Kidney Trade
- Suspected International Links to Sri Lanka, Nepal

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Hyderabad police uncovered a kidney racket at Alaknanda Hospital in Saroornagar, arresting nine individuals. Commissioner of Police Sudheer Babu revealed the involvement of a Tamil Nadu-based gang and local agents in illegal kidney transplants. The racket came to light after complaints from four donors and recipients, including Nasreen Ba, Firdous, Rajasekhar, and Kripalatha.



over seven months. Arrested suspects include agents Pradeep, Mishra, Gopi, and Sai, with more arrests likely. Agents such as Poornima and Lakshman exploited poor women from Tamil Nadu, offering ₹4-5 lakh per kidney while recipients paid ₹55 lakh. Preliminary investigations suggest the gang has international links, in-

cluding networks in Sri Lanka and Nepal. Alaknanda Hospital, a 50-bed facility approved for just nine beds, lacked infrastructure for kidney transplants. Despite this, surgeries were conducted, exploiting legal loopholes. Further arrests and investigations are underway to dismantle the racket's extensive network.

Dil Raju Clarifies Financial Practices Amid IT Raids



TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Following four days of Income Tax raids on his properties, film producer 'Dil' Raju spoke to reporters on January 25, 2025, to address several allegations. The searches covered his office and family residences, stirring up speculation.

Raju dismissed claims of black money in the film industry, pointing out the predominance of online ticket bookings. "There is no black money in the film industry. Almost eighty per cent of the audience is booking tickets online. Where does the black money come from?" he questioned.

Regarding the controversy over fake collection posters, he indicated a possible producers' meeting to address the issue if deemed necessary. "If there is really truth in this matter, all the producers will soon hold a meeting and take a decision on it. It is not right for me to speak on this issue alone," he remarked.

On the topic of political investments in his films, Raju jested, "If anyone is, tell me? We are paying high interest rates outside. We will also be spared the pain of paying interest."

He also confirmed that he has not invested in real estate or any other business in the last five years, clarifying his financial dealings during this period.

Fire Accident in Haiderguda: 12 Electric Bike Batteries Explode



TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : A major fire broke out at the Adam E-Bike showroom in Haiderguda, Greater Hyderabad, on Saturday morning after 12 electric bike batteries exploded, causing significant damage. The blaze destroyed all 12 bikes, but no casualties were reported.

Fire brigade personnel quickly responded to extinguish the flames, while police launched an investigation into the incident.

Preliminary findings suggest a short circuit may have triggered the explosion, but officials are examining other possibilities. The incident has raised concerns about the safe handling and storage of EV batteries. Shocked residents have called for stricter safety protocols to prevent such occurrences. Authorities are expected to release a detailed report soon to determine the exact cause and propose preventive measures.

Liquor and Meat Shops to Remain Closed on Sunday for Republic Day

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : In a setback for liquor and meat consumers, all wine and meat shops in the Telugu states will remain closed this Sunday, January 26, in observance of the 76th Republic Day. The respective state governments have issued orders prohibiting the sale of alcohol and meat, with shops set to reopen on Monday morning.

Authorities have also instructed that no animals should be slaughtered from Saturday night onwards. Strict action will be taken against those who violate

these orders. Similar restrictions have been implemented across various cities. As a result, long queues were seen outside liquor stores on Saturday, with people purchasing alcohol in advance. It is common for governments to enforce such bans on national occasions like Republic Day, Independence Day (August 15), and Gandhi Jayanti (October 2).



Hydra Demolitions Clear Path in Narapalli Divyanagar

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Hydra officials have commenced demolition work in Narapalli Divyanagar, part of Pocharam Municipality near Medchal Ghatkesar, after discovering that Nalla Mallareddy College had illegally occupied government land. The college had erected a 4-kilometer compound wall that was dismantled by Hydra teams, who were supported by a heavy police presence to prevent any conflicts.



However, tensions arose when officials from Nalla Mallareddy Educational Institutions confronted Hydra officials during the demolition, leading to some disturbances.

The demolition has been welcomed by local residents, providing better access to numerous colonies including Ekashila Layout, Venkatadri Township, and several others. The Divyanagar Layout, where the action took place, covers 200 acres in Rangareddy district and contains 2218 plots, with locals claiming that 30 per cent are owned by Nalla Mallareddy.

In a related development, Hydra is preparing for a comprehensive survey in Aminpur Municipality to address encroachments following complaints from residents of Venkataramana Colony about Golden Key Ventures. The survey, ordered by Commissioner Ranganath, aims to tackle unauthorized constructions on plots, parks, and roads in the area.



Hyderabad's Hoardings Take a Dig at KCR and KTR Amid Investment Boom

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Following a successful trip to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his team have secured an unprecedented investment of Rs. 1,78,950 crore for Telangana, significantly surpassing last year's Rs. 40,232 crore. This year's investment is over four times higher, with the state government signing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with 16 leading companies. These agreements are set to boost sectors like IT, AI, and energy, creating an estimated 49,500 jobs for the state's youth.

banners, located at key city intersections, target former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and his son K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) with the slogan, "Are you hungry after seeing investments? Use ENO...! #Digest-TheGrowth." The campaign has caught the public's eye, with many stopping to read and discuss these humorous yet pointed messages.

In a creative political maneuver, Congress leaders have plastered Hyderabad with hoardings that cheekily reference this investment surge. The

The hoardings not only highlight the current government's achievements but also serve as a satirical reminder to the opposition about the economic strides being made. This blend of politics and humor has become a talking point in Hyderabad, showcasing both the economic progress and the ongoing political rivalry.

KCR Pays Tribute to Late Sister Cheeti Sakalamma

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : Former Telangana Chief Minister and BRS leader Kalvakuntla Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) stepped out of his Erravalli farmhouse on Saturday after a prolonged period of seclusion. He had remained at the farmhouse despite major political developments, including the arrest of his daughter, Kavitha, and the government's legal actions against his son, K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), and other BRS leaders.



Cheeti Sakalamma, who passed away due to illness. On Saturday morning, he visited her residence to pay his last respects and offered condolences to the grieving family.

However, KCR broke his silence upon learning about the demise of his sister,

Car Runs Over Footpath in Banjara Hills, One Dead, Two Injured

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 26 : A tragic accident occurred in the early hours of the morning near KBR Park in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. A speeding Thar vehicle ran over a footpath adjacent to Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital, killing one person and seriously injuring two others.

Authorities are reviewing CCTV footage to identify the individuals in the car. Investigations are underway to determine whether the accident was caused by speeding, alcohol consumption, drowsiness, or other factors. Initial reports suggest that the victims were engaged in odd jobs and begging on the streets.

Following the incident, the occupants of the car fled the scene. Police arrived at the spot, inspected the area, and registered a case. The deceased's body was shifted to Osmania Hospital morgue, while the injured are receiving treatment at the same hospital.



Development Boost for Maheshwaram Constituency

TPN Correspondent |
Telangana, Jan 26 : Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar laid the foundation stone for several development projects across various municipalities and mandals in the Maheshwaram constituency. The projects, worth a total of Rs. 18.99 crore, aim to improve infrastructure and provide better facilities to local residents.



Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar emphasized the completion of these projects within eight months, stressing the government's commitment to fulfilling the needs of the people. He also highlighted the forthcoming distribution of ration cards and the transparent allocation of Indiramma houses based on a detailed survey.

In RK Puram division, the foundation was laid for development works worth Rs. 42.81 lakh, while in Meerpet Municipal Corporation, projects totaling Rs. 3.87 crore were initiated. Other notable projects included Rs. 75 lakh in Badangpet Municipality, Rs. 65 lakh in Jalpalli Municipality, and Rs. 7.10 crore in Thukkuguda Municipality. Additionally, Rs. 1.97 crore worth of development works were launched in Maheshwaram Mandal and Rs. 1.65 crore in Kandukur Mandal.

The Minister reassured residents that the selection of beneficiaries would be fair and inclusive, regardless of party affiliation. He invited constructive suggestions from opposition parties to ensure the success of these initiatives.

CS Shanti Kumari Issues Key Directions to Collectors for Launch of 4 Schemes

TPN Correspondent |
Telangana, Jan 26 : The Telangana government is set to inaugurate four key welfare schemes—Rythubharosa, Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa, Indiramma Manzanu, and Ration Card schemes—tomorrow afternoon. Ahead of the launch, Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari conducted a video conference with district collectors to ensure smooth execution.



The schemes will be launched at 1 p.m. tomorrow in selected villages across the state. During the conference, CS Shanti Kumari directed the collectors to appoint teams of four officers in each village to oversee the implementation of these programs.

ment's effort to ensure the timely and efficient rollout of the schemes, which aim to benefit farmers, landless laborers, and other underprivileged sections of society. The appointment of dedicated teams will help ensure that all beneficiaries receive their entitlements without any delays or issues.

These directions are part of the govern-

Another Letter from Maoists to Jadcharla MLA Causes Stir

TPN Correspondent |
Mahabubnagar, Jan 26 : A new letter from the Maoist group Lachanna Dalam addressed to Jadcharla MLA in Mahabubnagar district has created a stir. This follows the earlier controversy surrounding Maoist posters targeting the MLA in his home village, Ranga Reddygudem. The recent letter, sent to the MLA's home address, carries strong messages urging the MLA to "behave well," show respect to elders, and speak with humility. It also warns the MLA that he will never become a minister if he



remains proud, adding, "You will become a minister only if you are good to everyone."

The letter references a recent inci-

dent where two Muslims from Ranga Reddygudem were arrested, cautioning the MLA to be careful in his actions. Signed by Lachanna Dalam, the letter has sparked intense debate in political circles.

Police are investigating the authenticity of the posters and the letter, with suspicions rising that the posters might not have come from the Maoists but rather from local villagers. This development adds a new layer of tension to the ongoing political discourse in the region.

Farmer Suicides Persist in Telangana Amidst Political Blame Game

Farmers' Plight in Telangana

The Human Cost of Agricultural Policy

Political Tug-of-War Over Farmer Suicides

Debt, Despair, and Political Promises

A Cry for Help from Telangana's Fields

TPN Correspondent |
Hyderabad, Jan 26 : The agricultural sector in Telangana is witnessing a distressing trend with the continuation of farmer suicides. On Saturday morning, Mamilla Narsayya from Varthamannur in Bazarhatnoor mandal, Adilabad district, took his own life in his field, overwhelmed by debts. This incident has reignited the debate over the state's agricultural policies.



farmers adequately. "It is extremely sad that farmer Mamilla Narsayya committed suicide due to debt. What are the state government and district administration doing while farmers are dying?" Harish Rao questioned, pointing out that four farmers had committed suicide in the united

Former minister and Sid-dipet BRS MLA Harish Rao criticized the current Congress government, accusing it of failing to support

Adilabad district in the past week alone. He demanded an ex-gratia of Rs. 10 lakh for the families of deceased farmers and urged the government to take responsibility for these tragedies.

In response to the ongoing crisis, BRS Working President KTR also voiced his

concerns, highlighting the contrast between the supportive agricultural policies under the previous BRS government and the current scenario. "Fraud is not new to this Congress party," KTR remarked, emphasizing that under BRS, initiatives like Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima had revitalized the sector. He urged farmers not to see suicide as a solution and assured that BRS would continue to support them.

The political discourse continues as both parties grapple with the severe implications of these suicides on the state's farming community.

The Country Went Bankrupt Under Congress Rule": Tammineni

TPN Correspondent |
Hyderabad, Jan 26 : CPM State Secretary Tammineni Veerabhadram has strongly criticized both the Congress and BJP, asserting that the country went bankrupt under Congress rule and accusing the BJP of becoming increasingly dangerous. Speaking about the BJP's growing influence, especially in Telangana, Tammineni pointed to the party's performance in recent elections as proof of its rising power. He expressed concern that the BJP seeks to exploit any conflict for political gain and is attempting to rewrite history, particularly regarding the Telangana armed struggle.



Tammineni emphasized that the CPM would resist BJP's conspiracies and work to unite with like-minded parties to challenge its agenda. He also addressed the Congress, claiming that while they are aligning with the BJP to combat the "great monster," they were, in his view, "a small devil" in their own right. He remarked on the Congress's lack of true commitment to the people, questioning whether any Chief Minister has ever consistently aligned with the people's needs as the red flag has.

Teacher Suspended for Hitting Female Students with Slippers

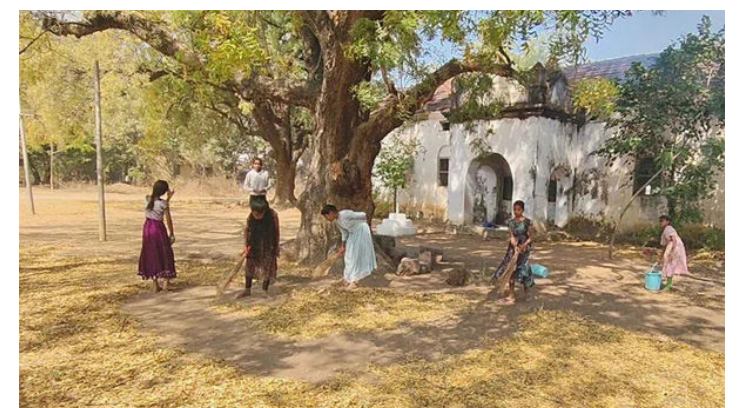
TPN Correspondent |
Nagarkurnool, Jan 26 : In a shocking incident, Srinivas Reddy, a teacher at Kondanagula ZP School in Nagarkurnool district, has been suspended for hitting three female students with his slippers. The suspension was ordered by the Director of Education following a report by the District Education Officer (DEO) Ramesh.

The incident occurred on Saturday morning when three 9th-grade students were laughing and playing in the school premises. Srinivas Reddy, passing by, mistakenly assumed the girls were laughing at him. In response, he threw his sandal at the students, causing injuries to their necks and ears.

The students informed their parents about the incident, leading to outrage from the community. The parents, along with local residents, gathered at the school and demanded action. Following their complaint, the MEO took swift action, and by evening, the Director of Education issued the suspension order. This case has sparked further discussions on teacher conduct and student safety in schools.



Condom Packets Found in Jagitial Girls' School



TPN Correspondent |
Jagitial, Jan 26 : A disturbing incident occurred at CSI Girls' High School in Jagitial when condom packets were found on the school grounds. The discovery was made by students who were cleaning the premises ahead of Republic Day celebrations. When they alerted teachers, their concerns were dismissed. Teachers responded indifferently, claiming such incidents were common in society and couldn't be helped.

The situation quickly gained attention after the students informed their parents and the media. The headmaster's inquiry into the matter was met with a careless response from the CSI discussion secretary, further fueling outrage.

The District Education Officer (DEO) Ramulu was notified and instructed the Mandal Education Officer (MEO) to investigate. The DEO assured that appropriate actions would be taken against those responsible. The incident has raised serious concerns about school safety and the need for more responsible oversight in educational institutions.

Farmer Suicide in Telangana Highlights Loan Waiver Issues

TPN Correspondent |
Telangana, Jan 26 : Suicides by farmers in Telangana continue unabated, with another tragic incident occurring in Varthamannur village of Bazaar Hatnoor mandal, Adilabad district, late on Saturday.

Maila Narsayya, a local farmer, reportedly took his own life by hanging near his field, overwhelmed by the

inability to repay his crop loans after failing to benefit from the government's recent loan waiver program.

Locals revealed that Narsayya's despair stemmed from his exclusion from the loan waiver, despite the Congress government's claim of having waived 100 percent of farmers' debts. This has led to sharp criticism from the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) par-

ty, questioning the effectiveness and implementation of the waiver policy. The police have confirmed the incident, registered a case, and are currently investigating the matter.

The ongoing crisis of farmer suicides in Telangana underscores the urgent need for effective agricultural debt relief and support systems.





Telangana's Success at Davos Reflects Congress' New Economic Vision

Innovation, inclusion, and strategic planning drive record investments and growth in Telangana

The World Economic Forum 2025 in Davos has brought Telangana unprecedented success, with investments soaring to ₹1,78,950 crore, creating an estimated 49,550 jobs. This marks a significant leap from ₹40,000 crore in 2024 and ₹19,900 crore in 2023, underlining global trust in Telangana's development model and the Congress-led government's policies.

Key sectors drawing investment include IT, pharmaceuticals, green energy, defense, and manufacturing, with Amazon committing ₹60,000 crore for data centers and Sun Petrochemicals allocating ₹45,500 crore for pumped storage projects. Hyderabad remains central to this transformation, strengthening its role as a hub of innovation and human capital. Telangana attracts ₹1,78,950 crore in investments at Davos 2025, a fourfold increase from 2024. Hyderabad's Future City project

emphasizes AI, sustainability, and next-gen industries.

Congress' focus on inclusive growth aligns with global expectations for economic justice.

The Congress government attributes this success to three pillars:

1. Innovation and Inclusion: The state's policies prioritize skill development, new industry growth, and equitable opportunities. Telangana's inclusive governance contrasts sharply with the exclusivist narratives of previous regimes.

2. Harnessing Hyderabad: As Telangana's economic powerhouse, Hyderabad continues to lead in IT, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals, contributing significantly to the state's GDP growth of 9.2%, outpacing the national average of 8.2%. The upcoming Future City project exemplifies the city's forward-thinking approach, planned as a Net Zero Carbon zone focused on cutting-edge

sectors.

3. Prepare and Plan: Strategic foresight under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has positioned Telangana as a trendsetter. Initiatives like zoned development around Hyderabad's Ring Roads ensure long-term sustainability and growth.

The Congress' development model, echoing the principles of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, emphasizes fairness, transparency, and inclusivity. Telangana's performance at Davos highlights how stable leadership with a pro-people agenda can deliver broad-based economic growth.

As Telangana paves the way for inclusive and sustainable development, it sets an inspiring example for the nation, reinforcing its role as a beacon of progress under the Congress' transformative vision.

A New Era for India-Indonesia Relations: Strengthening Cultural and Strategic Ties



This year, Prabowo Subianto, the President of Indonesia, is the chief guest at India's Republic Day Parade, marking a significant moment in the long-standing bilateral relationship between India and Indonesia. The ties between these two nations, which span over two millennia, are deeply rooted in cultural exchanges, commercial interactions, and a shared history of collaboration on the global stage.

The India-Indonesia relationship gained momentum during the era of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indonesia's first President, Sukarno. Their personal rapport was instrumental in establishing a strong foundation for diplomatic ties. The two leaders are also credited with founding the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) during the Bandung Conference in 1955, a historic event that provided a platform for countries seeking independence amid the Cold War. This initiative remains one of the 20th century's most groundbreaking multinational efforts. As a reflection of their close ties, Sukarno was invited as the chief guest for India's first Republic Day celebrations in 1950.

However, the relationship between the two nations has not always been smooth. There have been periods of tension, such as the violent attack on the Indian embassy in Jakarta and Indo-

nesia's support for Pakistan during the 1965 India-Pakistan war. Despite these challenges, the ties between India and Indonesia have evolved, and the focus has shifted to a new era of cooperation.

The cultural connections between the two countries have remained steadfast over the centuries. The spread of Hinduism and Buddhism from India to Indonesia left a lasting imprint on Indonesian culture, which is evident in the widespread influence of Indian epics such as the Ramayana and Mahabharata in Indonesian art, folklore, and traditions. These shared cultural values have been reinforced through joint initiatives like the naval exercises between India and Indonesia, aptly named "Samudra" and "Garuda," symbolizing the strength and unity of both nations.

Prabowo Subianto's Republic Day visit is expected to deepen the strategic partnership between New Delhi and Jakarta, fostering stronger ties in areas such as defense, trade, and regional security. This visit marks a turning point, as India and Indonesia look to build on their historical connections and usher in a new chapter of collaboration for the future. The strengthening of the bilateral relationship will not only benefit both nations but will also have a broader impact on the stability and growth of the Indo-Pacific region.

The Illusion of 'Civilisational Justice' A Reflection on History, Morality, and Politics

Examining the controversial quest for "civilisational justice" in India's socio-political landscape.

The term "civilisational justice," recently championed by Organiser editor Prafulla Ketkar, has ignited debates about its implications for India's historical, cultural, and political discourse. It suggests a grievance masked as a right, advocating for the correction of perceived historical wrongs, often through acts of retribution. However, this concept raises more questions than it answers about morality, governance, and the role of religion in society. Ketkar's editorial linking the Shri Harihar Mandir-Jama Masjid dispute in Sambhal to a broader quest for "civilisational justice" calls for an inclusive debate on the interpretation of India's itihasa (history). Yet, this approach seems to endorse an agenda of division, where state-endorsed excavations of contested religious sites are used to perpetuate communal strife. Such actions distract from pressing socio-economic challenges, exploiting historical narratives for political gain.

"Civilisational justice" is being framed as a moral imperative to reclaim India's past, but its implications undermine societal harmony. Historical complexities reveal a shared heritage, challenging the exclusivity of such narratives. Justice, as defined in India's Constitution, focuses on socio-political equality, not historical retribution.

The Politics of Historical Retribution

The quest for civilisational justice often prioritises religious and communal identity over constitutional ideals. Ravi Joshi, in his critique, argues that

this approach misrepresents the essence of Hindu dharma, which embodies a morally self-sustaining universe rather than a religion of conquest or vengeance. Destroying mosques to build temples contradicts this ethos, turning faith into a tool for political manipulation. Furthermore, the selective reclamation of historical wrongs raises questions about whose version of history is valid. India's shared heritage spans Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, Islamic, and British influences. Can justice truly be served by erasing one community's contributions to elevate another's?

Morality, Justice, and Governance

Atal Bihari Vajpayee's assertion that rajdharma (the duty of governance) supersedes all other duties serves as a reminder of a ruler's moral obligation to protect all citizens, irrespective of faith or caste. The pursuit of "civilisational justice" as a political tool undermines this principle, fostering division instead of unity.

Conclusion

India's historical and cultural narrative is one of coexistence and pluralism. Any effort to claim exclusivity over this heritage distorts its essence and weakens the moral foundation of governance. True justice lies in upholding the constitutional promise of equality and fostering a shared sense of belonging, rather than exploiting history for political expediency.

Curbing Cacophony HC Takes Tough Stand on Loudspeakers Use

The Bombay High Court has made a significant ruling stating that the use of loudspeakers is not an essential part of any religion. This decision is a welcome relief to millions of Indians who endure the daily disruption caused by loud, intrusive sounds. With noise pollution being flagged as a serious health hazard, the court has directed law enforcement agencies to take swift action against those using loudspeakers that exceed legal decibel limits. Though the ruling pertains specifically to Maharashtra, noise pollution is a widespread issue across India, affecting citizens in every state.

Loudspeakers and public address systems are commonly used in places of worship, often without the required permission from local authorities. This unauthorized use can occur without any regard for the well-being of the surrounding residents. Fear of offending religious sentiments often paralyzes police officers, who are hesitant to take action on complaints from the public. Many citizens, too, avoid lodging complaints for fear of being targeted or ostracized in their communities. The lack of effective enforcement has made noise pollution a persistent issue that hampers the quality of life for millions of people.

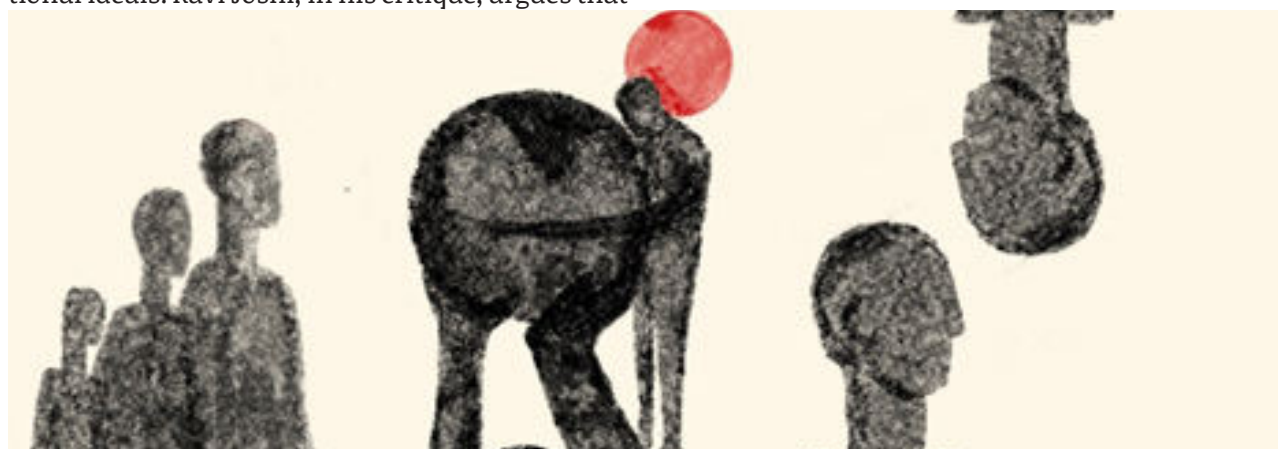
The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, established 25 years ago, were designed to regulate and maintain acceptable noise levels in public spaces. However, enforcement has often been lax, leaving citizens to endure noise levels that exceed the permissible limits. In many cases, offenders justify their actions by citing constitutional rights such as freedom of speech (Article 19) and freedom of religion (Article 25). However, the Bombay High Court has clarified that denying permission



to install loudspeakers does not violate these rights if it serves the public interest.

In recent years, public address systems have become tools for religious expression and even competition. They have been linked to incidents of communal unrest, as seen during the Ram Navami and Hanuman Jayanti processions in 2022, where loudspeakers played a role in escalating tensions in various states. In response, the Uttar Pradesh government took a hardline approach, cracking down on unauthorized loudspeakers in religious spaces. Such measures should be implemented nationwide to protect public health and ensure peace.

Ultimately, the use of loudspeakers should be measured, respectful, and within the boundaries of law. Priests and devotees should recognize that spirituality does not need to be amplified at the expense of others' peace and well-being. It is crucial that actions are taken to ensure that public spaces remain conducive to everyone's health, sleep, and overall quality of life.



Punjab Ranks Last in Fiscal Health Index 2025, SAD Demands CM Mann's Resignation

Shiromani Akali Dal demands probe into alleged misuse of public funds.

TPN Correspondent | Chandigarh

Punjab's performance in the National Fiscal Health Index 2025, where it ranked last among 18 major states, has drawn sharp criticism from the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD). Senior leaders Bikram Singh Majithia and Dr. Daljit Singh Cheema have slammed Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's administration, accusing it of failing comprehensively on all five fiscal health parameters outlined by Niti Aayog.

The index evaluated states on quality of expenditure, revenue mobilisation, fiscal prudence, debt indices, and debt sustainability. Punjab's poor showing has been attributed to alleged mismanagement by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government.

- Punjab allocated just 10% of its development expenditure on capital projects.
- SAD accuses the AAP government of diverting public funds for party use.
- Demands include resignations



of CM Bhagwant Mann and Finance Minister Harpal Cheema. The SAD leaders expressed shock at Punjab's fiscal performance, highlighting that the state allocated only 10% of its development expenditure to capital investments. This, they claim, indicates a diversion of public funds for political purposes. "The AAP government has failed to demonstrate fiscal prudence and has jeopardized the state's financial health," Majithia said, calling for a high-level probe into the

alleged misappropriation. The opposition also demanded the immediate resignation of Chief Minister Mann and Finance Minister Harpal Cheema, holding them accountable for Punjab's financial distress.

The report has sparked a political debate, with critics questioning the AAP's governance and its impact on the state's fiscal stability. Meanwhile, the Mann administration has yet to issue a detailed response to the allegations.

First Sikh CJ I Khehar, Cricketer Ashwin Among Padma Awardees for 2025

139 distinguished individuals receive Padma Awards, including 23 women and 13 posthumous recipients.



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Government of India announced the prestigious Padma Awards on the eve of the 76th Republic Day, honoring 139 eminent personalities for their contributions across various disciplines. The awards include seven Padma Vibhushan, 19 Padma Bhushan, and 113 Padma Shri decorations.

Justice (Retd) J.S. Khehar, the first Sikh Chief Justice of India, received the Padma Vibhushan for his exceptional service to the judiciary. Suzuki's former CEO, the late Osamu Suzuki, folk singer Sharda Sinha (posthumously), and celebrated author M.T. Vasudevan Nair were also among the recipients of the Padma Vibhushan.

Former cricketer R. Ashwin and hockey goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh were honored with the Padma Shri for their sports achievements. Telugu superstar Nandamuri Balakrishna earned a Padma Bhushan for his contributions to cinema. Former SBI Chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya received the Padma Shri for her leadership in fi-

nance.

Among the 19 Padma Bhushan recipients are economist Bibek Debroy, ghazal singer Pankaj Udhas, filmmaker Shekhar Kapur, and former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi. Posthumous awards were conferred upon leaders like Manohar Joshi, former Maharashtra Chief Minister and ex-Lok Sabha Speaker. The Ministry of Home Affairs highlighted that 23 of the awardees are women, while 10 recipients hail from the NRI, PIO, or OCI categories. The awards span diverse fields such as art, social work, public affairs, trade and industry, medicine, literature, sports, and civil service.

The Padma Awards, one of India's highest civilian honors, celebrate individuals whose contributions significantly impact society. Padma Vibhushan recognizes exceptional service, Padma Bhushan is for distinguished service of high order, and Padma Shri is awarded for excellence in any field.

Decades of Aspiration Fulfilled: Vande Bharat Train Reaches Srinagar in Trial Run

A new era of connectivity for Jammu and Kashmir, with advanced features tailored for the region's winters.

TPN Correspondent | Srinagar

A historic milestone was achieved on Saturday as the Vande Bharat Express train made its inaugural trial run to Srinagar, bridging Kashmir to the rest of India in just over three decades since the project's inception. Starting its journey from Katra station at 8 am, the state-of-the-art train reached Nowgam station in Srinagar in just three and a half hours. The trial continued with a brief halt at Nowgam before proceeding to Budgam station, marking the successful completion of the Jammu-Srinagar route trial.

Designed to cater to Jammu and Kashmir's unique needs, the train is equipped with advanced heating systems to ensure seamless operations in sub-zero temperatures during harsh winters.

A three-decade-long vision of better connectivity to Kashmir finally ma-

terializes with the advanced Vande Bharat Express. The Jammu-Srinagar route promises reduced travel times, enhancing accessibility and regional integration. Special features like winter-ready heating systems highlight the train's adaptation to the region's extreme conditions. This development is poised to significantly enhance the socio-economic fabric of Jammu and Kashmir, offering faster, more reliable connectivity while symbolizing progress and unity in the region.



Anurag Thakur Slams Kejriwal Over AAP's "Dishonest" Poster; Congress Joins Criticism

Delhi CM faces backlash from BJP and Congress for labeling opposition leaders as "dishonest".

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Anurag Thakur took aim at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday after the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) released a controversial poster branding several opposition leaders as "dishonest." The poster, shared on AAP's social media platforms, prominently featured Kejriwal alongside BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Congress figures like Rahul Gandhi, with a caption claiming, "Kejriwal's honesty will prevail over all the dishonest people."

Thakur, whose image was also included, questioned Kejriwal's self-proclaimed integrity and accused him of excluding his party colleagues.

Thakur called out Kejriwal for excluding Atishi's face, alleging gender bias.



The BJP leader accused AAP of corruption, including the alleged Delhi liquor scam.

Congress criticized AAP for "insulting" figures like Manmohan Singh and Sheila Dikshit.

"Why is Delhi Minister Atishi missing from the poster? Kejriwal only sees himself as 'Delhi ka Shehensha'," Thakur remarked, accusing the Delhi CM of ignoring women in his party.

He further linked Kejriwal to the Delhi liquor scam, claiming, "People of Delhi will not elect someone who thinks about governing from behind bars."

Meanwhile, Congress leader Alka Lamba condemned AAP's labeling of Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Sandeep Dikshit, and Ajay Maken as "dishonest." She pointed out that Kejriwal had previously praised former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's honesty, saying, "He should apologize to Dr. Singh's wife." Lamba also called Kejriwal out for earlier seeking Congress's support during elections, branding the alliance a mistake.

As Delhi heads to the polls on February 5, political tensions continue to escalate, with the poster controversy becoming a central topic of discourse. Votes will be counted on February 8.

Allocate funds for Bengaluru in Union Budget: DK Shivakumar to Sitharaman

DK Shivakumar seeks Centre's support for tunnel roads, double-decker flyovers, and more.

TPN Correspondent | Karnataka

With just a week left before the Union Budget 2025, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has written to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, urging financial allocation for Bengaluru's ambitious infrastructure projects. These projects include tunnel roads, double-decker flyovers, a peripheral ring road, and expanded water supply systems, aimed at addressing the city's rapid urban growth.



Shivakumar emphasized Bengaluru's growing status as a global tech hub, highlighting its contribution to job creation and economic progress. However, the city's burgeoning population, now nearing 1.5 crore, has placed immense pressure on its infrastructure. "Developing Bengaluru's infrastructure is vital to maintaining its reputation as India's Silicon Valley," he stated, appealing for the Centre's financial assistance in the upcoming budget.

Tunnel roads from Hebbal to Silk Board Junction proposed at Rs 15,000 crore.

Double-decker metro flyovers in Phase 4 estimated at Rs 8,916 crore.

Peripheral Ring Road and water projects to cost over Rs 27,000 crore.

Among the most critical projects is the 18.5 km north-south tunnel road from Esteem Mall to Silk Board Junction, aimed at decongesting the city's notoriously clogged roads. This Rs 15,000 crore project is part of a broader tunnel road network, including a 28.5 km corridor from KR Puram to Nayandahalli Junction, costing Rs 25,000 crore.

The government also plans to extend the successful double-decker metro flyovers from Phase 2 to Phase 4, with a 45 km route connecting JP Nagar to Hebbal and Hosahalli to Kadabagere, projected at Rs 8,916 crore.

To further tackle traffic woes, 17 new flyovers spanning 99.5 km are planned across 11 major junctions, alongside a 300 km buffer zone road to address encroachments near water bodies.

Additionally, the Bangalore Development Authority is spearheading the eight-lane, 73 km Peripheral Ring Road project at Rs 27,000 crore, while the Cauvery Stage VI project aims to secure 500 MLD of additional water by 2028.

The Karnataka government has invited public discussions on several of these projects, reflecting its commitment to inclusive planning. Shivakumar expressed hope that the Union Budget will provide the necessary support to realize these transformative initiatives, ensuring Bengaluru's continued growth as a global city.

Karnataka Court Accepts Closure Report in Bribery Case Against CM Siddaramaiah

Lokayukta police find no evidence of quid pro quo in Rs 1.3 crore bribery allegations.



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

A special court in Karnataka designated to handle criminal cases against elected representatives has accepted the closure report submitted by the Karnataka Lokayukta police in a bribery case involving Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The allegations, made by a BJP leader, accused Siddaramaiah of receiving Rs 1.3 crore during his earlier tenure as Chief Minister in exchange for appointing a steward at the Bengaluru Turf Club (BTC).

On January 18, the court ruled in favor of the

Lokayukta's findings, stating, "The closure report filed by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru, dated 12.9.2024, is hereby accepted." While acknowledging that records showed Siddaramaiah received Rs 1.3 crore from the accused L. Vivekananda, the court noted that this transaction could not be definitively linked to a quid pro quo arrangement related to the steward's nomination at BTC.

The case centered on alleged bribery involving a high-profile appointment at Bengaluru Turf Club. No conclusive evidence of quid pro quo was found in the Lokayukta's investigation. The court had previously directed the Lokayukta to reopen and further probe the matter. The case initially gained traction after the special court ordered the Lokayukta police to reopen the investigation. However, the subsequent inquiry did not substantiate the claims of corruption, leading to the filing and eventual acceptance of the closure report.

This decision serves as a significant relief for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who faced the allegations during a politically sensitive time. The ruling also highlights the complexities involved in proving bribery cases, particularly those involving high-ranking officials.

India, Indonesia To Enhance Ties In Defence, Maritime Security: PM Modi

PM Modi and President Prabowo discuss collaboration in trade, defence, and digital innovation.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto held pivotal bilateral discussions on Saturday at Hyderabad House, New Delhi, reinforcing a shared commitment to regional peace, economic growth, and cultural exchange. The meeting resulted in the signing of multiple Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) covering diverse sectors, including health, digital infrastructure, and defence.

India and Indonesia to celebrate 2025 as the India-ASEAN Year of Tourism, enhancing cultural and tourism exchanges.

Bilateral trade between the two nations surpassed \$30 billion, showcasing robust economic ties. Collaborations in maritime security, counter-terrorism, and de-radicalisation were key highlights of the agreements. Strategic and Regional Collaboration PM Modi underscored Indonesia's central role in ASEAN and the Indo-Pacific regions, aligning with India's 'Act East' policy. He reiterated the importance of maintaining freedom of navigation and adherence to international laws in the Indo-Pacific, reflecting shared interests in regional stability.



The leaders also pledged collaboration in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Fintech, and the Internet of Things. Defence cooperation included agreements on maritime safety, counter-terrorism, and capacity building, aiming to enhance security across shared waters.

Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Bali Jatra. He also emphasised India's contributions to preserving Indonesia's Prambanan Hindu Temple, symbolising enduring cultural cooperation.

President Prabowo echoed these sentiments, noting the historical connection between the two nations. He expressed gratitude for India's support during Indonesia's independence struggle and lauded India's assistance in trade, tourism, and technology.

Looking Ahead
The leaders agreed to celebrate 2025 as the India-ASEAN Year

of Tourism, promoting cultural exchanges and bolstering tourism. They also acknowledged Indonesia's participation in BRICS as an avenue for advancing Global South interests. President Prabowo expressed honour at being the Chief Guest for India's Republic Day celebrations, marking a symbolic continuation of the ties forged when Indonesia's President Sukarno attended the first Republic Day parade in 1950. The bilateral discussions underscored the shared vision of a prosperous Indo-Pacific, reflecting the depth of India-Indonesia ties and setting the stage for an enduring strategic partnership.

Pakistan Reports First Monkeypox Case of 2025 Amid Rising Concerns

A patient returning from Dubai tests positive for mpox, taking Pakistan's total cases to 10

TPN Correspondent | Pakistan
Pakistan has confirmed its first case of Monkeypox (mpox) for 2025, detected in a patient who returned from Dubai on January 24. The individual was identified during screening at Peshawar airport and has been transferred to Services Hospital Peshawar for treatment, as reported by ARY News.

This case brings Pakistan's total confirmed mpox cases to 10 since the health emergency was declared. The Ministry of Health has assured citizens that stringent measures are being implemented to curb the virus's spread, especially considering the patient's travel history linked to Gulf nations, raising concerns about regional transmission.

Patient screened at Peshawar airport after returning from Dubai; isolated for treatment. Mpox symptoms include fever, rash progressing through vesicles and pustules, and exhaustion. Health authorities intensify screening and preventive measures to control the spread. Earlier, a passenger traveling from Sharjah exhibited symptoms of mpox during medical checks at another airport. Identified as Javed Ahmed, the individual was taken

to an isolation ward in Rajanpur as a precautionary measure. Health officials have termed the situation alarming and are reinforcing safety protocols.

Understanding Monkeypox
Mpox, caused by the Mpox virus, typically begins with a rash appearing 1 to 3 days after fever onset. The rash progresses through stages including vesicles, pustules, and scabs, often starting on the face before spreading across the body. Other symptoms include swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion, and headaches.

The virus has an incubation period ranging from 5 to 21 days and usually lasts between 2 to 4 weeks. While the natural reservoir of the virus remains unidentified, African rodents and non-human primates are suspected carriers.

As Pakistan grapples with this new case, health authorities continue to monitor incoming travelers and enforce isolation protocols to prevent a larger outbreak. The incident highlights the importance of international cooperation and local vigilance in addressing the resurgence of viral diseases.



4 Israeli Women Hostages Freed by Hamas in Second Ceasefire Swap

Fragile truce facilitated by Qatar, Egypt, and the US shows potential for ending the war in Gaza.



TPN Correspondent | Israel

Four female Israeli soldiers were released by Hamas today under the terms of a fragile ceasefire agreement between Israel and Gaza. The hostages—Naama Levy (20), Daniella Gilboa (20), Liri Albag (19), and Karina Ariev (20)—were handed over to the Red Cross in military uniforms and escorted out of Gaza.

Captured on October 7, 2023, the women were taken from the Nahal Oz military base, just one kilometre from the Gaza border. Their releases mark the second exchange in a ceasefire deal mediated by Qatar, Egypt, and the

United States.

Hamas released the soldiers in exchange for 200 Palestinian prisoners. Naama Levy and Daniella Gilboa appeared injured during their initial capture. Ceasefire negotiations facilitated by Qatar, Egypt, and the US led to this exchange. The agreement stipulates that 33 hostages believed to be alive will be returned over a 42-day truce in exchange for 1,900 Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails.

The deal has raised hopes for a more permanent resolution, though challenges remain. Displaced Gazans returning home

find themselves amidst devastating rubble. "Even if we thought about returning, there is no place for us to put our tents because of the destruction," shared Theqra Qasem, a displaced woman.

US President Donald Trump claimed full credit for the ceasefire via his Truth Social platform, calling it an "EPIC ceasefire agreement" following his election victory.

The next phases of the agreement will focus on reconstruction in Gaza and recovering the bodies of deceased hostages, as both sides work towards a permanent resolution.

Polio Returns To Pakistan, Afghanistan As Vaccinations Stall

The resurgence of poliovirus in conflict-hit regions underscores the urgent need

TPN Correspondent | Pakistan
The global fight against polio has faced a severe setback as cases rise sharply in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Once close to eradication, the disease is making a troubling comeback. In 2023, Pakistan recorded only six cases of wild poliovirus, but the number surged to 73 in 2024, highlighting a dramatic reversal in progress.

Pakistan's polio cases surged from six in 2023 to 73 in 2024, alarming global health experts. In Afghanistan, ongoing conflict and restrictions on female health workers hamper immunisation efforts. Regional collaboration and revised immunisation strategies are key to tackling the crisis. The resurgence of polio is closely tied to regional dynamics, with Afghanistan's conflict and governance issues



significantly influencing the spread of the virus. Zulfikar Bhutta, an expert in child immunisation strategies, confirms that genetic strains in Pakistan trace back to Afghanistan.

He attributes the spread to poor sanitary conditions, restricted healthcare access under Taliban rule, and inadequate immunisation coverage. Afghanistan's deteriorating health

infrastructure has also contributed to the rise of other infectious diseases, such as pneumonia, dengue, and measles, further complicating efforts to combat polio. Bhutta's observations underline the importance of addressing broader health challenges in conjunction with targeted polio eradication programs.

Challenges in Eradication Efforts
Pakistan has invested heavily in its immunisation efforts, spending \$10 billion since 2011. Yet, disparities in vaccination coverage persist, with rates as high as 85% in Punjab but as low as 30% in Balochistan. Bhutta emphasizes that achieving uniform coverage of at least 85-90% across provinces is essential for eradication. He calls for strengthening routine immunisation programs to tackle multiple infectious diseases, not just polio.

Collaboration for a Solution
Despite the challenges, Bhutta offers a pathway forward: fostering collaboration with the Taliban. Drawing from his experience of working with the group to deliver smallpox vaccines during negotiated peace periods, Bhutta stresses that the Taliban share common health concerns. He advocates for leveraging such shared priorities to facilitate healthcare delivery in conflict zones.

The resurgence of polio in Pakistan and Afghanistan is a stark reminder of the fragile gains in public health. A comprehensive strategy that combines international support, regional cooperation, and strengthened healthcare systems is vital to overcoming this crisis and eradicating poliovirus for good.

Money is Made When the Market is Rising, Wealth is Made When the Market is Falling



The financial markets are a reflection of human psychology, oscillating between optimism and fear, greed and caution. Every investor has heard the saying, "Buy low, sell high," but executing it effectively requires a nuanced understanding of market cycles. The statement, "Money is made when the market is rising, wealth is made when the market is falling," captures this dynamic beautifully. It emphasizes that while rising markets create opportunities for short-term gains, falling markets lay the groundwork for long-term wealth creation.

Riding the Bull: How Money is Made in Rising Markets

A rising market, often called a bull market, is characterized by growing investor confidence, economic expansion, and a positive outlook on corporate earnings. Stock prices climb steadily, and the market is often fueled by favorable news, low interest rates, or technological advancements. In these conditions, making money becomes relatively straightforward:

1. Momentum Investing: Investors capitalize on trends, buying stocks that are already performing well and selling them as prices climb higher.

2. Speculation: Many traders engage in speculative investments, betting on volatile stocks, IPOs, or cryptocurrencies to deliver exponential gains in the short term.

3. Leverage and Risk Appetite: During bull markets, even average investors are willing to take on more risk, leveraging their portfolios to amplify returns.

However, the gains made during a bull market often rely on timing and momentum. It's easier to generate profits, but the high valuations in such periods make it challenging to ensure sustainable growth. Many investors, lured by quick wins, often overpay for assets or chase speculative opportunities, leaving themselves exposed when the market eventually turns.

The Bear's Den: Building Wealth in Falling Markets

Bear markets, marked by declining prices and pervasive pessimism, are often viewed as times of doom and gloom. Yet, they are precisely when the seeds of wealth are sown. The reason is simple: during market downturns, assets are sold at discounts, and opportunities abound for those with a steady hand and a long-term

view.
Why Falling Markets Create Wealth:

1. Valuation Opportunities: High-quality companies with strong fundamentals often see their stock prices drop alongside the rest of the market, regardless of their intrinsic value. This creates an opportunity for investors to buy great businesses at bargain prices.

2. Dividend Reinvestment: For investors holding dividend-paying stocks, bear markets allow for reinvesting dividends at lower prices, leading to higher share accumulation. This enhances compounding over time.

3. Behavioral Edge: Bear markets test an investor's discipline. Those who stay invested, or better yet, invest more, reap the rewards when the market recovers.

Take the example of the 2008 financial crisis. Investors who bought into the market during the downturn – whether it was blue-chip stocks, index funds, or even real estate – saw remarkable growth over the next decade as the market recovered and expanded.

The Psychological Divide: Fear vs. Opportunity

The biggest barrier to building wealth in falling markets is fear. It's human nature to avoid risks when uncertainty looms, and this leads many investors to sell their assets in a panic. Conversely, those who understand market cycles see bear markets as a rare chance to acquire assets at a discount.

Warren Buffett's famous advice, "Be fearful when others are greedy, and greedy when others are fearful," speaks to this principle. Acting against the crowd during a bear mar-

ket requires a deep understanding of market fundamentals, a clear long-term strategy, and the emotional strength to withstand short-term losses.

Key Strategies for Wealth Building During Bear Markets



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1. Focus on Fundamentals: Look beyond short-term price movements and focus on the intrinsic value of an asset. Companies with strong balance sheets, high cash reserves, and a competitive edge are likely to bounce back stronger after a downturn.

2. Diversification: Bear markets often reveal the weaknesses of over-concentration. A diversified portfolio across sectors, geographies, and asset classes can mitigate risks while providing exposure to opportunities.

3. Invest Regularly: Adopting a dollar-cost averaging strategy – investing a fixed amount regularly regardless of market conditions – ensures that you accumulate more shares when prices are low.

4. Build Liquidity: Having cash on hand during a market downturn is invaluable. It allows you to seize opportunities without being forced to sell existing assets.

5. Patience and Perspective: Bear markets don't last forever. Maintaining a long-term perspective helps you focus on the recovery ahead rather than the current downturn.

Bridging the Cycles: From Bull to Bear and Back

Investors who excel at building wealth are those who understand the interconnectedness of market cycles. Bull markets create money, but they often sow the seeds of overvaluation and complacency. Bear markets, while painful in the short term, reset valuations and create the conditions for

outsized returns.

Consider legendary investors like Peter Lynch, who famously remarked that "The key to making money in stocks is not to get scared out of them." Their success lies in their ability to navigate both bull and bear markets with a clear strategy and unshakable confidence in their long-term plans.

Lessons from History

History has shown us that every market correction or crash is eventually followed by recovery and growth. From the Great Depression in the 1930s to the dot-com bubble burst in the early 2000s, and even the COVID-19 crash in 2020, investors who stayed the course and invested during the downturns emerged significantly wealthier over time. For example, someone who invested in the S&P 500 during the 2008 crisis would have seen their portfolio grow manifold by 2021. Similarly, buying into real estate or undervalued businesses during economic slumps has historically yielded substantial wealth.

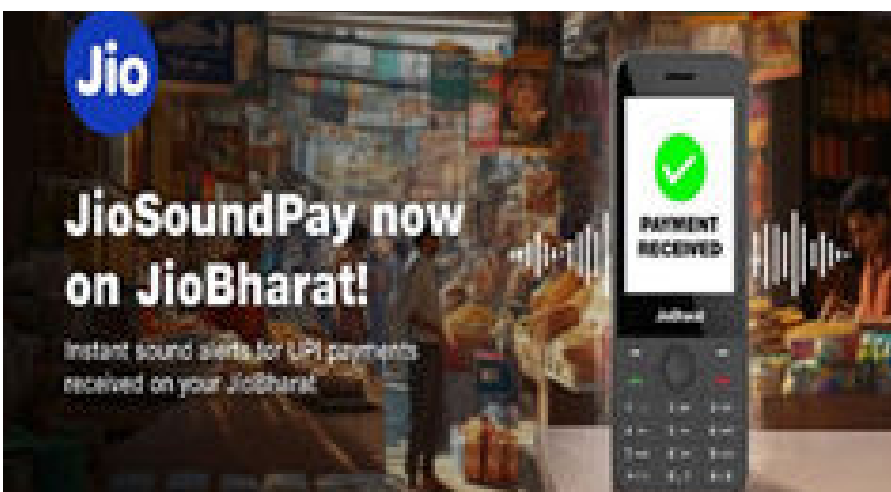
Conclusion

The phrase "Money is made when the market is rising, wealth is made when the market is falling" encapsulates a timeless truth of investing. Rising markets create an environment for quick gains, but true wealth is built through strategic decisions during downturns.

It's in the storms of the financial world that the seeds of fortune are planted. For those with the courage to invest in uncertainty, the patience to wait for recovery, and the discipline to stick to a strategy, bear markets transform fear into opportunity and opportunity into lasting wealth.

So, the next time the markets turn red, remember: it's not the end of the road; it's the beginning of a journey toward enduring prosperity.

Jio Introduces JioSoundPay for Small Merchants, Empowering India's Digital Economy



In a groundbreaking initiative that highlights Jio's commitment to empowering every Indian, the company has launched the JioSoundPay feature for its JioBharat device. This industry-first innovation will benefit 5 crore small-scale merchants across the nation, including kirana stores, vegetable vendors, and roadside eateries, making it easier for them to handle UPI payments. JioSoundPay revolutionizes the merchant experience by offering instant, multilingual audio confirmations for each transaction. The new feature enables small businesses to efficiently manage payments, overcoming language barriers and improving customer satisfaction. Traditionally, small and micro merchants paid around Rs 125 per month for a sound box. With JioSoundPay, JioBharat users can now save up to Rs 1,500 annually, as the feature will be provided completely free.

The JioBharat phone, which was launched over a year ago, continues to set the standard for affordability. Priced at just Rs 699, it is the world's most affordable 4G phone. Merchants who purchase the phone can recover its cost in just six months, making it an at-

tractive investment for business owners.

This move is aligned with Jio's focus on driving India's digital transformation, enabling entrepreneurs in even the remotest parts of the country to access technology that enhances their business operations. The introduction of JioSoundPay underscores Jio's dedication to a Digital India, ensuring that technology is accessible to everyone, including small-scale entrepreneurs. To mark the 75th year of India's Republic, Jio is also offering contemporary renditions of Vande Mataram on JioSoundPay, a tribute to India's rich musical heritage. These modern renditions can be set as JioTones via the MyJio app or JioSaavn.

Sunil Dutt, President of Jio, emphasized the company's mission, stating, "With JioSoundPay, we celebrate the spirit of India, empowering every Indian and furthering our commitment to a Digital India."

Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, a subsidiary of Jio Platforms Limited, continues to drive innovation and digital accessibility across India.

IDFC FIRST Bank Reports Strong Q3 FY25 Results with Significant Growth in Key Areas

IDFC FIRST Bank has delivered a robust performance for Q3 FY25, posting a Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs. 339 crore, despite challenges in the microfinance sector. The bank achieved a 15% YoY increase in core operating profit, driven by impressive growth in customer deposits and loans.

Key Financial Highlights:

Customer deposits surged by 28.8% YoY, reaching Rs. 2,27,316 crore as of December 31, 2024.

Retail deposits grew by 29.6% YoY to Rs. 1,80,752 crore, while CASA deposits increased by 32.3% YoY, standing at Rs. 1,13,078 crore.

CASA ratio remained strong at 47.7%. The cost of funds for the bank was 6.49% in Q3 FY25, with a stable deposit cost of 6.38%.

Loans and Advances:

Loans and advances grew by 22% YoY, reaching Rs. 2,31,074 crore by December 31, 2024.

The bank's retail loan book grew by

21.3%, while corporate (non-infrastructure) loans saw a 28.9% YoY increase.

The microfinance portfolio saw a slight decrease, contributing 4.8% of the total loan book, down from 5.6% in September 2024.

Asset Quality:

Gross NPA reduced to 1.94% from 2.04% YoY, with a stable net NPA of 0.52%.

Excluding microfinance, GNPA stood at 1.81%, down from 1.88% in Q2 FY25.

The bank's provision coverage ratio (PCR) improved to 73.6% from 66.9% YoY. Profitability and Revenue:

Net Interest Income (NII) grew by 14% YoY to Rs. 4,902 crore, with a stable Net Interest Margin (NIM) of 6.04%.

Fee and other income increased by 20% YoY, reaching Rs. 1,757 crore.

Operating income rose 15% YoY to Rs. 6,682 crore.

Microfinance and Provisions:

The bank continues to monitor its microfinance business closely, with a higher provisioning for Q3 FY25, impact-

ed by slippages in this segment.

Microfinance loans now have increased insurance coverage, with 58% of the portfolio insured by CGFMU.

Capital Position and Merger:

The bank's successful merger with IDFC Ltd in October 2024 strengthened its capital base, with total CRAR at 16.11% and a CET-1 ratio of 13.68%.

CEO's Comments: V Vaidyanathan, MD & CEO, stated, "We are seeing strong growth in both loans and deposits. The microfinance credit issues are transitional, and we are confident they will be resolved in the coming quarters. Our diversified banking model is performing well across all sectors."

About IDFC FIRST Bank: IDFC FIRST Bank, formed through the merger of IDFC Bank and Capital First, focuses on providing ethical, customer-friendly, and tech-driven banking solutions. The bank continues to prioritize financial inclusion and has a strong track record of serving underserved segments across India.

Staffing Firms Call For Cutting GST Rate To 5%

Staffing firms in India are pushing for a reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on employment services, advocating for a decrease from the current 18% to 5%. The Indian Staffing Federation (ISF) has highlighted the low-profit margins in the sector, emphasizing that a reduction in GST would significantly aid in promoting organized employment and supporting the growth of staffing solutions across the country.

The staffing sector, which plays a crucial role in providing temporary and contract-based labor, has faced challenges due to the high GST rate, which has resulted in increased costs for businesses. By lowering the GST rate, staffing firms argue that they would be able to pass on the benefits to clients, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which often struggle with

compliance costs. This would encourage businesses to adopt organized staffing solutions and contribute to formalizing the labor market. The request for a reduction in GST comes alongside a plea for the staffing sector to be granted industry status. According to ISF, granting industry status would open doors for better access to financial resources, tax benefits, and other government incentives. It would also enhance the credibility of the sector, encouraging more businesses to adopt staffing solutions.

Staffing firms also argue that reducing GST would help align India with global practices, where the taxation on employment services is generally lower. Countries with favorable tax policies on staffing services have seen the sector thrive, with more businesses opting for flexible and cost-effective labor solu-

tions. Lowering GST in India could create a similar environment, driving the growth of staffing firms and expanding organized employment. In addition, the sector's growth could contribute to reducing the unemployment rate in the country by facilitating the creation of more job opportunities, especially in the informal labor market. The Federation believes that these measures will not only benefit staffing firms but also foster economic growth by improving efficiency and providing businesses with a more diverse talent pool. In conclusion, the staffing sector's call for a reduction in GST and the granting of industry status is aimed at promoting organized employment, enhancing growth, and creating a more conducive environment for businesses to scale their operations efficiently.

Bengaluru Is Closed : Social Media Post Reignites Kannada Language Debate

A recent post on social media has reignited the ongoing debate over the importance of the Kannada language in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The post, shared on X (formerly Twitter), made waves when it suggested that people from northern India and neighboring states who are unwilling to learn Kannada should avoid Bengaluru altogether. The user who shared the post argued that those who don't respect the local language and culture have no place in the city.



However, the post was met with criticism from others who see the call to learn Kannada as exclusionary, especially in a cosmopolitan city like Bengaluru, which is home to people from across the country and the world. Critics argue that the city thrives on its multicultural and diverse population, and imposing a single language requirement could lead to alienation. They point out that English and Hindi are commonly used in business, education, and daily communication, making it unnecessary for people to learn Kannada to function effectively in Bengaluru.

The statement quickly sparked a heated online debate, with supporters of the Kannada language arguing that learning it is a sign of respect for the local culture and identity. They believe that as Bengaluru continues to grow as a major urban hub, it is important for residents and newcomers to embrace the language that binds the local community together. Advocates say that speaking Kannada fosters a sense of belonging and helps maintain the city's unique heritage.

Canadian Photographer Sets Guinness World Record For Deepest Underwater Photoshoot

Canadian photographer Steven Haining has once again made waves in the world of underwater photography by setting a new Guinness World Record (GWR) for the deepest underwater model photo shoot. This time, the shoot took place on the deck of the Hydro Atlantic shipwreck, located off the coast of Boca Raton, Florida, USA, at an impressive depth of 50 meters (163.38 feet).



The Hydro Atlantic shipwreck was chosen for its unique challenges, as it lies beyond the decompression zone, adding an extra layer of complexity to the shoot. Haining, who previously held the record twice, reclaimed his title with this bold and ambitious effort. In 2021, Haining set the first record by shooting at a depth of 21 feet, and in September 2023, he raised the bar by capturing images at 30 meters. However, in December 2023, Canadians Kim Bruneau and Pia Oyarzun surpassed Haining's achievement by conducting their own photoshoot at a depth of 131 feet in the Bahamas, prompting Haining to embark on this daring underwater adventure to reclaim his crown.

The photo shoot was a formidable challenge for both the photographer and the model. Ciara Antowski, the model, went without an oxygen tank, wearing a flowing white gown and black boots, making the photoshoot even more challenging. The crew, including Antowski, underwent intensive training to ensure safety and precision while working at such great depths. This rigorous preparation was essential to ensure the success of the shoot, as underwater photography at this level requires impeccable coordination, timing, and safety protocols.

Brain Ageing Could Be Fault Of Mothers, Study Suggests



A new study has discovered that the X chromosome passed down from the mother may play a role in accelerating brain aging, potentially increasing the risk of conditions like Alzheimer's disease. The X chromosome, which carries a significant amount of genetic material, is unique in that females have two X chromosomes (XX) while males only have one X and one Y (XY). In females, one of the X chromosomes is randomly inactivated in each cell, a process that can impact brain function and aging.

er or lower levels of maternal X chromosomes in their cells, just by chance, and we know very little about the potential consequences of this."

To investigate further, the team conducted an experiment using female lab mice of different ages. Some of the mice had the paternal X chromosome silenced, leaving only the maternal X chromosome active. These mice were compared with others that had both maternal and paternal X chromosomes active.

The results showed that while the younger "Mom-X" mice exhibited cognitive abilities similar to those of their peers, the older mice experienced significant cognitive decline. In particular, the maternal X chromosome appeared to accelerate biological aging in the hippocampus, a region of the brain essential for memory and learning.

"This raises the possibility that women who express more of their mother's X chromosome, just by chance, could face more cognitive impairment as they age, or have an increased risk of developing Alzheimer's," explained Ms. Dubal.

Though women generally live longer than men and exhibit lower rates of dementia, Alzheimer's disease affects them at a significantly higher rate. Intriguingly, some studies have shown that women with Alzheimer's may survive longer than their male counterparts. Researchers have long been puzzled by these gender differences and have turned to the X and Y chromosomes for potential answers.

"Skewing of the X chromosome is common among humans," said Dena Dubal, the senior author of the study. "There are women who naturally have high-

Penguin 'Divorce' Study Reveals Impact on Breeding Success and Conservation

A decade-long study on little penguins on Philip Island has revealed fascinating insights into the complex social lives of these birds. While penguins are often thought to "mate for life," the study found that divorce, or changing partners after a poor breeding season, is not uncommon. In fact, the research found that penguins are more likely to seek new partners when faced with disappointing reproductive outcomes, but this quest for a better mate doesn't always lead to improved success.

The study, which spanned 13 breeding seasons and tracked around a thousand penguin pairs, found that approximately 250 divorces occurred over the course of the research. While this may seem like a strategy for improving breeding success, the data indicated that divorce often resulted in lower reproductive outcomes for the penguins involved.

"In good times, they largely stick with their partners, although there's often a bit of hanky-panky happening on the side," said Richard Reina, co-author of the study. He added that after a poor breeding season, penguins are more inclined to find a new mate to try to improve their reproductive success the following year.



However, the study also highlighted significant drawbacks to this behavior. Divorce often led to lost time spent searching for and courting new mates, which delayed reproduction and sometimes even prevented it entirely. This disruption can also result in penguin parents being forced to forage for food in challenging conditions when food availability is low.

Additionally, new penguin pairs may struggle with the coordination required for tasks like nest-building, egg incubation, and chick-rearing, which established pairs tend to handle more efficiently. In contrast, penguin pairs that remain together over multiple seasons tend to have increased reproductive success.

Meta Begins Testing Ads on Threads as Platform Surpasses 300 Million Active Users

Meta is set to begin testing ads on its social media platform, Threads, with a select group of brands in the U.S. and Japan. This marks a significant step as the app surpasses 300 million monthly active users. Starting on Friday, image ads will appear within the Threads home feed, placed between regular posts for a small percentage of users. The company emphasized that this is an early-stage test, and they will monitor the results closely before expanding it on a broader scale. Businesses will also be able to extend their current Meta ad campaigns to include Threads.

In addition to the image ads, Meta is also testing a new inventory filter for advertisers. Powered by AI, this feature allows businesses to control the sensitivity level of organic content alongside which their ads will be displayed. This move is aimed at en-



sure that ads appear next to content that aligns with the brand's values and image.

The timing of this ad launch, following Meta's recent content moderation updates, has raised some eyebrows in the advertising world. However, with the volatili-

ty surrounding TikTok, many brands are now seeking alternative platforms for ad placements, and Meta sees this as an opportunity to position Threads as a viable contender. Jasmine Enberg, a principal analyst at Emarketer, notes that the changes at TikTok have made advertisers more open to exploring other platforms, making Threads a promising option for Meta.

Threads was launched in July 2023 as a competitor to X (formerly known as Twitter), aiming to capture users from the microblogging platform during its turbulent period under Elon Musk's ownership. Despite its growth, Meta does not expect Threads to contribute significantly to 2025's revenue. Instead, the company is focusing on expanding its AI infrastructure, with a budget of up to \$65 billion for this year. This investment is aimed at strengthening Meta's position against rivals like OpenAI and Google in the rapidly advancing AI sector.

New Zealand Secures Direct Entry to ICC Women's World Cup 2025

New Zealand has secured a direct entry into the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 following Bangladesh's loss to the West Indies in their final ICC Women's Championship match on Friday in Basseterre. Both New Zealand and Bangladesh finished the 10-team tournament with 21 points, but New Zealand's superior number of wins—nine compared to Bangladesh's eight—earned them the coveted spot.

The tournament featured all teams playing eight three-match series—four at home and four away—and New Zealand's performance ensured their direct qualification. Along with the hosts India, the top five teams in the standings—Australia, India, England, South Africa, and Sri Lanka—have secured automatic berths for the upcoming World Cup.



Australia clinched the ICC Women's Championship title with an impressive 39 points, while India closely followed in second place with 37 points. England (32), South Africa (25), and

Sri Lanka (22) also guaranteed their spots for the World Cup, leaving the bottom four teams to battle for the remaining qualification spot through the upcoming World Cup Qualifier.

Bangladesh (21), West Indies (18), Pakistan (17), and Ireland (eight) will join Scotland and Thailand—ranked the highest as of October 31, 2024—at the Qualifier. The details for the Qualifier will be announced soon, with two spots available for the World Cup.

India will host the 2025 Women's ODI World Cup for the fifth time, marking the first global women's tournament held there since 2016 when India hosted the T20 World Cup alongside the men's event. The 2025 edition will be similar to the 2022 tournament, with eight teams competing across 31 matches.

Madison Keys stuns Aryna Sabalenka to win her first Grand Slam title

USA's Madison Keys captured her first Grand Slam title on Saturday with a thrilling 6-3, 2-6, 7-5 victory over world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka in the final. Keys' win in Melbourne ended Sabalenka's impressive winning streak at the Australian Open, where the Belarusian was aiming for a third consecutive title.



later, Keys finally broke through to claim her maiden Grand Slam title. Her previous best result in a major was reaching the US Open final in 2017, where she was defeated by Sloane Stephens.

This win marked Keys' 46th appearance in the main draw of a Grand Slam, a remarkable achievement in itself. According to Opta, only Flavia Pennetta (49), Goran Ivanisevic (48), and Marion Bartoli (47) have made more main

draw appearances before winning their first Grand Slam singles title in the Open Era.

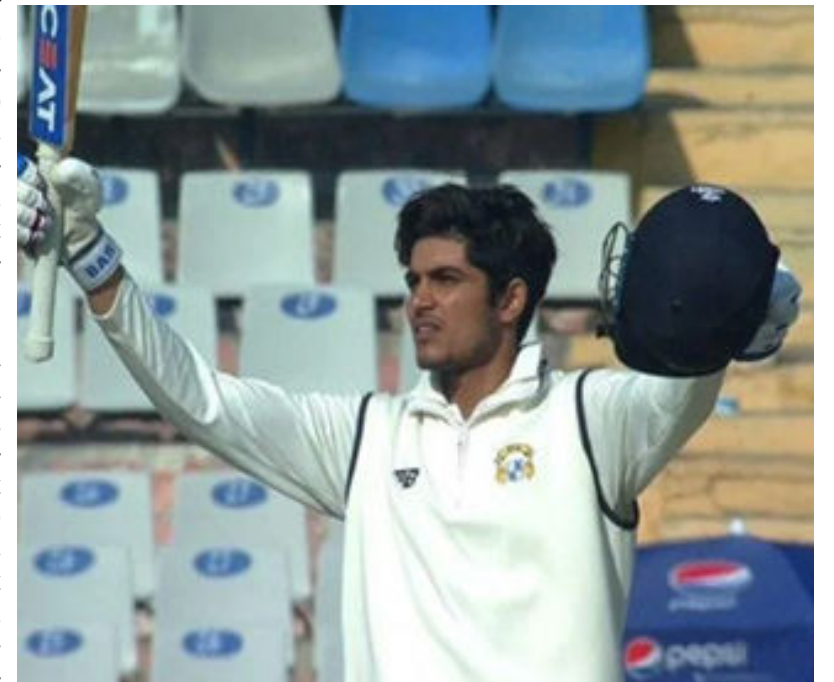
Keys' perseverance paid off in Melbourne, as she joins an exclusive list of players who have broken through to win their first Grand Slam after many attempts. The victory not only marks a major milestone in her career but also puts her among the elite players in tennis history.

It was a bitter-sweet moment for Sabalenka, the two-time defending champion, who had been on a high after an incredible run at the tournament. However, Keys fought back after losing the second set, showing great resilience and composure to win the match in a tense third set.

The victory was particularly emotional for Keys, who had come close in previous years, notably losing to Sabalenka in a hard-fought US Open semifinal in 2023. Just over a year

Shubman Gill's Century in Vain as Punjab Falls to Karnataka in Ranji Trophy

Shubman Gill's stylish century wasn't enough to save Punjab from a heavy defeat against Karnataka in their Ranji Trophy Group C match on Saturday. Despite Gill's determined knock of 102, Punjab succumbed to an innings and 207-run loss, with Karnataka's dominant performance overshadowing his efforts.



Gill, who resumed on 7, made a valiant effort in Punjab's second innings, scoring 102 runs from 171 balls. His innings featured 14 boundaries and three sixes, with the first 50 runs coming off 119 balls and the next 50 off just 40 balls. However, his dismissal as the eighth wicket left Punjab struggling at 213 all out in 63.4 overs, following a massive 420-run deficit from Karnataka's first innings.

Punjab had earlier been bowled out for a meager 55 runs in their first innings, with Gill contributing just four runs. At the end of day two, Punjab was already in deep trouble, sitting at 24 for 2 in their second innings. Despite Gill's efforts, they couldn't recover, and the team was dismissed for a second time, losing by a large margin.

Karnataka's formidable performance was built around Ravichandran Smaran's maiden first-class double century, as he scored an unbeaten 203 in his team's first innings total of 475/7 in

122.1 overs. Karnataka's bowlers, Yashovardhan Parantap and Shreyas Gopal, were key to Punjab's collapse, taking three wickets each in the second innings.

This defeat further highlighted Shubman Gill's recent struggles with form, following a disappointing run in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia. In five Test innings, the 25-year-old right-hander managed only 93 runs, with a highest score of 31, leading to his drop for the fourth Test before being recalled for the fifth, where he failed to impress with scores of 20 and 13.

Jammu and Kashmir Defeat Mumbai in Historic Ranji Trophy Victory

In a stunning upset, Jammu and Kashmir triumphed over defending champions Mumbai by five wickets in their ongoing Ranji Trophy Group A league match. This victory, coming after a decade-long wait, has almost sealed their spot in the knock-out phase of the tournament. Their last win against Mumbai was in December 2014 at the Wankhede Stadium, making this victory all the more significant.



struggling to stay grounded for long periods, and failed to make an impact on the game.

With 29 points from six matches, Jammu and Kashmir now lead Group A, and a single point in their final match against Baroda would confirm their spot in the knock-out rounds. Baroda, who are currently on 27 points from five games, are facing Maharashtra. If Baroda manages a first-innings lead against Jammu and Kashmir, Mumbai (with 22 points from six games) could be knocked out of the group league phase, even if they win their match against Meghalaya.

This impressive victory further cements Jammu and Kashmir's remarkable run in the tournament, and with only one match left, they are on the brink of a historic Ranji Trophy campaign.

Mumbai's squad boasted a star-studded lineup, including India's Test and ODI captain Rohit Sharma, former captain Ajinkya Rahane, ODI regular and IPL-winning skipper Shreyas Iyer, star opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, seasoned all-rounder Shardul Thakur, and off-spinner Tanush Kotian, who was a part of the Border-Gavaskar squad. Despite this powerhouse team, Mumbai was unable to hold their ground as Jammu and Kashmir outperformed them.

Rohit Sharma's return to the Ranji Trophy after a decade did not go as planned, with the opener managing just 31 runs across two innings. He appeared out of form,

Rohit Sharma Named Captain of ICC Men's T20I Team of the Year 2024

India's cricket captain Rohit Sharma has been named the skipper of the ICC Men's T20I Team of the Year 2024 after a remarkable year both as a leader and a batter. Sharma, who led India to their second ICC T20 World Cup title in June 2024, had an unforgettable run in the tournament and beyond, making significant contributions with the bat. He amassed 378 runs in 11 matches, with an average of 42.00 and a striking rate of over 160. Sharma played a key role in India's T20 World Cup triumph, including a match-winning 92 against Australia in the Super Eight stage. His leadership was instrumental in guiding the team through high-pressure situations, solidifying his legacy as one of India's greatest T20I captains.



The T20I Team of the Year also features other Indian cricket stars, including pacer Jasprit Bumrah, left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh, and all-rounder Hardik Pandya. Pandya, with 352 runs and 16 wickets in 17 matches, reaffirmed his status as one of the world's finest all-rounders. His standout moment came in the T20 World Cup final against South Africa, where he defended 16 runs in the final over, leading India to victory. Bumrah returned to T20I cricket with a vengeance in 2024, claiming 15 wickets in eight matches at an incredible average of 8.26, with his lethal yorkers proving pivotal in India's success.

Arshdeep Singh emerged as India's most prolific wicket-taker of the year, with 36 wickets in 18 matches at an impressive average of 13.50. His performances, particularly his 4/9 against hosts USA in the T20 World Cup, made him a key figure in India's bowling attack.

The team also includes standout players from other nations: Australia's Travis Head, England's Phil Salt, Pakistan's Babar Azam, West Indies' Nicholas Pooran (wk), Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza, Afghanistan's Rashid Khan, and Sri Lanka's Wanindu Hasaranga.

India's dominance in the 2024 T20I calendar is evident with the inclusion of so many players from the squad, making the year a standout for the Men in Blue.



Rajamouli Locked The Lion: SSMB29 New Adventure Begins with Mahesh Babu

Tollywood's highly anticipated project, SSMB29, is officially underway as director S.S. Rajamouli has shared an exciting update about the film. Fans of superstar Mahesh Babu and Rajamouli, who previously collaborated on the mega-hit Baahubali, have been eagerly awaiting news about this new venture, and the latest announcement has generated immense buzz in the industry.



In a recent video post, Rajamouli confirmed that the shooting for SSMB29 has commenced. The video, titled "Capture," shows a symbolic scene featuring a lion (representing Mahesh Babu) locked in a cage, unable to escape. The video's caption, "Capture," hints at the thrilling narrative of the film, which is expected to have an adventurous backdrop. Rajamouli's update suggests that the project is progressing well, with much of the pre-production work already completed.

Further adding excitement to the announcement, the film's heroine has been revealed as Priyanka Chopra. The Bollywood star's casting marks an exciting collaboration, and she responded to the update with a simple

yet enthusiastic "Finally." Mahesh Babu, too, expressed his excitement about the project, referencing his iconic Pokiri dialogue, "Once committed, I will not listen to myself," signifying his dedication to the film.

SSMB29 is set in an adventurous setting, with a plot revolving around the Amazon jungle. The project promises to be a high-octane thriller, combining Rajamouli's signature storytelling and visual grandeur with Mahesh Babu's charismatic presence.

As the production gears up, expectations are soaring for this action-packed film, which has already caught the attention of movie lovers and fans alike. With the shooting now underway, it's only a matter of time before we get more details about this exciting Tollywood blockbuster.

Payal Rajput Stuns in Revenge Drama 'Venkatalacchimi'



Actress Payal Rajput, who gained popularity with her performances in films like RX 100 and Mangalavaram, is back on screen with her latest venture, Venkatalacchimi. The film, which marks a significant milestone in her career, opened in Hyderabad on Friday, drawing attention for its gripping storyline. Payal plays the titular role in this revenge drama, which is set to release in six languages, aiming for a pan-India audience.

Directed by Muni, Venkatalacchimi tells the intense story of an Adivasi woman seeking vengeance. The narrative promises to keep viewers engaged, with Muni emphasizing the film's emotional depth and powerful narration. The film has garnered attention not just for its storyline, but also for the strong performance expected from Payal Rajput in a challenging role.

In a statement, Payal shared her excitement about the project, expressing that she was so moved by

the script that she believes the audience will start referring to her as "Venkatalacchimi" after seeing the film. She spoke passionately about how deeply connected she felt to the character and the emotional journey it takes.

The music of the film has been composed by Vikas Badisha, contributing to the film's intense atmosphere. The screenplay and direction are both handled by Muni, who is confident that the film's unique storyline and engaging execution will resonate with audiences.

Produced by SS Chowdhury and Muni Raja, Venkatalacchimi is a highly anticipated film for its intense portrayal of revenge, emotion, and the resilience of a woman fighting for justice. With its pan-India release and strong performances, it's expected to be a significant addition to Payal Rajput's filmography.

Venkatesh Unveils Telugu Trailer for Vishal's Pongal Hit Madha Gaja Raja

Kollywood star Vishal's comedy entertainer Madha Gaja Raja, which had been delayed for over 12 years, finally released during the Pongal festival, receiving a great response and grossing over Rs 50 crore at the box office. The film's success in Tamil has generated significant excitement, and now, the movie is set to hit Telugu theatres with the same title on January 31, 2025.



To mark the Telugu release, senior Tollywood actor Venkatesh launched the film's fun-filled trailer, giving fans a sneak peek of Vishal's comedic prowess. The trailer showcases a perfect blend of humor, action, and drama, making it clear that director Sundar C has packaged the film to

appeal to a broad audience. Vishal's comedic timing and entertaining performances have been a highlight, and fans are eagerly awaiting the film's Telugu debut.

The film also stars popular Kollywood comedian Santhanam, Anjali, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, and

Sonu Sood in key roles, adding to the star power of the project. Madha Gaja Raja has been produced by Gemini Film Circuit and is being presented in Telugu under the Sathya Krishnan Productions banner. The soundtrack, composed by Vijay Antony, further adds to the film's appeal with energetic tunes.

With the successful reception of Madha Gaja Raja in Tamil, anticipation is high for its Telugu release, especially with the star-studded cast and the comedy-action genre that appeals to a wide audience. Fans are looking forward to the film's debut on January 31 and are hoping that the movie continues to perform well at the box office.



Naga Chaitanya's Thandel Trailer Drops on January 28 with a Fresh Poster

Tollywood actor Akkineni Naga Chaitanya is all set to entertain audiences with his upcoming film Thandel. Directed by Chandu Mondeti and produced under the prestigious Geetha Arts banner by Allu Aravind, the film has generated significant buzz in the industry. The movie, featuring the talented Sai Pallavi as the female lead, is set to hit theaters on February 7, 2025, and the team has already wrapped up shooting.

As excitement builds for the film's release, the makers have shared a major update about the trailer. The Thandel trailer will be unveiled on January 28, 2025, and the crew has released a new poster to mark the occasion. The poster promises an intriguing blend of action, drama, and romance.

The storyline of Thandel follows Naga Chaitanya's character, who travels to Veeraval, Gujarat, in search of a living. While fishing, he is caught by the Pakistan Coast Guard and impris-

oned. The film explores his daring escape from a Pakistani prison, with an added layer of love story and patriotism that elevates the film's narrative, making it an engaging commercial entertainer.

The film has piqued the interest of audiences with its thrilling premise, combining high stakes with emotional depth. Along with the action-packed sequences, Thandel will also showcase a strong patriotic theme, giving fans a dose of national pride while also tugging at their hearts with its love story.

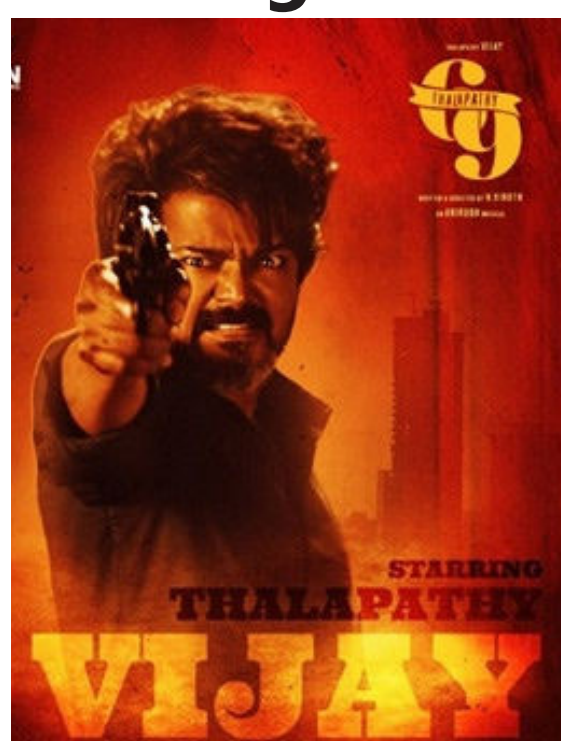
With its release date drawing closer, fans are eagerly awaiting the trailer's release on January 28. Thandel promises to be a captivating film, offering a mix of intense action, emotional drama, and a storyline filled with patriotic fervor. Naga Chaitanya's performance in this unique role is expected to be one of the highlights of the film.

Thalapathy Vijay's Thalapathy69 Aiming for Pongal 2026 Release

Thalapathy Vijay is gearing up for his final cinematic venture, Thalapathy69, which is currently in production. This highly anticipated film, a remake of the blockbuster Bhagavanth Kesari starring Balakrishna, is already making waves in the industry. The film's first look poster, featuring Vijay in a dynamic role, is set to be revealed on January 26, 2025, alongside the official title.

Initially, the makers had planned for a theatrical release in October 2025. However, recent buzz in trade circles suggests that the film's release could be delayed until the festive season of Pongal 2026. Fans and industry insiders are eagerly awaiting official confirmation on the release date, which could be clarified with the unveiling of the first look on January 26.

Pongal is a crucial time for Kollywood releases, with many films



targeting this lucrative period to maximize box office collections. If Thalapathy69 does indeed hit the screens during Pongal 2026, it is

poised to become a major industry hit, further solidifying Vijay's legacy as one of Tamil cinema's biggest stars.

The movie features an impressive ensemble cast, including Pooja Hegde, Bobby Deol, Mamitha Baiju, Prakash Raj, Priyamani, Narain, and Gautham Vasudev Menon in pivotal roles. Produced by KVN Productions, the film is expected to have a stellar soundtrack composed by the talented Anirudh Ravichander, whose music is already anticipated to be a hit.

With a star-studded cast, a highly anticipated release, and a powerful director at the helm, Thalapathy69 is shaping up to be one of the most significant films in Thalapathy Vijay's illustrious career. Fans are eagerly awaiting more updates as the release date approaches.