

POINT

Weather Forecast

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Davos Deals Boost Telangana's Economy

- Unity for Prosperity: CM Reddy's Call for Collaboration
- Tech Leap with Singapore IT Firm
- From Agreements to Action: Minister Sridhar Babu's Vision
- 16 Giants Endorse Telangana's Growth
- Turning Criticism into Catalyst: Reddy's Response



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 29 : In a remarkable push towards economic prosperity, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announced that the state has attracted investments worth Rs 1.80 lakh crore following his visit to Davos. At a press conference held at the Secretariat, Reddy underscored that this achievement is part of an ongoing effort to propel Telangana into a \$1 trillion economy. Reddy stressed the necessity of unity among all political factions to achieve the state's developmental goals. He assured that the government would provide necessary land allocations and incentives to bolster these investments, stating, "Development will be possible only if we all come together."

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A race is on between BJP and BRS.

Who will emerge as the main opposition to Congress?

BRS is struggling to regain its strength.

BJP aims to dominate BRS.

Both parties eye an alliance, but who will lead, and who will follow?



A Strategical Race between BRS and BJP?

A race is underway to determine who will be the main competitor to Congress in the 2029 elections—BRS or BJP. BRS, once the principal opposition, has seen its strength dwindle after defections of its MLAs. Meanwhile, BJP, with 8 MLAs and 8 MPs in Telangana, initially maintained a spectator's role during Congress's first year in power. Now, however, the party is gearing up to assert itself and overshadow BRS. The situation for BRS is critical. Key leaders like KTR are under investigation in cases such as the Formula Race scam, Harish Rao is implicated

in the Phone Tapping case, and KCR faces scrutiny over the Kaleswaram project. Congress leader Revanth Reddy is strategically leveraging these issues, exposing alleged corruption within BRS without rushing into arrests. His calculated approach aims to prevent BRS leaders from garnering sympathy, a possibility if high-profile arrests were made. On the other hand, BJP is laying the groundwork to replace BRS as the primary opposition. Sources suggest that BJP will soon appoint Etala Rajender as the new Telangana party president, signaling a major shift.

The BJP's strategy includes highlighting BRS's alleged corruption and weaknesses while simultaneously critiquing the failures of Revanth Reddy's government. BRS, however, is not sitting idle. Leaders like KTR and Harish Rao are making continuous public appearances, countering Revanth Reddy's narrative, and attempting to reestablish the party's credibility. Amidst this rivalry, there is speculation of a potential alliance between BJP and BRS. The key question is: who will lead, and who will play the junior partner? Both parties are

working towards strengthening their positions to avoid being relegated to a secondary role. BJP's high command has tasked its leaders with asserting dominance, while KCR has directed KTR and Harish Rao to bolster the party to ensure BRS retains a leading role. This ongoing race is less about collaboration and more about securing leverage for any potential future alliance. The next steps from both parties will likely determine the dynamics of Telangana's political landscape leading up to the 2029 elections.

Green Vision for Telangana: CM Reddy's Eco-Tourism Push

- Experium Theme Park: A Green Oasis in Proddatur
- Stars Align for Sustainability: Chiranjeevi at the Inauguration
- Eco-Tourism on the Rise: New Policies in the Pipeline
- From Neglect to Nurture: Congress's Dual Focus



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announced plans to transform Telangana into a natural forest, emphasizing eco-tourism as a key developmental strategy. Speaking at the inauguration of the Experium Theme Park in Proddatur village, Rangareddy district, CM Reddy highlighted the government's commitment to sustainable development.

eco-tourism experience. Megastar Chiranjeevi and Minister Jupally Krishna Rao attended the event, underscoring the project's significance.

CM Reddy praised the initiative, stating that it brings rare plants closer to the public, traditionally sought in Godavari districts. He criticized the previous government for neglecting tourism and affirmed that the Congress government is now balancing welfare schemes with state development.

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The theme park, designed to world-class standards, showcases 25,000 species of plants and trees across 150 acres, offering a unique

Calls 'Rythu Bharosa' a Political Gimmick

Accuses Congress of Neglecting Farmers

Challenges Revanth on Loan Waivers

Says Nalgonda's IT Tower in Ruins

Warns of Betrayal After Local Polls



KTR: 'Rythu Bharosa' to End Post-Polls

TPN Correspondent
Nalgonda, Jan 29 : BRS Working President and former Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has strongly criticized the Congress government, accusing it of neglecting Nalgonda's IT sector and failing in various developmental initiatives. Speaking

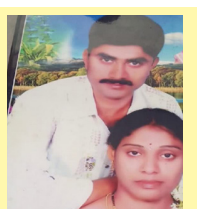
to the media, KTR alleged that the IT Tower in Nalgonda has become a hub for alcohol consumption due to poor governance.

Highlighting educational concerns, he pointed out that children are facing bullying in

schools, a reflection of the Congress government's mismanagement. KTR also reminisced about Nalgonda's historic resistance against the Nizam's rule, underscoring the district's legacy of resilience and struggle.

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Horrific Details Unveiled in Meerpet Murder Case



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Damodar Reviews Osmania Hospital Designs

- Osmania Hospital Upgrade Moves Forward
- Key Changes Made to Osmania Designs
- Minister Damodar Oversees Design Finalization



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha reviewed the designs for the new buildings of Osmania Hospital in a meeting with senior officials from the Health and R&B departments. The review took place in preparation for the foundation stone-laying ceremony scheduled for January 31. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha are set to lay the foundation stone for the new buildings at the Police Stadium in Goshamahal.

During the review, which was held on January 25, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy proposed several changes to the initial designs. In response, officials made adjustments based on his suggestions. The updated designs were then presented to Minister Damodar through a detailed PowerPoint presentation. Officials also provided additional suggestions re-

garding the new building plans.

The decision to construct new buildings for Osmania Hospital comes after the Congress government came to power. The hospital, which has a century-long history, will soon undergo a major upgrade with the construction of these new facilities. A plot of land has already been allocated for the project. This development is part of a larger plan to modernize healthcare infrastructure in the state and enhance the hospital's services to meet the growing demand for medical care.

The foundation stone ceremony will mark the beginning of this significant transformation for Osmania Hospital, a key healthcare institution in the region.

Deputy CM Discusses Education Reforms in Chennai

- Education Reforms and Investments Highlighted
- New Schools and Skill Initiatives Announced
- Deputy CM Clarifies KTR Case and Education Plans



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, speaking at an education meeting in Chennai on Tuesday, addressed several key issues related to Telangana's education system, governance, and ongoing investigations. In response to allegations regarding the misuse of public funds in the Formula E car race affair, the Deputy CM clarified that a case had been registered against the then-minister KTR, and a departmental inquiry is currently underway. He assured that anyone with relevant information can come forward to the investigating agencies.

The Deputy CM highlighted the Telangana government's commitment to enhancing the state's education

sector. He mentioned the allocation of 25,000 crores for education this financial year, with plans for further increases. Bhatti Vikramarka also emphasized the creation of 60 Young India International Residential Schools, which will be built with international standards on 20-25 acres of land. These schools will provide world-class education, accommodation for staff, and ample sports facilities like cricket and football fields.

Additionally, the Deputy CM discussed the development of Skill Universities to better equip students with the necessary skills for multinational companies. He also noted that ITIs were being upgraded to Advanced Technology Centers to keep pace with the evolving technological landscape.

On the issue of governance, Bhatti Vikramarka expressed the state government's desire for strong relations with the central government but

stressed their commitment to fighting on policy matters. He also reaffirmed their belief in democracy and the federal system, urging all parties to contribute to the political discourse.

The Deputy CM concluded by announcing the formation of an Education Commission to investigate private educational institutions and address excessive fee structures.

Telangana Secures Rs. 1.79 Lakh Crore Investment



- Fourfold Increase in Investments Compared to Last Year
- Telangana Aims for Global Trade Hub Status
- Government Focuses on Policy Changes for Growth

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Minister Sridhar Babu announced that the Telangana government has signed agreements for investments totaling Rs. 1.79 lakh crore, a significant increase from last year's Rs. 40,000 crore. He attributed this growth to the trust that business leaders have in the policies of the Chief Minister and the cabinet,

emphasizing that companies seek a stable and forward-thinking government.

Sridhar Babu outlined the government's commitment to transforming Telangana into a global hub for trade and business. He highlighted that the state's strong brand image, especially that of Hyderabad, has played a crucial role in attracting these investments. The government's proactive approach to policy changes and investments is designed to benefit the people of Telangana.

In addition, the Minister shared

that the government has been engaging internationally to promote development. He mentioned discussions with two Singaporean ministers on issues such as river cleansing and skill development for the unemployed. He also noted that the ministers from Singapore expressed their willingness to collaborate with Telangana on these initiatives.

Sridhar Babu stressed that the government's ultimate goal is to improve the quality of life for the people of Telangana, ensuring a prosperous future through sustainable growth and development.

John Wesley Elected as CPM Telangana Secretary

- Wesley Takes Charge as CPM Telangana Secretary
- Tammineni Steps Down, Wesley Steps Up
- Surprise Leadership Change in CPM Telangana



lic demonstration on January 25, saw participation from both state and national leaders. Wesley's appointment aims to provide greater representation to the weaker sections of society.

TPN Correspondent Telangana, Jan 29 : John Wesley has been unanimously elected as the new Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in Telangana. His election was officially announced at the congress held in Sangareddy. Former MP Tammineni Veerabhadram, who had led the party since the formation of Telangana, was relieved from his post after having served as State Secretary three times.

Although former MLA Julakanti Rangareddy, a key figure in the party with two terms as an MLA, and CITU leader S. Veeraiyah were considered strong contenders for the position, Wesley's selection came as a surprise to many. Rangareddy had previously served as the party's state leader, legislative party leader, and head of the CITU workers' union. Despite expectations, the decision to appoint Wesley reflects a strategic shift in the party's direction.

The congress, which began with a pub-

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Horrific Details Unveiled in Meerpet Murder Case

- From Missing to Murder: The Case Unfolds
- Horror Inspired by Cinema: Gurumurthy's Method
- The Aftermath: Calls, Alibis, and Evidence
- CP Sudheer Babu Details the Gruesome Act
- A Family Shattered: The Madhavi Tragedy

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Jan 29 : The Meerpet murder case has taken a grim turn with the police reconstructing the scene, revealing the chilling details of how Gurumurthy killed his wife, Venkata Madhavi. The investigation has now shifted from a missing person case to a confirmed murder.

Gurumurthy and Venkata Madhavi, parents to two children, were embroiled in frequent marital disputes. On January 15, Gurumurthy murdered Madhavi in a brutal manner, dismembering her body into pieces which he then cooked using a cooker and an electric heater. He disposed of the remains, including grinding the bones into powder and discarding them in a pond, attempting to erase all traces of his crime.

In a disturbing cover-up, Gurumurthy filed a missing person report on

January 16, feigning ignorance. However, his actions were inspired by the thriller movie 'Sookshmadarshini', where a similar method of body disposal was shown. His plan included dissolving the body in acid, a technique he tried to replicate.

The police detained Gurumurthy after uncovering his marital issues, leading to his confession. Evidence was collected based on his statements, including a stove, knife, roller, bucket, heater, clothes, and cleaning materials used during the crime. An examination of his call logs post-murder showed eight calls, one to his sister in Badangpet, with further inquiries into these connections ongoing. Additionally, Gurumurthy had booked movie tickets for 'Sankranthiki Yaa-laam' the day after the murder, which didn't hold as an alibi.

CP Sudheer Babu's Statement: CP Sudheer Babu described the sequence of events, from the initial altercation to the gruesome disposal of Madhavi's body. Gurumurthy hit Madhavi, causing her death, and then meticulously planned the body's destruction to avoid detection.

Gurumurthy is likely to be remanded until Tuesday night as the investigation progresses, with this case drawing considerable national attention due to its shocking details.

KTR: 'Rythu Bharosa' to End Post-Polls

Taking a jab at the Congress administration, KTR questioned its contributions to Nalgonda, contrasting them with achievements under Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's (KCR) leadership, particularly in agriculture. He praised Telangana's rise to become the number one rice-producing state under KCR's governance.

KTR criticized the Congress-led 'Rythu Bharosa' scheme, calling it a political gimmick aimed at securing votes in local body elections. He claimed the scheme provides no substantial financial support to farmers, unlike the BRS's 'Rythu Bandhu' scheme, which has been implemented 12 times. Predicting that 'Rythu Bharosa' would be discontinued after the elections, KTR likened it to a farmer's allegory of "getting a buffalo instead of a milking cow."

The BRS leader challenged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to resign if evidence could prove a 100%

loan waiver in any village. He accused the Congress of halting 'Rythu Bandhu' to erase KCR's legacy and misleading farmers with unfulfilled promises.

KTR urged farmers to protest, demanding loan waivers, bonuses, and the continuation of 'Rythu Bharosa.' He emphasized the importance of people's power in holding the government accountable. Praising KCR's initiatives, KTR highlighted key irrigation projects like Palamuru-Ranga Reddy and Kaleshwaram, asserting that only KCR's leadership could bring water to every corner of the state.

Concluding his remarks, KTR recalled a farmer's comment near Pedakaparthi, which reflected frustration with the Congress's empty promises. He reinforced his warning that 'Rythu Bharosa' would undoubtedly end post-elections, urging voters to consider the BRS's consistent track record in supporting farmers.

Davos Deals Boost Telangana's Economy

This call for collaboration underscores the Chief Minister's vision for a collective approach to progress. He further elaborated on a crucial agreement with a Singapore-based IT company, which he believes will significantly boost the technological landscape of Telangana. Reddy also addressed criticisms and conspiracies aimed at undermining these investments, affirming that the trust investors have placed in Telangana's governance has been pivotal in securing these funds. Minister Sridhar Babu added that this year's investment haul is quadruple that of last year, marking a significant step towards economic milestones. He emphasized that the real success lies in the operational establishment of these companies, not merely

in signing agreements. The state government has entered into memoranda of understanding with 16 leading companies at Davos, including Sun Petrochemicals, Amazon Web Services, JSW, Skyroot Aerospace, HCL Tech Center, Wipro, and Infosys, among others. This reflects a robust endorsement of Telangana's business-friendly policies and governance. Concluding his remarks, Reddy acknowledged the criticisms but viewed them as constructive feedback, reaffirming the government's commitment to creating an environment conducive to business and innovation in Telangana. This development not only showcases Telangana's growing attractiveness in the global market but also its potential to lead in economic transformation.

Green Vision for Telangana: CM Reddy's Eco-Tourism Push

Additionally, Reddy discussed the state's economic growth, mentioning the recent investments secured during his Davos visit, which he believes will significantly change Vikarabad's landscape. He also celebrated local achievements, noting that Khammam farmer Ramayya received the Padma Shri for his

contributions to plant conservation, reflecting pride for Telangana.

The Chief Minister promised forthcoming policies to expand eco-tourism, aiming to integrate environmental consciousness with economic growth, thereby painting a green future for Telangana.

RS Praveen Files Complaint Against CM Revanth

- * RS Praveen Accuses CM of Hurting Investments
- * KTR Questioned Amid Corruption Probe
- * Revanth Reddy Slams BRS Over Allegations

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Former IPS officer and BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar has filed a complaint against Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, urging the police to name him as the main accused in the Formula E Race case. Kumar alleged that Revanth Reddy's actions led to the loss of several potential investments in Telangana. Meanwhile, the Congress government has been investigating alleged corruption in the Formula E Race held during the previous BRS regime, focusing on former Minister K.T. Rama Rao's (KTR) role. As part of the probe, KTR recently appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) for questioning.

The Formula E Race, held in Hyderabad, had drawn national attention. The then



BRS government reportedly paid ₹45.71 crore to UK-based Formula E Operations (FEO) through the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA). Following this, MAUD Principal Secretary Danakishore lodged a complaint with the ACB, alleging financial irregularities. As a result, the ACB and ED have registered cases against KTR, senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar, and retired HMDA Chief

Engineer BLN Reddy, with investigations ongoing.

CM Revanth Reddy's Response

Reacting to RS Praveen Kumar's complaint, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy dismissed it, saying, "Everyone knows his mentality." Speaking at a media conference at the Secretariat, Revanth Reddy accused Praveen Kumar of having a "slave mentality" and suggested that he was acting under external influence.

The CM further claimed that the BRS government misused public funds by diverting them to London, whereas his administration had brought foreign investments for the benefit of Telangana. He also criticized the complaint as an attempt to divert attention from real issues, asserting that the people would see through such tactics.

Harish Rao Criticizes CM Over Davos Claims

Harish Rao Challenges Government's Investment Figures Criticizes Focus on Davos Over Farmers' Issues Harish Rao Calls Out False Investment Propaganda

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Ex Finance Minister Harish Rao has sharply criticized CM Revanth Reddy following his press meet, questioning the sudden invitation for a Davos visit and calling out the claims of large-scale investments in the state. In a tweet, Harish Rao expressed skepticism about the recent invitation to Davos, which he noted had already passed. He questioned the authenticity of the investments touted by the Chief Minister, stating that the MoUs signed at Davos were merely expressions of interest and that real investments would require open tenders.



Harish Rao further took aim at Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka's statement claiming Rs. 1.82 lakh crore in investments, asking if it was true. He criticized the government's investment narrative, accusing them of propagating empty claims that lacked substance. Harish Rao also questioned the priority of the government, pointing out that the real issues affecting the people, such as farmer debt relief, were being ignored.

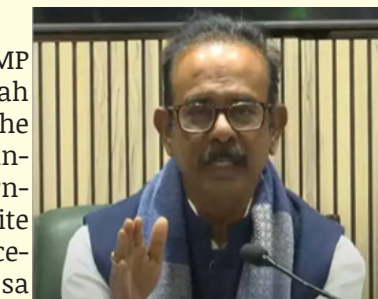
Rao slammed Revanth Reddy for referring to farmer assurance programs as a "small panchayat" and mocked the repeated delays in fulfilling promises. He called the ongoing extensions of deadlines for farmer relief—previously promised by Sankranti and now extended to March 31—mere "empty propaganda." He questioned the government's priorities, suggesting that while investments and foreign funds were being emphasized, the plight of farmers and their debt concerns were being neglected.

The Harish Rao concluded by urging the Chief Minister to focus on resolving the real issues faced by the people of Telangana, rather than indulging in self-promotion and false narratives.

BJP Leader Boora Narsaiah Criticizes Congress Government

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Former MP and BJP leader Boora Narsaiah Goud has sharply criticized the Congress government in Telangana, calling it a "sample government." He claimed that despite the government's announcements, such as the Rythu Bharosa scheme, no substantial progress has been made. Speaking to the media in Delhi, Goud pointed out that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had promised a steady stream of financial support to farmers, but there has been no follow-through.



He further mocked various government schemes, including the loan waiver, ration cards, and Indiramma Indlu, stating that they were all just "samples" with no real impact. Goud also emphasized that, while most governments typically fail after four years, the Revanth Reddy administration has already faltered in all sectors within just one year. He accused the government of using sentimental issues to divert public attention from its failures. Goud concluded by predicting a disastrous outcome for the Congress party in the next elections. He stated that not only would the Congress lose, but no member of the party would even secure their deposit.

Beerla Ilayya Criticizes KTR's Farmers' Dharna as a 'Comedy Show'

TPN Correspondent |

Nalgonda, Jan 29 : Government whip Beerla Ilayya has heavily criticized KTR's organization of a farmers' dharna in Nalgonda, calling it a "comedy show" that turned out to be a complete flop. Ilayya pointed out that even BRS activists did not show up to support the protest. He commended Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy and Komatireddy Venkata Reddy for their development efforts in Nalgonda, stating that Komatireddy had even sacrificed his ministerial position for the region's progress.



Ilayya questioned KTR's moral authority to criticize leaders like Komatireddy and Uttam Kumar Reddy, accusing him of being involved in questionable activities. He referred to KTR as a "thief" caught in the crossfire of the Formula E car race controversy, suggesting that a case would soon be filed against him, similar to how a thief is dealt with by the law.

Furthermore, Ilayya claimed that KTR was using farmers to restore his tarnished image, asserting that the Congress government is committed to supporting both farmers and farm laborers. He concluded by stating that KTR's downfall began in Nalgonda, signaling the start of his political decline.

MP Raghunandan Accuses BRS of Spending Rs. 50 Crores in MLC Elections

TPN Correspondent |

Medak, Jan 29 : Medak MP Raghunandan Rao has made sensational allegations against the BRS, claiming that the party spent nearly Rs. 50 crores during the recent MLC elections. Speaking to the media, Rao questioned BRS leaders who often boast about their leadership in the Telangana and TNGO movements but failed to field a candidate for the elections. He also pointed out the curious case of a graduate from the Warangal-Nalgonda-Khammam region being fielded as a candidate by a neighboring party, claiming that BRS made a "fuss" to ensure his victory.

Raghunandan Rao further criticized BRS for lacking direction, even with an MLA in charge of the constituency. He raised concerns over the party's decision to withdraw from the Karimnagar MLC elections, questioning why they did not contest in their own district.

Rao's remarks have sparked significant debate, especially as the BRS appears to be in a tight spot with upcoming MLC elections just around the corner. His comments have drawn attention to the party's election strategies and internal challenges.



BJP MLA Shankar Accuses Congress of Diversion Politics Over Padma Awards

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : BJP MLA Payal Shankar has criticized the Congress government in Telangana, accusing it of failing to deliver on its promises. Speaking to the media, Shankar pointed out that while Congress had promised to implement four major schemes across the state, they have only been implemented in one village in a mandal, leading to growing opposition from the public.



Shankar alleged that, in an attempt to divert attention from the government's failures, Congress leaders have been focusing on the controversy surrounding Padma Awards. He emphasized that the Padma Awards, given by the Modi government, are awarded according to a well-established system, and even individuals who have never visited Delhi have received them.

The MLA further stated that Congress has no authority to engage in controversial politics in the state, as it was elected based on promises to implement six guarantees. He accused the party of using the Padma Award controversy as a tactic to stir up emotions and divert attention from its unfulfilled promises. Shankar clarified that while the BJP is not against individuals, it opposes the ideology of those they consider "traitors."

Jagadish Reddy Slams Nalgonda Leaders, Backs KCR and Farmers' Cause

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Former Minister and Suryapet MLA Jagadish Reddy made a strong statement, asserting that he and his party are not afraid of "dog-faced leaders" from Nalgonda. Speaking at the Rythu Maha Dharna event in Nalgonda, Reddy emphasized that Telangana was formed with the unwavering support of farmers and that KCR had always championed their cause.

Reddy recalled the pivotal moment when KCR resigned to protest the rising electricity prices, leading to widespread support from farmers. He reminded the audience that Telangana was achieved under the slogan "KCR dies or Telangana will come," and since then, KCR's leadership has elevated farmers to the top of the country's priority list.

Reddy also criticized the Congress party, claiming that its tarnished reputation led to cases and arrests against its leaders. He praised KCR for his leadership and the support of KTR, who, along with farmers, attended the dharna in Nalgonda in large numbers.

The MLA made it clear that KTR's competition is not with local district leaders but with national figures like Rahul Gandhi, positioning KTR as a formidable force in the political landscape.



Eatala Rajender Urges Support for Security Printing Press Mazdoor Sangh



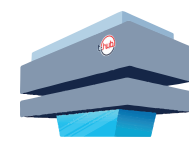
TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender has called on workers to support the Security Printing Press Mazdoor Sangh in the upcoming elections. Speaking at a cadre meeting of the union, Rajender expressed his solidarity with unions and protests,

which he has supported throughout his 25-year political career.

Rajender visited the printing press and inquired about workers' issues, emphasizing his commitment to ensuring public sector enterprises remain operational and provide more job opportunities. He recalled his efforts as Finance Minister to restart the press when it had closed, and praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for allocating Rs. 6,300 crore for the reopening of the Ramagundam Fertilizer Company.

Rajender assured the workers that he understood their struggles, highlighting the BJP's efforts to allocate Rs. 4 lakh crore in the central budget to provide employment. He reiterated his dedication to standing by the workers and their rights.



Vizag Kidney Scam Expands to Hyderabad

Key Accused Resumes Illegal Surgeries
Kidney Recipients Still Unknown
Special Teams Hunt for More Accused

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : The sensational Visakhapatnam kidney racket, which first came to light in May 2023, has now been linked to a similar illegal network operating in Hyderabad. The Rachakonda police revealed that Dr. Perumalla Rajasekhar, the prime accused in the Visakhapatnam case, has resumed his illegal operations in Hyderabad after being jailed in Andhra Pradesh.

From Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad: A Widening Network

The case initially surfaced in the Pendurthi area of Visakhapatnam when an illegal kidney transplant was discovered. Investigations revealed that a victim's kidney had been unlawfully removed and transplanted into a recipient from Chhattisgarh. The police arrested Dr. Rajasekhar, along with ten others, in connection with the racket.

However, despite his imprisonment, Rajasekhar allegedly revived his illegal business in Hyderabad in 2024, operating through Alakananda Hospital under the directives of a person identified as Pawan Gang. Police

Police Probe Hyderabad-Vizag Links
Encrypted Chats Hinder Investigation



found that he was charging up to ₹5 lakh per surgery.

Role of Other Key Accused

Authorities have also identified a doctor from Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Sahib, as a key player in the racket. Special police teams have been deployed to locate and apprehend him. Additionally, names such as Pawan, Poorna, and Laxman—previously arrested in the Visakhapatnam case—have resurfaced in the Hyderabad investigation, strengthening suspicions of a deep-rooted connection between the two networks.

Mystery Surrounding Kidney Recipients

While police have identified the key culprits behind the illegal transplants, the details of the kidney re-

ipients remain unknown. Investigators suspect that confidential patient data from hospitals, particularly those treating kidney ailments, might have been leaked to the gang. Further complicating the case is the gang's use of encrypted communication. Reports suggest that all discussions regarding donors, recipients, and surgeries were conducted via WhatsApp, making it challenging for law enforcement to trace the full extent of their operations.

Ongoing Investigation and Arrests

In a major breakthrough, Saroonagar police arrested Dr. Rajasekhar, a resident of Perumbalam in Chennai, and brought him to Hyderabad. He was remanded on Monday. Authorities have now widened the investigation to establish deeper links between the Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad networks. Analysts believe that until law enforcement uncovers the full extent of the racket, the case will remain shrouded in mystery. Meanwhile, police are intensifying efforts to identify and apprehend all those involved in this illicit organ trade.

KTR Thanks AP CM Chandrababu Naidu, Takes a Dig at Revanth Reddy

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Telangana's BRS Working President and former minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) expressed gratitude to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu via a tweet that also seemed to target Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. KTR shared a video clip of Chandrababu acknowledging Telangana's achievements under the BRS government and highlighted the state's progress over the past decade. KTR wrote, "Thanks to CM Chandrababu Naidu for repeatedly recognizing Telangana as the Indian state with the highest per capita income, achieved through BRS government's progressive policies. Kindly educate your unstable former disciple, who seems unable to digest this fact." This tweet was seen as a direct criticism of Revanth Reddy and comes



amid ongoing political tensions. KTR's post follows Chandrababu's recent praise for Telangana's economic growth on various platforms, while KTR consistently critiques the Congress government's decisions in Telangana. The BRS leadership has often cited Telangana's financial success as a result of their governance, with former CM KCR and KTR emphasizing the state's transformation into an economic leader in India.

Hydra Demolishes Former YSRCP MLA Katasani's Wall Again



TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Hydra authorities are once again cracking down on illegal constructions, staying firm on their resolve to demolish unauthorized structures. In a recent action, Hydra targeted a wall belonging to former YSRCP MLA Katasani in Sangareddy district's Ameenpur area.

The wall, located near a large lake, was demolished earlier but was rebuilt by the former MLA. This led to

a fresh round of demolitions under the supervision of Hydra Chief Ranganathan. The authorities, frustrated by the repeated reconstruction of the illegal structure, issued notices before initiating the demolition. This incident highlights Hydra's intensified efforts to address encroachments and illegal constructions. The authorities have made it clear that no unauthorized structures will be tolerated, regardless of their connections or ownership.

Bomb Threat at Nacharam Delhi Public School Sparks Panic

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : A bomb threat at Nacharam Delhi Public School in Hyderabad caused panic on Tuesday. This marks the second such incident reported at the school this month. Following the threat, bomb squad officials swiftly conducted thorough inspections at the school premises to ensure safety. Authorities suspect the bomb threat to be a prank call made by miscre-

ants. To prioritize student safety, the school management sent all students home immediately. The police have launched an investigation into the incident and are working to identify those responsible for the hoax. Meanwhile, parents and the local community have expressed concerns over the repeated threats disrupting school activities.



Amazon Hyderabad Office Faces ₹102 Crore Fraud by Employees

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Amazon has uncovered a massive ₹102 crore fraud allegedly orchestrated by current and former employees at its Hyderabad Relay Operations Center. The scam involved falsifying delivery records and claiming transport reimbursements for undelivered packages. A complaint has been lodged with the Cyber Security Bureau, which has registered cases against 22 individuals and initiated investigations. The Hyderabad Relay Operations Center oversees deliveries globally, tracking shipments from warehouses to customers via GPS. Third-party vendors handle deliveries, and Amazon reimburses transport costs based on distances traveled, even if

a package is undelivered due to customer unavailability. The fraudulent scheme saw employees colluding with U.S.-based delivery personnel to fabricate delivery trips. They falsely reported packages as undelivered due to absent customers, claiming reimbursements for the fictitious trips. This led to a financial loss of ₹102.88 crore. Amazon's representative revealed that former employees collaborated with current staff to manipulate the system. The Cyber Security Bureau is actively investigating all parties involved, including those based in the U.S. Authorities urge stricter internal monitoring to prevent similar fraudulent activities in the future.

DSC 2008 Victims Protest for Appointment Orders at Praja Bhavan

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Hundreds of DSC 2008 victims from across the state gathered in large numbers at Praja Bhavan to stage a protest, demanding their long-pending appointment orders. Despite a cabinet decision made over a year ago to provide jobs to the candidates, the government has not yet issued appointment orders, leaving the candidates frustrated. The protestors stated that certificate verification was completed in September, yet they have been waiting

for five months for the appointment process to be finalized. The candidates, numbering 1,399 statewide, urged the government to release a schedule and issue appointment orders promptly to bring relief to their long-standing plight. Chanting slogans, the protestors called for Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's intervention to resolve the issue and deliver justice. They emphasized the urgent need to support their families by providing the promised jobs and ending their prolonged wait.

Man Injured in Tank Bund Boat Fire Succumbs to Injuries



TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : The man injured in the Tank Bund boat fire incident succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment at a hospital. Doctors at Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad confirmed his death on Tuesday morning.

The tragic incident occurred on January 26 during a patriotic event, "Bharat Mata Harathi," organized near People's Plaza at Tank Bund under the supervision of Union Minister Kishan Reddy as part of Republic Day celebrations.

The accident took place late at night when fireworks ignited a fire on a boat loaded with firecrackers. Ganapati, who suffered severe burns covering 80% of his body, had been admitted to Yashoda Hospital for treatment but succumbed to his injuries. Another young man went missing during the incident, and authorities have yet to locate him. Rescue teams continue their efforts to find the missing individual. The incident has raised concerns about safety measures during such events. An investigation is underway to determine the cause of the fire and establish accountability.

11 Telangana Police Officers Fly to Delhi to Arrest Common Man, Delhi Court Intervenes

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : In a scene reminiscent of the movie "Singam," Telangana police reportedly sent 11 officers on a flight to Delhi to arrest a common man, sparking a controversy. The incident involves a personal dispute between Congress leader Teegala Krishna Reddy and a young man named Nag Nandeswar Reddy. Initially, Nandeswar filed a complaint at a police station, but Krishna Reddy allegedly pleaded with him not to pursue the case. Later, it is alleged that Krishna Reddy filed a counter-case against Nandeswar at Meerpet Police Station, reportedly using his influence. Subsequently, 11 police officers from three stations flew to Delhi to detain Nandeswar. According to Nandeswar, the police entered his residence without notice, uniform, or explanation, attempting to arrest him unlawfully. Seeking relief, he approached the Delhi Saket Court, which reprimanded the Telangana police for the lack of prior notice and legal procedures. Nandeswar also filed a complaint with the Telangana DGP, but reportedly received no response. Consequent-



ly, he filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court against the Telangana police, citing an unlawful arrest attempt and expressing fears for his safety. The High Court directed the Telangana DGP to submit a reply within six weeks. Sources allege that Teegala Krishna Reddy misused government machinery for personal vendettas. Nandeswar has publicly expressed his distress over the ordeal and his concerns about safety due to the police's actions. The case has raised serious questions about misuse of power and procedural violations.

Tragic Accident in Manikonda: 10-Year-Old Girl Dies, Father Injured

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : A devastating road accident occurred in Manikonda, Hyderabad, resulting in the death of a 10-year-old girl and injuries to her father. The duo was traveling on an Activa scooter when a speeding lorry collided with them near a school.

The father was taking his daughter to school when the incident happened. The impact caused the girl to fall under the lorry, leading to her immediate death, while the father sustained minor injuries. The accident caused a massive traffic jam in the area.

Police have attributed the mishap to the lorry driver's neg-

ligence and have registered a case to investigate further. The tragic incident has raised concerns about increasing accidents caused by rash driving and traffic rule violations in Hyderabad. Residents demand stricter enforcement of road safety measures.



Three Minors Killed in Tragic Accident on Aramghar Flyover

TPN Correspondent |

Hyderabad, Jan 29 : A tragic accident claimed the lives of three minors on the Aramghar flyover near Shivrampally in the Rajendranagar area. The incident occurred when a two-wheeler crashed into a divider after colliding with an electric pole.

According to the police, the accident happened when the bike was traveling at high speed and lost control near Shivrampally. Two of the minors died on the spot, while the third succumbed to injuries during treatment at a nearby hospital.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the victims were residents of Bahadurpura and were engaging in triple riding, which, combined with overspeeding, led to the fatal accident. The group was reportedly heading from Bahadurpura to Aramghar when the mishap occurred. Authorities have urged citizens to adhere to traffic rules and avoid dangerous practices like triple riding to prevent such unfortunate incidents.

Minister Konda Surekha Adopts Wildlife at Kakatiya Zoo Park

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Forest, Environment, and Endowments Minister Smt. Konda Surekha has adopted four wildlife species from the Hanmakonda Kakatiya Zoological Park. She officially adopted a Nilgai, Sambar Deer, Chausinga, and Wild Buffalo, committing to provide Rs. 50,000 for the food and care of each animal for a year, totaling Rs. 2 lakh.

The adoption process was completed when Kakatiya Zoo Park Assistant Curator Mayuri Hanmakonda visited Minister Surekha's residence in Ramnagar. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Surekha encouraged bird and animal lovers to adopt wildlife at the zoo. She stated that individuals, organizations, and groups could adopt animals such as

small birds, turtles, and tigers for varying periods—three months, six months, or a year—based on their ability to contribute. The Minister clarified that the Forest Department facilitates wildlife adoption by providing guidelines and contact details for interested adopters. She also advised forest officials to raise public awareness about income tax exemptions and other bene-



fits available for payments made towards wildlife adoption. This initiative aims to promote animal welfare and engage the community in supporting conservation efforts.

Employees' JAC Issues Strong Warning to Minister Ponguleti



TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar, Jan 29 : The Karimnagar Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) has issued a stern warning to State Minister

Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy following his recent comments about Karimnagar District Collector Pamela Satpathi. The JAC condemned the minister's remarks

and declared that anyone who insults or speaks abusively about IAS officers, employees, and officers would face serious consequences.

In a meeting held at the TNGO Bhavan in Karimnagar, JAC Chairman Daram Srinivas Reddy expressed outrage over the minister's behavior, emphasizing that such actions undermine the morale of government employees. He criticized the minister for his remarks, stating that they had deeply hurt the employees of Karimnagar district.

Reddy warned that if similar incidents occurred in the future,

the government would be held responsible for the aftermath. He pointed out that employees, who work tirelessly for the welfare of the public, should not be targeted for political games. The JAC leader also called on Ponguleti to retract his statements about the District Collector, warning that failure to do so would result in the loss of support from the employees.

He concluded by stating that government employees would no longer tolerate such disrespect, and if necessary, they would take action to protect their dignity and uphold their role in public service.

High Court Delivers Key Verdict on Harish Rao's Quash Petition

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 29 : The High Court heard a petition on Tuesday filed by former minister Harish Rao, seeking the quashing of the FSIR in the phone tapping case registered against him at the Panjagutta police station. During the hearing, both the Public Prosecutor and the petitioner's lawyers informed the court that Supreme Court lawyers would represent the case. The High Court suggested that the two sides discuss the matter and announce a suitable date for further proceedings. Consequently, the hearing was adjourned until the afternoon.

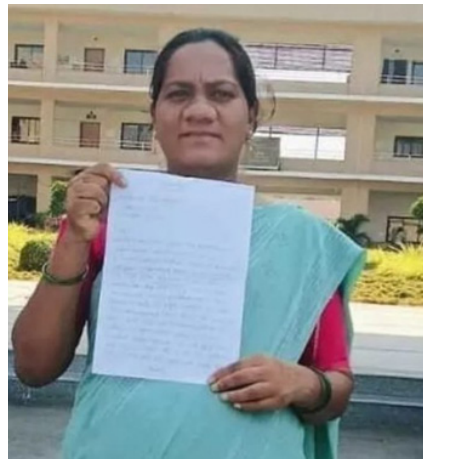


The Panjagutta police had filed an FIR against Harish Rao and the then Task Force DCP Radhakishan Rao, based on a complaint by Chakradhar Goud, a resident of Siddipet. Goud alleged that Harish Rao had his phone tapped during the time the BRS party was in power. In response, Harish Rao moved to the High Court to seek the cancellation of the FSIR filed by the police.

In a recent development, the High Court issued notices to Chakradhar Goud, asking him to file a counter to the petition. The court also provided relief to Harish Rao by ruling that he could not be arrested in connection with the case until February 5. This decision has brought a temporary respite to the former minister as the legal battle continues.

Pregnant Woman Fights for Teacher Post Allocation

TPN Correspondent | Adilabad, Jan 29 : An 8-month pregnant woman has embarked on a legal battle after being denied her rightful appointment to a teacher post. Jyotsna, a resident of Koutala in Adilabad district, was selected for a teacher position with a 1:1 ranking in the recently released DSC merit list. She even received her appointment order directly from Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.



However, Jyotsna claims her position was unjustly allocated to a candidate ranked 13th. Fighting for justice, she filed a case in court and submitted a petition to the district collector via Prajavani, seeking redressal of the issue. Despite her advanced pregnancy, Jyotsna is determined to secure her rightful post, urging authorities to intervene and resolve the matter promptly. Her plight has drawn attention to the need for transparency in job allocation processes.

MLA Raj Thakur Criticizes NTPC Officials



they had done in the past. He emphasized that NTPC has a responsibility to support the villages affected by the power plant, particularly those who lost their homes and land. The MLA alleged that jobs are being sold for up to 2 lakhs, accusing officials of corruption in the recruitment process.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Ramagundam MLA Raj Thakur expressed his strong dissatisfaction with NTPC officials during a public consultation program at the NTPC power plant in Godavari khani. Thakur raised concerns over the failure of NTPC to provide jobs to displaced locals, accusing the officials of cheating the community, as

Thakur demanded that action be taken against those involved in selling jobs and insisted that NTPC should adopt the Ramagundam area, which has been suffering due to the plant's operations. He called for the collector to intervene, stating that jobs should be provided directly through official channels, not through contractors who may exploit the process for financial gain.

Groundnut Farmers Stage Protest in Mahabubnagar Over Low Prices



TPN Correspondent | Mahabubnagar, Jan 29 : The Mahabubnagar market yard has been thrown into turmoil as groundnut farmers have staged a large-scale protest, demanding a fair price for their crops. The farmers, who are frustrated with the losses they have incurred, have expressed concerns that their hard-earned produce is not benefiting them but instead causing financial strain.

The market officials abandoned their posts as the protest intensified, and the farmers, who had brought hundreds of quintals of groundnuts to sell, grew increasingly angry as the purchases came to a halt. The protest continues to highlight the deepening frustrations of farmers struggling to make a profit in the current market conditions.

The protest escalated when farmers blocked the nearby Boyapalli Gate railway tracks, halting train movement. Despite police efforts to calm the situation, the farmers continued their agitation, shout-

MPDO's Controversial Remarks on Welfare Scheme

TPN Correspondent | Gadwal, Jan 29 : In a recent incident in Undavelli Mandal, Jogulamba Gadwal district, the MPDO's insensitive remarks regarding welfare schemes have stirred controversy. A man, who had approached the MPDO to request an Indiramma house after being excluded from the recent gram sabha, was met with an inappropriate response. According to reports, the MPDO, rather than addressing the issue, scornfully mocked the individual, calling his request a "boo-poor story" and dismissing it with the phrase "tika..dava."

The man, who had been informed that he was ineligible for the Congress government's welfare schemes despite meeting the criteria, expressed his frustration. However, instead of being empathetic, the MPDO allegedly scolded the individual, telling him, "Sir, why are you still not coming to the office even though you are 12?" This derogatory remark has sparked outrage among the public, particularly as it highlights issues of transparency and fairness in the implementation of welfare programs meant to help the disadvantaged.



KTR Inquires About Issues Faced by MGU Students



TPN Correspondent | Nalgonda, Jan 29 : BRS Working President KTR, who was in Nalgonda for the farmers' Mahadharna, took time to meet with students from Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU) to inquire about their concerns. The students expressed their frustration over what they described as harassment and discrimination under the current leadership of the university.

The students raised issues with the university's Vice Chancellor, claiming that his leadership has been marked by anarchy and unfair treatment. They also mentioned that, during the tenure of the KCR government, they had access to better facilities, including meals, which was a significant benefit for them.

The students requested KTR's support in urging the government to remove the current VC, as they felt their voices were being ignored. In response, KTR assured the students that their concerns would be brought to the attention of the government and that they would have the support they needed in addressing these issues.

2 Telangana Cops Arrested for Rs 1.4 Lakh Bribe in PDS Rice Scam



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Two Telangana police officers, including a sub-inspector and a constable, were arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) for allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 1.4 lakh in connection with a Public Distribution System (PDS) rice scam.

The accused, Vukkurthy Suresh, a sub-inspector at Thirumalagiri police station in Suryapet, and Nagaraju, a constable, allegedly sought a bribe to prevent the complainant's arrest in a ration rice case. According to reports, the two officers demanded Rs 3 lakh but eventually accepted Rs 1.4 lakh, with Rs 1 lakh going to the sub-inspector and Rs 40,000 to the constable.

The first installment of Rs 30,000 was paid via PhonePe on January 25, followed by an additional Rs 70,000 on January 28. A chemical test confirmed the presence of the bribe money on the constable's fingers.

In a separate case, an ACB operation also led to the arrest of a sub-inspector and two constables from Hyderabad police for accepting bribes to close a case.

The ACB has urged the public to report bribery incidents via their toll-free helpline, 1064.

Implement UCC in Andhra, become first in South

We strongly urge the Andhra Pradesh Government to take immediate action in implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Act. By doing so, Andhra Pradesh has the opportunity to become the first southern state to adopt this significant legislation, thereby setting a powerful precedent for other states in the region to follow. The implementation of the UCC is not merely a legal obligation; it is a crucial step towards ensuring equality and justice for all citizens, regardless of their faith or background.

In this context, it is imperative that national interests are prioritized above local political considerations. The governance of our state should not be swayed by the potential electoral advantages or disadvantages that may arise from such a decision. Instead, the focus must remain on the broader implications for society as a whole, fostering unity and equality among all citizens.

Furthermore, we call upon our partners within the local National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to act decisively and with-



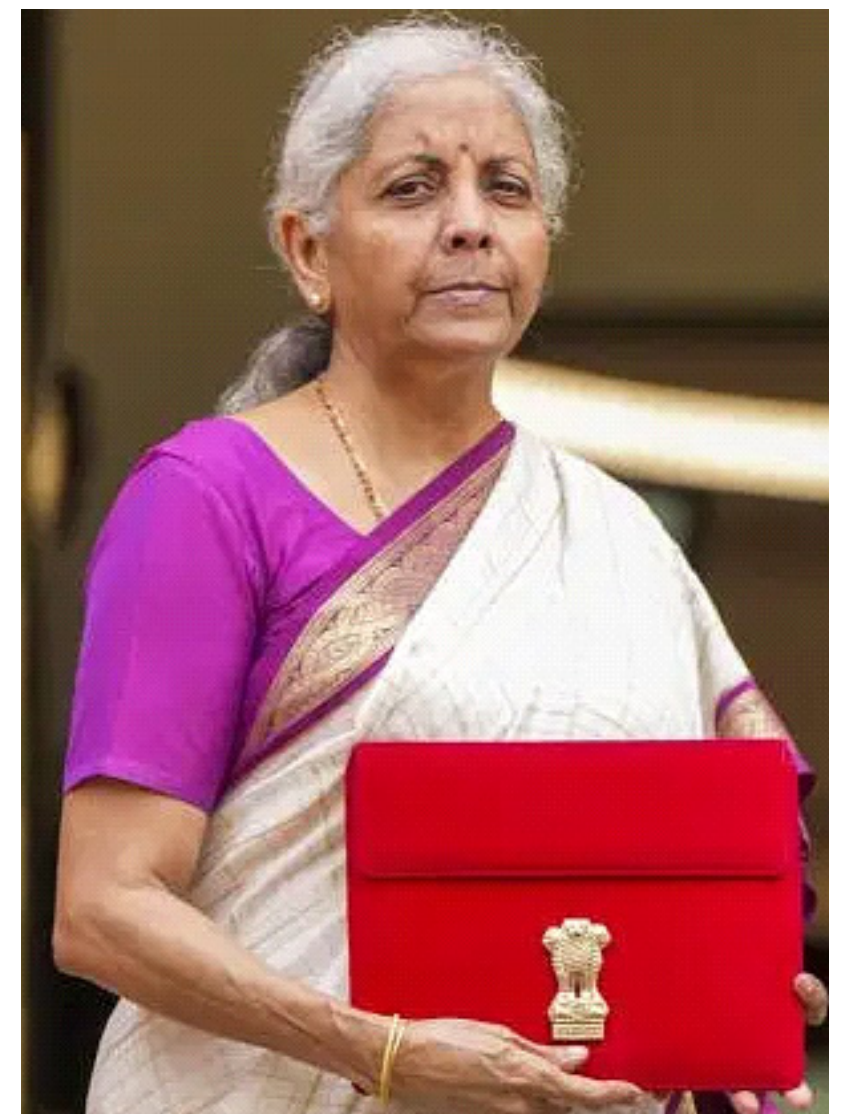
Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

out delay on this matter. It is essential that we present a united front in sup-

port of the UCC, demonstrating our commitment to the principles of justice and equality.

Granting privileges or special considerations based on faith and religion fundamentally contradicts the core principles of secularism and democracy that our nation upholds. The UCC aims to eliminate such disparities, ensuring that all individuals are treated equally under the law, irrespective of their religious beliefs. By implementing the UCC, Andhra Pradesh can lead the way in promoting a more inclusive and equitable society, reinforcing the values that are essential to our democratic framework.

In conclusion, we implore the Andhra Pradesh Government to take this bold step forward, embracing the Uniform Civil Code as a means to strengthen our commitment to equality, justice, and secularism. Let us work together to create a future where all citizens are treated with dignity and respect, free from the divisions that have historically plagued our society.



Forecasting Key Elements of Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget 2025

The Union Budget is one of the most anticipated events in India's fiscal calendar. It not only outlines the government's financial health but also provides insight into its future policy direction. The upcoming Budget 2025-2026, set to be presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on February 1, is expected to focus on key developmental programmes, policy reforms, and economic strategies to navigate the current challenges and promote growth.

The 2024-2025 Budget proposed a total expenditure of Rs 48.21 trillion, with expected revenues (both tax and non-tax) and non-debt capital receipts, including disinvestment proceeds, pegged at Rs 32.07 trillion. This left a fiscal deficit of Rs 16.13 trillion. Looking ahead to the 2025-2026 Budget, the government is expected to maintain a similar trajectory in terms of fiscal policy while introducing measures to improve revenue generation and fiscal management.

The gross tax receipts (GTRs) until November 2024 stood at Rs 22.61 trillion, reflecting a growth of 10.72%, aligning with the projections for the year. Specifically, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) growth of 9.1% and a slight contraction of 0.53% in corporate tax receipts indicate a mixed performance, impacted by macroeconomic factors and corporate sector dynamics. Given the ongoing trends, the government is likely to target Rs 28.41 trillion for net Centre's Tax Receipts (CTRs) for 2025-2026.

While the precise numbers will be revealed in the Budget, analysts predict that the government will continue to scale up ongoing flagship programs and announce new development initiatives aimed at spurring economic growth and addressing socio-economic challenges. Given the global uncertainties and domestic economic pressures, the Budget will also likely include measures to boost investment, job creation, and social welfare.

In terms of fiscal policy, the government is expected to take a cautious approach to ensure that revenue targets are met while managing inflationary pressures. The Budget may also prioritize key sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare, and education, along with digital economy initiatives and green energy projects, which have become increasingly important in the post-pandemic recovery phase.

The Budget 2025-2026, while maintaining continuity in fiscal policy, is likely to signal the government's commitment to long-term economic stability and sustainable growth, ensuring that India's recovery from the pandemic remains robust and inclusive.

The Rarest of Rare Doctrine and the Fate of Victims in India's Legal System



Justice Leila Seth, the first woman Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, once poignantly remarked, "She is first raped, then she has to tell the story to the policeman. Then she has to tell the story to the judge, then she is cross-examined on it. She is raped over and over again." These words resonate deeply in the tragic case of a young junior doctor from RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, whose life was cruelly taken while performing her duties in a place that should have guaranteed her safety. Her murderer has been sentenced to life imprisonment, a sentence that some argue fails to match the severity of his crime. The Sessions Court in Sealdah deemed this case not to be one of the "rarest of rare," despite the brutal nature of the crime. Is the cost of a young life, taken so mer-

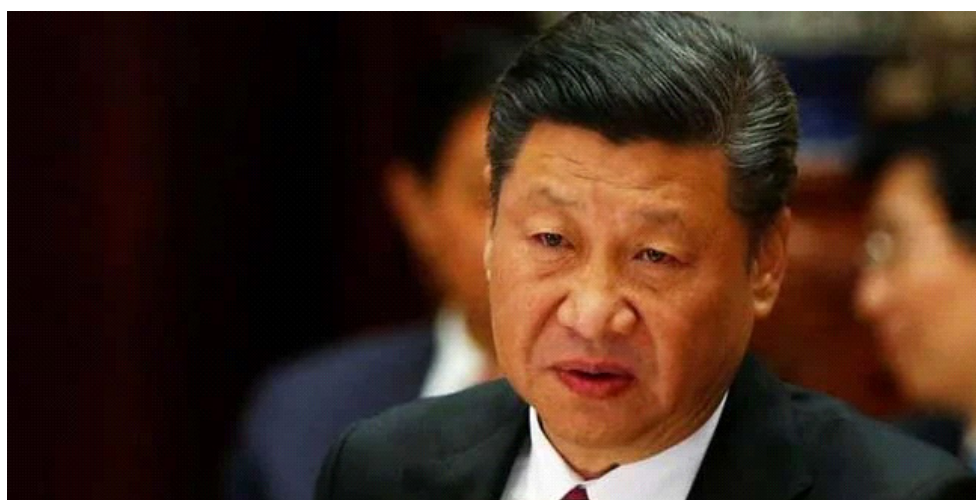
chantly, only worth a meager Rs 50,000 compensation to the victim's family?

India's legal system follows an adversarial model, which involves opposing parties presenting their case to a neutral judge or jury. This system differs from the inquisitorial model used in countries like France and Germany, where judges play an active role in investigating cases. In India, the burden of proof lies with the prosecution, and the accused has the right to silence. In sentencing, Indian courts follow key principles such as proportionality, deterrence, rehabilitation, and retribution, with the death penalty reserved for only the most extreme cases. The introduction of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (2023), which replaced the Indi-

an Penal Code (IPC), highlights a shift in legal frameworks, providing guidelines for serious offenses like murder and treason. However, capital punishment in India is only imposed in the rarest of rare cases, a doctrine established by the Supreme Court in 1980. The concept of "rarest of rare" was solidified in the Bachan Singh v. State of Punjab (1980) case, where the Supreme Court set forth criteria to determine when death penalty is appropriate. Factors such as the brutality of the crime, the offender's history, and the possibility of rehabilitation influence sentencing. Cases like Machhi Singh v. State of Punjab (1983), where the brutal slaughter of 17 family members was deemed beyond the scope of life imprisonment, led to the confirmation of the death penalty.

India-China Relations: Who's Shaping the Narrative?

India's Foreign Secretary, Vikram Misri, recently visited China for a two-day trip aimed at discussing the future of bilateral relations, which have been tense following a nearly four-year military standoff. Both countries have made moves toward normalizing ties, but the underlying issues are far from resolved.



The relationship between India and China soured significantly in 2020 when Beijing unilaterally attempted to alter the status quo along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), leading to casualties on both sides. India responded firmly, emphasizing that peace and stability along the border would define the broader relationship. As a result, a series of measures were enacted, including banning nearly 300 Chinese

mobile apps, halting direct flights, imposing strict visa restrictions, and reviewing educational cooperation. The focus shifted to safeguarding national security over economic or technologi-

cal engagements. However, since the disengagement in 2024, the focus has been on rebuilding the economic and people-to-people ties

that had been frozen for years. The Special Representatives (SRs) mechanism has been revived, aimed at resolving the border issue. Notably, pilgrimages to Kailash Mansarovar in Tibet will resume, and discussions on hydrological data sharing and transnational river cooperation are advancing. Plans to restart direct air services are also in the works, signaling a move toward economic and cultural revitalization.

Despite these positive developments, several concerns remain. The weaponry amassed along the border during the standoff has not been withdrawn, raising questions about China's long-term intentions. Indian military officials have cautioned that while the situation in Eastern Ladakh is stable, both sides remain in a "degree of standoff." Addi-

tionally, the creation of no-patrol zones and the ongoing presence of military forces indicate that full disengagement may not be complete.

Beyond the military concerns, China's actions in other domains continue to be troubling. Beijing has proposed carving out new counties in Xinjiang that include parts of Ladakh, and its ambitious hydropower projects on the Brahmaputra River in Tibet continue to raise alarms in India. Diplomatic protests have been lodged, but the strategic competition continues to simmer beneath the surface. China's narrative, shaped by its strategic class, seems to suggest that India's engagement with China is driven by vulnerability, with concerns about Chinese corporations hurting the Indian economy.

PM Modi Pushes for 'Concert Economy' After Coldplay's Successful India Tour

Growing Concert Sector Prompts Focus on Infrastructure Development

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

After the success of Coldplay's concerts in Mumbai and Ahmedabad, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday highlighted India's immense possibilities in the emerging concert economy. The British rock band's sold-out performances in India have proven that the country has significant potential to become a global hub for live music events. Modi urged both states and private sector players to focus on developing the infrastructure and skills necessary to support this growing sector.



In his remarks, Modi stressed the importance of developing world-class concert venues and infrastructure to meet the increasing demand for live entertainment. As India becomes an increasingly popular destination for international artists, there is a growing need for specialized venues, skilled event organizers, and improved services for concert-goers.

The concert economy is a rapidly growing financial ecosystem surrounding live music events. Globally, this sector is projected to reach \$31 billion by 2026, driven by the shift from physical album sales to live performances. In India, the concert economy is expected to grow robustly, with the market potentially valued at ₹6,000-8,000 crore. This includes revenue generated through local spending on accommodations, food, and transportation during live events, which boosts local economies significantly.

- PM Modi sees immense potential in India's concert economy, especially after Coldplay's successful shows in Mumbai and Ahmedabad.
- India's "conference tourism" is also growing, with venues like Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi in Delhi becoming major centers.
- The concert economy in India is estimated to reach ₹6,000-8,000 crore, contributing significantly to local economies.



UPI Dominates India's Digital Payments Landscape, Reaching 83% Share in 2024

Explosive Growth in UPI Transactions Drives India's Digital Payment Revolution

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has achieved remarkable growth in India, now accounting for an astounding 83% of the country's digital payment volume in 2024, up from just 34% in 2019. This surge represents an impressive cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) of 74% over the past five years, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest payment system report. UPI's dominance has significantly outpaced other digital payment methods, such as RTGS, NEFT, IMPS, credit cards, and debit cards, whose combined share in digital payments has plummeted from 66% to 17% over the same period.

- UPI's share of India's digital payments has surged from 34% in 2019 to 83% in 2024, with a CAGR of 74% over five years.
- The volume of UPI transactions has skyrocketed, increasing from 375 crore in 2018 to 17,221 crore in 2024, while the value of transactions reached ₹246.83 lakh crore.
- UPI Lite, introduced in 2023, has boosted low-value transaction volumes, contributing to the continued expansion of digital payments in India.

UPI's explosive growth is attributed to its ease of use, reliability, and secure, real-time transaction capabilities, which have made it the preferred method for digital payments in India. As a result, UPI has played a pivotal role in driving the expansion of digital payment adoption across the country, with the volume of transactions increasing from 375 crore in 2018 to an impressive 17,221 crore in 2024. The total value of UPI transactions also saw a dramatic rise, reaching ₹246.83 lakh crore in 2024, up from ₹5.86 lakh crore in 2018. This equates to a CAGR of 89.3% in terms of transaction volume and 86.5% in transaction value.

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella Calls Himself "Product" Of India-US Bond

Microsoft CEO Reflects His Journey, Highlights Contributions of Indian-Americans

TPN Correspondent | Seattle/New York

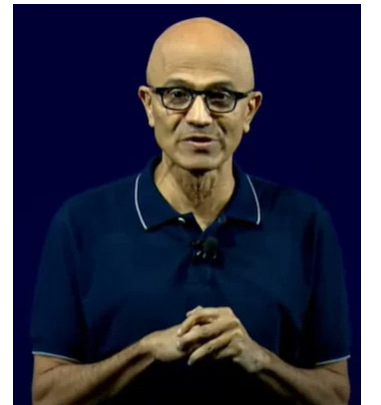
Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella celebrated the enduring bond between India and the United States, calling himself a "product of the bond" between the two nations during a special Republic Day reception in Seattle. The event, hosted by the Consulate General of India, marked India's 76th Republic Day and highlighted the immense contributions of the Indian-American community.

Nadella's Tribute to India-US Bond: The Microsoft CEO emphasized the importance of the relationship between the two countries.

State and Congressional Recognition: Several US lawmakers and government officials expressed gratitude for India's global contributions.

Cultural Exhibits and Performances: The reception showcased India's diverse culture through unique exhibits and performances.

Held at the Bell Harbour Conference Centre, the reception saw over 500 attendees from the Indian-American community, including notable figures such as Washington State Governor Bob Ferguson and Nadella himself. The event also marked a first as several members of the US Congress joined the celebrations, reinforcing the strong relationship between the two nations.



During his address, Nadella praised the leadership of both countries for their shared focus on leveraging technology to improve education, healthcare, public service, and small business productivity. He also acknowledged the Indian-American community's global influence, emphasizing their contributions not only to India but to the world.

In addition to Nadella's remarks, Governor Ferguson expressed his eagerness to further strengthen ties with the Consulate General of India in Seattle. He noted the immense impact the Indian community continues to make on the world stage. The Washington State Senate also recognized the occasion by passing a resolution celebrating India's Republic Day and its strong friendship with the US.

US State Department Evaluates Next Steps in Tahawwur Rana Extradition

US Support for Justice in Mumbai Attacks Case Amid Legal Developments

TPN Correspondent | Washington

The US State Department has confirmed it is evaluating the next steps regarding the potential extradition of Pakistani-origin businessman Tahawwur Rana to India. Rana is wanted for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai attacks, which led to the deaths of 164 people.



port for India's pursuit of justice in the aftermath of the 26/11 attacks. "We have long supported India's efforts to ensure the perpetrators of the Mumbai terrorist attacks face justice," the spokesperson stated. The department's statement also noted that, following the US Supreme Court's recent denial of Rana's appeal, the US is now reviewing the next steps in the case.

Rana, who was convicted for his role in the 26/11 attacks, has been fighting extradition to India. He was involved in the attacks alongside David Headley, who had already pleaded guilty and cooperated against Rana. The case took a significant turn on January 21 when the US Supreme Court denied Rana's petition for a writ of certiorari, effectively removing a legal barrier that had been in place since the earlier ruling of a lower court favoring Rana's extradition.

This decision opens the possibility for Rana's extradition to India, where he faces charges linked to his involvement in planning the deadly attacks. The attacks, which targeted several sites in Mumbai including the Taj Hotel, resulted in the loss of 174 lives, including 20 security personnel and 26 foreign nationals, with more than 300 people injured.

Parliament to take final decision on UCC, Waqf issues: Omar Abdullah

J&K CM Reacts to UCC Implementation in Uttarakhand and Waqf Bill Amendments

TPN Correspondent | Jammu

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah stated on Tuesday that it is ultimately Parliament, not individual Union Territories or states, that will make the final decision regarding the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and the Waqf (Amendment) Bill. His comments followed Uttarakhand's decision to implement the UCC, with the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) fulfilling a key promise made during the 2022 assembly elections.



Omar Abdullah emphasized that the decision on UCC and the Waqf Bill lies with Parliament, not individual states or UTs. Uttarakhand became the first state to implement the UCC, fulfilling a major BJP election commitment.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee examining the Waqf Bill has accepted all amendments proposed by BJP-NDA members, rejecting opposition suggestions.

Abdullah reacted to Uttarakhand's move by stating, "Let them do what they want to do till a law is enacted for the country. Finally, it is Parliament which will decide on

this and not the individual UTs or States." His remarks underline the ongoing debate over the UCC, which aims to implement a uniform set of laws governing personal matters such as marriage, inheritance, and adoption across India.

Regarding the Waqf Bill, Abdullah noted that the Joint Parliamentary Committee is still deliberating and no final decision has

been made by the government. The committee, in recent discussions, adopted the amendments proposed by the BJP-led NDA members, but rejected changes suggested by opposition members. Abdullah also referred to a recent meeting between Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and the committee, where Farooq expressed his viewpoint on the matter.

Trump Confirms Modi's Likely Visit to White House in February

Strengthening US-India Relations Through Leadership Diplomacy

US President Donald Trump has announced that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to visit the White House for a meeting in February. This statement was made on Monday while President Trump was addressing reporters aboard Air Force One during his return to Joint Base Andrews from Florida.

"I had a long talk with him this morning. He is going to be coming to the White House, over next month, probably February. We have a very good relationship with India," Trump revealed, emphasizing the strong camaraderie between the two leaders.

When questioned about the details of his phone call with PM Modi earlier that morning, Trump stated, "Everything came up," highlighting the depth and breadth of their discussions.

Trump and Modi share a positive rapport, with previous collaborative efforts cementing their leadership dynamics. Modi's visit marks another chapter in deepening US-India ties through open



dialogue and diplomacy.

This prospective meeting comes as a follow-up to Trump's last foreign trip as President, which was to India.

President Trump and Prime Minister Modi have often been seen working closely, addressing large-scale public gatherings and fostering bilateral

initiatives. The potential February visit aims to continue the momentum of cooperation on economic, strategic, and regional security issues. As the international community watches these developments, the meeting is poised to further solidify the robust partnership between the two nations.

Serbian Prime Minister Resigns Amid Protests Over Train Station Collapse

TPN Correspondent | Belgrade

Serbian Prime Minister Milos Vucevic announced his resignation on Tuesday, following months of mass protests triggered by the fatal collapse of a train station roof in Novi Sad last November. Vucevic, addressing a press conference in Belgrade, called his decision irrevocable. "I had a long meeting with the president of Serbia this morning. We talked about this. We talked about everything, and he accepted my arguments," Vucevic said, emphasizing that his resignation was intended to ease tensions in society and prevent further complications. Vucevic's resignation comes after ongoing protests over the deadly train station disaster that killed 15 people. The collapse of the train station roof, following extensive renovations, became the flashpoint for widespread dissatisfaction with the government's handling of construction projects and concerns about corruption in the country's infrastructure sector. These protests reflected long-standing grievances about the lack of oversight on major projects and the



slow pace of accountability.

The tragic event in Novi Sad, which occurred during renovations at the station, ignited a wave of public outrage over the safety of public infrastructure and the alleged mismanagement of funds. Despite serving less than a year in office as prime minister, Vucevic's decision to resign is seen as an effort to defuse mounting pressure from both the public and political opposition. The resignation comes after growing discontent over corruption and lack of oversight on con-

struction projects in the country. Before becoming prime minister, Vucevic had served as the mayor of Novi Sad from 2012 to 2022, overseeing the very renovations at the train station where the disaster occurred. His resignation marks a significant moment in Serbia's political landscape, where calls for government accountability have been steadily growing.

The protests, which have been a regular occurrence since the collapse, highlight the broader issue of corruption and transparency in government projects. Citizens have demanded greater oversight and accountability for public safety, particularly in the wake of the tragic incident. Vucevic had been in office for less than a year, but his tenure was overshadowed by the disaster and the subsequent public backlash. Despite his resignation, the political and public pressures are unlikely to subside quickly, with many calling for deeper reforms and a commitment to addressing systemic issues in the country's infrastructure and governance.

DeepSeek AI sends Shockwaves through US Tech Firms

TPN Correspondent | China

On Monday, Chinese startup DeepSeek announced that it would temporarily limit registrations for its AI assistant due to a cyberattack. The disruption comes after the company's AI model became unexpectedly popular, climbing to the top of the Apple App Store's free applications list in the United States. The company also faced significant outages, marking its longest downtime in around 90 days, coinciding with its newfound popularity.



DeepSeek, which launched its free AI assistant on January 10, has garnered attention for offering a model that uses less data and costs significantly less than its competitors. Powered by the DeepSeek-V3, which its creators claim outperforms many open-source models and rivals advanced closed-source models, the AI assistant has quickly become a favorite among US users. According to Sensor Tower, app data research firm, the model's rapid rise reflects a significant shift in the AI landscape, challenging long-standing views on the dominance of US companies and the effectiveness of US export controls targeting China's tech industry.

The popularity of DeepSeek's AI assistant highlights a major breakthrough for the Hangzhou-based startup, founded in 2023. The company's success has led to discussions in the US tech industry about the effectiveness of export controls on Chinese AI models. DeepSeek's AI application has reportedly been trained using Nvidia's H800 chips, which cost the company under \$6 million, a relatively low expense compared to its US counterparts. While some have disputed these claims, the success of DeepSeek's model has prompted US tech executives to question whether export controls on AI-related chips are truly effective.

DeepSeek's rise also coincides with in-

creased scrutiny of US technology firms' reliance on advanced chips to power AI models. Despite the US government's expanded chip bans, DeepSeek's breakthrough has shown that Chinese companies can still develop competitive AI models with comparatively lower costs, undermining the US's control over AI capabilities.

Little is known about DeepSeek beyond its impressive technological achievements, but the company's ability to rival US AI models has left a significant mark on Silicon Valley, prompting US executives to reconsider their stance on China's technological advancements.

DeepSeek, a Chinese startup, temporarily limited registrations after its AI assistant surged in popularity and faced a cyberattack. The company's DeepSeek-V3 AI model has outperformed many open-source models, challenging US dominance in the AI field. The startup's ability to develop a competitive AI model using less powerful chips and at a lower cost has sparked debates about the effectiveness of US export controls on Chinese AI technologies.

Lana Del Rey Criticizes Selena Gomez Over Immigration Video

Controversy Follows Selena's Emotional Plea Amid Trump's Deportation Plans



TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

Selena Gomez's emotional video expressing her heartbreak over the deportation of illegal immigrants by US President Donald Trump sparked a divided reaction across the internet. In the video, which was later deleted from her Instagram Stories, Gomez tearfully apologized, saying, "I just wanted to say that I'm so sorry. All my people are getting attacked... the children. I don't understand. I'm so sorry, I wish I could do something but I can't. I don't know what to do. I'll try everything, I promise." Along with her heartfelt message, Selena also posted the Mexican flag alongside the words, "I'm sorry." While many fans showed support for Selena's display of empathy, others, including singer Lana Del Rey, publicly criticized her. Lana, who is a known supporter of Trump's "Make America Great Again" slogan, commented on the video, suggesting that Selena should "pack your bags and go back to Mexico. Take your abuela (grandmother) with you." This remark quickly gained traction online, adding fuel to the fire of debate over the issue.

The backlash Selena faced prompted her to post another Story, where she expressed frustration, saying, "Apparently it's not ok to show empathy for people," though this message was also deleted shortly afterward.

Selena has long been an advocate for immigration rights, using her platform to raise awareness about the challenges faced by undocumented individuals. In 2019, she produced a Netflix documentary titled *Living Undocumented*, which highlights the stories of eight undocumented families living in the United States under Trump's administration. The documentary showcases her ongoing commitment to shedding light on the struggles of immigrants. Selena's personal connection to the issue is rooted in her own family history. In an interview with *TIME* magazine in October 2019, she shared how her aunt crossed the US-Mexico border in the 1970s, followed by her grandparents, a journey that has shaped her understanding of immigration issues.

- Selena Gomez's emotional plea about deportations divided the internet, with many supporting her, while others criticized her for her reaction.
- Lana Del Rey's harsh comment advising Selena to "go back to Mexico" sparked further controversy.
- Selena has been vocal about immigration issues, producing the 2019 Netflix documentary *Living Undocumented*, which highlights the struggles of undocumented families.



Trump Encourages Bidding War for TikTok as Microsoft Considers Acquisition

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump revealed that Microsoft is in talks to acquire TikTok, urging for a bidding war over the popular social media app. This comes after a series of national security concerns raised about the app's Chinese owner, ByteDance. Despite these developments, Microsoft declined to comment, and both TikTok and ByteDance have not responded outside of regular business hours.

TikTok, with around 170 million users in the US, faced a brief outage before a law requiring ByteDance to sell the app or face a national ban took effect on January 19. President Trump signed an executive order on January 20, delaying the enforcement of this law for 75 days. He stated that he was in talks with multiple parties regarding the app's acquisition and anticipated making a decision within 30 days.

Trump previously indicated that he would be open to allowing billionaire Elon Musk to purchase TikTok. However, Musk has not commented on the offer, leaving speculation to linger. In the latest developments, AI startup Perplexity AI has reportedly proposed a merger with TikTok, with the US government potentially holding up to half of the newly formed company. This proposal adds another layer to the ongoing negotiations.

India's Electronics Manufacturing Shifts Focus to Component Production with EMS 2.0



India is taking a significant step forward in its electronics manufacturing sector by advancing to the second phase of its electronics manufacturing journey, referred to as Electronics Manufacturing Services (EMS) 2.0. This phase will emphasize the actual manufacturing of electronic components, unlike EMS 1.0, which primarily focused on assembling these components.

According to a report by Phillip Capital, the Indian government is working on introducing a new Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for electronic components. This new scheme aims to increase value addition in the sector to 35-40%, a significant jump from the current 18-20% under the ongoing electronics manufactur-

ing incentive programs. The goal is to make India a more competitive destination for electronics manufacturing by promoting local production and reducing dependence on costly imports, which are often subject to tariffs and other barriers.

While India has made considerable progress in electronics assembly, particularly in mobile and consumer electronics, it still relies heavily on imports for component manufacturing and design. EMS 2.0 will address this gap by shifting the focus toward manufacturing components locally, thus enhancing India's capabilities in this critical area.

To support this shift, the government had previously launched the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECs), which offers a 25% upfront capital expenditure incentive to encourage investment in component manufacturing. However, both the PLI for Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing and the SPECs scheme are approaching their deadlines, making the introduction of a new subsidy scheme vital for the future of component production.

EMS 2.0 is seen as a crucial step in India's ambition to become a global hub for electronics manufacturing, moving beyond assembly to a more robust and self-sustaining industry. This new phase will further enhance India's manufacturing capabilities, positioning the country as a key player in the global electronics market.

Industrialists Optimistic About India's Growth Ahead of Union Budget 2025-26

Ahead of the Union Budget 2025-26, a survey conducted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has revealed that 64% of industrialists are optimistic about India's economic growth. The survey, conducted between late December 2024 and mid-January 2025, indicates that nearly 60% of the participants expect the GDP growth rate for 2025-26 to fall between 6.5% and 6.9%. While this represents a moderation from the robust 8% growth in 2023-24, it aligns with global economic challenges and persistent external headwinds.

Key takeaways from the survey include an expectation for the government to maintain its commitment to fiscal consolidation. Around 47% of participants believe the government will meet its fiscal deficit target of 4.9% for FY 2024-25, with 24% expecting even better results.

The survey also highlighted the importance of continuing public capital expenditure (capex) to sustain economic growth. 68% of respondents called for a significant focus on increasing capex, with many suggesting a 15% rise in allocation for FY 2025-26. This would help maintain the growth momentum and boost key infrastructure projects.



In addition to capex, over half of the respondents emphasized the need for further reforms to improve the ease of doing business in India, particularly in areas like land acquisition, labor laws, and power supply.

There was also a strong call for reforming the direct tax structure to increase disposable income and drive consumption. Industry members are advocating for simplification of the tax regime, incentivizing green technologies, and supporting MSMEs through measures such as

streamlined credit access and adoption of new technologies.

The focus for the upcoming budget remains on infrastructure, manufacturing, and agriculture, with an emphasis on increasing India's global competitiveness through improved logistics and continued support for exports. The Union Budget 2025-26 presents a crucial opportunity to further enhance India's economic resilience and solidify its position as a leading investment destination globally.

UPI's Growth in India: A Digital Payment Revolution



The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has emerged as the dominant force in India's digital payment landscape, experiencing an extraordinary surge in adoption. According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest payment system report, UPI's share of digital payments has skyrocketed from 34% in 2019 to an impressive 83% in 2024. This represents a remarkable CAGR (Cumulative Average Growth Rate) of 74% over the past five years, underscoring the rapid acceptance and success of UPI as a payment solution.

During the same period, other traditional payment methods such as RTGS, NEFT, IMPS, credit cards, and debit cards saw a notable decline, with their combined share dropping from 66% to just 17%. The report attri-

butes UPI's meteoric rise to its ease of use and effectiveness in facilitating secure, real-time transactions.

In terms of transaction volume, UPI has seen exponential growth, with the number of transactions increasing from 375 crore in 2018 to 17,221 crore in 2024. Similarly, the total value of UPI transactions has soared from Rs 5.86 lakh crore in 2018 to Rs 246.83 lakh crore in 2024. These figures reflect a CAGR of 89.3% in volume and 86.5% in value, marking UPI as the key enabler of India's digital payments revolution.

One notable trend observed in the report is the shift in transaction types. While UPI's person-to-person (P2P) transactions still hold a higher value than person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions, P2M volumes overtook P2P in 2023. UPI Lite, a low-value transaction method introduced by Paytm and PhonePe, has also gained significant traction, recording 2.04 million daily transactions by December 2024.

India's explosive digital payment growth, spearheaded by UPI, has positioned the country as a global leader in digital financial solutions. The public-good approach of UPI holds valuable lessons for other nations, particularly in how to democratize digital payments and extend financial inclusion to previously underserved segments.

Markets Rebound Strongly as Banking and Auto Stocks Lead the Rally; Nifty Holds Above 23,000



Two days of consecutive losses have come to an end. Domestic stock markets gained heavily on Tuesday. Investors bought despite negative signals from global markets. Even though US and global tech stocks collapsed due to the impact of Chinese AI DeepSeek, our indices rebounded. The reason for this is that banking, finance, auto and realty stocks remained strong. After reaching daily highs, investors started taking profits, but the gains eventually declined slightly. Experts suggest that they should remain vigilant until the Donald Trump effect, the budget session and the US Fed meeting are over. The Nifty closed above the key support level of 23,000 is a positive.

The BSE Sensex opened at 75,659 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 75,622. It reached an intraday high of 76,512. It finally closed at 75,901 with a gain of 535 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,960, reached a low of 22,852 and a high of 23,137. It gained a total of 128 points and closed at 22,957. The Nifty Bank rose 802 points and settled at 48,866.

In the Nifty50, 28 companies gained while 22 lost. Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, Shriram Finance, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank were the top gainers. Sun Pharma, Britannia, Hindalco, Grasim, Bharat Electronics lost the most. Today, realty, financial services, bank, auto, and service sector indices were in a state of turmoil. Capital Market, Pharma, IT and Media indices rose.

Despite the increase in benchmark indices, market breadth on NSE was more in favor of sellers. Out of a total of 2937 stocks traded, only 940 gained. 1920 lost. Shares of 6 companies reached 52-week highs. 538 shares reached 52-week lows.

UTI AMC's third-quarter results were disappointing. Net profit fell 18.9% to Rs 150 crore from Rs 185 crore. Suzlon Energy's net profit rose 90.6% to Rs 387 crore from Rs 203 crore. Colgate Palmolive's net profit fell 2.3% to Rs 330 crore from Rs 322 crore. The rupee weakened by 20 paise to settle at 86.53 against the dollar. Bharat Electricals bagged an order worth Rs 531 crore. JSW Infra's net profit rose 31.7% to Rs 329 crore from Rs 250 crore. Swiggy shares, which had fallen 15% in the last six sessions, reached the IPO price of Rs 390. Bajaj Housing's net interest income rose 25%. GE Shipping's profit rose 10.4% to Rs 538 crore from Rs 594 crore. CG Power Industries' net profit fell 68% to Rs 241 crore. Hindustan Zinc's net profit rose 30% to Rs 2650 crore.

1. Bajaj Finance

Bajaj Finance is one of India's leading diversified NBFCs, offering lending and asset management services. It specializes in consumer loans, SME loans, commercial lending, and rural financ-



ing. Bajaj Finance's consistent earnings growth, strong balance sheet, and high ROE (~24%) make it an excellent long-term investment. However, valuation is high, so consider staggered investments.

2. HDFC Bank



India's largest private-sector bank, known for its extensive retail and corporate banking portfolio. It benefits from a robust distribution network and a strong focus on digitalization. A blue-chip stock offering steady compounding returns. Its healthy capital adequacy ratio (~19%) and strong brand make it a safe long-term investment.

3. TVS Motor Company



TVS Motors is one of India's largest two-wheeler manufacturers, with a growing presence in international markets. It has a robust product lineup spanning motorcycles, scooters, and electric vehicles (EVs). Positive outlook due to EV growth and export demand. A good option for investors seeking growth in the automobile sector.

4. Tata Steel



Tata Steel is one of the largest steel producers in India, with operations spanning Europe, India, and Southeast Asia. It benefits from a diversified product mix and strong domestic demand. While cyclical, Tata Steel is a solid long-term bet due to its low-cost production and diversified operations. Investors should watch commodity price trends before investing.



5. Bharti Airtel

Bharti Airtel is a leading telecom operator in India, with a growing presence in Africa. It provides mobile, broadband, and enterprise services. A promising stock with long-term growth potential driven by rising data consumption, premium ARPU, and expanding 5G services. Suitable for investors with moderate risk tolerance.



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Tiger Urine for Sale in China: Controversy Surrounds Alleged Medicinal Claims

The sale of tiger urine at a popular wildlife zoo in China is sparking significant debate. Ya'an Bifengxia Wildlife Zoo, located in the Sichuan province, has been offering bottles of Siberian tiger urine, claiming it has therapeutic properties. According to a report by the *South China Morning Post*, each 250-gram bottle is sold for 50 yuan (approximately Rs 596). Despite no scientific evidence backing these claims, the zoo asserts that the tiger urine can help alleviate conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, muscle pain, and sprains.



The zoo provides a guide with instructions on how to use the urine. The purported remedy involves mixing the urine with white wine and ginger, applying it to the affected area for relief. The zoo even suggests that the urine may be ingested, although it advises caution for individuals with allergies. However, questions remain about the safety and hygiene of this practice. A staff member at the zoo revealed that the urine is collected in a basin, but it remains unclear whether the substance is properly disinfected before being sold to customers.

While the sales of tiger urine are reportedly limited to an average of two bottles per day, the zoo's actions are raising concerns among animal rights advocates and the broader public. The zoo's previous use of tiger urine as a prize in a reality show back in 2014 has also drawn criticism for trivializing animal exploitation. Despite these controversies, the practice continues to attract attention from visitors eager to try what is marketed as a traditional remedy.

The sale of animal-derived products like tiger urine highlights ongoing debates around traditional medicine and animal conservation. Many experts argue that such practices may contribute to the illegal wildlife trade and harm endangered species like the Siberian tiger, which is already facing significant threats to its survival.

Food Products From Andaman And Nicobar Islands Get GI Recognition

In a landmark move to preserve India's cultural heritage and boost local economies, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the 118th episode of *Mann Ki Baat*, announced the grant of Geographical Indication (GI) tags to seven distinct food products from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Among the highlighted products, Nicobari Tavi-i-Ngaich Virgin Coconut Oil, Nicobar Coconut, and Andaman Karen Musley Rice were particularly praised for their unique benefits and cultural significance.



Nicobari Tavi-i-Ngaich Virgin Coconut Oil

This high-quality virgin coconut oil is made using traditional methods passed down by the Nicobarese people. It is celebrated for its numerous health benefits, including pain relief, skincare, and its high antioxidant properties. Additionally, its rich Medium-Chain Triglyceride (MCT) content supports fat burning, weight loss, and provides a quick energy boost. Unrefined, unbleached, and free of preservatives, this oil has now gained a GI tag, which confirms its authenticity and excellence, enhancing its chances for international recognition.

Andaman Karen Musley Rice

Grown by the Karen community in the Andaman Islands, Musley Rice is an organic, monocarpic variety cultivated using sustainable and traditional farming methods. This rice variety is ecologically and culturally significant, promoting food security while conserving biodiversity. The GI tag will help

boost the identity of Musley Rice, benefiting local farmers and improving their financial well-being while continuing to support eco-friendly agricultural practices.

Nicobar Coconut

Native to the Nicobar Islands, this coconut variety is renowned for its health benefits, including skincare, cardiovascular health, and rich fibre content. The coconuts are harvested by the Nicobarese people who hand-shred them and cold-press them to extract high-quality oil. The GI certification will help enhance the product's market recognition, especially since it forms the foundation for the highly popular Virgin Coconut Oil industry.

These products, now officially recognized by the Government of India with GI tags, will not only preserve the unique cultural identity of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands but also promote sustainable economic growth in the region.

82% of Children Aged 14-16 Know How to Use Smartphones: ASER Report



The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) has revealed some significant insights into the use of smartphones and education trends among children in rural India. According to the 2024 ASER findings, over 82% of children aged 14 to 16 are familiar with using smartphones, but only 57% of them actively use the devices for educational purposes.

The report highlights a major improvement in the educational landscape since the pandemic, including a notable recovery from learning losses experienced during the COVID-19 crisis. Learning levels in primary classes are reportedly higher than before, and the percentage of children enrolled in Class 1 who are under-age has dropped to its lowest level ever at 16.7%.

Another key takeaway from the ASER 2023 findings is that the proportion of children aged 6 to 14 enrolled in government schools has nearly returned to the levels seen in 2018, signaling a steady recovery. However, the report also notes that the surge in government school enrollments seen during the pandemic has started to reverse in recent years.

Additionally, the ASER 2023 data points to a high rate of school enrollment among older children, with over 86.8% of youngsters aged 14 to 18 enrolled in educational institutions. More than half of these students have chosen the humanities stream, a trend that signals a shift in educational preferences.

What is ASER?

The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is a citizen-led household survey that provides insights into the schooling and learning status of children in rural India. First conducted in 2005, the survey has been a vital tool in tracking education trends, with a focus on enrollment, learning outcomes, and access to educational resources. It includes data on preschool and school enrollment for children aged 3 to 16, as well as assessments of foundational reading and arithmetic skills for children aged 5 to 16.

These findings help shape policies and initiatives aimed at improving education quality in rural areas of India.

NASA Study Reveals How Black Holes "Create Their Meals" Through Outbursts

A new study from NASA has uncovered a fascinating process through which black holes in galaxy clusters "create their meals" by cooling down surrounding gas. The research, led by Valeria Olivares from the University of Santiago de Chile, analyzed data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and the Very Large Telescope (VLT). It focuses on seven galaxy clusters, including the well-known Perseus and Centaurus clusters, where supermassive black holes reside at their centers.

These black holes, with masses ranging from millions to billions of times that of the Sun, play a crucial role in regulating the environment of their host galaxies. The study reveals that black holes cause internal outbursts that cool down the surrounding gas, leading to the formation of warm filaments. These filaments aid in the black holes' growth by drawing gas



toward their centers, where it serves as their "meal."

The study also highlights how turbulence in the surrounding gas boosts the triggering of these outbursts, setting off a cycle of repeated gas cooling and feeding. As the gas cools, it feeds the black holes, triggering another outburst and continuing the cycle. This process, as identified in the study, is fundamental to understanding the connection between the brightness of hot and warm gas filaments found at the

centers of galaxy clusters.

Astronomers have now identified, for the first time, a direct relationship between the brightness of hot and warm gas filaments, especially in areas with bright hot gas, which also show similar brightness in the warm gas. Interestingly, these filaments bear resemblance to the trailing structures seen in jellyfish galaxies, which shed gas while moving through space, creating similar patterns. This surprising link

suggests that a common cosmic process may govern both phenomena.

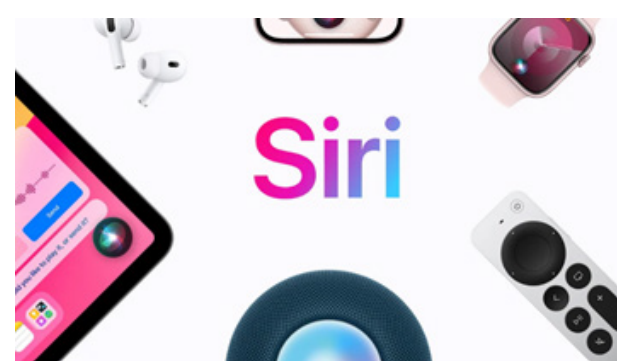
The research, published in *Nature Astronomy* on January 27, brings together a global team of experts in optical and X-ray observations, and was conducted using the MUSE (Multi Unit Spectroscopic Explorer) instrument on the VLT. This breakthrough could have profound implications for how we understand the behavior of supermassive black holes and their influence on galaxy formation.

iOS 18.4 Update to Bring Major Siri Upgrades and New Features

Apple's iOS 18.4 update is set to arrive by April, and it promises to bring significant upgrades, particularly to Siri, as well as new emojis and language support for Apple's suite of AI-powered tools. This new release follows the iOS 18.3 update and is expected to be one of the more substantial updates for iPhone users in recent months.

According to Bloomberg's Mark Gurman in his *Power On* newsletter, iOS 18.4 will feature a major overhaul of Siri, Apple's digital assistant. This update will enable Siri to tap into a user's personal data to provide more personalized and accurate responses. The digital assistant will reportedly be able to analyze data such as emails, messages, photos, calendar events, and files, tailoring its answers based on the individual's activities and information stored on their device.

Another noteworthy feature of the iOS



18.4 update is the introduction of upgraded App Intents software, which will allow users to have more precise control over their devices through voice commands. This enhancement aims to improve the overall user experience, making Siri even more powerful and responsive to individual needs.

In addition to these advancements in Apple's AI features, the iOS 18.4 update will also bring a range of new emojis. The up-

date is expected to include a new fingerprint emoji, a face with bags under the eyes, a harp, a root vegetable, a leafless tree, and various splatter emojis, adding more fun and expression to conversations.

Furthermore, iOS 18.4 will offer expanded language support for Apple Intelligence tools, making them accessible to more users around the world. New languages, including Chinese, English (India), English (Singapore), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese, will be supported in the update, allowing more people to take advantage of these advanced AI features.

With these exciting updates, iOS 18.4 is shaping up to be an important release for Apple users, offering improved functionality and new ways to interact with their devices.

Virat Kohli Declines Delhi Captaincy, Returns to Ranji Trophy Action After 12 Years

Virat Kohli, one of India's greatest Test captains, is set to make his first domestic cricket appearance since 2012 in Delhi's final Ranji Trophy group match against Railways, starting Wednesday at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. Despite being offered the captaincy for the match, Kohli declined the role, allowing Ayush Badoni to continue leading the side.

Kohli last captained Delhi in the 2013 Challenger Trophy but has chosen to focus on contributing as a player in this game. His decision mirrors that of Rishabh Pant, who also declined captaincy duties earlier in the tournament. Pant, however, will miss this match to rest ahead of the upcoming white-ball season and the Champions Trophy.

The 36-year-old Kohli joined Delhi's training session on Tuesday after preparing under former India batting coach Sanjay Bangar in Ali-baug. Arriving at the stadium early, Kohli par-



ticipated in team drills, including a football warm-up session, before hitting the nets under the guidance of head coach Sarandeep Singh. This return comes amidst criticism of Kohli's recent form following a challenging series against New Zealand and Australia. However, his relaxed demeanor and determination during practice indicate his focus on regaining form in the red-ball format.

England Wins 3rd T20 Against India, Chasing Struggles for Team India

In the third T20 match of the five-match series, England defeated Team India by 26 runs at Rajkot. After losing the toss, England batted first and posted a total of 171/9 in their allotted 20 overs. India, in response, could only manage 145/9 in 20 overs, falling short of the target.

Hardik Pandya was the top scorer for India with 40 runs, followed by opener Abhishek Sharma with 24 and Tilak Varma with 18. Other notable contributions included Axar Patel (15) and captain Suryakumar Yadav (14). However, the rest of the batting line-up faltered, with Sanju Samson (3), Washington Sundar (6), and Dhruv Jurel (2) failing to deliver. England's bowlers were impressive, with Jamie



Overton taking 3 wickets, Jofra Archer and Brydon Carse picking up 2 wickets each, and Mark Wood and Adil Rashid claiming one wicket apiece.

This victory reduces India's series lead to 2-1. The fourth T20 match is scheduled for January 31 in Pune.

Padma Shri Para-Archer Harvinder Singh: "I Want to Take My Father and Wife to Rashtrapati Bhavan"

World No. 1 para-archer Harvinder Singh, renowned for consistently hitting the bullseye, has achieved another milestone—being conferred with the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest



civilian award. This recognition holds historical significance as Singh becomes the first Indian para-archer to receive this prestigious honor. Recalling the moment he received the news, Singh shared, "I got a call from the ministry on January 25, informing me about the award. At first, I didn't tell anyone, as I wanted to be sure. By evening, congratulatory messages started pouring in, confirming it was true." Singh expressed his desire to take

both his wife, Manpreet Kaur, and father, Sardar Paramjeet Singh, to the Rashtrapati Bhavan for the award ceremony. "My wife said she wanted to accompany me, and when I told my father, he was overjoyed. I hope I can take them both—it makes them happy to see my achievements," he said with pride. Harvinder Singh's remarkable journey is a testament to his resilience and determination, inspiring many in the field of sports and beyond.

Shubhankar Sharma Calls International Series India a "Homecoming"

Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma expressed excitement ahead of the US\$2 million International Series India, set to take place from January 30 to February 2 at the DLF Golf and Country Club in Gurugram. Sharma, a two-time Asian Tour winner, described the tournament as a "homecoming," highlighting the camaraderie and competitive spirit among Indian and international players. The tournament boasts a stellar lineup, including LIV Golf stars Bryson DeChambeau and Joaquin Niemann. However, Sharma remains wary of the challenge posed by fellow Indian golfers like Anirban Lahiri, Gaganjeet Bhullar, and veterans Jeev Milkha Singh, S.S.P. Chawrasia, and Shiv Kapur. Rising stars Yuvraj Sandhu and Karandeep Khochhar add depth to the field, making it a fiercely contested event.



Reflecting on his journey, Sharma praised the Asian Tour for shaping

his career, noting, "The Asian Tour has always been my home." He emphasized the growth of Indian golf and the increasing competition, attributing much of the progress to The International Series. Sharma concluded by expressing gratitude for the opportunity to compete on home soil, calling it "a great atmosphere" and a chance to connect with familiar faces.

Neymar and Al-Hilal Mutually Agree to Terminate Contract

Brazilian football star Neymar has parted ways with Al-Hilal after an injury-marred 18-month tenure. The Saudi Arabian club announced on Monday that they had mutually agreed to terminate his contract. "The club expresses its thanks and appreciation to Neymar for his contributions and wishes him success in his career," Al-Hilal said in a statement.

Neymar joined Al-Hilal in August 2023, reportedly earning \$104 million annually. However, injuries limited him to just seven appearances. Shortly

after arriving, he suffered a cruciate ligament rupture during a World Cup qualifier in October 2023, sidelining him for a year. Subsequent brief appearances in late 2024 were cut short by a hamstring injury.

Neymar, 32, remains focused on playing in the 2026 World Cup, describing it as his "last shot." Reports suggest Santos, his first club, may bring him back to Brazil, marking a potential end to his illustrious career, which includes a world-record transfer to PSG and 79 goals for Brazil in 127 matches.



Uzbek GM Yakubboev Clarifies Handshake Snub with India's Vaishali



Uzbekistan Grandmaster (GM) Nodirbek Yakubboev sparked controversy after refusing to shake hands with Indian chess player Vaishali Rameshbabu during the fourth round of the Challengers' section. The incident, captured on video, showed Vaishali extending her hand for a handshake, which Yakubboev declined, sitting down instead. The snub left Vaishali visibly uncomfortable and triggered criticism on social media. In response, Yakubboev issued a public apology and explained his actions on social media platform 'X'. "I do not touch women for religious reasons," he clarified, expressing respect for Vaishali and her brother, Indian chess prodigy R Praggnanandhaa. Yakubboev acknowledged his previous handshake with Indian GM Divya Deshmukh in 2023, calling it a mistake and reaffirming his commitment to his beliefs.

To avoid similar situations, Yakubboev informed Romania's Irina Bulmaga about his stance before their eighth-round match, agreeing to a "Namaste" gesture as a compromise. Yakubboev lost to Vaishali in their match but defeated Bulmaga later, securing four points from eight rounds. Vaishali is currently in sixth place with 4.5 points.

Trisha Gongadi's Record Century Powers India to Victory



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Jan 29 : Telangana cricketer Gongadi Trisha made history in the ICC Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup by scoring an unbeaten century in just 53 balls against Scotland in a Super Six match on Tuesday. Trisha became the first woman cricketer to score a century in the Women's Under-19 World Cup.

In the match held in Malaysia, Scotland won the toss and elected to field. India's openers, Trisha and Kamalini, set the tone with an explosive start. By the end of the powerplay, India had reached 67-0, and the opening pair added a record-breaking 147 runs for the first wicket. Trisha finished with 110* off 59 balls, hitting 13 fours and 4 sixes. Kamalini also contributed with a solid 51 off 42 balls.

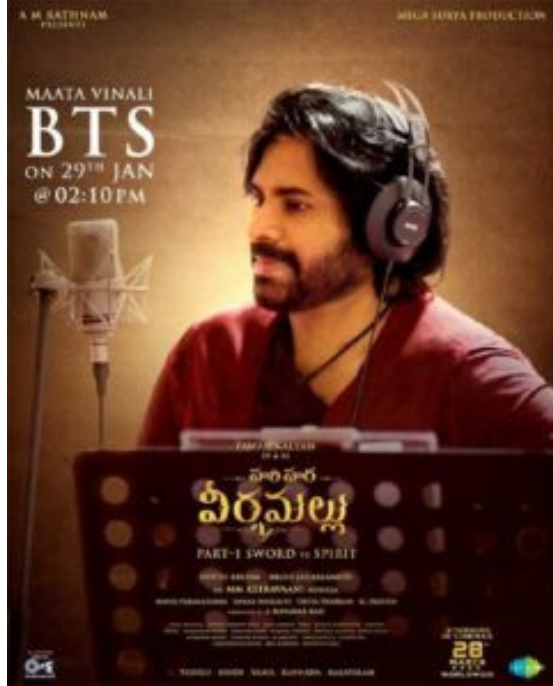
India posted an impressive total of 208/1 in 20 overs. Trisha didn't just shine with the bat; she also excelled with the ball, taking 3 wickets for just 6 runs. India's bowlers dominated as well, with Ayushi Shukla claiming 4 wickets for 8 runs and Vaishnavi Sharma taking 3 wickets for 5 runs. Scotland was bowled out for just 58 runs, giving India a comprehensive victory.



HHVM Team Announces Exciting Treat for Pawan Kalyan Fans

The Hari Hara Veera Mallu (HHVM) team is all set to treat Pawan Kalyan fans with an exciting new release! The much-anticipated first single of the movie, "Mata Vinali," sung by none other than Pawan Kalyan himself, has already made waves among fans who can't seem to get enough of it. Adding to the excitement, the team has now announced that they will be releasing a special behind-the-scenes video of the song's recording on January 29, 2025, at 02:10 PM.

The announcement came alongside a charming picture of Pawan Kalyan, captured in the midst of singing the track, which has only fueled fan excitement. This reveal is sure to give fans a unique glimpse into the making of the song and further amplify anticipation for the film.



The movie, a pan-Indian action-adventure, stars Nidhi Agerwal as the heroine, with Bollywood actor Bobby Deol playing a significant role. The film also boasts a stellar ensemble cast featuring Nasser, Sunil, Raghubabu, Subbaraju, and Nora Fatehi, all set to play pivotal characters.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu is produced by Mega Surya Production and is directed by the talented Krish Jagarlamudi and Jyoti Krishna. The film features music by MM

Keeravaani, known for his powerful compositions, which have already set the bar high for the movie's musical score.

Set to release on March 28, 2025, Hari Hara Veera Mallu is generating massive buzz, and with Pawan Kalyan's involvement in both acting and singing, fans are eagerly awaiting the film's release. This behind-the-scenes video promises to be an exclusive treat, making the wait for the movie even more exciting for PSPK fans.

Madras High Court Dismisses Netflix's Plea in Dhanush vs Nayanthara Copyright Dispute

In a significant legal development, the Madras High Court has dismissed Netflix India's plea to reject a copyright lawsuit filed by actor Dhanush against Nayanthara. The lawsuit stems from Nayanthara's use of a three-second film clip from Dhanush's production in her documentary, *Nayanthara: Beyond The Fairy Tale*, without his permission.

Dhanush, through his company Wunderber Films Private Limited, approached the court in November 2024. His suit claims that Nayanthara, her husband Vignesh Shivan, and their production house, Rowdy Pictures Private Limited, used visuals from the film *Naanum Rowdy Dhaan* in the Netflix original documentary. Dhanush's legal action came after he threatened to take legal steps if the footage was not removed within 24 hours. His legal team issued a statement demanding the removal of the infringing content and warned of seeking Rs 10 crore in damages if their request was ignored.

Nayanthara, in response, took to Instagram, expressing her disappointment over Dhanush's demand, calling it an "all-time low." She criticized the actor for seeking such a hefty sum over a few seconds of footage, a move that has sparked controversy.



As part of his petition, Dhanush also sought permission from the court to sue Los Gatos Production Services India LLP, a Mumbai-based company that handles Netflix's content investments in India. This petition is aimed at addressing the broader scope of content rights and ensuring that Dhanush's intellectual property is protected.

The court's dismissal of Netflix's plea has given Dhanush a legal victory, affirming the importance of intellectual property rights in the entertainment industry. This ongoing legal battle highlights the complexities surrounding the use of copyrighted content and the expectations of compensation for unauthorized usage.



Paayal Rajput Stuns in Pink Perfection with Her Latest Style Statement

Paayal Rajput is turning heads once again with her fashion-forward look, and this time, it's all about pink perfection! The actress was recently spotted in a jaw-dropping outfit that perfectly blended glam and playfulness. She wore a dazzling pink sequin crop top paired with a thigh-high slit skirt that hugged her curves in all the right ways. The ensemble was a visual treat, and Paayal looked every bit the fashion icon as she confidently strutted her stuff.

To complete the look, Paayal opted for silver accessories, including bold earrings and a matching necklace, which added a touch of sophistication to her outfit. She tied her hair into a sleek high bun, adding an extra layer of elegance to the chic ensemble. Her radiant smile and bold pink lipstick were the perfect finishing touches, ensuring all eyes were on her as she stepped out.

Paayal's style game is undeniably on point, and she continues to captivate fans with her fashion choices. Whether it's her playful yet glamorous outfits or her confident demeanor, she knows how to turn a simple look into a statement. The actress definitely knows how to paint the town pink, proving once again why she's a style star to watch.

On the professional front, Paayal is currently filming for the highly anticipated Telugu movie *Kirathaka*. Fans are eagerly awaiting her next big-screen appearance, as she continues to make waves both on and off-screen. With her impeccable sense of style and undeniable talent, Paayal Rajput is surely one to watch in the coming years.

Mahesh Babu, Jr NTR, and Hrithik Roshan in 'War 2': What's the Real Scoop?



Excitement is building up around the upcoming film *War 2*, directed by Ayan Mukerji, especially with rumors swirling about a star-studded lineup. The movie, a part of the YRF Spy Universe, features Bollywood icons Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR, along with Kiara Advani playing the female lead. Set in the spy genre, *War 2* has already caught the attention of movie lovers, but some interesting rumors about Tollywood superstar Mahesh Babu have taken it up a notch.

Speculation has been running wild that Mahesh Babu will appear in *War 2*, creating a buzz among fans and media. However, insiders suggest that Mahesh Babu will not be acting in the film but rather lending his voice to the Telugu version. This marks a significant collaboration, as Mahesh Babu will provide his voice for the Telugu adaptation of the movie, while Bollywood actor Ranbir Kapoor is reportedly voicing the Hindi version. An official announcement confirming these details

is expected soon.

If these reports hold true, *War 2* will mark the second collaboration between Jr NTR and Mahesh Babu. The two stars previously worked together when Mahesh Babu provided a voice-over for Jr NTR's *Baadshah*, further adding to the excitement of this new project.

Meanwhile, the glimpses of *War 2* released by the makers have already gone viral, sparking curiosity about the film's plot and action sequences. Fans are eagerly awaiting the grand release, which is slated for August 14, 2025. As the sixth installment in the YRF Spy Universe, following successful films like *Ek Tha Tiger*, *Tiger Zinda Hai*, *War*, *Pathaan*, and *Tiger 3*, expectations are sky-high for *War 2* to deliver yet another blockbuster.

The buzz surrounding the film is only growing, with fans eagerly anticipating the twists, turns, and star power that *War 2* promises.