

Weather Forecast

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

At Least 30 Feared Killed..70 Injured

Stampede occurs as devotees rush for holy dip at Triveni Sangam.

Second stampede triggered by crowd surge at closed pontoon bridges.

Chaos leads to suspension of "Amrit Snan" ritual.

President Murmu, PM Modi Express Condolences



Maha Kumbh Mela Stampede

President Murmu, PM Modi Express Condolences



TPN Correspondent | Prayagraj
At least 30 people are feared dead and around 70 others injured in a stampede at the Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj on Wednesday, as tens of millions of devotees gathered to take a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam on the auspicious occasion of Mauni Amavasya. This day holds immense spiritual significance, amplified by a rare celestial alignment that occurs once in 144 years. Authorities have not officially confirmed the deaths, but sources close to the matter reported the fatalities, with many others seriously injured. The stampede occurred when devotees, eager to participate in the sacred "amrit snan", became trapped in a crush of people. Videos and photographs from the scene show bodies being carried away on stretchers and the injured struggling to escape the chaos. Eyewitness ac-

counts describe the scene as chaotic, with people stepping over discarded belongings as they tried to flee. The stampede occurred after an initial incident at 1 am, which was not deemed serious at the time. However, a second stampede escalated when devotees found the pontoon bridges closed and began pushing in a panic. Witnesses said the crowd surged, leading to people falling and being trampled. Some pilgrims, carrying luggage, lost their balance and fell into the mass of people, causing further chaos. Vivek Mishra, a content creator from Prayagraj, recalled his harrowing experience: "I fell when my foot got stuck in a dustbin. I was left barefoot and injured. I had to help my parents and another woman who was lying on the ground. The situation spiraled out of control, with young people

pushing others, leading to the stampede." The stampede has led to the suspension of the "Amrit Snan" ritual, with authorities urging devotees to refrain from heading to the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has appealed to the public to bathe at nearby ghats and avoid the Sangam area. "Follow the instructions of the administration and cooperate in making arrangements," he said in a statement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been in constant communication with CM Adityanath, calling for immediate support measures. The administration has deployed the Rapid Action Force to restore order, and rescue operations continue. The situation is being closely monitored, as the administration works to ensure the safety of the remaining devotees.

President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday expressed her sorrow over the tragic stampede at the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj and extended her condolences to the victims' families. She also wished for the swift recovery of those injured in the incident. "The stampede incident at Prayagraj Maha Kumbh is extremely sad. I express my condolences to the families of the injured devotees and pray to God that all the injured devotees recover soon," Murmu said in a post on 'X' in Hindi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also responded to the tragedy, offering his deepest sympathies. "The accident that happened in Prayagraj Maha Kumbh is extremely sad. My deepest condolences to the devotees who have lost their loved ones. I wish for the speedy recovery of all the injured," Modi wrote on 'X'. The stampede occurred between 1 am and 2 am on Wednesday, as a massive crowd gathered to take a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam for Mauni Amavasya. Reports suggest that the incident was triggered when devotees climbed over barricades at Akhara marg, resulting in the tragic chaos.

BONDA MAFIA ON ROADS IN VIJAYAWADA



- Gang of Bonda ruling Vijayawada Central like a separate Government
- Chenchu Malyadri is like CP
- Chintala Anil is CI of Satyanarayanapuram
- Battula Konda, Pydi Srinu are CIs of Rajivnagar, Kandriga, and others
- Collecting bribes from liquor shops and even from police stations..?
- Involved in a rice mill settlement and assaulted a Dalit person
- Involved in a liquor shop dispute with own TDP leader

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Babynayana to Appear Before Lokayukta for Investigation Today



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Political Battle Over Kakinada Seaport APRO Post Intensifies

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Dy CM Orders Detailed Investigation on Peddireddy Family's Forest Land Encroachments



- Peddireddy family accused of massive encroachment in Mangalampet forest area.
- Dy CM demands a comprehensive investigation into the illegal activities.
- Legal action to follow if evidence of encroachment is found.

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Peddireddy Responds to Forest Land Encroachment Allegations

Former minister and YSRCP leader Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy has strongly denied accusations of encroaching on forest land in Mangalampet, Chittoor. In a media conference, he explained that the land was legally purchased in 2001 and condemned what he termed as "yellow media" for spreading false stories about him. Peddireddy emphasized that a land survey conducted during the tenure of Former Chief Minister Kiran Kumar Reddy had found no encroachment. He pointed to a public forest gazette from the past and reiterated that a joint survey during the Chandrababu Naidu government also concluded there was no encroachment on the land. Peddireddy further clarified that the road built on the land was initially suitable for carts, and a pucca road was authorized by the forest department in 2022. He argued that this road was intended to benefit farmers in the region as well. The former minister expressed frustration with the media for spreading what he called "fantasies" and unverified claims, declaring his intention to take



legal action. He revealed that a defamation suit had already been filed against one TV channel for false reporting and warned of further legal actions against others involved in spreading false narratives. Peddireddy also addressed accusations from political rivals, particularly Pawan Kalyan and Chandrababu Naidu. He questioned why no action had been taken when he was falsely

accused of smuggling red sandalwood or looting sand. The former minister accused the government of engaging in a campaign of "personality assassination" and urged the people of the state to be aware of the ongoing smear campaign against him. As the investigation continues, Peddireddy's team remains determined to seek legal remedies for the damage to his reputation.

Minister Gottipati Ravikumar Slams Jagan's Govt for Financial Mismanagement

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 30

Power Minister Gottipati Ravikumar harshly criticized Former Chief Minister Jagan Reddy's administration for financial mismanagement that, he claims, has left Andhra Pradesh in a state of bankruptcy. Speaking at a grievance program in Amaravati, Ravikumar accused Jagan Reddy's family of looting Rs. 8 lakh crore through corrupt means and claimed the state's finances were severely harmed over the past five years. He highlighted the extravagant spending, including Rs. 19,871 crore wasted on



jalsas and political campaigns, specifically criticizing the Rs. 1,600 crore spent on the Sakshi newspaper. Ravikumar also mocked the Rs. 3 crore spent on egg puffs, labeling it a symbol of the government's reckless spending.

The Minister also expressed concern about the state's growing debt, alleging that over Rs. 10 lakh crore had been borrowed under Jagan Reddy's rule, leading to crippling financial strain. He noted that the coalition government under Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had to settle Rs. 22,000 crore in dues from the previous administration. Ravikumar further accused the YSRCP government of mishandling irrigation projects, which are critical to the agricultural sector, and diverting funds meant for children's nutrition. He stressed that these actions have caused lasting damage to the state's development and public welfare.

AP Govt to Launch WhatsApp Governance Services to Provide Civil Services



TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 30

The Andhra Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, is set to revolutionize the delivery of public services with the launch of WhatsApp governance services. Starting Thursday, January 30, Minister Nara Lokesh will launch 161 civil services through WhatsApp as part of the first phase, making Andhra Pradesh the first state in India to offer such services. These services, which span across multiple departments, will include offerings from the Endowment Department, Electricity Department, RTC, Revenue, Anna Canteen, CMRF, and Municipal Departments. Citizens will be able to access services like darshan tickets, room bookings, donation services, and important certificates like birth and death certificates, trade licenses, and property tax payments through WhatsApp. In addition to providing quicker access to essential services, the initiative is designed to ensure transparency and accountability in governance. The AP government signed an agreement with Meta in October 2024 to make WhatsApp governance possible. To safeguard citizens' data, the government has prioritized cyber security and forensic measures to protect personal information from cyber threats.

MSME to Revive Asia's Largest Auto Nagar: Chairman Sivashankar

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

AP MSME Development Corporation Chairman Tamireddy Sivashankar emphasized that MSME will serve as a guiding force in reviving the once-thriving Auto Nagar, the largest and nationally recognized industrial hub in Asia. Addressing a gathering on Tuesday, he highlighted how government incentives have been simplified, making them more accessible to industrialists, particularly in Andhra Pradesh.



The event saw the participation of several key figures, including AP MSME Industrial Association Honorary President Bayana Venkat Rao, Secretary Ramachandra Rao, ATA President Rajanala Venkataramana Rao (Babji), and Vice Presidents Arja Satyanarayana and Nerusu Krishna Anjaneyalu. Other notable attendees included Secretary Ravi Ramachandra Rao, Treasurer Syed Husain Baba, District Industries Officer Sambayya, MSME Consultant Farvez, and various association presidents, working groups, and industrialists. Chairman Sivashankar's detailed explanation of MSME policies, rules, and government incentives was well-received. The clarity in addressing doubts through a survey conducted in Auto Nagar further reinforced confidence among participants. The ATA and conference organizers were appreciated for their efforts, and the attendees expressed gratitude for the valuable insights shared.

BONDA MAFIA ON ROADS IN VIJAYAWADA

V.V.S Madhu Babu | TPN
Vijayawada, Jan 30

We already know about Mr. Chenchu Malyadri, who has become a shadow for MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao, Vijayawada Central Constituency. We know the Police Department monitors through Police Stations, which are installed area-wise. Similarly, Mr. Bonda Umamaheswara Rao has appointed Mr. Malyadri as CP of the constituency and Mr. Chintala Anil as CI of Satyanarayanapuram. Battula Konda and Pydi Srinu are also CIs of Rajivnagar, Pratap Nagar, and Kandriga areas. These allegations are being made by Bonda's own people. They claim that Mr. Bonda Umamaheswara Rao has abandoned them and allegedly adopted the entire YSRC cadre. They further allege that those who were in YSRC are now ruling under the TDP regime. The people who worked with the MLA when he was not in power have now allegedly been sidelined. That is why they are leaking every small detail of Bonda's corruption to the public.

The CP and CIs of Bonda are allegedly collecting money from food courts, liquor shops, and every possible business outlet. From 40 liquor shops, they are allegedly collecting Rs. 3 lakhs per month. The entire town planning is reportedly under the control of Bonda's army. The most surprising thing is that they have allegedly collected Rs. 15 lakhs from each police station and will demand more every time the station house officer is changed.

A TDP leader had obtained four liquor shops near Eluru. As per the buzz, Mr. Bonda took them by paying goodwill. However, the MLA of Denduluru, Mr. Chintamaneni, blocked two of those shops. This situation created a dispute between that TDP leader and Bonda. Allegedly, Bonda's gang is threatening the TDP leader to return the money and is also demanding control over the wine shops permanently.

The CP and CIs of Bonda Umamaheswara Rao are allegedly involved in several settlements in and around Vijayawada. Recently, at Hanuman Junction, during a rice mill settlement, they reportedly beat up people, including Dalits. In Vijayawada, Mr. Sujana Chowdary of One Town and Mr. Gadde Rammohan of Vijayawada East are not engaged in such activities as of now. However, the one and only MLA allegedly involved in such heinous activities is Mr. Bonda Umamaheswara Rao. As per reports, he is not even concerned about warnings from Lokesh Nara.

Andhra Tableau Bags 3rd place in Republic Day 2025 Parade



TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Jan 30

The Garaga dance from Andhra Pradesh was one of the standout performances at the Bharat Parv, held at the Red Fort in Delhi to celebrate Republic Day. Organized by the Union Ministry of Tourism, the event highlighted the state's cultural richness. The P. Baba Satya Venkata Kumar group from Konaseema district showcased the energetic and intricate dance, captivating the audience.

Veerendra, the officer from the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Information Center (APTIC) in Delhi, emphasized the state's increasing focus on tourism. An Andhra Pradesh Tourism pavilion was set up at Bharat Parv to promote the state's tourist destinations. In line with the ongoing celebrations, a Kuchipudi dance performance will also take place on Thursday.

In another proud moment, Andhra Pradesh's tableau, featuring the famous Etikoppaka lacquer dolls, secured third place in the Republic Day Parade at Kartavya Path. Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu expressed pride, saying, "This achievement showcases our rich craftsmanship." Uttar Pradesh and Tripura claimed the top two spots. Naidu congratulated the parade designers, officials, and artists behind the Etikoppaka dolls, emphasizing that the victory reflects Andhra Pradesh's vibrant culture.

Dy CM Orders Detailed Investigation on Peddireddy Family's Forest Land Encroachments

TPN Correspondent
Andhra Pradesh, Jan 30

Former minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy's family is under scrutiny over serious allegations of encroaching on forest land in the Mangalampet area of Chittoor district. The allegations suggest the family developed a vast estate within the protected forest, including the construction of a luxury guest house and a road to access the property. In response to these claims, Andhra Pradesh's Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, has stepped in, ordering a detailed investigation into the alleged illegal encroachment of forest lands. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan directed officials to thoroughly examine the situation and present a detailed report, with a preliminary report from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) expected soon. Pawan Kalyan made it clear that legal action will follow if there is evidence of encroachment, land destruction, or any tampering of official records. He instructed officials to examine the extent of encroachment in the Punganur constituency and check whether the forest land records were altered. The inquiry will also look into who benefited from the alleged encroachments and which individuals or officials were involved in facilitating these activities. The Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan move is being seen as a strong stance against forest land violations, with a clear indication that strict legal actions will follow if the investigations reveal wrongdoing.

Harish Kumar Gupta Appointed as AP's New DGP

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 30

Harish Kumar Gupta, a seasoned 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, has been appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) for Andhra Pradesh. Gupta takes over from the outgoing DGP, Dwaraka Tirumala Rao, who is set to retire by the end of this month. Gupta, who is currently serving as the Director General of Vigilance and En-

forcement, brings with him a wealth of experience in law enforcement and public service. Following his appointment, Harish Kumar Gupta paid a courtesy call on Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu to discuss his new role. This change in leadership is expected to bring new strategies and leadership to the state's police force, with an emphasis on maintaining law and order and strengthening the police department's effectiveness across the state.



Babynayana to Appear Before Lokayukta for Investigation Today



- Farmers from Mallampeta allege is converting their lands into real estate.
- Lokayukta had registered case 2258/2024/B1 last year and is currently probing the matter.
- Farmers demand police protection, citing threats from the MLA's followers.

TPN Correspondent Vizianagaram, Jan 30

Farmers from Mallampeta village under Bobbili Municipality in Vizianagaram district have approached the Lokayukta, alleging that Bobbili MLA Babynayana is unlawfully converting their lands into real estate and selling them. The Lokayukta had registered case 2258/2024/B1 last year and is actively investigating the issue. According to the farmers, the state gov-

ernment had allotted them one acre of land each in 1991 under the Land Ceiling Act for cultivation. They claim they have been farming these lands ever since. However, they allege that in 2023, Gollapalli VRO mapped their lands under the Gollapalli revenue circle, allegedly aiding the MLA in taking possession. The farmers demand strict action against the VRO and immediate measures to halt the sale of their lands.

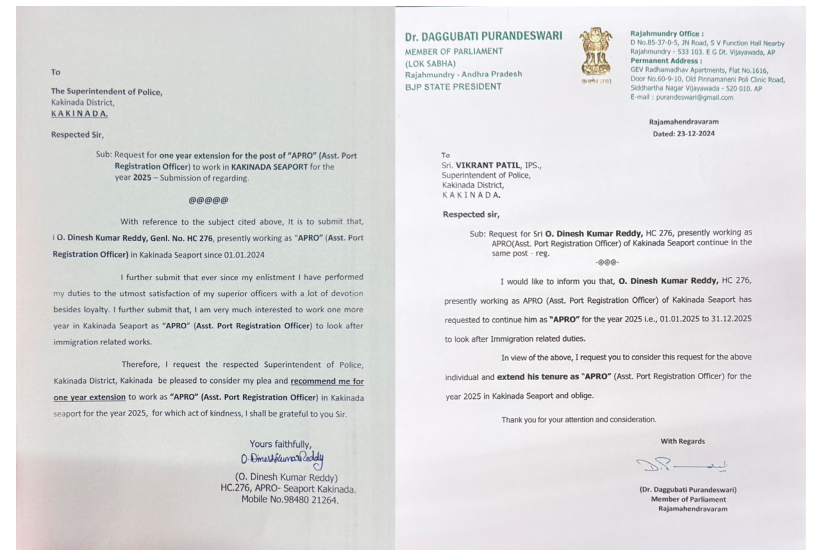
Furthermore, they have requested police protection, stating that they are facing threats from the MLA's followers. They lament that due to the alleged land grabbing, they have lost their means of livelihood and have been forced to become daily wage laborers.

In response, Advocate Ganti Gopalakrishna Sharma dismissed the accusations against MLA Babynayana as baseless. He stated that the Bobbili royal family had approached the High Court after the lands were left uncultivated by the beneficiaries. Following an investigation, the High Court ordered the return of the land to the royal family.

According to Sharma, in 2007, the Parvathipuram RDO and Bobbili MRO inspected the lands and found no cultivation. In 2018, the lands were officially restored to the Bobbili royal family as per court orders. He claimed that certain individuals were falsely implicating the MLA to tarnish his reputation.

The case remains under Lokayukta's review, and further developments are awaited.

Political Battle Over Kakinada Seaport APRO Post Intensifies



- The Kakinada Seaport APRO post has become a battleground for TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP leaders.
- Current APRO Dinesh Kumar Reddy, who was transferred to the SP office, seeks an extension.
- Newly appointed Kakinada SP Bindu Madhav faces a crucial decision on whether to retain Dinesh Reddy or appoint a new officer.

TPN | K.S Shekar East Godavari, Jan 30

Political tensions are escalating in Kakinada over the appointment of the Assistant Port Registration Officer (APRO) at the Kakinada Seaport, with three major political factions—TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP—locking horns over the post. The involvement of political leaders has created a deadlock, leaving officials struggling to finalize the appointment.

Dinesh Kumar Reddy, a Head Constable, took charge as Seaport APRO on January 1, 2024. After serving for a year, he was transferred to the SP office, leaving the APRO post vacant for nearly a month. However, Dinesh has submitted a formal request to continue in the position for another year, citing his experience. Meanwhile, political leaders are lobbying for their own candidates, leading to growing uncertainty.

Sources reveal that two local MLAs and an MP have recommended three different candidates, resulting in a political tug-of-war. Adding fuel to the controversy, Jana Sena,

which has been actively involved in port-related issues, is strongly pushing for its own influence over the post. There are also speculations that the BJP-backed candidate may be sidelined due to caste-based considerations, with some alleging that if the candidate's surname is "Reddy," the appointment could be canceled. Beyond party politics, caste equations are said to be playing a role in the appointment. Since Dinesh Reddy belongs to a certain social group, some leaders are pressuring officials to remove him and appoint someone from a different background. In contrast, previous APROs were given extensions without such intense political interference. With newly appointed Kakinada SP Bindu Madhav now in charge, all eyes are on whether he will reinstate Dinesh Reddy based on merit and experience or bow to political pressure and appoint a new officer. Given the heightened political climate, his decision could set a precedent for future administrative appointments in the region.

Minister Kollu Ravindra Slams YSRCP Leaders Over Criticism of CM Naidu's Davos Visit



- Kollu Ravindra defends Chandrababu Naidu's Davos visit.
- Criticizes Roja and Amarnath for their remarks.
- Questions Roja's role as APIC chairman and Amarnath's statements.

TPN Correspondent Machilipatnam, Jan 30

In a media conference held at the R&B guest house in Machilipatnam, State Mines and Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra responded strongly to the YSRCP leadership's criticism of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's visit to Davos. Ravindra asserted that YSRCP leaders, including former ministers Roja and Amarnath, lacked the credibility to comment on the visit. Ravindra questioned Roja's knowledge of Davos, asking, "Does Roja, who served as the

APIC chairman, even know where Davos is?" He further challenged Roja's effectiveness during her tenure as tourism minister, pointing out her lack of significant contributions. Ravindra also mocked Gudivada Amarnath, referring to him as the "egg minister," and described his remarks as "laughable." The minister emphasized that the focus should be on the state's development and accused YSRCP leaders of engaging in baseless criticism instead of constructive discussions.

Gummanuru Jayaram Warns Media Over False Allegations



TPN Correspondent Guntakal, Jan 30

Guntakal MLA and former minister Gummanuru Jayaram has lashed out at certain media outlets for publishing false allegations against him. Speaking during his visit to the outskirts of Guntakal, Jayaram warned that media representatives should only publish news if they have the proof to back it up. He expressed anger over reports accusing him of land grabbing and alleged dominance by his family in the constituency.

Jayaram firmly stated that anyone publishing unverified claims should face serious consequences, even warning that they would 'lie on the train tracks' if they fail to prove their accusations. The MLA also took the opportunity to address the housing issues in Donimukkal, assuring that all eligible beneficiaries would receive house pattas. He encouraged people to bring forward any housing-related issues, promising to resolve them as part of his ongoing efforts to address local concerns.

TDP Holds Meeting in Pithapuram for Upcoming MLC Elections



TPN | B. Nagar Srinivas Pithapuram, Jan 30

On Wednesday, a meeting was convened at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) office in Pithapuram, chaired by TDP State Spokesperson and Pithapuram Incharge Verma. The gathering aimed to strategize for the upcoming Ubhaya Godavari District Graduate Elections, scheduled for February 27. The meeting was attended by key party leaders, including MLC Booth Convener, Mandal Telugu Desam Party ranks, and local party members. Former MLA Verma confirmed

that the MLC election schedule would be released on February 3, with votes to be counted on March 3. He urged everyone to ensure the MLC voter verification process was completed promptly, noting that each village would have approximately 40 to 50 voters.

The alliance leaders emphasized the importance of backing Perabathula Rajasekhar, who was appointed by the alliance government. They called for coordinated efforts, including the distribution of pamphlets and active campaigning, to ensure Rajasekhar's victory.

The event also saw participation from Mandal party president Sakumalla Gangadhar, booth convener Barla Appanna, and other key leaders and activists.

Former MP Nandigam Suresh Released from Jail After 145 Days

TPN Correspondent Guntakal, Jan 30

Former MP and YSRCP leader Nandigam Suresh has been released from jail after spending 145 days in custody. The Guntur court granted him bail on Tuesday; however, a delay in submitting sureties resulted in a brief hold-up. After being released, Suresh was transported to Vijayawada in an ambulance due to ongoing health concerns. Speaking after his release, Nandigam Suresh explained that he had been suffering from collarbone pain, which led him to seek treatment in



Hyderabad before his arrest. He mentioned that whenever he experienced pain during his incarceration, he informed the jail authorities, who took him to the hospital. Despite the medical attention, Suresh stated that the pain persists, prompting him to visit a hospital in Vijayawada for further treatment.

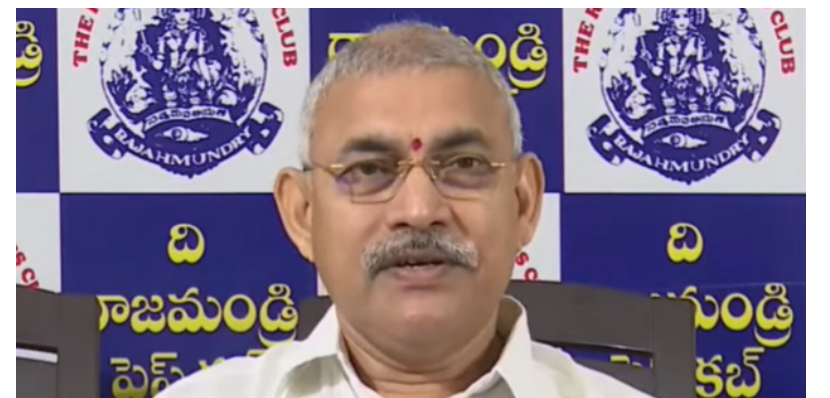
Pawan Kalyan CM, Lokesh Deputy CM - Tammareddy's Comments Stirs Discussion

TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Jan 30

Director and producer Tammareddy Bharadwaja's comments about the potential political roles of Pawan Kalyan and Nara Lokesh have become a hot topic in political circles. During a recent discussion, Tammareddy shared that he had a dream where Pawan Kalyan was the Chief Minister and Nara Lokesh was appointed Deputy CM. He expressed his belief that the duo would

successfully lead the state forward if given the chance. The comments were made in a video, which has since gone viral on social media, generating much discussion. Tammareddy added humorously that his dream ended when he woke up, leaving many to ponder the possibility of such a leadership combination. His remarks have sparked conversations about political alliances and leadership roles ahead of upcoming elections.

Former Minister Chelluboyana Venugopala Krishna Criticizes Chandrababu Naidu's Governance



TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Jan 30

Former Minister Chelluboyana Venugopala Krishna has criticized the government under Chandrababu Naidu for neglecting the poor and failing to implement welfare programs effectively. Speaking on the occasion, Venugopala Krishna pointed out that registration charges in Amaravati would not be increased, emphasizing that this policy will benefit the people of Amaravati. He also questioned the government's promise of free sand and highlighted that farmers and women are falling deeper into debt without receiving the promised government assistance. The former minister credited Former Chief Minister YS Jagan for implementing the Navaratnas despite inheriting

a treasury with only Rs. 100 crore. In contrast, he accused Chandrababu Naidu of doing nothing despite taking charge of a government with an income of Rs. 7,000 crore. Venugopala Krishna also criticized Naidu as a traitor to the poor, mentioning that media organizations and Pawan Kalyan were witnesses to his lies. On a broader note, he praised YS Jagan's rule for increasing state income and annual expenditure, contrasting it with the period under Naidu's leadership, which, according to him, saw limited progress with projects like Polavaram and Amaravati. He also mentioned that heritage assets increased by Rs. 900 crores under Chandrababu's rule, while the average person's life expectancy was reduced.

Civil Supplies Commissioner Saurabh Gaur Meets Minister Nadendla Manohar

- Saurabh Gaur, IAS, meets Minister Nadendla Manohar to discuss civil supplies management.
- Focus on improving efficiency and delivering quality services to the public.
- Commissioner Gaur commits to aligning services with government goals.

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Jan 30

Saurabh Gaur, the newly appointed Civil Supplies Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh, met with Food and Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar at the Secretariat on Wednesday. The meeting, held at the Minister's office in the second block, centered on enhancing the efficiency of the state's civil supplies system and ensuring quality services are delivered to the public. During the meeting, Minister Manohar emphasized the need

for transparent governance to improve public service delivery. He suggested strategies to streamline operations and provide more accessible services to the people. Commissioner Saurabh Gaur assured that he would work towards implementing these strategies, aiming to offer better services aligned with the government's objectives. He expressed his commitment to ensuring the Civil Supplies Department meets the people's needs while enhancing overall efficiency and transparency.



New Master Plan for Durgamma Temple Development Reviewed by MLA Sujana Chowdhury

- Focus on providing better amenities for devotees and handling increased footfall.
- Review meeting held with engineers, architects, and technical experts.



TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 30

MLA Sujana Chowdhury conducted a review meeting on the formulation of a new master plan for the development of Durgamma Temple at the MLA camp office in Tadigadapa on Wednesday. The meeting involved engineers, architects, and the technical team, and focused on improving services for devotees visiting Indrakeeladri. The MLA emphasized the importance of creating a master plan that would accommodate the growing number of devotees in the future without causing any inconvenience. He stressed that the plan should provide enhanced amenities and facilities, ensuring



a smoother experience for all visitors. Sujana Chowdhury also suggested additional aspects to be included in the plan to achieve better results than previous designs. The team was directed to integrate these ideas into the development strategy. Officials involved in the review included engineers T Vaikuntha Rao and KVSR Koteswara Rao, along with B Panduranga Rao, Director of Siddhartha Engineering College, and Ramesh and Srinivas from the School of Planning and Architecture. The master plan aims to enhance the overall experience for devotees, ensuring the temple's facilities meet the needs of a growing number of visitors.

RTO M. Padmavati Organizes road Safety Awareness Seminar for Students



TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 30

On the occasion of National Road Safety Month, RTO M. Padmavati conducted an awareness seminar on road safety rules for the students of Government ZPH School, Anasagaram, at Kakatiya Apollo School in Nandigama on Wednesday. The seminar aimed to educate students on the importance of road safety from an early age.

RTO M. Padmavati emphasized the need for integrating road safety education from the student stage. She encouraged organizing quizzes and essay writing competitions to enhance students' understanding of traffic rules. She stressed that such programs would help students gain practical knowledge about road safety. Padmavati further highlighted the importance of crossing roads

only at zebra crossings and getting on or off buses only when they have stopped. She also reminded students and parents about wearing helmets and seat belts while traveling, driving at safe speeds, and avoiding reckless driving that can lead to accidents. During the event, prizes were awarded to the winners of the quiz and essay competitions, and the participants took a pledge to follow road safety rules.

The program was attended by Nandigama Motor Vehicle Inspection Officer M. Purnima, Administrative Officer BSK Prabhakar Lingam, ZPH School Head Master CH Srinivasa Rao, Kakatiya Apollo School Principal K. Ravindra, Annapurna Driving School Senior Instructor CH Rama Rao, along with students and staff.

Taliki Vandanam Scheme to Launch in the Coming Academic Year: MP Kesineni Sivanath

- MP Kesineni Sivanath announces the launch of the Taliki Vandanam scheme from May.
- Distribution of sports kits to 147 government schools in NTR district with personal funds.
- Sports development program aims to boost both academic and sports excellence.

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 30

Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) announced that the Taliki Vandanam scheme will be implemented starting from the next academic year, providing Rs. 15,000 to each student. The scheme aims to support government school students in excelling academically and in sports.

In a move to encourage sports in government schools, MP Kesineni distributed sports kits to 147 schools in the Vijayawada-Thiruvur divisions. The distribution program, held at KBN College, saw sports kits with equipment for eight sports, such as volleyball, tennis, handball, and more, being handed over to government schools. These kits were funded personally by MP Kesineni Sivanath under the initiative Krida Vikasam.

The sports kit distribution program also included the development of school grounds with long jump pits, ensuring students have access to quality facilities. MP Kesineni emphasized the importance of both academ-



ics and sports for students' development and noted that many schools had neglected sports due to the previous government's failure to maintain grounds.

Speaking at the event, MP Kesineni praised Education Minister Nara Lokesh for his leadership and innovative changes in education. He also announced plans to organize a district sports meet and summer camps to further enhance students' sporting skills. The program was supported by DEO Subbarao and other key officials, who commended MP Kesineni's efforts to promote education and sports development.

Jana Sena Leaders Alleged Provocation in Enikepadu Clash

TPN Correspondent
Enikepadu, Jan 30

At a press conference in Enikepadu, Chalamala Shetty Ramesh Babu, the Jana Sena Party Coordinator for Gannavaram Constituency, alleged that certain individuals deliberately instigated a clash between local Jana Sena leaders and activists. Ramesh Babu explained that about a month ago, permission was obtained from the Enikepadu Panchayat to install statues of Ranga and Mahatma Gandhi at the local center. However, following local suggestions, the party decided to install a statue of Jyotirao Phule instead.

He accused Koneru Sandeep, a local individual, of intentionally stirring up conflict to disrupt the statue installation in the village. The decision to install the statues was discussed with Krishna District Jana Sena President Samineni Udayabhanu, Gannavaram MLA Yarlagadda Venkat Rao, and MP Bala Shourie.

Jana Sena leader Tankashala Subbarao defended the project, stating that the site where the statues were to be placed was previously an area of neglect, with garbage and potholes that attracted anti-social activities. He said that the installation of statues was intended to improve the area, and the decision was made with input from the local community and approval from the Panchayat officer.

The leaders reiterated their commitment to the values and aspirations of Chiranjeevi and Pawan Kalyan, expressing their dedication to public service despite the challenges faced.



Another Life Lost Due to Call Money Scam: Man Dies by Suicide



TPN Correspondent
Undavalli, Jan 30

In a tragic incident, Chinna Anji, a resident of Undavalli village in Guntur district, committed suicide by ingesting pesticide on Monday afternoon. He left behind a suicide note and a selfie video, blaming his trusted friends for his distress.

Anji stated that he had borrowed money from his friends but was forced to pay three times the interest. He specifically named Singam Shetty Harish, Gonnakutty Prasad alias Nani, Mogalipuvu Mani Kumar, and Prem Kumar of Errubalem, accusing them of mentally harassing him. He claimed that the friends had made derogatory comments about him, which contributed to his emotional and financial strain.

In his suicide note, Anji also mentioned that any outstanding debts should be paid to these friends, who he believed were responsible for his misery, and not his family members. This tragic incident has once again shed light on the continuing issue of call money scams and the devastating effects they have on individuals.

20-Year Legal Battle Between Brothers Over Fake Documents and Cheating Case

- 20-year-long legal conflict between Gurram Nagaiah and Gurram Venkata Subbaiah.
- Allegations of forged documents and cheating involving a tractor purchase.
- Court imposes six-month sentence and fine on the accused.

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 30

A long-running legal dispute between two brothers, Gurram Nagaiah and Gurram Venkata Subbaiah, has finally reached a conclusion after over two decades. The case revolves around a complaint filed by Gurram Nagaiah, who alleged that his brother, Gurram Venkata Subbaiah, created fake documents and committed fraud while financing a tractor purchase in 1988. The initial dispute started in 1986 when Gurram Nagaiah began his automobile finance business, which was later hand-

ed over to his brother in 1988. The fraudulent actions came to light when a tractor, registered under the number AP16 3923, financed by Nagaiah's business, was seized on March 30, 2000. A complaint was lodged at the Nandigama Police Station, and a case was registered (CR No. 72/2000) under sections related to forgery and cheating. Murali Krishna, the then Sub-Inspector of Police at Nandigama, provided evidence, leading to the arrest of Gurram Venkata Subbaiah and his accomplice, Hanumanth Reddy (A1). The court proceedings, which lasted several years, saw various hearings

and submissions of evidence. On December 22, 2003, the court convicted Gurram Venkata Subbaiah (A2) of forging documents and cheating under IPC Sections 465 and 418. As per the ruling, both brothers were sentenced to six months of simple imprisonment and fined Rs. 1000 each. The judgment was passed after the property linked to the case was not produced before the court. Further arguments and filings continued until the final judgment, which was pronounced on January 28, 2025.



Minister Satya Kumar Yadav Praises Rotary Club for Reducing Polio Cases by 99%



TPN | C. Sekhar
Tirupati, Jan 30

On Wednesday, State Health Minister Shri Satya Kumar Yadav attended the 41st District Meeting of the Gyan Kriya Sammelan organized by the Rotary Club at Shilparam in Tirupati. Speaking as the chief guest, the Minister lauded the Rotary Club's contribution in reducing polio cases by 99% worldwide, highlighting their immeasurable efforts in global healthcare.

During his address, Shri Yadav wished the Rotary members from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, appreciating their ongoing service programs across the country and the world. He expressed his joy that the event was being held in Tirupati, near the Kaliyuga Venkateswara Swamy temple, adding a spiritual dimension to the gathering.

He also congratulated Sadhu Gopala Krishna, a Proddatur native, for his election as Rotary District Governor. Emphasizing the importance of selfless service, the Minister encouraged everyone to adopt the principle of "country first, party second, me last," focusing on the nation's welfare over personal or party gains.

This event saw the participation of numerous Rotary Club members, who were recognized for their volunteerism and service programs.

TDP Leaders Counter YSRCP's Criticism of CM Chandrababu

TPN | V. Ananthkumar
Jaggampeta, Jan 30

TDP leaders in Jaggampeta have strongly countered YSRCP leader Ommi Raghuram's remarks against Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, stating that those who lack credibility should not question a visionary leader.

Speaking at a press conference, State TDP Secretary SVS Appalaraju credited Chandrababu for increasing pensions to ₹4,000, while rejecting YSRCP's false claims of increasing it from ₹2,000 to ₹3,000. He emphasized that Super Six welfare schemes, including free gas, free bus travel for Ugadi, and educational benefits, will be fully implemented before year-end.

Jaggampeta MLA Jyothula Nehru highlighted the YSRCP government's failures, including delayed salaries and neglected roads. In contrast, the TDP government has revived key infrastructure projects, including the modernization of Pushkara Lift Irrigation and the completion of Polavaram.

Nehru also accused YSRCP of trying to weaken Amaravati, while Chandrababu is securing central funds for its development. He questioned, "If your own leaders are leaving, doesn't that reflect the state of your party?"

TDP leaders Marisetty Bhadrani, Kothakonda Babu, Jeenu Mani Babu, and others participated in the program.



Gandi Babji Meets CM Naidu, Discusses Visakhapatnam Revenue Issues

- Gandi Babji met CM Naidu during a review meeting
- He brought public grievances to the Chief Minister's attention.

TPN | Correspondent
Vijayawada, Jan 30

State Cooperative Oil Seeds Growers Federation Chairman Gandi Babji met Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday in Vijayawada, during a review meeting addressing issues related to Visakhapatnam Revenue Villages. Babji brought several public grievances to the Chief Minister's attention, highlighting pressing local issues that require immediate resolution.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Babji stated that CM Chandrababu Naidu responded positively to the concerns raised and assured necessary action. He emphasized his commitment to representing the people, stating that while he has always taken their issues to the public, he has now taken them directly to the Chief Minister to uphold their



trust in the government.

The meeting reflects the ongoing efforts to resolve long-pending issues in Visakhapatnam Revenue

pancha Grams and ensure effective governance. Further developments on the matter are awaited.

Jagan Govt Misused Public Funds Over Five Years: APSRTC Vice Chairman Muniratnam



TPN | C. Sekhar
Kuppam, Jan 30

A media conference was held at the Kuppam Telugu Desam Party (TDP) office on Monday, where APSRTC Vice Chairman Muniratnam strongly criticized the financial mismanagement of the previous Jagan Mohan Reddy government. Addressing the media, Muniratnam alleged that public money was misused over

the past five years, leaving the state burdened with a ₹10 lakh crore debt.

He highlighted that, despite this financial crisis, the Chandrababu Naidu government has managed to clear ₹22,000 crore in pending dues over the last seven months, covering crucial sectors like Arogyasri, grain payments, and fee reimbursement. Muniratnam emphasized that no previous

government had ever taken the responsibility of settling such massive arrears. Further attacking the previous administration, he alleged that the YSRCP government had not utilized loans for productive infrastructure projects, such as Amaravati's development or irrigation schemes that boost government revenue. Instead, he claimed the funds were spent on luxuries and non-essential expenditures, worsening the state's financial health.

TDP leaders, including Councillor Somu, Kanipakam Venkatesh, Pratap, and Satyendra, participated in the event. The statements made at the conference indicate a continued push by the ruling party to highlight financial mismanagement under the previous government while reaffirming its commitment to economic recovery.

MLA Pulivarthi Nani Inaugurates New R&B Road in Yarravaripalem

TPN | C. Sekhar
Yarravaripalem, Jan 30

MLA Pulivarthi Nani Garu has inaugurated the newly developed R&B road connecting Yarravaripalem Panchayat Cross and Cherukuvaripalle in Yarravaripalem Mandal. The road, part of an ongoing development project, has been funded by NABARD, with an investment of approximately Rs 5 crore.

The inauguration event took place at Yarravaripalem Cross, where the MLA was welcomed by priests, officials, and party leaders with a traditional Poorna Kumbha. The ceremony included the unveiling of a stone plaque



and the cutting of a ribbon to officially open the road.

During his speech, MLA Pulivarthi Nani emphasized that the newly constructed road would significantly improve connectivity, reducing travel time to Rayachoti by 17 km. This will greatly benefit the people from 40 villages, allowing easier access to

neighboring regions.

The MLA also called on citizens, leaders, and activists to unite beyond party lines for the overall development of Chandragiri constituency. The event was attended by local officials, coalition government leaders, and community members.



Kakinada SP Unveils Cyber Crime Awareness Posters

- SP G. Bindu Madhav, IPS, conducted an awareness program on cyber crimes, drug abuse, and traffic rules.
- Students of Aditya Degree College attended the session.
- Awareness posters on modern cyber crimes and public safety unveiled.

TPN | Dhanalakshmi
Kakinada, Jan 30

Kakinada District Superintendent of Police (SP) G. Bindu Madhav, IPS, participated in an awareness program aimed at educating youth on the dangers of cyber crimes, the ill effects of drug use, and the importance of traffic rules.

The program was conducted at Aditya Degree College, Kakinada, where SP Bindu Madhav urged students to stay away from drugs, emphasizing that addiction can ruin lives. He advised youth to lead an exemplary life and contribute positively to society.

He also stressed the importance of road safety, advising two-wheeler riders to wear helmets and strictly follow traffic rules.

As part of the initiative, the SP unveiled awareness posters on cyber crimes, warning students to stay alert against online fraud and digital threats. He emphasized that awareness and vigilance are key to preventing cyber crimes.

The event aimed to sensitize students on safety measures and responsible behavior, ensuring they make informed choices in their daily lives.

₹1Crore Financial Assistance Announced for Jawans' Family



TPN | C. Sekhar
Putalapattu, Jan 30

In a heartfelt gesture, the Andhra Pradesh government has announced Rs 1 crore in financial assistance to the family of Ragimanu Penta jawan Karthik, who was tragically killed in a terrorist attack. The announcement was made by Putalapattu MLA Murali Mohan, who confirmed that the Chief Minister had approved the aid.

In addition to the financial assistance, MLA Murali Mohan assured that efforts would be made to provide five acres of land to the family, honoring the brave sacrifice made by Karthik.

District Collector Sumit Kumar also reassured the public that immediate steps would be taken to ensure the timely disbursement of the financial aid, helping the grieving family during this difficult time. The community has expressed deep gratitude for the government's support, acknowledging the selfless service of Karthik and offering condolences to his family.

Heated Debate at Narasapuram Municipal Council Meeting

TPN Correspondent
Narasapuram, Jan 30

The Narasapuram Municipal Council meeting on Wednesday was marked by strong objections from both ruling and opposition members regarding the allocation of house pattas to land in Vemuladivi, which was purchased by the municipality 11 years ago.

The councilors questioned whether the land was officially recorded in the municipality's documents, demanding clarity from the authorities. In response, Vice Chairman Kothapalli Nani, along with Councilors Vannem Reddy Srinu, Kotipalli Suresh, and others, called for the formation of a committee to investigate the issue and take appropriate



action on the land's ownership.

In addition to the land issue, allegations of irregularities in box tenders were raised. Councilors insisted on transparency, demanding a report on the work carried out through these tenders in the past five months and how much public money was spent. The discussion reflected the growing concerns over governance and accountability within the municipality.

Doctors Are Equal to God, Says MLA Satyaprabha

TPN Correspondent
Prattipadu, Jan 30

The Rautulapudi Government Hospital witnessed a grand oath-taking ceremony for the new governing body of the Hospital Development Committee. MLA Varapula Satyaprabha was sworn in as the Chairman, along with Reddy Chinniah Naidu and Bandaru Satyanarayana as members.

Speaking at the event, MLA Satyaprabha emphasized the importance of healthcare workers, stating that doctors are equal to God in their role in saving lives. He urged the newly appointed committee members to cooperate with the medical staff to foster the development of the hospital and ensure quality care for patients.

He criticized the previous YSRCP government for neglecting the healthcare sector, citing

issues like inadequate medical staff, lack of essential medicines and vaccines, and poor infrastructure, which led to suffering for patients. He praised the current NDA government for prioritizing the medical sector, ensuring the availability of ambulances, medicines, and medical staff, and focusing on the development of healthcare facilities.

A large number of NDA supporters were present at the event, underscoring the commitment to improving healthcare in the region.



A Comparative Analysis of the Unified Pension Scheme and the National Pension System

The union government has recently introduced the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for its employees, with further details expected in the coming weeks. While the complete picture of the scheme's benefits and implementation remains unclear, initial insights suggest key differences when compared to the existing National Pension System (NPS). Employees will need to assess their risk tolerance when deciding between the two schemes.

How Assured Pension is Calculated

Under the NPS, both the employee and government contribute a percentage of the employee's basic salary to their retirement account. Specifically, employees contribute 10%, while the government adds 14%. Similarly, under the UPS, employees contribute 10% of their salary, with the government matching this amount. However, the UPS introduces an additional 8.5% contribution by the government to a pooled fund, which is managed without employee input. The management of this pooled fund is a key risk factor, as its sustainability depends on the government's investment strategy and governance.

At retirement, the UPS presents three potential outcomes based on the value of the individual fund relative to the pooled fund:

Case 1: If the individual's fund equals the pooled fund, the employee will receive a lump sum and an assured pension, set at 50% of their last 12 months' salary, plus dearness relief.

Case 2: If the individual fund exceeds the pooled fund, the employee can take the excess amount alongside the assured pension.

Case 3: If the individual fund is smaller, the employee may need to contribute more or face a reduced pension.



For example, with a corpus of ₹50 lakh and an average salary of ₹45,000, an employee could receive a lump sum of ₹3.44 lakh and an assured pension of ₹22,500 per month, plus inflation adjustments. The employee's spouse is entitled to 60% of the pension after death.

NPS vs. UPS

In contrast, the NPS allows employees to invest their accumulated corpus in an annuity, with no assured pension. For instance, a ₹50 lakh corpus can generate an annual annuity of approximately ₹3.90 lakh or ₹32,500 per month. While the NPS annuity is not inflation-protected, employees can opt for an annuity with a 3% annual increment, which would lower the monthly payout to around ₹28,500. The NPS annuity is more flexible but lacks the spouse's pension benefit offered by the UPS.

Risk Factors

The NPS presents two main risks: low

returns on contributions and inflation erosion of pension value. While the NPS is vulnerable to inflation, particularly if the RBI's inflation targets are not met, it offers greater flexibility in terms of investment choices.

On the other hand, the UPS offers better inflation protection with its dearness relief component. However, the risk here lies in the sustainability of the pooled fund and the future government's commitment to pension payments. Should the pooled fund face losses, employees might not receive the expected benefits.

The choice between NPS and UPS largely depends on an individual's career timeline and risk tolerance. Employees in the NPS for a shorter period may benefit from the UPS's assured pension, while long-term NPS contributors might prefer the flexibility and potential higher returns of the NPS. Each system carries its own set of risks, and understanding the nuances of both will help employees make informed decisions for their retirement.



DeepSeek and the Thali Analogy: The Future of AI Disruption

The recent fluctuations in the US stock market have raised questions about the future of AI technology, especially after the debut of DeepSeek, a new open-source AI engine developed by a Chinese-backed hedge fund. To understand the implications, we can draw an analogy to India's diverse thali meals, which can provide insights into the way DeepSeek disrupts the AI landscape.

In India, a thali meal can be as humble as a roadside stall offering a simple, affordable meal for Rs 50 or as luxurious as an unlimited thali in a five-star restaurant for Rs 1,500. Despite the differences in ambiance and presentation, both meals offer a satisfying, complete experience. Similarly, DeepSeek, though built on open-source technology and developed at a fraction of the cost (\$5.6 million), provides a well-rounded AI experience that rivals expensive engines like ChatGPT. It's a more affordable, customizable option that gives users the flexibility to tweak its features, much like how a thali meal allows for second servings or extra sides.

DeepSeek can be likened to Android in the mobile world—an open-source platform that provides a low-cost alternative to Apple's iOS. Just as Android revolutionized the mobile market by offering an affordable and customizable operating system, DeepSeek aims to democratize access to artificial general intelligence (AGI), challenging the monopoly of costly AI solutions. Its entry into the AI space is akin to Linux's disruption of Windows in the 2000s, making powerful technology accessible to a broader range of users.

One of the main concerns with AGI is its enormous processing power requirements, which demand costly GPUs and vast amounts of electricity. Nvidia, the leader in this domain, saw a dramatic 17% drop in stock value, reflecting the market's uncertainty about the future of AI investments. DeepSeek's rise challenges this model, showing that powerful AI engines can be built without relying on top-tier GPUs or traditional training methods. This efficiency offers companies a chance to embrace generative AI at a fraction of the cost, making it an attractive option for businesses focused on profitability.

While the US still leads in creating core technologies for AI, the timing of DeepSeek's launch is significant. Its release raises questions about the balance of power in the AI space and may prompt the US to reconsider its approach to trade restrictions with China. DeepSeek's emergence signals the beginning of an exciting, more accessible AI era—one where affordability and innovation go hand-in-hand, creating a more inclusive technological future.

Reviving Yamuna: A Sabarmati Riverfront-Like Transformation for Delhi's Lifeline



As Delhi approaches its upcoming election, the Yamuna River, heavily polluted and foaming with toxic foam, has become a focal point of political debate. Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has accused Haryana of contaminating the river with ammonia, sparking sharp responses from the BJP. This ongoing political clash, however, underscores a deeper issue—the complete neglect of the Yamuna, which now resembles a vast sewage drain, rather than the lifeline it once was.

Amidst the political rhetoric, Union Home Minister Amit Shah's proposal to develop the Yamuna Riverfront akin to Ahmedabad's Sabarmati Riverfront has rekindled hope for a transformative change. But is such a makeover feasible for the Yamuna?

The Sabarmati Riverfront, now a shining example of urban renewal, underwent a remarkable transformation. Once a highly polluted water body, Sabarmati was revitalized through a combination of commercial, residential, and recreational

developments along its banks. The project began taking shape in the late 1990s and gained momentum in 2004, with the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation leading the charge. The project transformed a neglected stretch into a vibrant public space, with beautiful parks and promenades attracting both locals and tourists.

However, Sabarmati's journey to recovery was not without challenges. As a seasonal river, Sabarmati's waters were largely confined to the monsoon months, making it difficult to maintain water quality. In response, the Gujarat government released water from the Narmada River into Sabarmati, a step that stabilized the water levels, though the river still faces issues of pollution, especially downstream.

For the Yamuna, the task is even more daunting. Despite the implementation of three Yamuna Action Plans and the expenditure of over Rs 8,500 crore since 1993, the river remains choked with untreated sewage, industrial waste, and chemical pollutants. Both AAP and the

BJP have used the river's pollution as a political tool, blaming neighboring states like Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for discharging contaminants, while Delhi contributes to the problem by overusing the river for drinking, irrigation, and industrial needs.

Reviving the Yamuna to mirror the success of Sabarmati will be an arduous task. The river's unique challenges—ranging from flooding in the monsoons to low water levels in summer—make it difficult to replicate the Sabarmati model. However, with proper planning, expert consultation, and government support, the Yamuna can undergo a much-needed ecological overhaul. Removing encroachments, upgrading sewage treatment plants, and ensuring freshwater flow are critical steps.

Yet, just as the political uproar over the Yamuna pollution ebbs and flows with election cycles, so too does the commitment to solving its crisis. Without sustained effort and a long-term vision, the Yamuna will remain a toxic symbol of Delhi's environmental neglect.

Pakistan's Crisis of Perpetual Uncertainty: A Deepening National Challenge

Pakistan finds itself entrenched in a state of "perpetual uncertainty," with no clear path forward. The nation is facing a multifaceted crisis of immense proportions that threatens the very fabric of its existence. Political instability, internal security issues, and governance deficiencies intersect in a way that undermines the country's ability to recover or stabilize. At the heart of this crisis lies a pervasive economic unpredictability that continues to undermine the nation's future.

Despite receiving significant financial assistance from international creditors, both bilateral and multilateral, totaling billions of dollars over the past year, Pakistan's economic outlook remains grim. Rather than seeing meaningful recovery, the country's economy has stagnated, burdened by structural inefficiencies, a lack of investor confidence, and an absence of long-term policy solutions. This ongoing economic struggle starkly illustrates the failure of Pakistan's political and governance systems to enact meaningful reforms or deliver sustainable growth.

The roots of Pakistan's economic and political instability are deeply embedded in its military-dominated governance structure. The country's leadership, largely shaped by entrenched military elites, has failed to prioritize or implement the structural reforms needed to address the systemic issues facing the nation. Corruption among the elite remains pervasive, undermining efforts to address the country's challenges effectively. The continued mismanagement of public resources, coupled with a reluctance to engage in essential policy reforms, only exacerbates Pakistan's vulnerabilities, both politically and economically. The inefficiencies within the government are compounded by a security situation that has spiraled out of control, with increasing incidents of internal unrest and militant activity. The national security crisis not only distracts from the country's political and economic priorities but also creates an environment of fear and uncertainty that further erodes investor confidence and exacerbates social tensions.



Condolences To Those Who Lost Loved Ones": PM On Maha Kumbh Stampede

Stampede at Maha Kumbh Grounds Leaves Several Injured

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his condolences after a stampede at the Maha Kumbh fair grounds, where casualties are feared. He wished for the speedy recovery of around 30 women injured when an overwhelming crowd broke barricades near the Triveni Sangam ghat on the sacred occasion of Mauni Amavasya, a day expected to witness 10 crore pilgrims taking a holy dip. PM Modi has spoken to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath four times, assuring full support from the Centre while local authorities manage the situation.

Akharas cancelled their processions and deferred the holy dip following the stampede. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath confirmed that some people were seriously injured but reassured that the situation remains under control. He urged devotees to avoid crowding at Sangam Nose and advised the elderly, children, and asthma patients to bathe at the nearest ghats, emphasizing that all Ganga ghats hold the same spiritual significance. The stampede occurred near Triveni Sangam



ghat on Mauni Amavasya. Over 4.80 crore devotees took a dip on Tuesday alone, surpassing Makar Sankranti's numbers. CM Yogi, Amit Shah, JP Nadda, and Anandiben Patel reviewed the situation. The Amrit Snan on Mauni Amavasya is the

most significant ritual of the Maha Kumbh, made even more auspicious this year due to a rare celestial event, 'Triveni Yog,' which occurs once in 144 years. The Maha Kumbh, which began on January 13, has already seen over 15 crore pilgrims in 17 days and will continue till February 26.

"Mysuru Land Scam Case Is Politically Motivated"



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday expressed confidence in receiving justice from the judiciary regarding the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam, where he is the prime accused and his wife, BM Parvathi, is the second accused. The Dharwad bench of the Karnataka High Court has reserved judgment on a petition seeking a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the case. When asked about his concerns, Siddaramaiah dismissed any worry, saying, "Why should I be concerned? I trust the judiciary."

The High Court on Monday stayed the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) summons to Parvathi and State Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh, questioning the urgency of the ED's actions. The court noted that the investigation was still ongoing and observed that the timing of the summons was inappropriate. The stay order will remain in effect until February 10, pending further hearings.

The MUDA scam allegations suggest that Siddaramaiah used his political influence to secure compensation for 14 sites in his wife's name in exchange for 3 acres and 16 guntas of land acquired by MUDA. The petitioner, Snehamayi Krishna, has challenged the ongoing Karnataka Lokayukta probe and requested a CBI investigation. While reserving judgment, the court directed the Lokayukta to continue its investigation and submit further findings on the day of the verdict.

Congress challenges Kejriwal over CAG reports

Panel to Study the Feasibility of Banning Fossil Fuel Vehicles



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera on Wednesday criticised the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi over 14 contentious Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) reports. Khera accused Arvind Kejriwal of hypocrisy, recalling how Kejriwal once carried "fake drafts" of CAG reports against the Congress government but is now silent on similar findings against his own administration. He challenged Kejriwal to a debate on the CAG reports concerning AAP's governance in Delhi.

"If he has any guts, he should debate on the CAG reports with us," Khera said. This criticism follows a scathing attack by Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, who had earlier slammed Kejriwal over the Delhi excise policy scam, highlighting the AAP leader's past promises and present contradictions.

Maharashtra Forms Committee to Explore Petrol, Diesel Car Ban in Mumbai

TPN Correspondent | Maharashtra

The Maharashtra government has taken a significant step in tackling Mumbai's air pollution crisis by forming a seven-member committee tasked with exploring the possibility of banning petrol and diesel vehicles within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). The move comes in response to growing concerns over deteriorating air quality in the city and its surrounding areas, including Thane, Raigad, and Palghar. The committee will focus on promoting cleaner alternatives like CNG and electric vehicles to reduce vehicular emissions.



Led by retired IAS officer Sudhir Kumar Shrivastava, the committee includes key stakeholders such as Maharashtra's transport commissioner, Mumbai's joint police commissioner (traffic), the managing director

of Mahanagar Gas Limited, and representatives from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), among others. The committee is expected to conduct a detailed study and submit a report with recommen-

dations within three months. This move follows a suo-motu Public Interest Litigation heard by the Bombay High Court, which raised concerns about traffic congestion and its role in increasing pollution levels. The court emphasized that current strategies to manage vehicle numbers and pollution are insufficient. In response, the state government is seeking expert advice to determine whether phasing out fossil fuel-powered vehicles is a viable solution to Mumbai's air quality problem.

Mumbai Police Insist Arrested Man is the Attacker in Saif Ali Khan Stabbing Case



TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

Mumbai Police on Tuesday firmly asserted that they have arrested the right person in connection with actor Saif Ali Khan's stabbing case. Additional Commissioner of Police Paramjit Singh Dahiya stated, "Yes, we have the right man in custody. There is no doubt that he is the accused." The officer emphasized that substantial technical, physical, and oral evidence has been gathered to prove the accused's involvement, rejecting media speculation suggesting otherwise.

Saif Ali Khan was stabbed in five places—including his back, wrist, neck, shoulder, and elbow—during an apparent burglary at his Bandra residence in the early hours of January 16. His friend rushed him to Lilavati Hospital in an autorickshaw, and he was discharged within a week.

- Police assert strong evidence against the accused, Shariful Islam.
- No fingerprint report has been received yet, despite media claims.
- The accused's lawyer argues he is being made a scapegoat.

Shariful Islam was arrested near Hiranandani Estate in Thane, 35 kilometers from Khan's home, after an intensive 70-hour manhunt. However, controversy arose when reports suggested the 19 sets of fingerprints collected from the crime scene did not match Islam's. Mumbai Police refuted these claims, stating that they have yet to receive the official fingerprint report.

Meanwhile, a West Bengal-based woman's Aadhaar card, allegedly used by Islam to purchase a SIM card, has led police to record her statement. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis assured the public that the investigation is proceeding meticulously, urging against unnecessary confusion. However, the father of another man initially detained in Chhattisgarh criticized Mumbai Police, stating his son lost his job and marriage due to mistaken identity, questioning who would be held accountable for his ruined future.

Court Dismisses Bibhav Kumar's Plea in MP Swati Maliwal Assault Case



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Tis Hazari Court in Delhi has dismissed multiple revision petitions filed by Bibhav Kumar, a close aide of Arvind Kejriwal, in the assault case involving AAP Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal. The court rejected Kumar's challenge against the cognizance order and his appeal against the committal of his case to the Sessions Court.

Additionally, the court turned down a revision plea by the Delhi Police against an earlier order directing them to provide un-relied documents to Kumar. The judge emphasized the need for transparency, allowing access to materials that could support his defense.

Bibhav Kumar was accused of physically and verbally assaulting Swati Maliwal at the Chief Minister's residence on May 13 last year. Maliwal alleged that he slapped, kicked, and attempted to disrobe her. Kumar was arrested on May 18 following her complaint.

The Supreme Court later granted him bail but barred him from resuming any role in the Chief Minister's Office. The Delhi Police has filed a 500-page charge sheet, with testimonies from multiple witnesses. Kumar continues to face charges, including culpable homicide and criminal intimidation.

India Rejects Canada's Allegations of Election Interference

MEA Hits Back at "Baseless" Claims of India's Involvement in Toronto Elections

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India has firmly rejected the allegations made by a Canadian commission regarding interference in Toronto's elections, categorizing the report as "insinuations" without merit. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) also criticized Canada's interference in India's internal matters, emphasizing the negative consequences of such actions, including illegal migration and organized criminal activities.

The report, issued by Canada's National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians, claimed that India was one of the most active foreign actors engaging in electoral interference in Canada, specifically citing involvement in the support of candidates through proxy agents.

The Canadian report also referenced the expulsion of six Indian diplomats in October 2024, following allegations of their involve-



ment in a campaign of violence, which was met with reciprocal action by India. The report's mention of India's supposed disinformation

regarding the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar was also strongly denied by India, further escalating tensions between the two coun-

tries. The MEA reaffirmed its stance that such smear campaigns only serve to harm the already delicate diplomatic relations.

White House Opens Briefing Room to "New Media" in Move to Engage Younger Audiences



TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

In a groundbreaking move, the White House has adapted its media strategy under President Donald Trump's administration by opening up the briefing room to a new generation of media outlets, including podcasters, social media influencers, and content creators.

This shift is part of the administration's effort to cater to the evolving media landscape, particularly among younger Americans who are increasingly consuming news outside traditional television and newspapers. Karoline Leavitt, at 27 the youngest White House press secretary in history, emphasized that this change is critical for effectively spreading the president's message.

Leavitt invited content creators from independent platforms to apply for press credentials via a newly launched website, whitehouse.gov/newmedia. She further announced plans to reinstate press passes for 440 journalists whose access was revoked under the previous administration. The change marks a significant step toward embracing diverse voices and expanding the reach of presidential communications in an era dominated by digital media.

Zelensky: Ukraine to Replace Suspended US Aid Funding for Critical Humanitarian Projects



TPN Correspondent | Ukraine

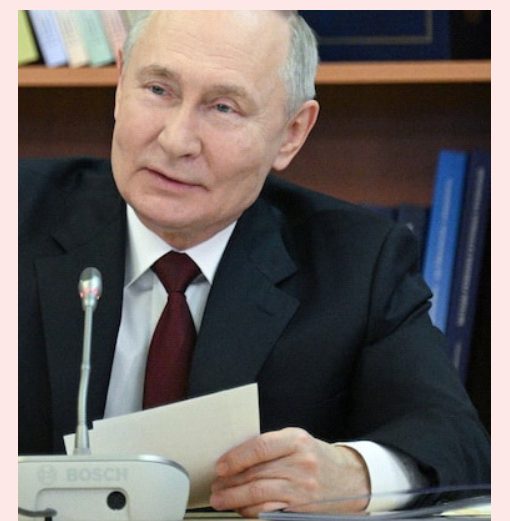
Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky stated on Tuesday that several vital humanitarian projects in the country had been put on hold due to the US government's decision to freeze foreign aid. This includes key initiatives aimed at supporting veterans, local media, and various sectors reliant on international assistance since Russia's invasion began in February 2022.

Zelensky emphasized that despite the setback, Ukraine would prioritize these suspended programs by reallocating public funds where possible, ensuring the continuation of essential services for its citizens. His government has already begun assessing which projects need immediate attention, particularly those involving vulnerable groups such as children and veterans, as well as infrastructure protection efforts crucial to the country's survival amid ongoing conflict.

Since the outbreak of the war, Ukraine has heavily relied on foreign aid, particularly from the United States, which has contributed billions of dollars toward its defense and humanitarian needs. However, with the new administration under US President Donald Trump halting much of this financial support last week, Ukraine has had to find alternative means to sustain its efforts. Zelensky assured his country that despite the funding freeze, his government remains committed to addressing the needs of its citizens during this challenging period, with a clear focus on national priorities.

The US freeze has left Ukraine in a difficult position, prompting Zelensky to take immediate action to safeguard essential services. While the president's response underscores resilience in the face of adversity, it also highlights the growing reliance on both domestic resources and continued international assistance to navigate the prolonged conflict.

Talks With Ukraine Possible, But Not With Zelensky: Putin



TPN Correspondent | Moscow

Russian President Vladimir Putin stated on Tuesday that he would be open to negotiations with Ukraine, but not with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. Putin argued that Zelensky is an "illegitimate" leader due to the expiration of his term during martial law. Instead, Putin suggested that negotiations could take place with a different Ukrainian representative who is willing to seek a compromise.

Putin's comments mark a continued rejection of Zelensky's leadership, even as the war in Ukraine rages on without any signs of de-escalation. The Russian president's stance is indicative of Moscow's reluctance to engage directly with Zelensky, who has been a vocal figure in rallying international support for Ukraine's fight against Russian aggression.

Putin also implied that the war could be brought to an end within two months, should Western support to Ukraine cease. This statement highlights Russia's belief that the continued supply of military aid and political backing from the West is prolonging the conflict. He suggested that without this external influence, Ukraine would be forced to negotiate or face a shift in the balance of power.

The Russian president's remarks come amid ongoing efforts from other global leaders to mediate a ceasefire. U.S. President Donald Trump has expressed support for a quick end to the conflict, even going so far as to promise a ceasefire if he were in power. However, Russian officials have indicated that no one from Trump's team has yet reached out to initiate peace talks, despite his public comments in favor of a swift resolution.

On the Ukrainian side, Kyiv has raised concerns about the possibility of being excluded from any peace negotiations. Ukrainian officials have accused Putin of trying to manipulate the situation, particularly regarding Trump's comments. There is a growing unease in Ukraine about the risk of being sidelined in discussions that could shape the future of their sovereignty, with some fearing that any negotiations without direct involvement from Kyiv would be detrimental to Ukraine's interests.

MP CM Mohan Yadav's Japan Visit Boosts State's Investment Prospects CM's Discussions with Japanese Officials and Companies Focus on Key Sectors

TPN Correspondent | Tokyo

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's ongoing Japan visit is yielding promising results as he engages with top Japanese officials and business leaders, emphasizing the state's vast potential for investment across various sectors. Yadav has highlighted the opportunities available for Japanese organizations in areas such as IT, healthcare, education, and railways, expressing confidence that the discussions are leading to fruitful collaborations.

On the second day of his tour, Yadav visited the Sensoji Temple and continued his series of high-profile meetings. His dialogue with Yuji Fukasawa, Chair of Keidanren's South Asia Committee and Chairman of East Japan Railway Company, was focused on potential collaborations involving Japanese railway technology. Fukasawa showed interest in visiting Madhya Pradesh to explore further opportunities.

Yadav also met with Daiki Arai, Director of A&D Medical, who expressed interest in establishing a

manufacturing unit in Madhya Pradesh within the year. Additionally, the CM's meeting with Japan's Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hisashi Matsumoto, aimed to enhance Indo-Japan cooperation at the state level.

This four-day visit is a part of the 'Invest in Madhya Pradesh' campaign, which seeks to position the state as a prime destination for foreign investment. The campaign is gearing up for the 'Invest Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2025', to be held in Bhopal in February.



Stock Market Rebounds as Nifty Holds 23,000; Sensex Surges 631 Points



Domestic stock markets gained on Wednesday. Despite mixed signals from Asian and international markets, the relief rally continued for the second consecutive day. Investors bought as the indices were already in the oversold zone. Shares from IT, media, realty and healthcare sectors supported the indices. The results of some companies were also impressive. With this, the Nifty 200 and the Sensex ended with gains of more than 600 points. It is noteworthy that the Nifty maintained the key support level of 23,000. If it sustains for a few more days, there is a possibility of a reversal. The BSE Sensex, which closed at 75,901 in the

previous session, opened at 76,138 today. It touched an intraday low at 75,975. It reached an intraday high at 76,599. It ended at 76,532 with a gain of 631 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,026 on Wednesday, reached a low of 22,976 and a high of 23,183. It gained 205 points in total and closed at 22,163. The Nifty Bank rose 299 points to settle at 48,165.

In the Nifty50, 42 companies gained and 9 lost. Shriram Finance, BEL, Tata Motors, SBI Life, Trent were the top gainers. ITC Hotels, Maruti, Asian Paints, Bharti Airtel, Britan-

nia were the biggest losers. All sectoral indices rose today except FMCG. IT, media, realty, healthcare, consumer durables, pharma, metal, bank, auto and finance indices performed well. Market breadth on NSE is in favor of buyers today. Out of 2909 stocks traded, 2311 gained. 528 lost. 14 stocks touched 52-week highs. 98 shares reached 52-week lows.

SRF's net profit in the third quarter increased by 7% from Rs.253 crore to Rs.271 crore. Bluestar's net profit increased



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by 31% from Rs.100 crore to Rs.132 crore. The rupee weakened slightly against the dollar and settled at 86.55. Dr. Agarwal IPO received a response of 0.06 times on the first day. HSBC has given a reduce rating to SBI Card. The Cabinet has allocated Rs 16,300 crore for the Critical Mineral Development Mission. It also approved the rates for molasses-based ethanol. HSBC has given a buy rating to M&M Financial with a target price of Rs 320. Adani Power's net profit rose 7.4% to Rs 2940 crore. Credit Access

Grameen shares gained for the third consecutive day. JBM Auto's net profit rose 8.3%. Radico Khaitan's net profit rose 27% to Rs 95 crore from Rs 75 crore.

1. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited (CHOLAFIN):



Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited is a prominent non-banking financial company (NBFC) in India, primarily focusing on vehicle finance, home loans, and small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) loans. The company has demonstrated consistent growth in its loan book and maintains a strong asset quality. As of recent data, the stock was trading at ₹1,223.05.

2. SBI Life Insurance Company Limited (SBILIFE):

SBI Life Insurance is one of India's leading life insurance companies, offering a range



of individual and group insurance products. The company benefits from a strong distribution network, leveraging State Bank of India's extensive branch network. It has shown robust growth in new business premiums and maintains a healthy solvency ratio, reflecting its financial stability.

3. Mphasis Limited (MPHASIS):

Mphasis is an IT services company specializing in cloud and cognitive services, serving clients across various industries, including banking, financial services, and insurance. The company has reported steady revenue growth, driven by its focus on digital transformation services. The stock was recently priced at ₹3,009.30.



4. Zensar Technologies Limited (ZENSARTECH):

Zensar Technologies is a technology services and solutions company offering digital and infrastructure services. The company has been focusing



on expanding its digital capabilities and has seen growth in its key markets. The stock was trading at ₹850.50, with a market capitalization of ₹17,826.4 crore.

5. Zomato Limited (ZOMATO):



Zomato is a leading online food delivery platform in India, providing services like restaurant discovery, reviews, and food delivery. The company has experienced significant growth in its us

India's Coffee Exports Set to Drop 10% in 2025



India's coffee exports are set to decline by more than 10% in 2025, as the country faces a reduced crop and lower carry-forward stocks from last year's harvest, according to industry officials. Despite record-high prices for coffee beans, the decrease in production is expected to curb export volumes, impacting global supply.

India is the world's seventh-largest coffee producer, known primarily for its robusta beans, which are commonly used in instant coffee production. The country also cultivates arabica beans, a more expensive variety. The reduced export forecast comes at a time when the global coffee market is already grappling with tighter supplies due to diminished output from Brazil, the world's largest coffee producer.

Industry experts suggest that the smaller harvest in India, along with reduced stocks, will result in a significant dip in exports in 2025. According to Chengappa Pradhan, a researcher at Volcafe, the coffee trading division of ED&F Man, the lower crop yield is expected to cause export volumes to fall by more than 10% compared to 2024's record level of 295,402 metric tons.

While the rise in prices offers some financial relief for producers, the decline in coffee exports could have broader consequences for the global market. The combination of reduced production in India and Brazil, both key suppliers, has already placed strain on global coffee inventories, driving up futures prices.

India's coffee industry has been facing challenges in recent years, including adverse weather conditions and labor shortages, which have contributed to the lower production levels. Despite the ongoing price surge, the overall export outlook remains grim, with officials and traders bracing for a tougher year ahead.

As the 2025 season unfolds, stakeholders will be closely monitoring how global demand responds to the reduced supply from two of the world's largest coffee producers. The continued tightness in global coffee markets is expected to sustain high prices but also exacerbate supply concerns.

Sebi Rejects Digvijay Gaekwad's Request for Competing Open Offer for Religare Enterprises

On Tuesday, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) returned a letter from US-based entrepreneur Digvijay 'Danny' Gaekwad, who had sought permission to make a competing open offer for an equity stake in Religare Enterprises Limited (REL). Gaekwad's proposal aimed to acquire a 55% stake in REL at Rs 275 per share.

The rejection came after Sebi reviewed Gaekwad's request and determined that it did not qualify as an exemption application under Regulation 11 of the SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011. Regulation 11 covers the procedures and guidelines for acquisitions and open offers, including the conditions for exempting certain transactions from mandatory open offer requirements.

Religare Enterprises shared Sebi's response to Gaekwad's proposal with the stock exchanges on Tuesday, highlighting that the regulator had not granted permission for the competing open offer. According to Sebi's letter, Gaekwad's request did not meet the necessary criteria to be considered an exemption under the relevant regulations.

Gaekwad had made his intention known to acquire a substantial stake in REL, offering to purchase 55% of the company's equity at Rs 275 per share. This move came amid ongoing changes and developments within Religare Enterprises, which has attracted attention due to its strategic restructuring and shifting market dynamics.

The rejection of Gaekwad's proposal has significant implications for his plans to enter REL's ownership structure. Without Sebi's approval, he will not be able to proceed with the competing open offer as initially proposed.

This move underscores the importance of complying with the regulatory framework set by Sebi, especially in high-stakes corporate acquisitions. It also highlights the role of market regulators in maintaining transparency and fairness in the acquisition process, ensuring that the interests of all shareholders are safeguarded.



Maruti Suzuki Reports Strong Q3 Results for FY24, Revenue and Profit Surge



Maruti Suzuki India Ltd announced its third-quarter financial results for the period ending December 31, 2024, revealing significant growth in both revenue and profit. The company's consolidated revenue increased by 15.67%, reaching ₹38,764.3 crore, compared to ₹33,512.8 crore during the same period last year. This represented a rise of ₹5,251.5 crore in the October-December period, highlighting the automaker's robust performance.

The company's net profit also saw a healthy increase of 16.21%, rising to ₹3,726.9 crore from ₹3,206.8 crore in the previous year. This increase of ₹520.1 crore was driven by improved sales and operational efficiency.

Maruti Suzuki's total income for the third quarter of FY24 climbed 15.39%, or ₹5,312.8 crore, reaching ₹39,822 crore, up from ₹34,509.2 crore in Q3 of FY23. The increase in total income reflects the company's strong sales performance and market presence.

While the company's total expenses rose by 3.78%, or ₹1,284 crore, to ₹35,163.1 crore from ₹33,879.1 crore, this increase was significantly smaller compared to the revenue growth, indicating efficient cost management.

In terms of stock market performance, Maruti Suzuki shares saw a decline in value on Wednesday. At 3 pm IST, the company's stock was trading at ₹11,968.40 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), reflecting a drop of 1.27%, or ₹154.50, from the previous trading session.

Despite the stock's decline, Maruti Suzuki's solid financial results for Q3 demonstrate its continued strength in the Indian automotive market. The company's ability to maintain revenue growth while keeping expenses in check suggests a resilient business model, positioning it well for future performance in the upcoming quarters.

ChatGPT Founder Altman is 'impressed' by DeepSeek, hints at new releases by OpenAI



OpenAI founder Sam Altman has responded to the rapid rise of Chinese AI startup DeepSeek, which has quickly gained attention in the AI community. Altman, who is credited with the success of ChatGPT, expressed both admiration and excitement over DeepSeek's impressive development, specifically their R1 reasoning model. Despite being a new competitor, Altman stated that OpenAI remains committed to continuing its own progress in AI, hinting at potential upcoming releases to rival DeepSeek.

In a series of posts on X (formerly Twitter), Altman acknowledged the impressive nature of DeepSeek's R1 model, particularly its value for the price. He emphasized that OpenAI would continue to push the boundaries of AI development, vowing to deliver superior models. "We will obviously deliver much better models, and it's invigorating to have a new competitor! We will pull up some releases," Altman wrote. He further noted that OpenAI remains focused on executing its research roadmap, stressing the importance of computing power to succeed

in the mission of advancing AI. "The world is going to want to use a LOT of AI, and really be quite amazed by the next-gen models coming," he added.

DeepSeek, founded in 2023 by Liang Wenfeng, the head of the Chinese hedge fund High-Flyer, has gained significant attention for its V3 large language model (LLM). Remarkably, the model has outperformed those of major US tech giants, such as OpenAI and Meta, but with far lower development costs. DeepSeek's V3 model was built using older Nvidia H800 chips, with the project costing approximately \$5.6 million — a fraction of the billions invested by companies like OpenAI, Meta, and Microsoft.

This low-cost approach to AI development has positioned DeepSeek as a serious competitor to Western tech companies, potentially forcing them to lower prices to remain competitive in the growing AI market. With DeepSeek challenging traditional assumptions about the cost and power required for AI models, the competition in the industry is heating up.

Rock Climber's Final Post Goes Viral After Fatal Fall In California

Micah Manalese, a 30-year-old rock climber from California, tragically lost her life during a hike along the Pine Creek Trail in Red Rocks Canyon, Nevada. The incident occurred while Micah was climbing with a friend. Several other climbers in the vicinity witnessed the fall. Despite the swift response from emergency teams, Micah was declared dead at the scene.

The accident took place on January 18, when the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) responded to two simultaneous rescue operations at the Cat in the Hat climbing area, a popular spot for outdoor enthusiasts. While rescuers worked to save Micah, they also assisted four other climbers who had become trapped by their ropes. Tragically, despite the efforts of emergency personnel, Micah could not be revived.

In her final Facebook post, shared just days before the accident, Micah reflected on her love for climbing and her recent return to the sport after a break. She wrote about reigniting her passion for sport climbing, which had been sidelined for the past few



years. "I have been outside climbing since 2014 but in the past 4 years it's been on the back-burner. I love sport climbing and it was special for me to reignite this passion for myself this year. Thank you for all the delays and moments I got to spend outside. I am hungry for more," she shared, alongside photos of her past climbing adventures.

Micah's passion for the outdoors and climbing was evident to those who knew her, and her untimely death serves as a somber reminder of the risks inherent in the sport. Her memory will live on through the many adventures she shared with the climbing community and the friends who admired her spirit.

Spaceflight's Impact on Eye Health: Challenges for Mars Missions

Astronauts returning from extended space missions often report significant changes in eye health, largely due to prolonged exposure to microgravity. Research has shown that altered blood flow and pressure in space can lead to vision problems, particularly a condition known as spaceflight-associated neuro-ocular syndrome (SANS), which affects approximately 70% of astronauts on six- to twelve-month stays aboard the International Space Station (ISS). As plans for longer missions, such as trips to Mars, progress, understanding these changes becomes critical.

A recent study published in the IEEE Open Journal of Engineering in Medicine and Biology examined three key ocular parameters: ocular rigidity, intraocular pressure, and ocular pulse amplitude, in data from 13 astronauts who completed missions lasting between 157 and 186 days. The results revealed notable biome-



chanical changes: a 33% reduction in ocular rigidity, an 11% decrease in intraocular pressure, and a 25% decline in ocular pulse amplitude. These shifts were linked to symptoms like reduced eye size, optic nerve swelling, and retinal folds.

Dr. Santiago Costantino, an ophthalmologist at Université de Montréal, explained that microgravity affects blood flow and venous circulation in the eyes, which

could cause structural changes in the sclera and choroid. While most astronauts' vision returned to normal after their missions, some required corrective lenses during their recovery, raising concerns about the long-term impact of these changes.

These findings are particularly concerning for future space missions to Mars, which would last much longer than typical ISS stays. Experts stress the need for more research and preventive measures to ensure astronauts' health during extended missions. The study's findings offer an early warning, allowing researchers to identify astronauts at risk and develop targeted solutions to safeguard their vision during future space exploration. As space travel advances, addressing these ocular health challenges will be essential for the safety and success of missions to distant destinations like Mars.

Unveiling the Mystery of Antarctica's Blood Falls



Antarctica, one of the most remote and unexplored places on Earth, continues to captivate scientists and explorers alike. One of its most intriguing natural wonders is the Blood Falls, a crimson waterfall that flows from Taylor Glacier into West Lake Bonney. The striking red color of the waterfall against the vast, white landscape has fascinated observers since its discovery by geologist Thomas Griffith Taylor in 1911.

For over a century, researchers were puzzled by the waterfall's eerie red hue. Initially, many believed the color was caused by red algae in the water. However, recent studies have uncovered a more scientific explanation. The red color is due to the high iron content in the water. As the water emerges from the glacier and comes into contact with oxygen, the iron reacts with the air, turning the water a vivid, bloody crimson.

In addition to the color, the fact that the water remains liquid at such cold temperatures—around minus 19 degrees Celsius—has also baffled scientists. In 2003, it was

discovered that the water's high salt content, which is twice the level of seawater, lowers its freezing point, allowing it to stay liquid despite the freezing conditions.

Another fascinating aspect of the Blood Falls ecosystem is the life it supports. Despite the harsh conditions—no sunlight, no oxygen, and limited nutrients—bacteria thrive in this extreme environment. These microorganisms rely on chemosynthesis, a process where they obtain energy by breaking down sulfate and iron in the water, rather than through photosynthesis like most other life forms.

The origin of the water adds another layer of intrigue. According to researchers, about 1.5 million years ago, saltwater was trapped beneath a glacier. Over time, the glacier sealed the water in, and today, it bursts from under the ice in the form of the Blood Falls. This combination of geological and biological phenomena makes the Blood Falls a truly remarkable natural wonder in one of the world's most inhospitable places.

Millions Across Asia Celebrate the Year of the Snake

Hundreds of millions of people across Asia are celebrating the Lunar New Year, bidding farewell to the Year of the Dragon and ushering in the Year of the Snake. This marks a time of family reunions, prayers, and festive celebrations throughout East and Southeast Asia.

In China, the 2025 Spring Festival is marked by eight consecutive public holidays, offering families the chance to gather, share meals, and engage in traditional activities like setting off fireworks. Train stations and airports have been bustling with travelers, as millions return home for the annual migration, expected to reach record numbers. High streets, shopping malls, and homes are adorned with red banners, which are believed to ward off evil spirits and bring good fortune.

On the island of Taiwan, temples were packed on New Year's Day as people of all ages made offerings of fruit, sweets, and incense in hopes of a prosperous year. Chen Ching-yuan, a visitor to Taipei's Longshan Temple, shared that her prayers were simple: "I wish for a smooth, peaceful, safe, and healthy year," she said. Elderly worshippers, like Lin Yu-soon, expressed how visiting the temple with family provided spiritual solace.

Some temple-goers participated in an exciting tradition of racing to be the first to release incense for good luck. Kao Meng-shun, who won the event at



Fusing Temple in Yunlin County, explained his motivation: "While I'm still young and have the energy, it's the perfect time to take action and make the most of it."

Travel disruptions were caused by heavy snowfall in South Korea, where thousands of people struggled with delayed train and bus services while traveling to visit family. Traffic on major highways, including the route from Seoul to Busan, was severely impacted, with some journeys taking over seven hours.

In a symbolic gesture, Chinese astronauts aboard the Tiangong space station also joined in the festivities, sending heartfelt New Year's greetings in a video shared by the China Manned Space Agency.

With the spirit of celebration transcending borders, the Year of the Snake has begun with joy, prayers, and excitement across Asia.

Steve Smith, Usman Khawaja Slam Unbeaten Tons as Australia Dominate Sri Lanka in 1st Test

Australia took firm control on Day 1 of the first Test against Sri Lanka, thanks to unbeaten centuries from Steve Smith (104) and Usman Khawaja (147)**. The duo shared a formidable 195-run stand, guiding Australia to 330-2 in 81.1 overs before rain ended play prematurely.

The highlight of the day was Steve Smith's milestone, as he became the 15th batsman in Test history and only the fourth Australian to surpass 10,000 Test runs. He reached the milestone with a single off Prabath Jayasuriya, later bringing up his 35th Test century in dominant fashion.

Khawaja, playing his first Test on Sri Lankan soil, ended his 17-match century drought with a brilliant knock. His 16th Test hundred came with a flick to fine leg off Asitha Fernando, showcasing his class and resilience. Though he had some lucky escapes, including an unreviewed edge at 74, he made Sri Lanka pay with his patient batting. Earlier in the day, Travis Head (57 off 40 balls) provided a blistering start, smashing 10 fours and a six before mistiming a shot against Jayasuriya. Marnus Labuschagne (20) fell to Jeffrey Vandersay, leaving Australia at 135-2



before Smith and Khawaja took control. Sri Lanka missed crucial chances, including dropped catches of both Smith and Khawaja. With Australia fielding three specialist spinners, they now hold a strong advantage as the pitch is expected to deteriorate. Day 2 promises an exciting contest as Sri Lanka looks to fight back.

Sachin Tendulkar Returns to Cricket in International Masters League (IML)



Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar is set to return to action, leading Team India in the inaugural International Masters League (IML). The highly anticipated tournament, featuring six teams—India, Australia, England, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the West Indies—kicks off on February 22, 2025. The opening match will witness India vs. Sri Lanka, with Tendulkar and Kumar Sangakkara leading their respective teams. The tournament will be broadcast live on JioStar's Disney+ Hotstar, Colors Cineplex (SD & HD), and Colors Cineplex Superhits, with all matches starting at 7:30 PM IST. Speaking about his return, Tendulkar expressed excitement, stating, "IML will be a celebration of cricket's unique and enduring legacy. I can't wait to step back onto the field with my contemporaries in a league that will be intense and competitive." Similarly, Sangakkara described IML as a tribute to cricket's timeless charm, adding, "It's a wonderful opportunity for former cricketers to relive old rivalries and reconnect with fans." The league aims to provide a nostalgic experience for cricket fans while allowing veteran players to showcase their skills once again. With top-class broadcasting and expert commentary, IML promises to be an exciting addition to the cricketing calendar.

Novak Djokovic Withdraws from Serbia's Davis Cup Squad Due to Injury

Tennis legend Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from Serbia's Davis Cup first-round qualifying tie against Denmark due to a hamstring injury, the Serbian Tennis Federation (TSS) confirmed.

Djokovic, who sustained the injury during his Australian Open semi-final against Alexander Zverev, was scheduled to represent Serbia in the Jan 31 - Feb 2 match in Copenhagen. However, his fitness concerns forced him to withdraw.

Following his retirement from the Australian Open, the 24-time Grand Slam champion responded to criticism by sharing an MRI scan of his left hamstring on social media, dismissing doubts about his injury.

Despite Djokovic's absence, Serbia's Davis Cup captain Viktor Troicki remains optimistic, stating, "We are weakened without Novak, but we are still aiming for victory. Denmark has a great player in Holger Rune, but I believe in my team."

Djokovic, 37, was instrumental in leading Ser-



bia to their first-ever Davis Cup title in 2010, securing a historic victory over France in Belgrade. His absence presents a challenge for Serbia, but the team is determined to fight for qualification.

Kidambi Srikanth Cruises Into 2nd Round of Thailand Masters BWF Super 300

Former World No. 1 Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth advanced to the second round of the Thailand Masters BWF Super 300 tournament with a straight-game victory over Israel's Daniil Dubovenko on Wednesday. Srikanth dominated the match, winning 21-13, 21-18 in the men's singles opening round. This marks Srikanth's second consecutive victory over Dubovenko, having previously beaten him at the 2024 Macau Open in September. In the next round, Srikanth will face Hong Kong's Jason Gunawan.

Mixed Results for Indian Shuttlers

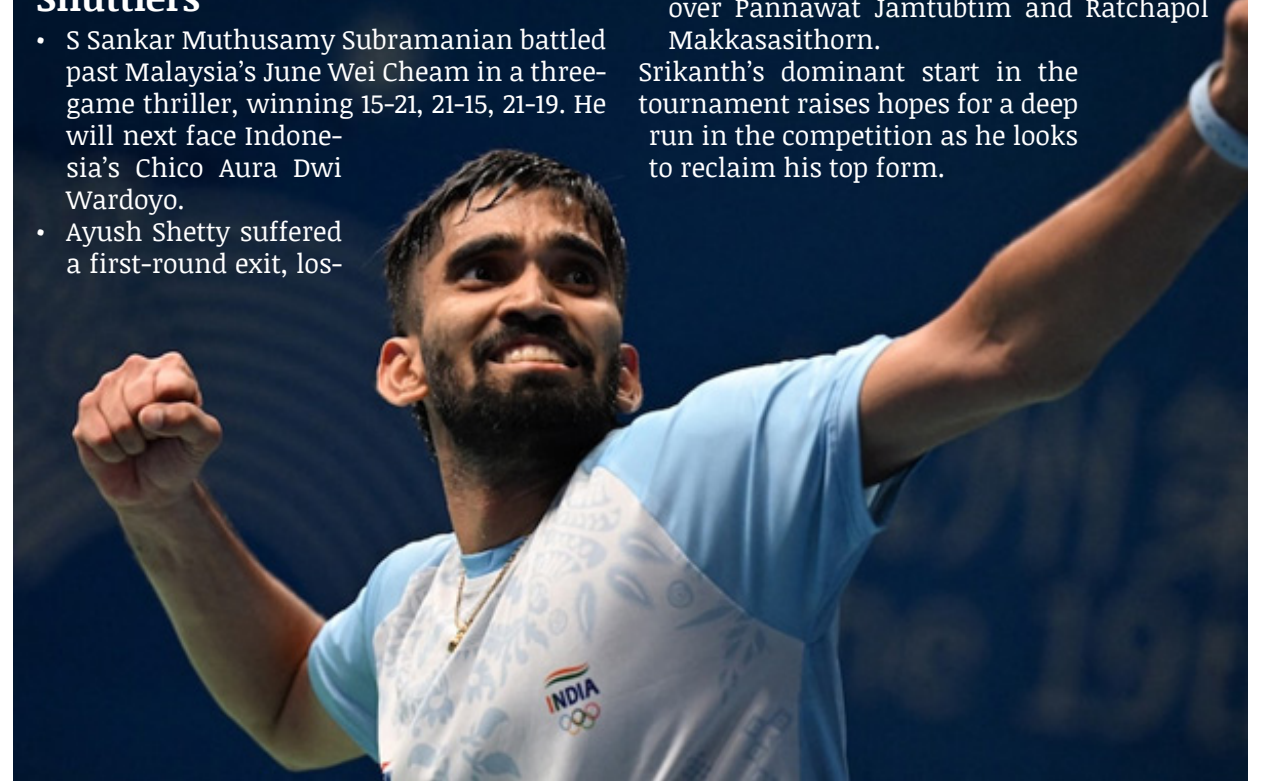
- S Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian battled past Malaysia's June Wei Cheam in a three-game thriller, winning 15-21, 21-15, 21-19. He will next face Indonesia's Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo.
- Ayush Shetty suffered a first-round exit, los-

- ing to Malaysia's Jing Hong Kok 15-21, 17-21.
- Mithun Manjunath also bowed out after falling to Sholeh Aidil 14-21, 13-21.

Doubles Success for India

- In mixed doubles, Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde advanced to the second round with a 21-8, 21-16 victory over Thailand's Weeraphat Phakjarung and Sararat Chueboca. They will next face another Thai duo, Ratchapol Makkasasithorn and Nat-tamon Laisuan.
- In men's doubles, Ruben Kumar and Hariharan secured a comfortable 21-18, 21-12 win over Pannawat Jamtubtim and Ratchapol Makkasasithorn.

Srikanth's dominant start in the tournament raises hopes for a deep run in the competition as he looks to reclaim his top form.



Gukesh Triumphs Over Leon Mendonca to Secure Sole Lead at Tata Steel Masters

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh delivered a stellar performance, defeating compatriot Leon Luke Mendonca in the ninth round of the Tata Steel Masters, securing the sole lead in the tournament. With this victory, Gukesh's tally rose to 6.5 points out of nine, putting him ahead of Uzbek Grandmaster Nodirbek Abdusattorov and Slovenian Vladimir Fedoseev, who both stand at six points.

On a day filled with intense battles, R Praggnanandhaa suffered his first defeat in the tournament against Dutch Grandmaster Anish Giri, while veteran P Harikrishna also faced a setback, losing to Fedoseev. Despite the lead, Gukesh remained focused, stating, "I'm happy that I played a good game today, but there are still four rounds left, so I'm not thinking much about the standings. I'm just happy with how I'm playing."

Gukesh's remarkable consistency in the tournament has positioned him as a strong contender for the title. Meanwhile, Praggnanandhaa, who now has 5.5 points, shares the fourth spot.

Round 9 Results:

- Anish Giri (NED, 4.5) beat R Praggnanandhaa (IND, 5.5)
- D Gukesh (IND, 6.5) beat Leon Luke Mendonca (IND, 2.5)
- Vladimir Fedoseev (SLO, 6) beat P Harikrishna (IND, 4)



- Jorden van Foreest (NED, 3.5) drew with Max Warmerdam (NED, 3.5)
- Wei Yi (CHN, 5) drew with Arjun Erigaisi (IND, 2.5)
- Alexey Sarana (SRB, 5) drew with Vincent Keymer (GER, 3.5)
- Fabiano Caruana (USA, 5) drew with Nodirbek Abdusattorov (UZB, 6)

With four rounds remaining, all eyes are on Gukesh as he aims to maintain his lead and claim victory at the prestigious tournament.

Hockey India Announces 24-Member Women's Squad for FIH Pro League 2024-25

Hockey India has announced the 24-member Indian Women's Hockey Team for the Bhubaneswar leg of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, scheduled from February 15 to 25 at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium. India will compete against England, the Netherlands, Spain, and Germany, facing each team twice. Their campaign begins with a match against England on February 15.

The squad includes goalkeepers Savita and Bichu Devi Kharibam, while defenders Sushila Chanu, Pukhrambam, Nikki Pradhan, Udita, Jyoti, Ishika Chaudhary, and Jyoti Chhatri bolster the backline. Midfielders Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke, Neha, Manisha Chauhan, Salima Tete, Sunelita Toppo, Lahremsiami, Baljeet Kaur, and



Sharmila Devi bring balance to the squad. Forwards include Navneet Kaur, Mumtaz Khan, Preeti Dubey, Rutaja Dadaso Pisal, Beauty Dungleung, Sangita Kumari, Deepika, and Vandana Katariya.

Dynamic midfielder Salima Tete will lead the team as captain, with Navneet Kaur as vice-captain.

Head coach Harendra Singh emphasized the blend of experience and young talent, stating, "We have built a balanced squad with strong options in every position. I am eager to see how our young players perform against top-tier competition."

India hopes to make a strong impact in the tournament as they prepare to face the best teams in the world.



“Agent Guy 001” will release on January 31st in Telugu states by Deepa Arts Banner

The Hollywood dubbed film ‘Agent Guy 001’ Directed by David Andersson, produced by Erik Andersson, screenplay by Baltazar Plateau and David Andersson will be released to the telugu audience. Anton Cloud Jumper Gustin provided the music for the film, while Dennis Andersson acted as the production designer. Anton Carlsson worked as the cinematographer. Baltazar Plateau, Anton Sjolund, Milton Bjornegren, Knut Westbacka and Omar Myrza are playing key roles in this film. P Srinivasa Goud will produce the film in Telugu and P Hemanth will be the associate producer. The film is releasing through Deepa arts banner on 31st January in both Telugu States.



for the mayor’s seat as well as some adventures. The quality of the film is going to be very clearly understood through the production values in the trailer.

The upcoming project features an impressive cast, including Baltazar Plateau, Anton Sjolund, Milton Bjornegren, Knut Westbacka, and Omar Myrza. Directed by David Andersson and produced by Erik Andersson, the film’s screenplay is crafted by Baltazar Plateau and David Andersson. Anton Carlsson handles the cinematography, while Anton Cloud Jumper Gustin composes the music. Production design is led by Dennis Andersson. On the Telugu front, the film is backed by producer P. Srinivasa Goud, with P. Hemanth as the co-producer. Madhu VR serves as the PRO, and Digital Dukanam manages digital media promotions.

However, if you look at the trailer of this film, which has already been released in Telugu, it is clear that this film is going to be another amazing action and adventure film on the lines of James Bond films. Trailer looks like a political drama revolving around money. There are Major fights

Vikrant Massey to Play Villain in Don 3 Alongside Ranveer Singh

Bollywood actor Vikrant Massey, who recently earned acclaim for his role in the movie 12th Fail, has landed an exciting opportunity in the world of Bollywood’s most iconic film franchises. The actor is all set to play the villain in Don 3, marking his entry into the prestigious series.



The Don franchise, which has captivated audiences with its thrilling plotlines and high-octane action, has so far been led by Bollywood Badshah Shah Rukh Khan, with Priyanka Chopra playing the female lead. The first two films, directed by Farhan Akhtar, were major hits, and now, the third installment is under development. However, in a significant change for this new chapter, Farhan Akhtar will feature Ranveer Singh as the new Don, replacing Shah Rukh Khan.

The film, which is currently in pre-production, is expected to go into shooting soon. Exciting news has surfaced recently about the casting of Vikrant Massey, who is reportedly set to portray the antagonist in Don 3. While this news has created a buzz on social media, an official confirmation from the filmmakers is still awaited.

Vikrant Massey and Ranveer Singh have previously worked together in the 2013 film Lootera, and their reunion in Don 3 has sparked interest among fans. With Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani collaborating again as producers, Don 3 is expected to be a pan-India film, set to appeal to a wide range of audiences.

As the third installment of the Don franchise gears up for production, fans are eagerly awaiting further updates, especially about the film’s plot and the chemistry between Ranveer Singh and Vikrant Massey. With the promise of a fresh and exciting twist in the iconic series, Don 3 is already generating significant anticipation in the Bollywood industry.

Jana Nayagan: Thalapathy Vijay’s Movie Overseas Rights Sold for Record Price

Kollywood superstar Thalapathy Vijay, who is currently juggling his political aspirations and his filmmaking career, has once again created a buzz in the entertainment world with his upcoming movie Jana Nayagan. Known for his dedicated fan base, Vijay is making waves both in Tamil Nadu’s political scene and the film industry. While he prepares for his political journey with his party, his focus remains on completing Jana Nayagan, which promises to be a treat for his fans.



Directed by H. Vinod, the filmmaker behind the hit movie Khaki, Jana Nayagan (translated as ‘People’s Leader’) has already gained significant attention. The film’s first look, released as a Republic Day gift, and its title have been met with positive responses from fans and critics alike.

In a recent development, it has been reported that the

overseas distribution rights of Jana Nayagan have been sold for a staggering Rs. 75 crores, a record-breaking amount that speaks volumes about Vijay’s global popularity. This sale showcases the immense international demand for Vijay’s films, further cementing his position as one of Kollywood’s top stars. The news of the record-breaking price for the overseas rights has

gone viral, highlighting the movie’s worldwide potential.

The film’s music is being composed by the popular Anirudh, adding to the anticipation surrounding its release. Produced by the renowned KVN Production banner, Jana Nayagan stars Mamita Baiju, known for her role in Premala, as the female lead. The makers

have announced that the film will have a worldwide release in October 2025, further building excitement among fans.

With such a significant deal in place for its overseas rights, Jana Nayagan is poised to become one of the most highly anticipated films in Kollywood, with Vijay’s star power extending well beyond Indian shores.



Revolution in the Making: Sivakarthikeyan’s SK 25 Pre-Look Sparks Curiosity

Kollywood actor Sivakarthikeyan is all set to captivate audiences with a series of exciting films, and one of the most anticipated projects in his lineup is *SK 25*, directed by Sudha Kongara. This upcoming period drama has already created a buzz, especially with the release of its intriguing pre-look, which has raised the curiosity of fans and movie enthusiasts alike.

The pre-look, released with the tagline “Revolution waits for no one... We are going to start the revolution tomorrow,” has created an electrifying atmosphere. The announcement of the teaser, set to drop tomorrow at 4 PM, only adds to the excitement surrounding the film. From the pre-look, it is evident that Sivakarthikeyan is taking on a bold, fresh role that promises to bring something unique to the big screen. The glimpses shared so far have left fans eagerly awaiting more.

SK 25 is a period film set to showcase a revolution, and the film promises a strong narrative backed by an exciting ensemble cast. Sivakarthikeyan

will be joined by Srileela as the female lead, with Jayam Ravi and Atharva Murali playing pivotal roles. The talented GV Prakash Kumar is composing the music, further heightening expectations for the film’s audio-visual experience.

Sivakarthikeyan has already expressed his excitement about *SK 25*, sharing that the promo shoot has been completed. He spoke fondly of working with Jayam Ravi, mentioning how happy Ravi was to play a powerful villain role. Sivakarthikeyan added that he had been a fan of Jayam Ravi’s films during his college days, making their collaboration even more special. The dynamic between the two actors, especially in their upcoming fight sequences, has fans eagerly anticipating their performances.

With its period setting, powerful storyline, and talented cast, *SK 25* is shaping up to be a revolutionary film that could become a game-changer in Tamil cinema. Fans are in for a thrilling ride when the teaser drops tomorrow!

Vijay Antony’s 25th film titled Parashakthi in Telugu

Multifaceted Tamil actor Vijay Antony is gearing up for the release of his milestone 25th film, now officially titled Sakthi Thirumagan in Tamil. Directed by Arun Prabu Purushothaman, known for his acclaimed film Aruvi, the movie will also be released in Telugu under the title Parashakthi.

The film’s first-look poster, unveiled alongside the title announcement, shows Vijay Antony in a gripping pose, sitting on the floor while holding a gun, hinting at the intense and action-packed nature of the film. This teaser gives a glimpse into the genre and tone of Parashakthi, further piquing the curiosity of fans.



In this much-anticipated project, Vijay Antony is not only playing the lead role but also taking on the responsibilities of producing and composing the music, showcasing his multifaceted talents. This combination of acting, music, and production reflects his growing prominence in the Tamil film industry.

The film is slated for release this summer, and more details regarding the plot, cast, and crew are expected to be revealed in the coming days. With his 25th film, Vijay Antony is ready to captivate audiences with yet another memorable performance, and the film’s cross-language release underscores its pan-Indian appeal. Fans of the actor and the genre can look forward to a gripping cinematic experience this summer with Parashakthi.