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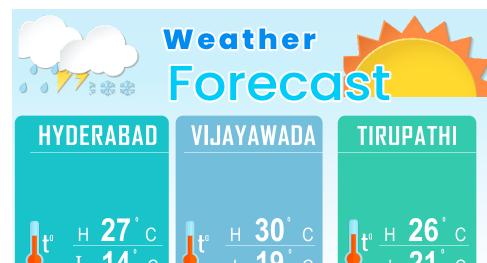
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STATUATORY WARNING TO **CELEBRITIES** DO NOT INVEST IN HEALTH APPS

Call Health app controversy leaves celebrity investors at a loss.

HEALTH ON US Call Health.

Everything about health

Founders allegedly abscond after collecting ₹700 crore.

New health app 'Health On Us' aims to raise ₹1,000 crore.

Celebrity investments linked to unaccounted money management.

Authorities urged to intervene in potential financial scam.

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 11

Market experts are warning celebrities against investing in tunities. founded by Teja Raju, son of Satyam Ramalinga Raju, with reported involvement from TV9 founder Ramaraju. Several celebrities invested substantial amounts in the platform, expecting high returns, but the app failed to sustain operations. Investors did not receive any returns, and their inquiries about the investment status went unanswered.

Recently, in a shocking development, the app's founders allegedly absconded, leaving investors in distress. Reports indicate that the company collected nearly ₹700 crore from various inves-

tors before shutting down operations. This situation has raised serious concerns about the credibility of such investment oppor-

health apps, citing past failures Adding to the controversy, a means to manage unaccountand financial losses. A major sources suggest that top politi- ed wealth. However, when they example is Call Health, an app cal leaders from Telangana and face fraud or mismanagement, Andhra Pradesh are unofficially attempting to mediate the issue, as several high-profile personalities have fallen victim to these investments. However, no official action has been taken to recover the lost funds.

> Despite the failure of Call Health, a new health app named 'Health On Us' was launched in 2024 with similar objectives. Allegedly, this app is aiming to raise ₹1,000 crore from investors, once again attracting the attention of celebrities. Experts fear that if this app also collapses, investors may face another massive financial setback.

A crucial question arises why are celebrities investing so heavily in such ventures? Financial analysts speculate that many celebrities use these investments as retrieving their funds becomes difficult due to the lack of proper documentation and accountabil-

Experts are urging both the Union and State Governments to take immediate action to prevent such scams. Regulatory bodies must implement stricter oversight on such investment schemes to protect investors from financial fraud. With rising concerns over the misuse of investment platforms, authorities are expected to closely monitor future health-tech ventures to prevent another large-scale financial scandal.

Kolleru encroachments in Kaikaluru @ ex MLA





DULAM NAGESWARA RAO (FORMER MLA)

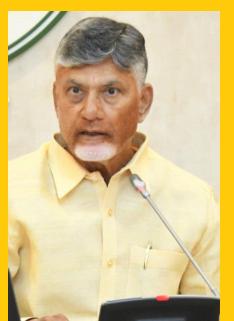
- Illegal fish ponds are rapidly encroaching upon Kolleru Lake.
- Political influence enabling large-scale land encroachments continues unchecked.
- Harmful chemicals in fish farming polluting freshwater resources.
- Declining fish population threatens fishermen's livelihoods and biodiversity.
- Migratory bird habitats are being destroyed by environmental damage.
- Supreme Court orders ignored, authorities fail to take action.

CM urges banks to support Swarnandhra

CM Naidu to Bankers: Support

Farmers & Prevent Suicides

- Vision-2047 goals. Calls for strong backing of horticulture and
- natural farming. Emphasizes preventing farmer suicides through financial aid.



TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has directed banks to play an active role in the state's economic and agricultural development while ensuring no farmer resorts to suicide due to financial distress. Addressing the State-Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting, he stressed the importance of banking sector cooperation in realizing the Swarnandhra Vision-2047.

CM Chandrababu highlighted the changing food habits of people and the growing importance of horticulture over traditional agriculture. He urged banks to extend financial support to horticulture and natural farming, which are becoming the future of sus-

tainable agriculture. necessary credit and support systems. He pointed out that the Central Government has simplified MSME loans,

and banks should ensure easy access to these funds for small businesses and farmers.

The Chief Minister also urged banks to cooperate with investigating agencies in cases of financial irregularities committed during the previous government's tenure. He stressed that transparency in financial dealings is crucial to restoring trust in governance and ensuring state funds are utilized effectively.

As part of the PM Suryagarh initiative, the CM revealed an ambitious plan to install solar power in 20 lakh houses within a year. He urged banks to extend their support in achieving this target, ensuring affordable and sustainable energy solutions for the people of Andhra Pradesh.

With a clear focus on financial disci-Calling for zero farmer suicides, CM pline, sustainable farming, and renew-Chandrababu emphasized that banks able energy, CM Chandrababu has laid and the government must work to- out a vision for economic stability and gether to ensure farmers receive the rural empowerment. The state government and banking sector are expected to work in coordination to implement these directives efficiently.

Tirumala Adulterated Ghee Case, Accused Destroyed **Phones to Erase Evidence**

- Already Four Arrested on
- Adulterated Ghee Case.
- More arrests likely as investigation uncovers new evidence.
- Vaishnavi Dairy CEO named as another key accused.
- **Bole Baba Dairy** employees allegedly sent into hiding.
- Irregularities found in AR Dairy and Vaishnavi Dairy tenders.



TPN Correspondent Tirumala, Feb 11

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) has intensified its probe into the Tirumala adulterated ghee supply case, revealing that the accused destroyed their mobile phones and purchased new ones to erase crucial evidence. According to the SIT's remand report, the accused provided false information by claiming their phones were lost.

The latest investigation findings indicate that AR Dairy and Vaishnavi Dairy manipulated the ghee supply tenders despite lacking the necessary production capacity. The Bole Baba Dairy reportedly supplied the ghee under its name while receiving a commission for its involvement in the scheme. Furthermore, it has been discovered that employees of Bole Baba Dairy were sent into hiding to evade the ongoing investigation.





Dy CM Pawan Kalyan Says the Attack an **Assault on Dharma, Not Just an Individual**

- **Deputy CM strongly condemns** attack on Chilkur priest Rangarajan.
- **Demands Telangana Police to arrest** and punish culprits.
- Urges the Telangana government to take the incident seriously.
- Directs Jana Sena Party leaders to support Rangarajan.

TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has expressed strong displeasure over the attack on Chilkur Balaji Temple's chief priest, Rangarajan. Calling it a deeply unfortunate incident, he demanded the immediate arrest and severe punishment of those responsible.

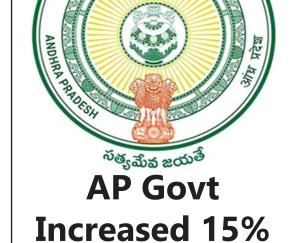
In a strongly worded statement, Pawan Kalyan emphasized that this was not just an attack on an individual but an assault on the protection of Dharma. He condemned the act outright and urged the Telangana government to take it seri-

Pawan Kalyan stressed that the Telangana Police must investigate the reasons behind the attack and identify the leader of the mob, reportedly affiliated with the Rama Rajyam organization. He insisted that the culprits should face strict legal consequences to prevent such incidents in the future. The Deputy CM acknowledged Rangarajan's long-standing efforts in protecting Hindu temple traditions and heritage. He recalled how the priest had shared valuable suggestions regarding the Temple Movement initiative and the management of Hindu temples.

To show solidarity, Pawan Kalyan has instructed the Telangana unit of the Jana Sena Party to visit Chilkur and extend support to Rangarajan. He directed the leaders to reassure the priest and ensure that justice is served.

With growing concerns over temple safety and religious freedom, Pawan Kalyan's firm stance signals a strong commitment to protecting spiritual leaders and traditions.





Liquor Prices TPN Correspondent

Amaravati, Feb 11

The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to increase liquor prices by 15%, with the new rates coming into effect from Monday. The state excise department has issued official orders regarding the price revision. However, the price hike does not apply to liquor brands and beer sold at ₹99.

This decision follows the recent increase in liquor sales margins from 14.5% to 20%. Additionally, the government has introduced Additional Retail Excise Tax (ARET) on domestically manufactured foreign liquor (IMFL) and foreign liquor.

With this move, the government aims to boost state revenues, while industry stakeholders brace for the impact of the price hike on liquor sales.

Kolleru.

TPN | KISHORE B. K Kaikalur, Feb 11

The world-renowned Kolleru Lake, one of India's largest freshwater ecosystems, is in grave danger due to widespread encroachments. Located across eight mandals in Eluru district, Kolleru is falling victim to illegal fish pond excavations, which are severely polluting the once-pristine water body. Despite clear environmental concerns, authorities have failed to take action, allegedly due to political pressure and vested interests.

Kolleru's natural habitat is being systematically destroyed, particularly in Kaikalur and Mandavalli mandals. Locals allege that both past and present political leaders have played a role in the rampant encroachments. Former MLA Dhulam Nageswara Rao is accused of illegally allotting hundreds of acres of Kolleru land to his close aides and investors, facilitating unauthorized fish farming. Furthermore, it is alleged that he himself encroached upon approximately 250 acres for personal use.

The current MLA, Kamineni Srinivas, has pledged to curb the illegal fish pond business in his constituency. However, residents claim that despite these assurances, investigations into encroachments have stalled. Several officers have reportedly been assigned to probe complaints, but their inquiries have failed to make any substantial progress due to the involvement of influential individuals.

Adding to the controversy, local MP Putta Mahesh Yadav has announced plans to form a special investigative committee to uncover irregularities in land conversions. While he has submitted a petition to the Union Government requesting protection for traditional fishermen's livelihoods, environmentalists argue that unchecked fish pond expansion has already caused irreversible damage to Kolleru's deli-

The consequences of these illegal activities are devastating. Government ceiling lands are being seized, water resources are polluted, and the lake's biodiversity is in decline. Environmentalists warn that the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides in these unauthorized fish ponds is contaminating the lake's freshwater supply, making it unfit for human consumption. Moreover, the natural fish population has drastically reduced, endangering the livelihoods of local fishermen who depend on the lake. Additionally, Kolleru serves as a crucial habitat for migratory birds from around the world. Experts fear that continued pollution and habitat destruction could lead to a permanent decline in bird migration patterns, further disrupting the region's ecological balance.

Vijayamma, Sharmila Seeks Need **More Time in Jagan's Petition Case**

- Jagan alleges Vijayamma and Sharmila illegally transferred shares in Saraswati Power.
- Tribunal grants time for Vijayamma and Sharmila to file a counter.
- Next hearing adjourned to March 6.

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 11

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in Hyderabad has adjourned the hearing of YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy's petition regarding the alleged illegal transfer of shares in Saras- transfer forms. wati Power Industries by his mother Y.S. Vijayamma and sister Y.S. Sharmila.

During the hearing, the lawyer representing Vijayamma and Sharmila requested additional time to file a counter. Accepting the request, the tribunal postponed the next hearing to March 6. Jagan has claimed in his petition that he holds



stated that an agreement was made on August 31, 2019, to transfer the shares to Sharmila in the future. However, he alleged that the shares were transferred without his consent, bypassing necessary documents, signatures, and

Jagan argued that this act violates company law and has urged the tribunal to cancel the share transfer and ensure that his 51.01% ownership remains intact.

With the next hearing scheduled for March 6, all eyes are now on the tribunal's decision regarding this high-profile family dispute.

Ministers Conducts Review on Brahmotsavam Arrangements in Srisailam

Free laddu prasadam to be distributed to all devotees

TPN Correspondent Srisailam, Feb 11

In preparation for the Maha Shivaratri Brahmotsavam at Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple, Srisailam, state ministers held a high-level review meeting with district authorities. The meeting focused on facilitating a smooth experience for the thousands of devotees expected to visit the temple.

Endowments Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, along with Ministers Vangalapudi Anitha, Janardhan Reddy, Angani Satya Prasad, and several MLAs, participated in the discussion. The government has outlined multiple measures to ensure seamless arrangements and devotee convenience.

As part of the festival arrangements:

Every devotee will receive free laddu prasadam throughout the Brahmotsavam.

Free transport will be provided for devotees traveling between Srisailam's parking lots and temple inns.

Drinking water and food stalls will be set up along the Nallamala forest route for devotees traveling by foot.

Drones will monitor ghat road traffic, ensuring better crowd management.

Dornala Ghat road will undergo repairs to prevent any transportation disruptions.

Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy stated that the government is committed to providing the best facilities for devotees, ensuring a hassle-free pilgrimage experience. Special attention is being given to safety measures and crowd control to avoid congestion during peak hours.

Tirumala Adulterated...

Continued from page 1

As the probe advances, the SIT has named Vaishnavi Dairy CEO Sabal Shamimullah Khan as another key accused. The four suspects arrested earlier—Vipin Jain, Pomil Jain (Bole Baba Dairy directors), Apoorva Vijayakanth Chawla (Vaishnavi Dairy CEO), and Rajasekharan (AR Dairy MD)—have now been promoted from A-2 to A-5 in the case files.

The CBI-led SIT has filed a petition in the Tirupati court seeking 10-day custody of the arrested suspects to extract more information. Officials believe that more key figures could be arrested soon, as evidence suggests high-level involvement in the

The investigation has uncovered that certain former TTD ruling class members allegedly recommended AR Dairy for the ghee supply contract despite the availability of quality ghee from Nandi Dairy in Karnataka. The state government appointed the SIT to probe these irregularities after receiving reports of adulteration in the preparation of Srivari Laddu.

Following a Supreme Court verdict on a petition filed by YSRCP leaders, the investigation was transferred to a CBI-led SIT under the leadership of Guntur Range IG Sarva Shreshtha Tripathi.

With ten individuals already in custody, the SIT is preparing for further arrests as they uncover more details about the financial transactions and supply chain irregularities. Investigators suspect that Vaishnavi Dairy used AR Dairy as a front while supplying substandard ghee at a higher price. Evidence supporting these claims has already been collected.

Authorities are expected to expand the investigation into the misuse of contracts and the role of previous TTD officials, ensuring accountability for those who compromised the quality of sacred offerings at the Tirumala temple.

AP Budget Sessions to Commence on Feb 24th

Governor to address both Houses on the first day.

Full-Scale Budget to Be Presented by Government



TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

The Andhra Pradesh government has announced the dates for the fullscale budget sessions, set to begin on February 24. This will be the first full-fledged budget presented by the coalition government, following the in July last year. A gazette notification has been issued regarding the commencement of these sessions, which will begin with the Governor's address to both Houses of the Assembly. Ahead of the sessions, Chief Whip will convene a meeting with government whips tomorrow to discuss

Vote-on-Account budget introduced the organization and schedule of the proceedings. After the Governor's address on February 24, a Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting will be held to decide the duration of the budget sessions.

> The key highlight of the sessions will be the presentation of the state budget for 2025-26, scheduled for Febru

ary 28. The government is expected to outline its financial roadmap and key allocations for the coming year. With the coalition government preparing to implement major policy initiatives, the budget session is likely to be crucial for shaping Andhra Pradesh's development strategy for the upcoming fiscal year.



Perabathula Rajasekhar Files Nomination for MLC Seat With Grand rally



TPN Correspondent Eluru, Feb 11

The nomination process of Perabathula Rajasekhar, the NDA coalition candidate for the Graduates MLC seat of East the Eluru District Collectorate Bathula on Monday. Rajasekhar submitted his nomination papers to District Collector and APSRTC Returning Officer K Vetriselvi, office.

Earlier, a massive rally start- Joint West Godavari District ed from the TDP office in President Kotikalapudi Gov-Ameenapeta, Eluru, and proceeded towards the Collectorate, with enthusiastic participation from NDA leaders, activists, and supporters.

Rally:

• Ministers: Nadendla Manohar, Kandula Durgesh, Nimmala Ramanaidu, Gottipati issues.

Ravikumar, Vasamsetty Subhash

• TDP Leaders: State President Palla Srinivasa Rao, Union Minister Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Rao, MLAs Badeti Chanand West Godavari districts, ti, Chintamaneni Prabhawas completed smoothly at kar, Patsamatla Dharmaraju, Balaramakrishna, Bommidi Naykar

· Jana Sena Party Leaders: Vijayawada Zonal Chairman Reddy Appawho administered the oath of la Naidu, RTC Vizianagaram Zonal Chairman Donnu Dora, inda Rao (Chinababu), State Secretary Ghantasala Venkatalakshmi, Undi In-charge Juthuga Nagaraju, Eluru senior leader Nara Seshu

procession moved Key Leaders Present in the through key streets, with slogans supporting Perabathula Rajasekhar, emphasizing his understanding of graduates'

Mithun Reddy Alleges Margadarshi Scam as the Biggest in the Country

TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Feb 11

Yuvajana biggest scam in the country. tnam Zone. Speaking during the budget debate in the Lok Sabha, he criticized the central government's inaction despite the alleged financial irregularities. Mithun Reddy claimed that Margadarshi collected Rs. 2,600 crores as deposits in violation of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regulations. He questioned the role of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and demanded immediate action to protect depositors' interests.

Additionally, he urged the central government to focus on education and healthcare,

ensure the height of the Polavaram project is not reduced, Sramika Rythu and stop the privatization Congress Party (YSRCP) MP of the Visakhapatnam Steel Mithun Reddy raised serious Plant. He also demanded that allegations against Margadar- the Waltair Railway Division shi Chit Funds, calling it the remain within the Visakhapa-

> Mithun Reddy's remarks have sparked a fresh political debate, with his party pressuring the Centre for a response on these critical issues.



Varla Ramaiah Accuses Peddi **Reddy Family of Illegal Empire**



TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

TDP Polit Bureau member Varla Ramaiah has accused the Peddi Reddy family of establishing a mafia-like empire, illegally seizing mines, government lands, forest areas, and red sandalwood. Addressing a media conference at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri, he alleged that Peddi Reddy amassed wealth through corrupt means and even attempt-

ed to overthrow YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Ramaiah claimed that 238 acres of forest land were encroached upon and demanded that strict action be taken under the Forest Act. He urged the government to register an FIR, seize passports, and initiate a judicial inquiry to prevent the accused from fleeing. He also alleged that Jagan protected Peddi Reddy's corrupt empire. During the press meet, several alleged victims of Peddi Reddy's actions filed complaints, reinforcing claims of land grabbing and abuse of power. Ramaiah insisted that ED and IT officials investigate Peddi Reddy's wealth and luxurious properties.

Massive Car Rally from Ramachandrapuram to Eluru



A huge car rally was organized in support of Perabathula Rajasekhar, starting from the TDP office in Ramachandrapuram. The rally was flagged off by Vasamsetty Satyam, father of Minister Vasamsetty Subhash. Several alliance leaders, activists, and supporters joined the event, expressing their confidence in Rajasekhar's victory.

On the way to Eluru, MLA Bandaru victory with a huge majority, stating that Satyananda Rao and coalition leaders extended a grand welcome to Rajasekhar in Ravulapalem.

Leaders present:

Kothapeta MLA Bandaru Satyananda Rao Koppula Velama Corporation Chairman PV Ganesh Kumar

Jana Sena In-charge Bandaru Srinivas Key NDA Leaders: Vasireddy Rambabu, Akula Ramakrishna, K.V. Satyanarayana Reddy, Karuturi Narasimha Rao, Paluri Satvanandam. Guthula Rambabu, Chiluvuri Satish Raju, Ketha Srinu, Kanthamsetty Srinivas, Bandaru Bobby, Thota Swamy, Ambati Kishore, Ainavilli

Supporters vowed to ensure Rajasekhar's

CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu's vision for Swarna Andhra is gaining strong backing from educated voters.

POLITICS



Warm Welcome in Kothapeta and Ravulapalem

Training Classes for MLAs Ahead of Budget Session, Will Jagan Attend?



- Speaker Ayyannapatrudu announces MLA training classes in Vijayawada on Feb 22,23
- · Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and former VP Venkaiah Naidu invited to guide first-time MLAs
- Question raised on whether YS Jagan and YSRCP MLAs will attend the training

TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Feb 11

With the Andhra Pradesh Assembly budget sessions set to begin on February 24, Speaker CH Ayyannapatrudu has announced two-day training classes for MLAs on February 22 and 23 in Vijayawada. The sessions aim to help 84 firsttime legislators understand parliamentary procedures and decorum.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu have been invited as chief guests to provide insights on effective legislative conduct. Speaker Ayyannapatrudu, speaking in New Delhi alongside Deputy Speaker Raghuramakrishnam Raju, emphasized the importance of these training sessions, recalling that former CM NTR had held a similar week-long program for MLAs in Gandipet during his tenure.

Ayyannapatrudu also took a swipe at YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, questioning his reluctance to attend Assembly sessions. He noted that despite advising Jagan to participate in legislative proceedings, the former CM has remained ab-

sent, opting instead to communicate from outside the Assembly. He also ridiculed Jagan's demand to be given speaking time equal to CM Chandrababu Naidu, stating that such expectations are unrealistic given YSRCP's diminished presence in the House. During the previous government's tenure, Assembly sessions were held for only 61

days over five years, whereas

the current government in-

tends to hold sessions for at least 75 days annually to allow better discussion of public issues. The YSRCP won only 11 seats in the last elections, and YS Jagan has formally requested to be recognized as Leader of the

Opposition, which the Speaker rejected due to insufficient numbers. Jagan has now approached the AP High Court to seek official opposition status. With this backdrop, it remains to be seen whether Jagan and the other YSRCP MLAs will attend the training sessions. Their decision could provide insight into the party's approach toward future Assembly participation.

Samineni Udayabhanu Dismisses Jagan 2.0 Claims, Reaffirms NDA Unity



- District President Samineni Udayabhanu Calls for Massive **Participation**
- Announces a large-scale Jana Sena workers' meeting in Vijayawada on Feb 16th
- In State that many YSRCP leaders are willing to join Jana Sena

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Feb 11

Jana Sena leader Samineni Udayabhanu has dismissed Reddy's Jagan 2.0 claims, stating that the NDA coalition remains united and focused on governance. Speaking at a media interaction in Vijayawada, multiple crucial departments, he reiterated that Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan central government on fundare working together for the welfare of the people and that that while some bureaucratic any differences among party workers will be resolved amicably.

ers' meeting will take place on Jana Sena would conduct its February 16 at Tummalapal- own investigation to uncover le Kalakshetra, Vijayawada. the truth behind the allega-The event will be attended by tions. Nagababu, Nadendla Manohar, and Kandula Durgesh, among other key leaders. He urged all party workers and attend and strengthen the party.

He emphasized Pawan Kaly- ship has urged all supportto Panchayat Raj, stating that mandal, and ward levels to sarpanches across the state ensure the success of this imare recognizing his efforts in portant district meeting. securing funds and respect for

local governance. He claimed that many leaders from YSRCP are expressing interest in joining Jana Sena, and the party former CM YS Jagan Mohan will evaluate these inclusions strategically.

On governance, Udayabhanu pointed out that Pawan Kalyan, as a minister handling is actively working with the ing and clearances. He assured delays are natural, officials themselves are impressed by Pawan's dynamic leadership. Udayabhanu announced that a Addressing the Kiran Royal district-wide Jana Sena work- controversy, he stated that

With Jana Sena expanding its influence and NDA leadership standing strong, Udayabhanu reaffirmed that the coalition supporters from seven con- is steadily moving forward stituencies in NTR district to with a shared vision for the state's development.

The Jana Sena Party leaderan's significant contributions ers to mobilize at the village,

Lakshmi Arrested by Rajasthan Police Accused in an Online Cheating Case

TPN | C. Sekhar Tirupati, Feb 11

In a dramatic turn of events, Lakshmi, who recently accused Jana Sena Party Tirupati constituency in-charge Kiran Royal of cheating her out of ₹1.20 crore and threatening her children, has been arrested by Rajasthan Police. She was taken into custody in Tirupati and shifted to SV University Police Station.

Lakshmi had earlier held a press conference at Tirupati Press Club, where she reiterated her allegations against Kiran Royal, claiming he had financially and emotionally exploited her. Meanwhile,

private videos of Kiran Royal with the woman surfaced on social media, prompting Jana Sena leadership to distance itself from him.

However, Rajasthan Police, who had been tracking Lakshmi for her alleged involvement in an online cheating case, moved



swiftly after she appeared in the media. They detained her as she left the press meet.

During the conference, Lakshmi had questioned why a bond was signed just two years ago if Kiran Royal claimed the financial matter was settled a decade ago. She further alleged that he physically assaulted another woman and demanded

With both sides making serious accusations, authorities are expected to investigate the claims thoroughly before further legal proceedings.

Threats to Dastagiri in Jail: Inquiry Officer Questions B.Tech Ravi

TPN Correspondent Kadapa, Feb 11

The investigation into alleged threats made to Dastagiri, the approver in the Vivekananda Reddy murder case, is progressing under the supervision of Rajahmundry Central Jail Superintendent Rahul. The coalition government has ordered a probe after reports surfaced that Dr. Chaitanya Reddy threatened Dastagiri that he had immediately questioned the inside Kadapa jail.

As part of the inquiry, Rahul recently questioned TDP leader B.Tech Ravi, who was lodged in a barrack opposite to Dastagiri's in Kadapa jail at the time. B.Tech Ravi confirmed seeing Dr. Chaitanya Reddy enter Dastagiri's barrack and stated prison staff about it.

Earlier, the investigating officer also interrogated Dr. Chaitanya Reddy and Kadapa Jail Superintendent Prakash, along with other prison staff, to verify these claims. The probe is ongoing, and further action will be determined based on the findings.



VIJAYAWADA

Senior Officer's Alleged Harassment of SHOs Raises Concern in Vijayawada

Accusations of False Cases, Political Influence, and Intimidation Surface Senior officer accused of harassing SHOs and using derogatory language. Allegations of pressure to register false cases and interfere in civil disputes. Concerns grow over law and order as political influence affects policing.

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Feb 11

A high-ranking police officer in the Vijayawada Commissionerate is facing severe allegations of misusing authority and harassing Station House Officers (SHOs). Several SHOs claim that the officer, who is not even of IPS rank, has been belittling them in front of subordinates, using vulgar language, and pressuring them to register false cases.

It is alleged that under his leadership, police stations have become centers for civil dispute settlements, driven by political and social class interests rather than law enforcement priorities. Officers further claim that those who resist his influence are being



transferred or forced out, while those who comply secure postings through political recommendations.

Reports suggest that this officer has built a network within the Commissionerate, handling everything from petty theft cases to serious civil disputes and rowdy sheeter settlements using his past connections in the

city. This interference, they say, has compromised justice for ordinary citizens.

A recent example is the case of Kothapet SHO Kondalarao, who allegedly switched off his phone and went on leave due to relentless harassment and political pressure. This incident has further fueled concerns about the working conditions of SHOs and the state of law enforcement in the

With these growing allegations, residents and officials alike are questioning the impact on law and order. If SHOs themselves feel threatened, many wonder how the common man can expect justice at police stations in Vijayawada.

Handloom Expos in America:

Chicago Representatives Meet Minister Savita

US Delegation Invites AP Minister to Global Millets Expo

TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

State BC, EWS Welfare, Handloom, and Textiles Minister S. Savita met with a delegation from Chicago, USA, on Monday, where discussions were held on expanding market opportunities for Andhra Pradesh's handloom industry in America. The delegation extended an invitation for Minister Savita to attend the GSA Global Millets Expo, which will be hosted by Purdue University and GSA in Chicago this April.

Chicago government representative LaShawn K. Ford formally handed over the invitation to Minister Sav-

ita. During the meeting, the delegation expressed keen interest in promoting AP handlooms in the US by organizing exclusive handloom expos in multiple states. Additionally, they proposed specialized training programs for AP weavers under the auspices of Purdue University, focusing on modern handloom design techniques.

Minister Savita welcomed the initiative and assured the delegation that she would bring the proposal to the attention of CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to enhance skill devel-



opment and global exposure for AP's handloom artisans.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Vijay Prabhakar, Dr. Rajiv, Dr. Mohammed Tajmul Hussain, Vishwa Bharati, K. Krishnamurthy, Thirunagari Jyotsna, and other dignitaries.

RTC VC & MD Dwarakathirumala Rao IPS (Retd) Felicitated by AP JAC Amaravati



TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 11

AP JAC Amaravati Chairman Bopparaju and Secretary General Palisetty felicitated RTC Vice Chairman & Managing Director Sri Dwarakathirumala Rao IPS (Retd) on Monday at RTC House. The felicitation was held on the occasion of his assuming full responsibilities as the head of the organization.

During the meeting, AP JAC Ama-

ravati leaders highlighted various long-pending issues faced by RTC employees, security staff, and other personnel after the merger of RTC with the government. They urged the RTC VC & MD to take necessary steps to resolve the concerns at the earliest. In response, Sri Dwarakathirumala Rao assured that all employee grievances would be addressed as soon as possible.

Several key representatives from

various employee associations participated in the meeting, including: AP Revenue Services Association State General Secretary Ramisetti Rajesh Employees Union State Vice President Sri M. Shankar Rao

Karmika Parishad State President/ General Secretaries Sri Seshagiri Rao, Srinivasa Rao

RTC Security Employees Association State President Sri Mallikarjuna Municipal Employees Association State President T. Nageswara Rao Village Ward Secretariat Employees Welfare Organization State President

Outsourcing Employees Association State President K. Suman Co-President Sri Sampath

Velpula Arlayya

The AP JAC Amaravati leaders expressed confidence that the RTC administration would work towards resolving employee concerns and ensuring better working conditions for all staff members.

YS Sharmila Urges CM to Name Vijayawada Western Bypass After Vangaveeti Mohan Ranga

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Feb 11

AP PCC Chief YS Sharmila has written a letter to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, requesting that the Vijayawada Western Bypass National Highway be named after Vangaveeti Mohan Ranga in recognition of his contributions to society.

The new six-lane national highway, connecting Kaja Toll Gate in Guntur district to Pedda Avutupalli near Gannavaram, is set to be completed soon. YS Sharmila emphasized that Vangaveeti Mohan Ranga was a champion of social justice and dedicated himself to the welfare of the downtrodden. She highlighted his efforts in distributing land to the landless and fighting for marginalized communities.

In her letter, she urged CM Chandrababu Naidu to send an official proposal to the central government to rename the bypass as "Vangaveeti Mohana Ranga Bypass National Highway."

The Vijayawada Western Bypass, spanning 47.8 kilometers, is expected to significantly ease traffic congestion in Vijayawada, especially after the development of Amaravati as the state capital. The highway also serves as a crucial link between Kolkata and Chennai, accommodating heavy vehicle movement.

With the highway nearing completion, YS Sharmila expressed optimism that this major infrastructure



project would provide relief to the city's commuters. She reiterated the Congress party's stance that renaming the bypass after Vangaveeti Mohan Ranga would be a fitting tribute to his legacy.

36 Sector Skill Councils Established in AP Over Five Years



TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Feb 11

Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) Jayant Chaudhary announced that 36 Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) have been established in Andhra Pradesh over the past five years under the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). These councils have conducted skill gap studies in various industries to assess workforce requirements and improve skill development programs.

In response to a query from MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) in the Lok Sabha, the minister provided details of the skill gap studies conducted by SSCs in Andhra Pradesh. Since 2019, industry-specific assessments have been

undertaken, including a 2019 study in the automotive sector, a 2020 study in the BFSI sector, and further research in agriculture, electronics, beauty & wellness, and green jobs in 2023. In 2024, studies were conducted in telecom and tourism & hospitality sectors.

To ensure comprehensive skill assessment, SSCs have conducted observations across the entire state for industries like automotive, construction, hydrocarbon, and media & entertainment. Additionally, targeted research was carried out in districts such as Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, Nellore, Amaravati, Chittoor, Konaseema, Krishna, Guntur, Anantapur, and Srikakulam.

The government has approved District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) for 2024-25 to assess the skill demand in newly formed districts. However, delavs in conducting studies in these districts have been attributed to ongoing industrial development, infrastructure priorities, and the state-level focus of some SSCs. The minister stated that specialized studies will be undertaken soon, and the central government is planning expanded skill training programs to align with industry requirements in all districts of Andhra

VMC Commissioner Orders Strict Enforcement of the Single-use Plastic Ban

TPN Correspondent Vijayawada, Feb 11

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Commissioner Dhyanchandra has directed officials to take extensive action on enforcing the single-use plastic ban. Addressing department heads through a video conference on Monday morning, he emphasized the need for strict implementation of the ban to safeguard both the environment and public health.

Commissioner Dhyanchandra instructed officials to raise awareness across all municipal circles, ensuring that businesses and consumers fully understand the ban on plastic items below 120 microns. He urged them to organize meetings with stakeholders and clearly communicate that the municipal corporation will not allow the usage of restricted plastic materials.

single-use plastics, he stated that they na, along with Assistant Medical pose serious risks to both the environ- Health Officers, Executive Engineers, ment and human health, necessitating immediate and effective measures for enforcement.

The meeting saw the participation of full compliance with the ban. Additional Commissioner (Projects) Dr.



D. Chandrasekhar, Chief City Planner GVG SV Prasad, Medical Health Officer Dr. Suresh Babu, Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) G. Srujana, Zonal Commissioner Ramya Keerthana, Superintending Engineer (Projects) P. Satyakumari, Highlighting the negative effects of Project Officer (UCD) P. Venkatanaraya-Assistant Commissioners, and CDWs. The VMC is set to intensify monitoring and take stringent measures to ensure

Collector Inspects PDS Rice Godown, Strict Vigilance to Prevent Diversion of PDS Rice



TPN Correspondent

Vijayawada, Feb 11

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha has emphasized strict vigilance to prevent the diversion of rice meant for the poor through the Public Distribution System (PDS). She stated that intensive inspections are being carried out to curb irregularities and ensure food security for the underprivileged. On Monday, the Collector, along with officials, inspected the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) godown in Bhawanipuram to verify whether PDS rice was being mixed with Custom Milled Rice (CMR). They also examined the rice age test, quality testing process, storage standards, and record maintenance.

Additionally, she conducted a surprise inspection at a ration shop in Seetharampuram, Vijayawada Urban Area, checking licenses, stock details, and

the quality of goods.

Collector Lakshmi Sha stated that every buffer godown is being closely monitored. Instructions have been issued to inspect all ration shops, MLS points, and MDU operations in the district regularly. The following inspection plan has been mandated:

Deputy Tehsildars of Civil Supplies must inspect 20 ration shops per month.

Tehsildars should conduct five inspections per month.

District Civil Supplies Officers and Civil Supplies Managers should inspect MLS points.

Collector warned that any attempts to divert PDS rice will face strict legal consequences.

Officials accompanying the Collector included Civil Supplies District Manager M. Srinivas, DSO A. Papa Rao, and other department officials.



MLA Sudheer Reddy and Temple Officials Invite CM Naidu for Sri Kalahasti Brahmotsavam



TPN | C. Sehar Srikalahasti, Feb 11

Sri Kalahasti MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy and temple Executive Officer T. Bapi Reddy formally invited Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu to the annual Brahmotsavam of Sri Gnanaprasunamba Sametha Sri Kalahasti Swamy. The invitation was presented at the Secretariat on Monday.

During the meeting, the MLA, along with EO, AEO, and Archaka Swamulu, presented the CM with a sacred portrait, Tirtha Prasadam, and blessings from the temple. The formal invitation letters were then handed over.

TPN | C.N. Murthy

P. Gannavaram, Feb 11

The long-awaited reconstruction of the

road from Ambajipet Center to P. Ganna-

varam Three Road Center has begun, with

lime stabilization technology being implemented to prevent future subsidence.

The project, neglected by the previous YS-

RCP government, has been prioritized by

the coalition government to address the

The road construction includes a black-

top (tar) road up to The Central Delta Co-

severe difficulties faced by commuters.

CM Chandrababu Naidu emphasized the importance of enhancing facilities for devotees during the grand event. As the Brahmotsavam is scheduled for the 25th, temple officials provided an overview of arrangements, expected attendees, and temple preparations.

MLA Sudheer Reddy invited all devotees to participate in the sacred Shivayya Brahmotsavam. The event holds great spiritual significance, drawing thousands of devotees every year.

Several temple officials and dignitaries were present at the occasion.

last five years.

Reconstruction of Sagging Road with Advanced Technology

stretch near Potavaram, after the Mun-

ganda Bridge, has been sinking for the

To tackle this issue, R&B D.E.E. G. Rajendra

collected ten feet of soil samples from the

MLA Pantham Nanaji Announces Plans to Enhance Boat Club Park for Visitors

TPN | Dhanalakshmi Kakinada, Feb 11

Kakinada Rural MLA Pantham Nanaji has announced plans to develop Boat Club Park into a more attractive and nutritious park, ensuring a pleasant atmosphere for visitors. Speaking at his office in Gudarigunta, he responded to a petition from the Walkers Association, which requested the establishment of a city park at the site.

Nanaji emphasized that Boat Club Park is the largest park in his constituency and assured its comprehensive development. He highlighted that Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan have envisioned city parks to

enhance urban environments and promote environmental sustainability.

Recalling a past initiative, the MLA mentioned that there was an attempt to install a Buddha statue on an island within the park's pond, which could not be completed. However, in preparation for the upcoming Buddha Pournami, he promised to coordinate with officials to illuminate the statue. Walkers Sangha President Adabala Ratna Prasad, Secretary Dr. Dasari Sridhar, and members Chintapalli Subbarao, Nimmakayala Venkateswara Rao, Galla Subbarao, Raja, and Gopi were among those who met the MLA to discuss the proposal.



Veterinary University Students Stage Lightning Strike at Collectorate



TPN | C. Sekhar Tirupati, Feb 11

Students of Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University staged a lightning strike at the Collectorate, demanding a hike in their stipend to match that of medical students. They emphasized that while students of other medical courses receive over ₹25,000, veterinary students have been stuck at ₹7,000 for the past 13 years.

The protesting students argued that, like MBBS students, they are constantly upgrading their knowledge with new tion until their demands are technology. As part of their ac- met.

ademic curriculum, they undergo year-long internships at various locations, often bearing the expenses themselves. They submitted a petition to the District Collector, urging the government to increase the stipend and ensure its immediate release. The students stressed that their role in animal healthcare and public safety is crucial and should be recognized accordingly.

The protest saw active participation from students, who vowed to continue their agita-

SC Classification is a Political Conspiracy – Ratnakar



TPN | Harsha Vardhan Kakinada, Feb 11

Mala Mahanadu National President R. Ratnakar has strongly opposed the Scheduled Caste (SC) classification, calling it a political conspiracy. Speaking at a press conference in Kakinada's Revenue Colony on Monday, he warned that if ruling parties do not Ratnakar urged Dalits across step back, the state will wit- the state to unite and preness severe unrest.

Ratnakar accused all political parties of conspiring against the SC community and criticized the central government's stance on the issue. He called upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reconsider policies affecting the Mala communi-

ty, warning that failure to do so could lead to significant consequences.

He also directed sharp criticism at Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, stating that if Naidu does not carefully evaluate the realities of SC classification, he will suffer serious political setbacks.

pare for a strong movement against discriminatory policies. He emphasized that the Mala Mahanadu will continue its fight for justice and will not allow the ruling government's decisions to harm the community.

conut Merchants Association Kalyana Mandapam in Gannavaram, followed by a cement road leading to Gannavaram Three Road Center. However, a 360-meter

Lok Satta Pledges Support to

Bhimasinghi Sugars Workers

TPN | Narasimhulu Vizianagaram, Feb 11

Lok Satta Party state president Bhisetti Babji assured that the party will stand by the workers and employees of Bhimasinghi Sugar Factory until their issues are resolved. Addressing a workers' meeting at the factory on Monday, he criticized the previous government's inaction, which has caused severe distress to employees, workers, and farmers.

Despite the factory being closed for five years, pending PF and gratuity payments have yet to be settled. Bhisetti Babji urged district minister Kondapalli Srinivas to focus on these pressing issues and demanded a government statement on the factory's fu-

He announced that a crucial meeting will soon take place involving the factory chairman, Joint Collector Sethu



Madhavan, Sugarcane Commissioner V. Venkata Rao, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas, and workers' representatives to discuss a concrete resolution for pending payments and factory revival.

Additionally, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan will be formally informed through a letter detailing the workers' plight and factory situation.

Labor union leaders Ungarala Srinu, Routhu Kanakaraju, Vijay Kumar, Siriki Venkata Rao, Bangaraiah, Suryanarayana, Varri Srinu, Pinninti Krishna, Demudu, and others participated in the meeting.

Overcoming Exam Stress Leads to Good Results, Says Collector Anand

one-meter intervals.

further sagging.

commuters.

TPN Correspondent Nellore, Feb 11

District Collector Anand has urged students to overcome stress and approach exams with confidence to achieve the best results. He participated in the 8th edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha', a nationwide program led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, broadcasted from Delhi on Monday morning. The event was attended by students at ESRM Municipal Corporation High School, where the Collector watched the program alongside them. Addressing the students, Collector Anand emphasized PM Modi's key message: exams should be faced calmly and without fear. He stated that the interactive session with the Prime Minister is highly motivational and helps students strengthen their mental and physical well-being, which directly impacts their

results.

affected area and sent them to the R&B

laboratory in Vijayawada. Based on expert

recommendations, the lime stabilization

method was adopted. As part of this pro-

• The subsidence area is being excavated

· Three-meter deep pits are being dug at

· These pits are being filled with lime-

stone to strengthen the soil and prevent

D.E.E. Rajendra stated that this technique

will stabilize the road foundation, ensur-

ing durability and long-term safety for

to a depth of one foot using JCBs.

The Collector also highlighted Modi's environmental initiative, urging students to plant and nurture a sapling in their mother's name. He advised them to plan their studies properly, gain a deep understanding of subjects, and not let exam fear hinder their performance.

He further noted that students often lack clarity on their future goals until the 10th grade, and focusing on education will open pathways to success. DEO Balaji Rao, Samagra Shiksha APC Venkatasubbaiah, HM Sivaramaprasad, teachers, and students participated in the program.



Interstate Theft Gang Arrested, ₹23 Lakh Worth Property Seized



TPN Correspondent Eluru, Feb 11

The Eluru Rural Police have arrested five notorious interstate thieves, seizing gold and silver ornaments worth ₹23 lakhs from them. Eluru District SP Kommi Prathapa Sivakishore disclosed the details at a press conference at the Eluru District Police Headquarters on Monday.

The arrested individuals, Vempala Chanti, Saka Marraju @ Prakash, Potula Ammiraj, and Gogulamanda Salmon Raju, all from Bhimavaram in West Godavari district, have been involved in multiple burglaries across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The gang targeted locked houses, breaking in and stealing valuables. Vempala Chanti and Kosuri Srinivasa Rao executed the robberies, while others helped sell the stolen goods and distribute the money.

A special team, led by DSP D. Sravan Kumar, was formed to track down the criminals using modern investigative techniques. The main accused, Chanti and Srinivasa Rao, were apprehended at Hanumannagar Bridge in Eluru by CCS CI Ch. Rajasekhar and Kaikaluru Town CI Krishna. Based on their interrogation, the remaining three gang members were arrested in Kothur Indiramma Colony.

Authorities seized 13 kg of silver, 251 grams of gold ornaments, and a motorbike from the gang. At least 16 cases have been registered against them in Eluru, Kakinada, Guntur, Bhimavaram, Hyderabad, and Khammam.

SP Prathapa Sivakishore commended Kaikaluru Town Inspector Koteswara Rao, Eluru CCS Inspector Rajasekhar, and other officers for their successful operation.

'Smash It' Multi-Sports Club Inaugurated in Tuni



TPN | NV Surva Tuni, Feb 11

Aiming to promote physical fitness and sports culture, prominent doctors from Tuni town in Kakinada district, Dr. AV launched a multi-sports club, 'Smash It'. The facility, located next to DMart on the National Highway, was inaugurated on Monday by senior medical experts from Tuni and Payakaraopet towns.

The Box Cricket Court was inaugurated by Dr. K.V. Durga Das and Dr. N.V. Subbarao, while the Badminton Court was launched by Dr. Ch. Srimannarayana. Other inaugurations included:

• Ludo Court - Dr. C.S. Lakshmi

Ramana and Dr. KVN NV Sarath, have • Snake & Ladder Court - Dr. Krishna Reddy

> • Table Tennis Court - Dr. Adapa Raghunadharao

> Speaking at the event, the doctors congratulated Dr. AV Ramana and Dr. Sarath for their initiative and urged residents of Tuni and nearby areas to utilize the club's facilities. They emphasized that regular sports activity improves health, reducing dependence on gadgets.

The Vital Role of Ideology in Political Alliances: The **Case for the INDIA Bloc**



In the wake of election results, it is tempting to rush to conclusions about the fate of political alliances, especially in the context of India's evolving political landscape. However, a hasty evaluation can be misleading. While media and social media may thrive on instant reactions, serious political analysis requires patience and context. This is particularly important when it comes to assessing the significance of coalitions like the INDIA bloc, which has gained attention leading up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The INDIA bloc was conceived as a strategic alliance to challenge what many saw as authoritarian governance. Its formation was not an arbitrary decision but a calculated effort to unite parties sharing a common vision for India's future. While the bloc's cooperation has occasionally led to intra-coalition competition at the state level, it has nevertheless proven effective as a platform for national coordination, as seen in parliamentary floor management. Electoral politics can be analyzed at three levels: tactical, strategic, and foundational. Tactical politics is about

winning at all costs, sometimes compromising core beliefs for short-term gains. This approach weakens voter trust in the long term. On the other hand, strategic politics focuses on long-term goals and alliances based on shared principles. It is about working together for the greater good without sacrificing core values. Finally, foundational politics refers to the bedrock principles of democracy, transparency, justice, and development, which should never be compromised for immediate electoral success.

A party's ideological commitment plays a central role in its identity. The clear ideological stance helps define its values and vision, guiding policy decisions and uniting its members. Parties that deviate from their core principles for tactical advantage risk losing their credibility and alienating their base. The recent Delhi elections serve as a reminder of the importance of ideological consistency in retaining voter loyalty. Voters are keenly aware of whether parties stand by their principles or change their stance to appease the whims of the moment.

Why the Delhi Result Matters **Beyond Delhi**

The Congress Party may argue that the Delhi election is not a validation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership but a rejection of Arvind Kejriwal's deceitful politics. There's some truth to this assertion, yet the BJP has its own reason to celebrate, claiming that Modi's charisma and Amit Shah's strategic prowess remain intact. However, the AAP, while conceding the Delhi seat to the BJP, can take pride in the fact that its influence remains strong, as evidenced by its 42% vote share.

Kejriwal and his colleagues can claim that they forced the BJP to change its approach in several significant areas. Firstly, the BJP had to abandon its usual Hindu-Muslim rhetoric. During the early stages of the Delhi campaign, BJP ticket aspirants used divisive slogans, such as "ek hai to safe hai," which were first seen in Maharashtra. But, as the election progressed, the BJP shifted its focus, criticizing the AAP government's governance rather than playing the communal card. The BJP's restraint in this regard was likely due to Kejriwal's influence, signaling that the middle-class electorate in Delhi had little appetite for polarizing politics.

Secondly, Kejriwal's policies forced the BJP to that Kejriwal pushed.



adopt its own version of populism. Once critical of AAP's "revdi" culture, the BJP now promises a range of welfare schemes, including Rs 2,500 per month for women, free LPG cylinders on major festivals, free education from KG to PG, and insurance for gig workers. This shift towards populism indicates that the BJP is now committed to maintaining similar welfare measures, which AAP introduced, underlining that Modi's government is aligning with the welfare-driven policies



Restoring the Balance: Women as Messengers of Peace

of society, embodying wisdom, nurturing, and resilience. They have given life, shaped cultures, and upheld peace throughout history. However, the balance between feminine and masculine energies has been distorted over time. While femininity is inherently tied to motherhood—a creative, sustaining force that shapes life itself societies have often relegated women to secondary roles, failing to recognize their power and influence in the world.

Ironically, those who once suppressed women have later positioned themselves as advocates for their empowerment, framing it as a gift rather than a rightful restoration of what has always been theirs. This empowerment, however, has often been defined within patriarchal limits, preventing true change and reinforcing traditional power dynamics.

A Call for Balance

True progress is not about granting women controlled freedoms but about reclaiming what is inherently theirs. Women must not ask for permission to lead or shape the world; they must reclaim their rightful space. This is not a call for dominance but for balance—one where the feminine energy is restored as an equal force that nurtures, leads, and co-creates a peaceful future for all.

A Multidisciplinary Approach

Addressing the suppression of women and **2**. **Promote women's participation in** restoring balance requires a multifaceted approach. This issue is not confined to any single domain—it is interwoven with spirituality, philosophy, social structures, and religion. Understanding the interconnectedness of these dimensions will guide us toward deeper, systemic transformation, dismantling outdated paradigms and building new systems of equity and har-

Spiritual and Philosophical **Perspectives**

Historically, many spiritual traditions revered the feminine as a force of creation and wisdom. From the Shakti in Hinduism to the Yin energy in Taoism, the feminine was central to spiritual understanding. However, patriarchal interpretations diminished women's roles, sidelining them from leadership in spiritual traditions. Restoring this balance means honoring the feminine as a guiding force in healing and transformation, acknowledging that every girl child carries the divine essence of motherhood.

Philosophically, thinkers have long argued that society cannot progress by suppressing half its population. The exclusion of wom-

Women have long been the cornerstone en from leadership and decision-making leads to cycles of conflict, greed, and environmental destruction. True progress can only be achieved when the feminine is recognized as essential to ethical governance and societal advancement.

Social and Religious Dimensions

Women have always been central to communities, yet their leadership has often been undermined. Studies show that societies with equal representation of women in decision-making processes tend to be more peaceful and prosperous. Yet, cultural norms and laws continue to hinder their full participation. Breaking down these barriers is essential for collective growth and flourishing.

Religiously, all major faiths honor the mother as a sacred figure, central to creation and moral guidance. From the veneration of Mother Mary in Christianity to the reverence of female figures in Buddhism and Hinduism, the divine feminine has always been central. Returning to these core truths is vital for spiritual and societal restoration.

A Call to Action

Restoring balance requires immediate, deliberate action. To build a peaceful world, we must:

- 1. Ensure equal access to education and leadership roles for women.
- peace processes and communitu development.
- Challenge oppressive cultural norms and replace them with narratives of empowerment.
- Encourage men to become allies in women's progress.
- Recognize women's wisdom in governance and decision-making.

Most importantly, we must instill in every girl child the truth that she is not an object in a man's world but a creator of the world

Women as Messengers of Peace

The future of our world depends on restoring the balance between feminine and masculine energies. Women must reclaim their rightful place, and men must stand as allies—not gatekeepers—alongside them. A world that fully embraces the feminine will be one where peace, creativity, and life itself can flourish. This restoration is not a distant dream. It is happening now, in our homes, communities, and within ourselves. The time to act is now—to break cycles of exclusion and build a world rooted in justice, compassion, and collaboration. Let us not wait for change; let us become it.

Biren Singh's Resignation: The End of a Populist Era in Manipur



On February 9, Biren Singh resigned as the Chief drawal of support by the National People's Party Minister of Manipur, seemingly the only honourable option left to avoid an inglorious exit and maintain some dignity for the BJP. Unlike his earlier resignation drama on June 30, 2023, when he skillfully diverted national media attention to Rahul Gandhi's visit, this time his resignation was swiftly accepted by the Governor. This marked a stark contrast to the past, highlighting the erosion of his populist appeal and the BJP's national leadership's growing recognition of his political liability.

Singh's resignation came after intense political pressure, including an open revolt from several BJP members in the valley areas, and the with(NPP) in November 2024. The impending threat of a no-confidence motion in the upcoming session of the Assembly, scheduled for February 10, made it clear that Singh and the BJP could no longer afford to face the political fallout. The resignation reflects the culmination of the internal tensions within his leadership, which had been building for some time.

During his tenure, Singh's leadership was defined by his efforts to reinvent his image and position himself as a father-like figure to the Meitei ultranationalists. Early in his first term (2017-2022), he used his political acumen to co-opt influential hill tribal leaders, stabilizing his position despite significant internal opposition within the BJP, particularly from figures like Biswajit Singh and Konthoujam Govindas. However, with the BJP's comfortable majority in the 2022 assembly elections, Singh's political fragility persisted, leading him to adopt a more aggressive populist approach.

Singh's attempt to rejuvenate Meitei indigenous politics, particularly through the revival of Sanamahism, became a central aspect of his leadership. This initiative, aimed at appealing to Meitei ultranationalists, was seen as a way to strengthen his political base. However, the revival of indigenous cultures, while a populist move, was never considered a threat to the broader Hindutva agenda of the BJP and the Sangh Parivar.





India Open to Energy Imports; Gas Prices to **Drop in 2026: Minister Puri**

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India is open to importing energy from any source at the lowest possible prices, said Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, on Monday. Addressing the media ahead of the Indian Energy Week (IEW) 2025, Puri reassured that the country remains flexible in sourcing energy and is continuously expanding its network of suppliers. The country has increased its number of energy suppliers from 27 to 39, adding nations like Argentina to the list. Puri emphasized that tenders for energy importation are open to all suppliers, with a focus on purchasing from the most cost-effective sources.



In his statement, the minister allayed concerns regarding the impact of US sanctions on Russia's energy supplies to India. He stated that despite global uncertainties, India's energy import portfolio continues to grow. Puri also highlighted that domestic oil marketing companies are looking to expand their natural gas purchases, and prices are expected to drop significantly by 2026. He projected a major increase in the availability of natural gas, with Qatar being a potential supplier.

Additionally, Puri addressed the growing demand for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in India, revealing that LPG supply is nearly saturated in the country. The government's next focus is to extend the reach of piped natural gas (PNG) to households, which is 30% cheaper than LPG.

In a key development, Puri mentioned that Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and GAIL are exploring the possibility of purchasing liquefied natural gas (LNG) and crude oil from the United States, with longterm contracts in the pipeline. This aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the US, where energy discussions are expected to be a significant part of the agenda.

IEW 2025, which will kick off in New Delhi, is expected to be the second-largest energy event globally, attracting top ministers and CEOs. The event will also host a Clean Cooking Ministerial to advance the global transition to clean cooking solutions.



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ahead of his two-nation tour to France and the United States, expressed his eagerness to meet his "friend" President Donald Trump during his upcoming visit to the US from February 12 to 14. Modi reminisced about the fruitful collaboration during Trump's first term, emphasizing the importance of further strengthening the India-US global strategic partnership.

In a statement released by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) ahead of his departure, Modi highlighted the visit as a crucial opportunity to continue building on the successes of India-US cooperation. The agenda includes discussions on key areas such as technology, trade, travel to the French city of Marseille to

defense, energy, and strengthening supply chain resilience. Modi stated, "We will work together for the mutual benefit of the people of our two countries and shape a better future for the world."

Before heading to the United States, PM Modi will visit France, where he will attend the AI Action Summit from February 10 to 12. This summit will bring together world leaders and tech CEOs to discuss AI technology's collaborative approach for innovation, public good, and security.

Additionally, Modi will meet French President Emmanuel Macron to review progress on the 2047 Horizon Roadmap for India-France strategic partnership. During his visit, the leaders will also inaugurate India's first Consulate there and visit the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project, a key initiative involving India's collaboration with France and other partner nations in advancing nuclear energy research.

Furthermore, PM Modi will pay his respects to Indian soldiers who lost their lives during World Wars I and II at the Mazargues War Cemetery in Marseille. Talks on potential India-France collaboration in the civil nuclear energy sector may also be explored following India's plans to amend the Atomic Energy Act to allow private sector participation.

PM Modi's visit to the US follows a highly anticipated diplomatic agenda aimed at strengthening ties with President Trump and the broader US government.



Podcaster Allahbadia Who Received Award From PM Modi Now Facing Flak For His Remark

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Ranveer Allahbadia, the popular social media influencer and podcaster known for his YouTube channel "BeerBiceps," has sparked controversy following an inappropriate remark made during an appearance on comedian Samay Raina's show, *India's Got Latent*. Allahbadia's comment, in which he asked a contestant, "Would you rather watch your parents have sex every day for the rest of your life or join in once and stop it forever?" quickly went viral, receiving widespread criticism on social media. Many users expressed their disgust, with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis warning against the misuse of freedom of speech. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights also urged YouTube to take urgent action regarding the matter.

Allahbadia, who is also an entrepreneur, hosts *The Ranveer Show* and is the founder of BeerBiceps Media Private Limited. He runs 12 YouTube channels, which collectively have over 6 billion views. His main channel, *BeerBiceps*, features interviews with celebrities, entrepreneurs, and athletes, while his *Ranveer Allahbadia (Hindi)* channel caters to a Hindi-speaking audience. He has also co-founded several ventures, including Monk-E, BigBrainco, and Level Supermind.

This isn't the first time Allahbadia's content has attracted criticism. In 2023, during a podcast with advocate J Sai Deepak, he asked who should leave India, leading to backlash. Additionally, in April 2024, he faced scrutiny for sharing an unverified claim about a village in Kerala enforcing Islamic law. Despite the backlash, Allahbadia has remained unapologetic, refusing to take down controversial videos.

Devotees Stuck In Traffic Jam For 30 Hours In Maha Kumbh

TPN Correspondent | Mahakumbh

Ahead of the Magh Purnima festival, set for February 12, a massive influx of devotees headed towards Prayagraj for the Maha Kumbh has caused significant traffic disruptions. Long lines of vehicles have caused severe congestion on roads and highways, with traffic moving at a frustratingly slow pace.

Commuters are experiencing considerable delays, with many sharing their frustrations on social media. Some travelers attempted to bypass the jams by using village routes or the old Raebareli-Prayagraj road, only to be stopped at the Bela Kachhar parking area, located about 18 kilometers from the city. From this point, a large number of passengers have been forced to continue their journey on foot, adding to the discomfort of the already weary pilgrims.

In the midst of the chaos, bike services in Prayagraj have witnessed a surge in demand. Local youths have been offering rides to help people navigate through

the city's traffic. While some are offering free rides out of goodwill, others are charging fares ranging from Rs 100 to Rs 500. Despite the cost, many travelers are willing to pay to avoid the long walk, highlighting the dire situation of the stranded devotees.

Samajwadi Party president took to X to express his concerns over the traffic situation, calling for urgent emergency measures to help the millions of devotees caught in the gridlock. In his post, he urged the authorities to view the distress of the pilgrims with empathy and take action to alleviate their suffering. He also highlighted the massive jams reported at Nawabganj, Gauhania, and the Varanasi side, adding that the situation was making life difficult for ordinary citizens as well.

As Prayagraj prepares for the auspicious day of Magh Purnima, authorities will need to address the ongoing traffic challenges to ensure the safe and smooth movement of devotees during the Maha Kumbh.



Mamta Kulkarni Resigns **From Kinnar Akhara:** 'Egoistic People Have A Problem With Me



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Actress Mamta Kulkarni, who recently made headlines for announcing her celibacy, has officially resigned from her position as Mahamandaleshwar of the Kinnar Akhara. While stepping down from the prominent post, Kulkarni made it clear that she will continue her spiritual journey and live as a "Sadhvi."

In a video shared on social media, the former actress stated, "I am resigning from the post of Mahamandaleshwar of Kinnar Akhada. I have been a 'sadhvi' since my childhood, and I'll continue to be so." Kulkarni's resignation comes after a period of turmoil within the Akhara, where she pointed out internal politics and ego-driven disputes. She criticized the members of the Akhara, stating, "These people are egoistic and disconnected from Brahma Vidya. They fight among themselves and have no understanding of true knowledge."

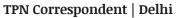
Mamta Kulkarni had embraced a new identity as "Shri Yamai Mamta Nandgiri" when she was appointed as Mahamandaleshwar on January 24 during the ongoing Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. However, her induction sparked controversy among certain Hindu leaders, including yoga guru Baba Ramdev, who questioned the legitimacy of attaining sainthood "in a single day." Baba Ramdev also emphasized that the Kumbh Mela is a sacred festival and should not be tainted by inappropriate behavior.

Soon after Kulkarni's anointment, she was expelled from the Kinnar Akhara by its founder, Rishi Ajay Das, and Laskhmi Narayan Tripathi, who had initially inducted her.



PM Modi's France Visit to Strengthen AI, Nuclear, and Strategic Ties

- PM Modi to attend AI Action Summit in Paris on February 11, focusing on AI.
- India and France to enhance cooperation in nuclear energy, trade, and strategic security.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will depart for Paris on Monday, February 10, for a three-day official visit, marking an important moment in strengthening India-France ties. A highlight of the visit will be the third edition of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit, which PM Modi will co-chair alongside French President Emmanuel Macron. The summit aims to promote the responsible and ethical use of AI and is part of global discussions that began in the UK (2023) and South Korea (2024). The outcome of this summit could influence the future of AI technologies,

with key players from around the world in attendance.

The visit will also include significant bilateral engagements, with PM Modi meeting President Macron to discuss strategic and economic partnerships. A major focus will be on expanding trade, technology, and cooperation in areas like nuclear energy. Additionally, the leaders will address the India-France CEOs Forum to further enhance business relations between the two nations.

On February 11, PM Modi will travel to Marseille, where President Macron will host a dinner in his honor. The two leaders After concluding his visit to

will also pay tribute to Indian soldiers at the Mazargues War Cemetery, commemorating their contributions during World War I. In a significant gesture, they will jointly inaugurate the Consulate General of India in Marseille, further solidifying the diplomatic presence in France.

A visit to Cadarache is also on the agenda, where PM Modi and President Macron will tour the site of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), a leading project in nuclear fusion energy, where India plays a crucial role.

France, PM Modi will head to the United States on February 12-13, where he will meet President Donald Trump. This will be his first meeting with Trump since the latter's second term began, offering an opportunity to strengthen Indo-US relations and discuss areas of mutual interest.

India and France have long enjoyed a strong and multifaceted partnership, covering defense, nuclear cooperation, space exploration, digital security, and more. This visit is set to deepen these ties further, with both nations continuing to collaborate on global challenges and strategic interests.





Saudi Arabia Implements New Measures for Hajj 2025, **Restricts Children**

TPN Correspondent | Riyadh

Saudi Arabia has announced new regulations for the 2025 Hajj pilgrimage, including a ban on children accompanying pilgrims. This decision aims to safeguard the well-being of young ones, who may face risks from the intense crowding that occurs each year during the pilgrimage. The Ministry of Hajj and Umrah emphasized that the safety of children is a top priority, and this measure is designed to prevent harm to them during the event.

In addition to the ban on children, the Ministry is introducing several other safety initiatives to improve the pilgrimage experience. These measures include conducting public safety awareness campaigns, implementing advanced intelligent systems to better manage the movement of pilgrims in sacred areas, and enhancing the infrastructure of the pilgrimage sites. This includes modernization of tent camps and walking routes to ensure safer and more efficient pilgrimages for all attendees.

Saudi Arabia has also reiterated its commitment to prioritizing first-time Hajj participants for the 2025 season, as is the usual practice. This ensures that those who have not had the opportunity to perform the pilgrimage before are given the chance to do so.

The 2025 Hajj season is expected to take place between June 4-6, depending on the sighting of the moon. Performing Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, and every capable Muslim is required to undertake the journey to Makkah at least once in their lifetime, provided they have the physical and financial means to do so.

In addition to these domestic measures, Saudi Arabia has also announced restrictions on issuing multiple-entry visas for certain nationalities. Affected countries include Algeria, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia, and several others. From now on, Saudi Arabia will only issue single-entry visas for tourism, business, or family visits, indefinitely suspending the previous one-year multiple-entry visas.

For Saudi citizens and residents, registration for Hajj 2025 is available via the official Nusuk app, which allows applicants to update their health details and submit necessary documentation for Hajj packages.

United States will impose a 25% tariff on all steel and aluminium imports, with additional metal duties expected to be announced later in the week. Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One on Sunday en route to the NFL Super Bowl in New Orleans, Trump also confirmed that reciprocal tariffs would be introduced as early as Tuesday, with the new tar-

iffs taking effect almost immediately.

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

In a significant escalation of his trade policy,

US President Donald Trump revealed that the

While Trump did not specify which countries would be targeted by the reciprocal tariffs, he emphasized that the US would match tariffs imposed by other nations, applying this strategy to all countries. "Very simply, explained. This move marks another step in his ongoing trade policy overhaul.

During his first term from 2016 to 2020, Trump imposed a 25% tariff on steel and a 10% tariff on aluminium, but he later granted several countries, including Canada, Mexico, and Brazil, duty-free quotas. Former President Joe Biden continued these exemptions, extending them to the United Kingdom, Japan, and the European Union. However, US



recent years, raising concerns about the effectiveness of these quotas.

Trump Announces 25% Tariffs on All

Steel and Aluminium Imports

Canada, Mexico, and Brazil are the largest sources of US steel imports, followed by South Korea and Vietnam. Canada is also the largest supplier of primary aluminium to the US, accounting for 79% of total imports in the first 11 months of 2024, while Mexico is a major supplier of aluminium scrap and alloys. Trump has long expressed dissatisfac-

tion with the European Union's 10% tariff on US auto imports, which he claims is much higher than the 2.5% tariff the US levies on European cars. The US maintains a 25% tariff on pickup trucks, a key product for Detroit automakers like General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis' US operations. The average US trade-weighted tariff rate stands at about 2.2%, according to World Trade Organization data, compared to higher rates in countries like India (12%), Brazil (6.7%), Vietnam (5.1%), and the EU (2.7%).

PTI Rules Out Dialogue with Sharif Government, Says Talks Are Closed

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Omar Ayub Khan, the Leader of Opposition in Pakistan's National Assembly and a key member of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party founded by jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan, has dismissed the possibility of resuming talks with the government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Speaking to the media on Sunday, Ayub stated that the "chapter of talks is now closed," referring to the breakdown of political negotiations between the two sides.

Ayub further explained that political discussions cannot be based on mere which he claims the government has failed its leadership and its relationship with the



wishes and require a firm commitment, to demonstrate. He criticized the Sharif ad-

ministration for not displaying the goodwill necessary for productive dialogue, making it clear that the PTI would not engage in any further discussions under the current circumstances.

The statement from Ayub reflects the growing tensions between the opposition party and the government, with both sides seemingly entrenched in their positions. The stalemate highlights the ongoing political crisis in Pakistan, as Imran Khan's PTI continues to face significant challenges, both in terms of

Shift Palestine To Saudi Arabia? Netanyahu Suggestion Draws 'Fantasies' Jibe



TPN Correspondent | Washington

Saudi Arabia has strongly rejected Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent proposal suggesting that the Palestinian state be established within Saudi Arabia's territory. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia issued a statement on Sunday, February 9, condemning Netanyahu's remarks, which it claimed were aimed at diverting attention from Israel's ongoing actions in Gaza. The statement highlighted the "continuous crimes" committed by Israeli forces, including what it described as ethnic cleansing against Palestinians.

The Saudi government reaffirmed that the Palestinian people have an inherent "right to their land" and are not "intruders or immigrants" to be displaced at will by Israeli occupation forces. The statement emphasized that the Palestinian cause is a matter of justice and sovereignty, rejecting any suggestion that Palestinians should be resettled outside their homeland. The controversy began when Netanyahu, during a televised interview on February 6, discussed potential diplomatic normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia. A misstatement by Israeli journalist Yaakov Bardugo initially suggested that no progress could be made without the creation of a Saudi state, which was later corrected to "Palestinian state" by Netanyahu. However, Netanyahu added, "Unless you want the Palestinian state to be in Saudi Arabia. They have plenty of territory."



Action to be taken if gold auction norms violated by banks, NBFCS: Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday assured that strict action would be taken if banks or Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) violate the established processes for auctioning gold when a borrower defaults on their gold loan payments. Speaking during the Question Hour in Lok Sabha, Sitharaman emphasized that both NBFCs and Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) are governed by similar rules regarding gold loan auctions.

Sitharaman explained that the auction process is well-regulated, with clear guidelines to ensure fairness and transparency. When a borrower fails to repay their gold loan, both banks and NBFCs follow a defined process. This includes sending several notices to the borrower informing them about their default status and providing ade-



quate time for repayment.

The Finance Minister further clarified that in cases where a borrower still does not pay, the institutions are required to follow strict procedures be-

fore proceeding with the auction. The goal is to ensure that the borrower has been given every possible opportunity to settle the loan before the gold is auc-

India to prioritize energy infrastructure in capex shift from FY25-30

India's capital expenditure (capex) from FY25-30 is expected to shift focus from public-led transport infrastructure to a more balanced investment in energy infrastructure, including electricity generation and the integration of power grids for efficient transmission and distribution, according to a BNP Paribas report. This transition reflects India's commitment to sustainable development and energy security.

Despite global trade uncertainties and shifting monetary policies, India's economy is projected to remain resilient. Unlike smaller, trade-dependent nations, larger economies such as India, China, and the US are less reliant on external trade, which provides some insulation from the economic risks posed by tariff wars and interna-



tional disruptions.

The report highlights India's inward-focused economy, which is expected to experience lower volatility in trade compared to more export-reliant nations. The US 10-year bond yield has surged from 3.7% in September 2024 to 4.5%, while India's 10-year yield has remained stable, fluctuating between 6.7% and 6.9%. This narrowing of the yield gap has led to a 3% depreciation of the Indian Rupee (INR) since September 2024.

BNP Paribas economists predict that US inflation will face continued upward pressure, likely preventing any rate cuts in 2025. In contrast, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may adopt a dovish stance and implement rate cuts to support domestic economic growth, which could further compress the yield gap and apply downward pressure on the INR. In the Indian stock market, sectors like consumer staples and industrials are trading at a premium compared to historical valuation averages. While industrials have benefitted from India's strong manufacturing momentum, the consumer staples sector is expected to undergo a period of time correction.

India Launches EFTA Desk to Strengthen **Economic Ties with Europe**

India has launched a dedicated desk to foster deeper economic engagement between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, namely Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland. The formal launch took place at Bharat Mandapam, with Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, representing India at the event.

The newly established EFTA Desk aims to assist businesses from the four EFTA countries in preparing for the opportunities created by the EFTA-India Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), signed on March 10, 2024. The desk will act as a central point of contact for EFTA businesses looking to expand into India, offering support and guidance on market entry, investment opportunities, and resolving potential issues.



While the TEPA is still in the process of being ratified, businesses across the EFTA nations are already exploring investment opportunities and strengthening their commercial ties with Indian partners. Over 100 EFTA businesses are visiting India this week to explore potential collaborations, an outcome of ongoing efforts by EFTA countries to raise awareness about the benefits of the agreement.

India Energy Week 2025 Set to Strengthen Global Energy Ties



2025, the much-anticipat-

India Energy Week (IEW) hi. Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh ed annual energy event, is Puri is expected to address all set to take place from a press conference on Mon-February 11-14, 2025, at the day, where he will unveil Yashobhoomi in New Del- details about the event. IEW

2025 is poised to be a ma- India Energy Week 2025 is jor platform for global en- building on the success of its ergy discussions, bringing previous editions and is fast together Ministers, CEOs, and industry leaders from point for the global energy across the world.

set to expand significantly, with a 65% increase in exhibition space, covering a total of 28,000 square meters. The number of conference Ahead of the event, global sessions will rise to 105, while the event is expected to draw over 70,000 global delegates. Energy ministers India's growing role in the from more than 20 countries, including major energy producers, advanced economies, and nations will peak later than in other from the global south, will major economies, placing be in attendance.

becoming a crucial meeting sector. The event will offer a platform for deepening This third edition of IEW is collaborations, exchanging knowledge, and showcasing innovations within the energy industry.

> commodities information provider S&P Global Commodity Insights highlighted global energy market. According to their report, India's refined crude demand the country at the forefront of driving global demand.

ECONOMY

Markets Slump as Trump's Tariff Move and Weak Rupee **Shake Investor Confidence**



Domestic stock markets were in turmoil on Monday. Donald Trump's tariff announcement hit them hard. He said that tariffs of 25% will be imposed on aluminum and steel products imported from other countries. Investors were worried that this would affect the supply chain worldwide. On the other hand, the results of companies were not promising, the rupee reached a new lifetime low against the dollar, and the dollar index and US bond yields increased, which damaged the positive sentiment. With this, the Nifty fell by 178 and the Sensex by 548 points.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,860 in the previous session, opened at 77,789 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 77,106. It reached an intraday high of 78,849. Finally, it closed at 77,311, with a loss of 548 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,543, touched a low of 23,316 and a high of 23,568. It closed at 23,381, down 178 points. The Nifty Bank fell 177 points to settle at 49,981.

In the Nifty50, 11 companies gained while 39 lost. Kotak Bank, Bharti Airtel, Britannia, Tata Consumer, HCL Tech were the top gainers. Trent, Power Grid, Tata Steel, Titan, ONGC were the biggest losers. Auto, media, metal, pharma, realty, PSU bank, consumer durables shares were mixed. India Vicks rose 5.55% to 14.45.

The market breadth on the NSE today completely shifted in favour of sellers. 2955 stocks traded while 2257 lost. 627 gained. Shares of 30 companies touched 52-week highs. Shares of 153 companies reached 52-week lows.

Escorts Kubota's net profit in the third quarter rose 8.5% to Rs 323 crore from Rs 298 crore. Nykaa's net profit rose 60.6% to Rs 26 crore from Rs 16.2 crore. Power Mech Projects' net profit rose 33.3% to Rs 82 crore from Rs 61.5 crore. The rupee weakened 6 paise against the dollar to settle at 87.48. It had touched 87.90 earlier. Avanti Feeds' net profit rose 86.5% to Rs 135 crore from Rs 72 crore. UBS has given a buy rating to Apollo Tyres with a target price of Rs 525. Jefferies has given a buy rating to Thermax with a target price of Rs 4835. All shares of Adani Group closed in losses today. Engineers India's net profit rose 78% to Rs 93.8 crore from Rs 52.7 crore. Sarigama India's net profit rose 19% to Rs 62 crore from Rs 52.5 crore.

1. Gulf Oil Lubricants:

Gulf Oil Lubricants is a leading player in the Indian lubricants market, specializing in automotive and industrial lubricants. The company has a strong brand presence and strategic partnerships with major automobile manufacturers. Strong demand for automotive lubricants. Expanding distribution network and tie-ups with OEMs. Growing presence in industrial lubricants.



Positive, driven by rising vehicle sales and increasing industrial demand.

2.GODFRYPHLP



GODFREY PHILLIPS

Godfrey Phillips is one of India's leading tobacco and FMCG companies, producing brands like Four Square, Red & White, and Marlboro (licensed from Philip Morris). Strong brand portfolio in the tobacco industry Expansion into FMCG and confectionery segments. Consistent dividend payouts and stable cash flowStable, with strong margins .and high cash flow, but faces regulatory risks in the tobacco sector.

3.GREENLAM Greenlam Industries is a leading producer of laminates, decorative veneers, and interior surfaces in India. It has a growing export market presence and strong brand recall. Increasing demand for premium interior and home décor products. Expanding global pres- Industries Limited ence in exports. Capacity expansion and new



product innovations Strong growth potential due to rising urbanization, premium housing trends, and increasing exports.

4. ANANTRAJ



Anant Raj is a real estate development and infrastructure company with a strong presence in North India. It focuses on residential, commercial, and IT parks. Rising demand for real estate in North India Expansion in commercial real estate and IT parks Government infrastructure push boosting demand. Positive, driven by real estate recovery, increased commercial leasing, and infrastructure development.

5.V-Mart

V-Mart is a leading value retail chain in India, primarily catering to Tier 2 & 3 cities. It offers affordable fashion, home essentials, and general merchandise. Strong presence in Tier 2 & 3 cities with affordable pricing. Expansion of store network across rural India Growing demand for value-based fashion retail. Moderate growth potential, but faces competition from organized retail giants like Reliance and DMart.





7 Epic Food Festivals You Can't **Miss in 2025**



The year 2025 promises to be a foodl ie's dream, with a variety of festivals celebrating everything from beer to chocolate. These global culinary events offer an unforgettable experience of local flavours, heritage, and creativity. Whether you're a street food fan or a gourmet enthusiast, here are seven food festivals you can't miss in 2025.

1. Oktoberfest - Munich, Germany

Oktoberfest in Munich is the world's largest beer festival, running from late September to early October. This event is a celebration of Bavarian culture, with beer halls serving up fresh lager, bratwurst, and other traditional foods. The lively parades, carnival rides, and festive atmosphere make it a must-visit for beer lovers and foodies alike.

2. Pizzafest - Naples, Italy

Naples, the birthplace of pizza, hosts Pizzafest, an annual festival where top pizzerias showcase their culinary skills. The festival features pizza-making competitions, live music, workshops, and a wide array of pizza variations—perfect for anyone who loves Italian cuisine.

Set in the picturesque New England coastline, the Maine Lobster Festival celebrates everything lobster. This seafood extravaganza includes cooking contests, live music, and plenty of lobster in various styles. Originally a way to support local fishermen, this event

4. Salon du Chocolat - Paris, France For those with a sweet tooth, Salon

ite for seafood lovers.

has grown into an international favor-

du Chocolat in Paris is a paradise. The world's largest chocolate festival features the finest chocolatiers and pastry chefs, offering live cooking demos, chocolate tastings, and even a fashion show with outfits made entirely of chocolate.

5. Melbourne Food & Wine Festival -Australia

Melbourne's Food & Wine Festival is a celebration of global cuisine, renowned chefs, and top wineries. The highlight is the "World's Longest Lunch," where guests dine on exquisite food and drink. Whether you enjoy fine dining or casual street food, this festival offers something for every food lover.

6. Fête du Citron - Menton, France

The Fête du Citron (Lemon Festival) in Menton is a vibrant celebration of citrus. Visitors can admire massive sculptures and parade floats made entirely of lemons and oranges, enjoy street performances, and taste citrus-infused delicacies. The festival's sustainable focus ensures all fruit is sold at discounted prices afterward.

3. Maine Lobster Festival - Maine, USA 7. Tokyo Ramen Show - Tokyo, Japan

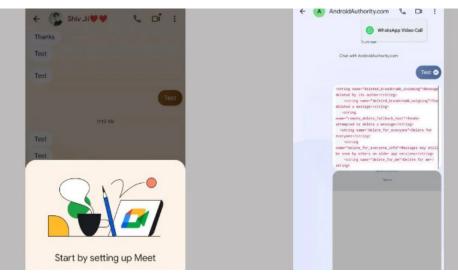
Japan's love for ramen takes center stage at the Tokyo Ramen Show. This event features top ramen chefs from across the country, each presenting their unique bowls of noodles. Whether you're a fan of tonkotsu, shoyu, or miso ramen, this festival is a must-attend for ramen lovers.

Make sure to add these top food festivals to your 2025 travel list for a delicious and unforgettable adventure!

Google Messages Could Soon Integrate WhatsApp Video Calling

oogle Messages is reportedly working on a new feature that will allow users to make video calls via WhatsApp directly from the app. According to an Android Authority report, this feature is still in development and not yet active for users. The discovery was made within the code of Google Messages version 20250131.

The feature is said to activate when the caller does not have Google Meet installed on their device, offering an alternative option for making video calls. In the current version of Google Messages, video calls are only possible through Google Meet, and users are prompted to install it if it's not already on their device. However, with the upcoming WhatsApp integration, users will be able to initiate video calls via WhatsApp without leaving the Google Messages app. The call will open directly in full-screen mode, saving time and reducing clicks, especially for those who primarily use Google Messages



for communication.

It's important to note that this feature will only work in individual chats. For group chats, video calls can still only be initiated through Google Meet. Additionally, if the recipient doesn't have WhatsApp installed, the feature won't be triggered.

Along with this new feature, there's

another update to Google Messages. The camera viewfinder and gallery picker have been merged when opening the camera option, streamlining the photo-taking process.

OFF BEAT

While this WhatsApp video call integration is not yet available, it's expected to make video communication through Google Messages much more convenient in the near future.

Find Out How Much It Costs To Get A Passport Made Right Away For International Travel



20 to 45 days, but the Tatkal system allows for faster processing. If you need a passport quickly due to emergencies such as medical reasons, education, or sporting events, the Tatkal service can ensure that you receive your passport within 7 to 14 days, depending on the circum-

The Tatkal Passport service is de- Unlike the standard passport appli-**I** signed to help individuals who cation process, which begins with need a passport urgently, especial- police verification, the Tatkal proly when time is limited. Normally, cess skips this initial step. Instead, obtaining a passport takes between the passport is issued promptly, and police verification occurs afterward. Once your application is marked as "granted," your passport is shipped within three working days. The rest of the process, including police verification, takes place after the passport has been issued.

can use the official Passport Seva process.

website or download the mPassport Seva app. The application process involves registering on the website, selecting the Tatkal option, and completing the online form. After paying the required fees, you can print the receipt and schedule an appointment at your nearest passport service center.

When applying for a Tatkal passport, you'll need to provide essential documents such as your Aadhar card, PAN card, birth certificate, ration card, or voter ID card, among others. Typically, you will need two or three of these documents to complete your application.

The fees for a Tatkal passport are higher than for a regular passport. A 36-page Tatkal passport costs ₹3500, and a 60-page Tatkal passport costs ₹4000. While there are no discounts for Tatkal applications, children under 8 years old and senior citizens can avail a discount for regular passport applications. Despite the higher fees, the Tatkal service ensures that applicants receive their passports in a much shorter time To apply for a Tatkal passport, you frame compared to the traditional

Man shares grocery hacks claiming 'quick commerce is cheap': Sparks internet debate



Haldiram Aloo Bhujia 200 g - 1 unit





Relish Chicken Plain Salami

₹60.92

200 g - 1 unit



Britannia 100% Whole Wheat Bread (No. ₹25.17

ping has gone viral, sparking an active debate among users on the pros and cons of popular quick-commerce apps like Blinkit, Zepto, and Instamart. The post quickly garnered numerous comments, as users shared their personal experiences and insights.

The original poster (OP) listed several tips to help users score the best deals while shopping for groceries online. Among the suggestions were comparing prices across different platforms and using cashback credit cards for extra discounts. The OP also recommended BigBasket for its competitive prices, despite its "outdated interface," pointing out that it often provides the best value even when delivery charges are factored in.

Zepto, in particular, received a special mention, with the OP describing it as offering "mind-blowing" deals on inactive accounts. The poster advised users to maintain two phone numbers to take advantage of offers on defunct accounts, which quickly caught the attention of others.

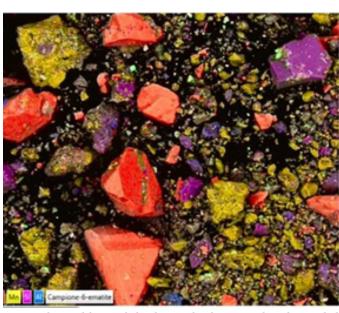
A Reddit post offering money-saving On the other hand, Blinkit received strategies for online grocery shop-criticism for being "useless" due to its tendency to overprice items and limited stock availability. This drew sharp responses from some users, including one who warned, "Bro, it's just a customer acquisition process. See after 5 to 7 orders, everything will be overpriced." However, the OP defended their experience, replying, "You definitely didn't read my post. Been shopping since 2023 like this." Despite the differing opinions, the post served as a useful resource for shoppers looking to optimize their grocery spending and explore alternatives to traditional shopping.

The viral discussion highlighted how consumers are increasingly turning to quick-commerce apps for convenience but remain cautious of price hikes and other pitfalls. It also pointed to the growing trend of using multiple platforms and strategies to get the best value for money. As the debate continues, many are left questioning the long-term value of these apps as the market for online grocery shopping becomes increasingly competitive.

Red Lipstick 4,000 Years Ago: The Discovery of the World's Oldest **Cosmetic**

The world's oldest known lipstick dates back an astonishing 4,000 years, to the Bronze Age, which lasted from 3300 BC to 1200 BC The red cosmetic was found in the Jiroft region of Kerman province, southeastern Iran. According to a study published in Scientific Reports, the lipstick was likely a lip-colouring paint or paste made from natural materials like hematite, manganite, and braunite, which were darkened with galena and anglesite. These minerals were then mixed with vegetal waxes and other organic substances to create the cosmetic mixture. The lipstick was stored in a small chlorite vial and was likely a highly prized item in the Bronze

The discovery of this ancient cosmetic provides fascinating insights into the beauty practices of early civilizations. While makeup and cosmetics today are common and widely used, this find suggests that even in the distant past, people were experimenting with natural resources to enhance their appear-



ance. The red hue of the lipstick also technological development, and the reveals that the color red has been associated with beauty and adornment for millennia. The use of materials like hematite, a red iron oxide, indicates that early humans had a deep understanding of the natural world and its potential uses.

Interestingly, the Bronze Age was a time of significant cultural and



existence of such a sophisticated cosmetic product shows that appearance and personal care were important even in ancient societies. It's amazing to think that the concept of makeup, especially red lipstick, dates back so far, linking modern cosmetic traditions to their ancient origins.





Team India Launches 'Donate Organs, Save Lives' Campaign Ahead of 3rd ODI vs England



Ahead of the third ODI between India and Shubman Gill encouraged fans, saying, "Be England at the Narendra Modi Stadium the captain of life. Just like a captain leads in Ahmedabad on February 12, Team India players, including former captain Virat Kohli, have united to support the 'Donate Organs, Save Lives' campaign. Announced by ICC Chairman Jay Shah, the initiative aims to raise awareness about organ donation.

In a video shared by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Indian players urged people to take the pledge to donate organs. Kohli emphasized, "Score the ultimate century, your organs can help others live beyond your lifetime. Register as a donor and make every life count."

the team to victory, you can lead someone to life by pledging to donate your organs."

Other players like Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Axar Patel, and Hardik Pandya also shared powerful messages, urging people to take the step and make a difference by donating their organs.

The campaign has received support from several Indian cricketers, including Ravindra Jadeja, Arshdeep Singh, Washington Sundar, Varun Chakravarthy, and Rishabh Pant. India currently leads the three-match series 2-0 and is gearing up for the final ODI.

Rashid Khan Breaks T20 World Record, Becomes Highest Wicket-**Taker in History**



In a thrilling encounter in the ODI Tri-Series, Kane Williamson's brilliant century helped New Zealand secure a spot in the final with a dominant six-wicket win over South Africa on Monday. South African opener Matthew Breetzke set the stage alight with a record-breaking performance, scoring 150 runs on his ODI debut. This remarkable knock was the highest score ever made by a debutant in ODI history, helping South Africa post a challenging 304/6 at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore. However, it was Williamson's class that stole the

show. The New Zealand captain anchored his side's chase with an unbeaten 133, guiding his team past the target comfortably. His match-winning knock, combined with steady contributions from his teammates, ensured New Zealand's smooth entry into the final of the tournament. This win not only highlighted Williamson's batting mastery but also overshadowed Breetzke's historic debut performance, securing New Zealand's dominance in the series.

Vidarbha's dominant performance in the ongoing Ranji Trophy quarter-final has on Day 2, saw their captain Sai Kishore disput them on the brink of victory against Tamil Nadu. On Day 3 of the match, Vidarbha pachaul, claiming 5/34 to help bowl out Tamil Nadu for 225 in their first innings. This effort gave Vidarbha a strong 128-run lead, following their total of 353.

In reply, Vidarbha overcame early struggles and finished the day at 169/5, with a commanding lead of 297 runs. Yash Rathod played a crucial knock of 55* off 119 balls, while Harsh Dubey remained unbeaten on built a solid lead against Kerala.

missed early for just 7 runs.

Vidarbha, unbeaten in the current season, er Aditya Thakare starred with a five-wicket will now look to extend their lead further and put Tamil Nadu under pressure on Day 4. Tamil Nadu's top order, including players like Narayan Jagadeesan and Vijay Shankar, will need to deliver a strong response to defend their chances in the match.

Meanwhile, Gujarat continued their impressive run, reaching 511 in their first innings against Saurashtra, and Jammu & Kashmir

Without PV Sindhu, India Faces Tough Challenge at Badminton **Asia Mixed Team Championships**

India's hopes for a gold medal at the 2024 Bad-■minton Asia Mixed Team Championships, starting in Qingdao, China, on Tuesday, have been dealt a significant blow with the absence of star player PV Sindhu due to injury. The world-renowned shuttler sustained a hamstring injury during a training camp in Guwahati on February 4, forcing her withdrawal from the prestigious event.

India's previous campaign in 2022 saw them claim a bronze medal, with Sindhu playing a pivotal role in their success. Without her this year, the responsibility falls on world No 29 Malvika Bansod to step into the women's singles spot. India, placed in Group D, will kick off their campaign against Macau on Wednesday, followed by a tough match against South Korea on Thursday. A top-two finish in the group will secure a quarterfinal spot, but advancing further will require exceptional performances from the team.

India has never won the gold in the Asia Mixed Team Championships but has had notable successes in team events, including Thomas Cup gold in 2022 and a silver at the 2024 Badminton Asia Team Championships. Key players like HS Prannoy, Lakshya Sen, Ashwini Ponnappa, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, and Chirag Shetty are expected to carry the team's hopes, along with rising stars in women's doubles, Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly.

With the tournament's last three editions dominated by China and Japan, India will have to overcome a challenging field to make history in this prestigious competition.

Denis Shapovalov Clinches ATP Dallas Title, Stuns Casper Ruud in Final

Upleted a stunning run to the 2024 ATP Dallas title on Sunday, defeating fifth-ranked Casper Ruud 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 in the final. The unseeded Shapovalov claimed his third career ATP title, marking the biggest win of his career after his previous victories in Stockholm (2018) and Belgrade (2023).

Shapovalov's triumph came after a series of giant-killing performances, making him only the fifth player since 2020 to defeat the top three seeds

←anada's Denis Shapovalov com- en route to an ATP title. Earlier in the 22 spots up the ATP rankings to No. 32, tournament, he overcame world No. 4 Taylor Fritz in the second round and toppled ninth-ranked Tommy Paul in the semifinals.

The win is particularly significant after Shapovalov's battle with knee injuries, which sidelined him for much of 2023. He credited his team for helping him return to form, saying, "These titles wouldn't be possible without them."

Shapovalov's victory also propels him

a significant rise from his position of

127th at this time last year. In the final, Shapovalov fired 12 aces in the first set and won a tense tie-breaker before breaking Ruud early in the second set and never looking back, sealing the match after an hour and 40 minutes with an overhead smash. This marks Shapovalov's first win over Ruud in three meetings, denying the Norwegian his 13th career ATP title.



Workout, Breathe, Repeat: Alia Bhatt's Journey to Fitness and Upcoming Projects



on screen, is also inspiring fans with a glimpse of her intense workout routine. In the video, Alia is seen performing flying push-ups a resistance band tied around her waist for extra support. Dressed in a blue gym top and black yoga pants, she sported a bun, fully focused on her rigorous session. She captioned the video, "The struggle is important," reminding her followers of the dedication and hard work required to citing career.

Alia Bhatt, known achieve their goals. for her versa- On the profession On the professionperformances al front, Alia is set to headline Alpha, a spy thriller alongside Sharvari. Directed by Shiv Rawail, the film will add to Yash Raj Films' growing spy universe. Additionally, Alia will reunite with renowned filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali for Love and War, which stars Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal. Officially announced in January 2024, the film is scheduled for a Christmas 2025 re-

Fans are eagerly anticipating her next moves on and off the screen as Alia continues to balance fitness with her ex-

Nayanthara to Reunite with **Mammootty for Upcoming Film** 'MMMN'



Tamil cinema star Nayanthara is set to re-L unite with Mammootty for the upcoming Malayalam film, tentatively titled MMMN. Directed by Mahesh Narayanan, known for acclaimed works like Malik and Take Off, the film will also feature Mohanlal, marking the long-awaited collaboration between Mammootty and Mohanlal after more than a decade. The film's production is being handled by Anto Joseph Film Company, who recently announced Nayanthara's casting in a video posted on Instagram.

This project also sees Nayanthara reunite with Mammootty after their previous collaboration in the 2016 film Puthiya Niyamam. The cast includes Fahadh Faasil and Kunchacko Boban in

Nayanthara, who made her Bollywood debut alongside Shah Rukh Khan in Jawan (2023), was most recently featured in the Netflix documentary Nayanthara: Beyond the Fairytale (2024). She will next star in the Telugu film Kannappa, led by Vishnu Manchu.

Vicky Kaushal, Rashmika Mandanna **Promote 'Chhaava' in Amritsar**



Actors Vicky Kaushal and Rashmika Man- Earlier, Vicky promoted the film in Patna, danna are on a promotional tour for their where he indulged in Litti Chokha, a local delupcoming historical action drama Chhaava. The duo recently landed in Amritsar, where they interacted with fans and explored the city. Rashmika shared an Instagram story with a picture of herself and Vicky in front of an aircraft, captioning, "Amritsar... Ki haal aaaaa!!!" Dressed casually, she wore a cream T-shirt and blue denim, while Vicky opted for a black The film releases on February 14, 2025. sweatshirt and matching sweatpants.

icacy, sharing his experience on social media. He began the tour with a visit to the Grishneshwar Jyotirlinga in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar. Chhaava, directed by Laxman Utekar, is an adaptation of the Marathi novel Chhava by Shivaji Sawant. Vicky plays Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, with Rashmika as Maharani Yesubai.

Jacqueline Fernandez **Highlights Fitness and Career** at Blender's Pride Fashion Tour



t the Blender's Pride Fashion Tour in Chan-At the Biender's Fractional Adigarh, actress Jacqueline Fernandez shone as the showstopper, showcasing both her stunning presence and evolution from model to Bollywood star. Dressed in a glamorous ensemble, Jacqueline captivated the audience with her radiant smile, symbolizing her love for both fash-

In a heartfelt conversation, Jacqueline shared her early career journey, revealing that she showcasing her commitment to well-being started modelling at the age of five and was alongside her professional growth. walking the ramp by 12. Despite her success in

modelling, acting was always her true passion. "Modelling was something I knew, but deep down, I wanted to be an actor," she said.

Her transition to acting was a challenge, as she had no formal training, but her passion for movies helped her navigate the journey. Her breakthrough came with Aladin, which she called a dream come true. Jacqueline also emphasized the importance of a fitness routine,

Brazilian Cello Player Diego Carneiro Performs with Indian Musicians in Chandigarh



 $\boldsymbol{B}^{\text{razilian}}$ cello virtuoso and Rotary Peace Fellow Diego Carneiro recently performed with Indian classical musicians at the Tagore Theatre in Chandigarh. The concert, organized by the city's Rotarians with the Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown, was part of his peace mission

Hailing from the Amazon region, Diego initially learned piano before discovering his deep connection with the cello. During the concert, he jammed with musicians from the 'Arohi' group, delighting the audience with a fusion of Brazilian and Indian classical sounds.

Diego shared his admiration for Indian classical music, particularly its meditative qualities, saying, "I am learning Indian classical music and am falling in love with it." His work merges music and humanitarian efforts, spreading messages of peace across various regions. "We aim to use music to build communities and address issues like medicine, education, the environment, and conflict zones," he explained, underlining the transformative power of music in fostering a compassionate, connected world.

Ed Sheeran Surprises Fans with Telugu Song 'Chuttamalle' at Bengaluru Concert

 $\mathbf{E}^{ ext{d}}$ Sheeran delighted fans at his Bengaluru concert by performing the Telugu song "Chuttamalle" alongside Indian singer Shilpa Rao. The song, featured in the 2024 film Devara starring Jr NTR and Janhvi Kapoor, was composed by Anirudh Ravichander and written by Ramajogayya Sastry. Sheeran, who has

previously charmed audiences with hits has also sung hits like "Malang" and like "Shape of You" and "Perfect," shared a video of himself singing the Telugu lyrics, expressing his admiration for Rao's voice.

On Instagram, he praised Shilpa Rao, calling it a privilege to perform with her and to learn a new language. Rao, who

"Besharam Rang," was equally thrilled by the collaboration. Jr NTR and Janhvi Kapoor also reacted to the performance, highlighting the beauty of music transcending boundaries.

Sheeran's Indian tour will conclude with a performance in Delhi on February 15.

