

# POINT



Om Namah Shivaya!

May Lord Shiva awaken the strength within you, guiding you to strive harder and achieve all that you aspire for. Wishing you a blessed and prosperous Maha Shivratri!

Note: There will be no newspaper on the 27th. Stay tuned for further updates.

## OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR GV REDDY



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

GV Reddy didn't get this much following when he worked in Congress, when he worked for TDP, or when he appeared on all TV channels on behalf of TDP. But now, he has become a leader with a good image within no time. The reason is the reason by which he came out of the party and the government. He has taken up a subject related to the irregularities done by YSRC. Due to the intensity of that subject, the majority of TDP followers are now supporting GV Reddy unconditionally.

WHAT WENT BEHIND THE SCENES?

Everybody knows that now the governance is running unofficially by Mr. Lokesh Nara, not by Mr. Chandrababu Naidu. All the postings of IAS, IPS, and others are being decided by Mr. Lokesh only, as per the talk in political circles. Then, naturally, Mr. Dinesh Kumar's posting was done by whom? We can guess now. Not only Fibernet, but he has also got two more corporations, which means we can assess the rank of Mr. Dinesh in the mind of Mr. Lokesh. Then, we can estimate that the officer will be guarded by Mr. Lokesh naturally.

Mr. GV Reddy was called up by the Chief

Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu, after the disputed press meet. But as per the situation in the government, he should have been summoned by Mr. Lokesh. Here, everybody doubts that Mr. GV Reddy had already interacted with Lokesh, and only after that did he overburst in the press meet with impatience over the approach shown by Mr. Lokesh towards Mr. Dinesh Kumar.

LOOKS DIFFERENT, BUT FATHER & SON BOTH ARE SAME

Yes. Mr. N. Chandrababu Naidu looks so professional and strategic and speaks accordingly. But Mr. Lokesh Nara is a little bit aggressive and moves forward without any hesitation as per his plan. In practice, when it comes to execution, both go the same way, just with a different style of dialogue delivery, allegedly. In the issue of GV Reddy, it was exposed, it seems. Mr. GV Reddy differed with Mr. Lokesh, and the class was given by Mr. Naidu on behalf of his son, it seems.

GV REDDY FIRM ON EXPELLING EMPLOYEES, BUT FORGOT HIS LIMITATIONS AS CHAIRMAN

Yes. Mr. GV Reddy is the Chairman of Fibernet. He doesn't have any executive powers. He can refer or recommend. Only the Min-

ister or Managing Director can execute any decisions. Mr. GV Reddy tried to reform the corporation by removing the people who were incorporated by YSRC earlier. But in the name of procedures, MD Dinesh Kumar delayed it and did not respond to the Chairman's reference, as he had direct contact with the Minister, Mr. Lokesh Nara. This irked Mr. GV Reddy a lot. After knowing that Mr. Dinesh had the support of Lokesh, he planned to expose all the issues through his press meet.

MAJORITY OF PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING TO TAKE BACK GV REDDY

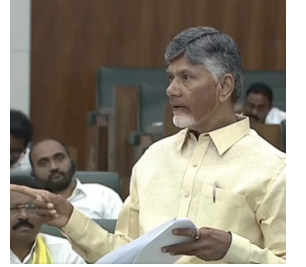
The majority of the people, including the cadre of TDP, are demanding to have discussions with GV Reddy and reinstate him in the party as well as in the post of Chairman of Fibernet. If a person is fighting for a right cause, naturally, he will get full support, and the same has happened with Mr. GV Reddy. Though he lacks the procedural and executive patterns of the government, his intention is very clear. That is why he is getting overwhelming support from the people. Now, it's the turn of Mr. Naidu and Mr. Lokesh to patch up the situation as early as possible.

### CM Naidu Praises Pawan Kalyan's Leadership in Panchayat Raj

- CM hails Pawan Kalyan for efficiently running the Panchayat Raj department
- Swachh Andhra Pradesh program to be conducted every third Saturday
- CM expresses concern over road conditions but remains optimistic

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, while addressing the assembly sessions, lauded Deputy CM and Panchayat Raj Minister Pawan Kalyan for his effective leadership in the department. He stated that the Swachh Andhra Pradesh program is being implemented with great prestige, with every third Saturday designated for cleanliness initiatives and awards planned for the cleanest constituencies. "Today, I wholeheartedly congratulate Panchayat Raj Minister Pawan Kalyan. Under the Palle Pandaga festival, general body meetings were conducted across all panchayats in the state on the same day, and funds for all works were sanctioned simultaneously. Andhra Pradesh is the only state in India to achieve this feat," said CM Chandrababu. He acknowledged that while such programs were conducted in the past, they were held occasionally, whereas Pawan Kalyan has taken the initiative forward brilliantly, setting an example for others. The CM further credited Pawan Kalyan for recovering diverted Finance Commission funds and securing the second installment, strengthening the Panchayat Raj department. However, he noted some dissatisfaction regarding road conditions and said efforts were being made to address the issue. "It is okay... if there is a will, there are ways... let us work together," Chandrababu Naidu concluded, expressing optimism about improvements in the road infrastructure.



### Praveen Aditya Takes Charge as AP Fibernet's MD

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh coalition government has appointed IAS officer Praveen Aditya as the new Managing Director (MD) of AP Fibernet, following a series of key developments. This comes after GV Reddy resigned as chairman and Dinesh Kumar was transferred from the MD post to the General Administration Department (GAD). The government's move comes amid complaints of serious irregularities in AP Fibernet during the previous administration. Additionally, reports of internal differences between the chairman and MD have further prompted the state leadership to take swift action. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu took immediate steps after reviewing the report on the issue, leading to GV Reddy's resignation and Dinesh Kumar's transfer. With Praveen Aditya now at the helm, the government is expected to initiate corrective measures and restructure operations within AP Fibernet.



### How Can Anyone Be So Reckless Against the Governor?

- Pawan Kalyan slams YCP leaders for misconduct during the Governor's speech
- Questions how Chandrababu tolerated such leaders for years
- Apologizes to the Governor on behalf of the government



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan strongly condemned the behavior of YSRC members during the Governor's speech on the opening day of the AP Assembly budget session. Speaking during the discussion on the motion of thanks for the Governor's address, Pawan Kalyan questioned how anyone could be so reckless against the Governor. Expressing his outrage, he remarked, "How could Chandrababu Naidu have tolerated such leaders for so many years? Yesterday's incident made me wonder about it." "Hats off to Chandrababu... It takes a lot of courage and determination to face such people. The YCP leaders who clashed in the House yesterday—could they have looked the Governor in the eye when he was a Supreme Court judge? What if the very people who are supposed to make laws are the ones violating them? The people are watching how YCP leaders behave as if rules do not apply to them. They have trusted us because they

could no longer tolerate the anarchy, violence, and clashes that YSRC committed in the last five years," Pawan Kalyan stated. He emphasized that the current government is bringing radical changes in governance and thanked the Governor for guiding them through his speech. "The reason we were able to stand strong despite all the difficulties during the last YCP regime is our strong desire to do good for the people," he added. Pawan Kalyan recalled that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had instructed all members to give due respect to YCP leaders in the first Assembly session after the 2024 elections. "We continue to act with the same responsibility. We will uphold the same democratic spirit in the future and maintain dignity in the House," he assured. Addressing the disruptions in the Assembly, he stated, "If the Governor was embarrassed by the actions of YSRC, I sincerely apologize to him on behalf of the government."



Major Setback for YCP in Ongole as 20 Corporators Join Janasena

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### Didn't Jagan Say Chandrababu Wouldn't Have Opposition Status If He Did That?

- Lokesh counters YSRC's demand for opposition status in the Assembly
- Questions Jagan's stance on opposition status in 2019

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

AP Minister Nara Lokesh responded to YSRC leader Jagan Mohan Reddy and his party MLAs, who claimed they would attend Assembly sessions only if YCP was given opposition status. Speaking in the Legislative Council, Lokesh emphasized that in a democracy, parliamentary guidelines must be followed. Citing official parliamentary directions, Lokesh pointed out, "In the Lok Sabha Speaker's Directions, page 62, point 121C clearly states that opposition status should be given only if a party has at least one-tenth of the total seats in the House. Was

the former Chief Minister unaware of this?"

He further referenced a similar provision in the Assembly rule book from 2009, stating that "On June 13, 2019, Chandrababu Naidu had 23 MLAs in the Assembly. If five were removed, only 18 remained. Back then, Jagan himself declared in the House that opposition status wouldn't apply. How can he demand it today?" Lokesh questioned.

"We Have Never Thrown Papers at the Governor"

Condemning YCP's conduct during the Governor's speech, Lokesh remarked, "We have protested against government policies in the past, but we never threw papers at the Governor. This is only the second time in AP's history that such disrespect has been shown. The first instance was during the bifurcation of AP. Unlike YCP, we

treated the Governor respectfully and invited him to address us."

He criticized YCP members for boycotting the session instead of engaging in discussions on key issues. "Running away from debates is not right. In the case of Vice-Chancellors, we are reviewing files as requested. If there are any irregularities, we will conduct a proper investigation. But YCP has no sincerity in public matters—they only care about self-interest," Lokesh asserted. On governance, he reiterated the government's commitment to educational reforms, stating, "The Governor clearly mentioned the 'Super-6' initiative in his speech on page 2, confirming that it will be implemented for public welfare. We are committed to fulfilling the promises made during the Padayatra and will move forward strategically to achieve Swarnandhra."

# AP Energy Minister Reviews Progress of CBG Plants with Reliance

- AP shifts focus from Ease of Doing Business to Speed of Doing Business
- Govt assures full support to Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) in expediting CBG plants
- Revenue Minister requested to facilitate swift approvals for land allocation
- Energy Department directed to ensure timely completion of CBG plants



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Hon'ble Minister for Energy Sri Gottipati Ravi Kumar chaired a high-level review meeting with representatives of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) at the AP Secretariat in Velagapudi on Tuesday. The discussion focused on the progress of Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants and their land allocation across the state.

The Energy Minister stated that the Andhra Pradesh government had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Reliance Industries a few months ago to invest ₹65,000 crore in setting up 500 CBG plants. This ambitious project is expected to create 2.5 lakh jobs, positioning Andhra Pradesh as a

frontrunner in clean energy and sustainable development.

Assuring full government support for the speedy implementation of these projects, the Minister emphasized that under the guidance of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Andhra Pradesh is focusing on accelerating business processes to create a favorable environment for investors. He reiterated that all administrative, bureaucratic, and procedural hurdles would be swiftly addressed to facilitate smooth execution.

To further streamline the process, Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar requested the Revenue Minister to expedite land approvals for CBG plants and directed the Energy Department to closely coordinate with RIL to en-

sure timely completion. He reaffirmed that the government's doors are open to investors, ensuring that any challenges faced during project execution are promptly resolved.

Speed of Doing Business: AP's New Vision

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's evolving business-friendly approach, the Minister noted that the state is transitioning from a focus on Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) to Speed of Doing Business (SoDB). This shift aims to simplify and accelerate business processes, making Andhra Pradesh one of the fastest and most efficient states in industrial growth. Key measures being implemented include fast-tracking industrial set-up processes, such as land allocation and environmental approvals,

enhancing online regulatory systems to ensure seamless business registration, and strengthening the Single Window Clearance System to minimize wait times for business permits and licenses, making Andhra Pradesh a more investor-friendly state.

The Minister also highlighted the Single Desk Portal, a digital platform designed to simplify and expedite regulatory approvals. The portal aims to improve transparency, reduce bureaucratic delays, and enhance investor confidence by ensuring a seamless business experience in Andhra Pradesh.

Senior officials from APTRANSCO, DISCOM, the Energy Department, and RIL participated in the review meeting.

## Case Filed Against Actress Madhavilatha



TPN Correspondent | Tadipatri

The ongoing dispute between actress Madhavilatha and Tadipatri TDP leader and Municipal Chairman JC Prabhakar Reddy has taken a new turn, with the Tadipatri police registering a case against Madhavilatha. This comes after the Cyberabad Cyber Crime Police had earlier registered a case against JC Prabhakar Reddy based on Madhavilatha's complaint.

TDP leader and AP Mala Corporation Director Kamalamma lodged a complaint against Madhavilatha, alleging that the actress had made derogatory remarks. Following the complaint, the police booked a case under Section 353 IPC. The controversy initially began with a verbal altercation between Madhavilatha and JC Prabhakar Reddy. JC later apologized, admitting that he spoke harshly in anger and sought forgiveness. However, Madhavilatha continued to press for action, leading to Cyberabad police registering a case against JC. Now, in a retaliatory move, a case has been filed against Madhavilatha in Tadipatri. The developments indicate an escalating legal battle between the two parties, with both cases now under police investigation.

## Narayana's Team Continues Study

Tour in Prayagraj for Godavari Pushkaras Planning

TPN Correspondent | Prayagraj

Minister Narayana's team is on its second day of study tour in Prayagraj, focusing on the arrangements made for the Maha Kumbh Mela as part of preparations for the upcoming 2027 Godavari Pushkaras.

The ministerial team is closely examining various aspects of the Kumbh Mela, including crowd management, traffic control, transport facilities, sanitation, arrangements at the bathing ghats, development of the ghats, and security measures. The insights gained from this study will help the Andhra Pradesh government implement efficient strategies for the Godavari Pushkaras.

On Monday, officials in Prayagraj provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation to the visiting team, explaining the extensive planning and execution of the Kumbh Mela arrangements. Today, Minister Narayana and his team will conduct an on-ground inspection of different sectors where the Maha Kumbh Mela is being held.

Later in the afternoon, Minister Narayana will hold discussions with officials at the Kumbh Mela Authority office to further understand



the large-scale event management strategies employed in Prayagraj. Accompanying the minister on this

tour are Municipal Department Director Sampath Kumar and Rajahmundry Municipal Commissioner

Ketan Garg, who are actively participating in the study and assessment process.



PDF MLC Candidate K. S. Lakshmana Rao Appeals for Support in MLC Elections

TPN Correspondent | Mylavaram

As part of the campaign for the MLC elections scheduled for the 27th of this month, PDF-backed candidate and sitting MLC K. S. Lakshmana Rao toured local private schools in Mylavaram, seeking support from the graduates. Later, he addressed a media conference, highlighting the crucial role played by PDF-supported MLCs in the legislative council.

Speaking at the event, Lakshmana Rao stated that PDF-backed candidates have always served as a constructive opposition in the council. He emphasized that since the reconstitution of the legislative council in 2007, PDF representatives have continuously raised important issues, voiced the concerns of workers and farmers, and advised the government on various matters.

The MLC assured voters that if elected again, he would continue to amplify the voice of graduates in the council, offering valuable suggestions and, if necessary, strongly opposing policies that do not benefit the public. He urged graduates to cast their first-preference vote in his favor in the elections tomorrow, on the 27th. Community leaders from Ibrahimpatnam and Mylavaram participated in the program, extending their support to the PDF candidate.

## SC Grants Anticipatory Bail to Jogi Ramesh, Devineni Avinash

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a major relief to YSRCP leaders Jogi Ramesh and Devineni Avinash, the Supreme Court has granted anticipatory bail in connection with the cases related to the attacks on AP CM Chandrababu Naidu's residence and TDP central offices. The court extended the relief to 20 individuals facing charges in the case.

The apex court directed Ramesh and Avinash to cooperate with the police investigation and ordered that they must not leave the country. During the hearing, the government's counsel argued that the accused had not sought



bail for three years and had approached the court only after the

change in government in Andhra Pradesh. The lawyer further al-

leged that the attack targeted Chandrababu's residence, which has Z-plus security, and claimed that Avinash played a key role in orchestrating the attack on the TDP office.

Responding to the arguments, the Supreme Court made critical remarks on the delay in investigation, stating that the authorities had failed to act for three years, violating the Criminal Procedure Code. While reviewing the High Court orders, the bench did not find sufficient grounds to deny bail and granted anticipatory bail to the accused, with the condition that they must fully cooperate with the investigation.

## Alapati Can Solve the Problems of the Poor: MP Kesineni Shivanath



**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**  
Vijayawada MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) emphasized that Alapati Rajendra Prasad is a capable leader who can address the concerns of teachers, youth, and the underprivileged by directly engaging with Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He made these remarks while campaigning for Alapati Rajendra Prasad, the NDA alliance candidate in the graduates' MLC elections for the joint Krishna-Guntur districts. As part of the campaign, Kesineni Shivanath met with teachers of St. John's School in Swathi Road, West constituency, where he urged them to cast their first preference vote for Alapati Rajendra Prasad. He also explained the voting procedure to ensure their ballots are counted correctly. Speaking on the occasion, Kesineni Shivanath highlighted the crucial role teachers played in forming a people's government with a strong majority in the state. He stated that the previous government's approach had severely impacted the Amaravati region, causing setbacks in development. However, he assured that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is committed to accelerating the construction of the capital and bringing in industries. He further asserted that TDP has always upheld the dignity of teachers whenever it was in power, unlike the previous administration, which neglected their welfare. He urged the NDA alliance to support Alapati

Rajendra Prasad to ensure the continued progress of education and governance in the state. Additionally, Kesineni Shivanath outlined plans for the development of the western constituency, promising that all roads in the region will be improved ahead of the upcoming Pushkaras in two years. He reaffirmed that the people's government is dedicated to development and will work tirelessly to resolve public issues. TDP state general secretary and former MLC Buddha Venkanna-Guntur districts. The campaign was attended by Arya Vysya Corporation Chairman Dundee Rakesh, TDP state executive secretary MS Baig, St. John's School secretary correspondent T. Suman Thyagaraj, principal K. V. Kalyani, TDP minority cell state general secretary Mohammad Fataullah, TDP state Telugu Women vice president Asha, NTR district commerce department president Solanki Raju, cluster in-charge Yedupati Ramaiah, corporators Ummad Chanti, Ratna Kumari, BJP corporator Gudivada Narendra, TDP senior leader Siva Sharma, and several division presidents, along with NDA alliance leaders and activists.

## Major Setback for YCP in Ongole as 20 Corporators Join Janasena



**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**  
The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) is facing a series of setbacks following its defeat in the last elections, with its dominance in municipal corporations now under threat. In a major political shift in Ongole, as many as 20 YSRCP corporators and three co-option members are set to join Jana Sena Party in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. The defection is being led by former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy, who recently switched from YSRCP to Jana Sena. The

corporators, who were initially elected under YSRCP with Balineni's support, have now decided to follow him into Jana Sena. Political analysts believe that this mass defection will significantly impact Ongole's political landscape. While the joining ceremony was postponed multiple times due to Pawan Kalyan's unavailability, the event is finally taking place this evening. This shift further weakens YSRCP's hold on municipal bodies and marks another major blow to the party after its electoral loss.

## Speaker Condemns Jagan, YCP MLAs for Disruptive Behavior in Assembly



**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**  
Andhra Pradesh Assembly Speaker Ayyanna Patrudu has strongly condemned the behavior of YCP members during Governor Abdul Nazeer's speech in the assembly, calling it disgusting and disrespectful. Addressing the house on the second day of the session, he criticized the unruly actions of YCP legislators, who stormed the speaker's podium, tore papers, and threw them while the governor was addressing the assembly. The Speaker also took aim at YSRCP chief and former CM Jagan Mohan Red-

dy, alleging that he laughed at the misconduct of his party members instead of controlling them. He stated that Jagan's actions only encouraged further disruption. Botsa Satyanarayana, a senior YCP leader who was beside Jagan, was also criticized for failing to intervene and stop the disorderly behavior. Ayyanna Patrudu asserted that respecting the Governor is a collective responsibility, as he is a guest in the assembly. He condemned YCP members for violating the decorum of the house and said that such behavior sets a bad precedent in legislative proceedings.

## Pawan Kalyan Lacks Political Understanding: Botsa



**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**  
YCP MLC Botsa Satyanarayana has strongly criticized Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan over his comments on opposition status for YSRCP. Reacting to Pawan Kalyan's statement that YSRCP,

which secured fewer seats than Jana Sena, does not deserve opposition status, Botsa lashed out, stating that the Jana Sena chief lacks political understanding. Botsa questioned Pawan Kalyan's stance, stating that if Jana Sena refuses opposition status, then YSRCP should be given the position. He added that YSRCP has no objection to Pawan Kalyan sitting in opposition but argued that the party's presence in the assembly is not merely to protect MLA posts, as alleged. He also criticized the governor's speech, stating that it misrepresented facts and accused the government of portraying the previous administration as destructive. Botsa further alleged that the coalition government forced 19 out of 21 university vice-chancellors to resign and demanded a probe into the matter. Additionally, he slammed TDP General Secretary Nara Lokesh, accusing him of using threatening language against YSRCP members in the Legislative Council. Botsa asserted that YSRCP leaders would not be intimidated and accused the coalition government of misleading Group-2 exam candidates.

## Jagan Went to Assembly Just for Attendance



**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**  
BJP AP President and MP Daggubati Purandeswari has sharply criticized YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy for attending the assembly briefly before leaving. She alleged that Jagan's visit was merely to

mark attendance and avoid disqualification, rather than addressing public issues. Purandeswari remarked that Jagan should have utilized the assembly session to discuss the concerns of the people instead of treating it as a formality. She further questioned how a party with just 11 MLAs could demand opposition status, emphasizing that a certain threshold is required for such recognition. She also lashed out at the previous YSRCP government, stating that the legislative house was turned into a Kaurava Sabha under Jagan's rule. Discussing the Union Budget, Purandeswari stated that it was crafted in line with the vision of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

and accused Congress leaders of insulting Ambedkar's legacy. She highlighted that the budget prioritized youth, women, and farmers, including a special program to encourage women in agriculture using drones. She further announced that 3 crore houses will be built for the poor in the next five years. Additionally, she assured that efforts are being made to expedite the inauguration of the Rajahmundry ESI Hospital's new buildings and facilitate surgical procedures. She also stated that the Central government is actively working on the development of Tirupati, Rajahmundry, Visakhapatnam, and Nellore railway stations.

## Sri Reddy Granted Conditional Bail by High Court



**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**  
Actress Sri Reddy has been granted conditional anticipatory bail by the Andhra Pradesh High Court in a case related to insulting CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Ministers Nara Lokesh, Anita, and their families. The case stems from a series of obscene social media posts, for which six cases were registered against her across various police stations in the state. The High Court, after hearing Sri Reddy's petition for anticipatory bail, granted conditional bail in the Visakhapatnam case, directing her to appear before the

investigating officer once a week. However, the court dismissed her anticipatory bail petition in the Chittoor case, ruling it as ineligible for hearing. During the hearing, Additional Public Prosecutor (APP) Sai Rohit informed the court that Sri Reddy had used highly objectionable language in her posts. Following arguments, Justice K. Srinivasa Reddy adjourned the hearing for a week in the Anakapalle case. The court also instructed the police to issue notices to Sri Reddy and obtain her response regarding the cases registered in Kurnool, Krishna, and Vizianagaram districts.

## Vijayasai Reddy Left YCP Due to Jagan's Attitude: Ganta Srinivas

**TPN Correspondent | Vizag**  
TDP leader and former minister Ganta Srinivas launched a scathing attack on YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy, stating that Jagan should accept the people's verdict and sit in the Assembly accordingly. He criticized Jagan for desperately seeking opposition status instead of respecting the election results, where YSRCP managed to win only 11 seats. Speaking to the media, Ganta Srinivas claimed that former YSRCP leader Vijayasai Reddy left the party due to Jagan's

authoritarian attitude. He further alleged that many other YSRCP leaders are ready to quit, indicating internal dissatisfaction within the party. The TDP leader also accused Jagan of attending the Assembly only to escape disqualification. He called on the NDA alliance to support Pakalapati Raghuvarma in the Uttarandhra MLC elections and ensure his victory with a huge majority. Ganta Srinivas further slammed the previous YSRCP government for its treatment



of teachers, accusing it of forcing them to work at liquor shops, a move he attributed to Jagan's governance failures.

# Usha Sri Peddishetty – The AP State Masters Badminton Champion

**Monday evening... The Vijayawada Club Stadium was buzzing with excitement as the AP State Masters Badminton Championship was underway. To everyone's amazement, one woman emerged victorious in all three categories—Singles, Mixed Doubles, and Women's Doubles—securing the coveted Triple Crown. That woman was none other than the iron-willed Usha Sri Peddishetty.**

## Undefeatable Usha Sri

With sheer determination and exceptional skill, Usha Sri displayed an outstanding performance in Women's Singles, Mixed Doubles, and Women's Doubles. Every step she took on the court was a testament to her dedication, making her an inspiration for badminton enthusiasts. She claimed the Women's Singles 50+ title by defeating Indrani from Vijayawada. In the Mixed Doubles 50+ category, she partnered with BVS Lingeswara Rao to yet another victory. In Women's Doubles, she teamed up with Padma from Vijayawada and secured the title, marking a moment of pride and achievement.

## A Strong Leader in Both Sports and Politics

Usha Sri's excellence is not confined to sports alone. She is also making her mark in politics as the Corporator of the 43rd Ward in the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation. With her unwavering commitment to selfless service, integrity, and perseverance, she has been

implementing numerous welfare programs, leaving an indelible mark on the city of Visakhapatnam.

Qualified for Nationals – One Step Closer Having dominated the state-level championships, Usha Sri has now earned the opportunity to compete at the national level. As a former representative of India in badminton, she is once again preparing to bring home prestigious medals on the national stage. With her skilled training, rigorous practice, and invaluable experience, she is set to reach even greater heights.

## A Guiding Light for Young Aspirants

For Usha Sri, sports is more than just a game—it is a guiding principle for life. She firmly believes in inspiring young athletes with her journey and success. She often shares her experiences, emphasizing that perseverance, dedication, and hard work are the keys to excelling in any field, including sports.

## Future Aspirations

Usha Sri's journey in both sports and public service has made her a beloved figure among the people. She aims to participate in more international badminton tournaments and bring more laurels to India. Simultaneously, she is working on innovative plans to contribute to the development of Visakhapatnam and its residents. In short, Usha Sri Peddishetty is a remarkable woman excelling in sports, politics, and public service. Her journey continues to inspire and pave the way for many others to follow!



# Panchayat Champions Urged to Drive Rural Development



## TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) has directed Panchayat Champions to actively contribute to comprehensive rural development, emphasizing employment opportunities, women's self-help groups, and essential services. He urged them to ensure government schemes reach every household, particularly those related to drinking water, irrigation, and rural industries.

Addressing 32 Panchayat Champions at his Vijayawada Parliament Office, NTR Bhavan, after their training at NIRDPR, Hyderabad (February 10–16), Kesineni outlined a three-month action plan for their villages. He instructed them to identify and address key rural issues starting March 1 and encouraged teamwork in solving practical problems.

To support their efforts, the Kesineni Foundation will provide a ₹10,000 monthly scholarship to each Panchayat Champion. The MP emphasized a six-month rural transformation goal, urging them to focus on SC and BC colonies, youth sports initiatives, and the promotion of central schemes like Surya Ghar, Vishwakarma, and PMEGP.

Kesineni reiterated Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's vision of making every household self-reliant and transforming the 294 villages in his constituency into model villages. Another batch of trainees will undergo rural development training at NIRDPR in April.

The event was attended by NTR District NIRDPR Program Coordinators Songa Sanjay Varma and GV Narasimha Rao, along with trained Panchayat Champions from A. Konduru, G. Konduru, Jaggayyapeta Rural, and Veerulapadu Mandals.

# Nine Minors Arrested for Illegal Ganja Trade in Nandigama



## TPN Correspondent | Nandigama

Nandigama Sub-Divisional ACP Tilak announced the arrest of nine minors involved in the illegal transportation and sale of ganja. The arrests were made at the graveyard in Nakkalampeta village, on the outskirts of Paritala village in Kanchikacherla mandal. Police seized 5 kg of ganja worth ₹40,000 and confiscated 40 mobile phones from the accused.

ACP Tilak revealed that all those arrested are minors from

Kanchikacherla and Veerulapadu mandals. Acting on a tip-off, the police apprehended them while they were transporting ganja from other areas, repackaging it into small packets, and selling it. The investigation uncovered that the minors were engaged in the illegal trade to earn money through deceptive means. ACP Tilak stated that the arrested individuals have been produced in court, and further investigations are underway.

# Strict Security Arrangements in Vijayawada for Maha Shivaratri

- NTR District Police Commissioner

## TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

City Police Commissioner Sri S.V. Rajasekhara Babu IPS personally supervised the security arrangements across the NTR District Police Commissionerate to ensure a smooth and safe Maha Shivaratri celebration. He inspected key locations, including Durga Ghat, Punnami Ghat, Bhavani Ghat, Pavitra Sangam, and various Shiva temples, where large numbers of devotees gathered for holy baths and darshan.

The Commissioner reviewed security, crowd management, and traffic control measures and issued several directives to the police personnel to remain vigilant, ensuring that devotees do not face any inconvenience and that no untoward incidents occur. He emphasized the importance of queue management and crowd control at temples and ghats.

Special security instructions were given for the Yanamalakuduru Shiva Temple, which is one of the busiest temples near the city. The Commissioner directed officials to ensure smooth traffic flow and security arrangements in the surrounding areas.



Later, Krishna District SP Sri R. Gangadhar Rao IPS joined the Commissioner in visiting the Yanamalakuduru Shiva Temple, where they had darshan and reviewed the security situation. They also inspected the CCTV surveillance system around the temple and issued further instructions to enhance safety. Commissioner S.V. Rajasekhara Babu stated that extensive security measures have been put in place across Vijayawada, including the deployment of NDRF and SDRF teams at all major bathing

ghats. He assured the public that the police, in coordination with all relevant departments, have taken necessary precautions to prevent any accidents.

Extending his Maha Shivaratri greetings to the people, the Commissioner wished for a peaceful and joyous festival.

The review was attended by Krishna District SP Sri R. Gangadhar Rao IPS, DCPS Sri Gautami Shali IPS, Sri Krishna Murthy Naidu, ADCP Sri A.V.L. Prasanna Kumar, ACPs, inspectors, and other police personnel.

# Victory in Graduates' MLC Elections a Necessity

## TPN Correspondent | Nandigama

TDP state general secretary and former minister Devineni Umamaheswara Rao has called on voters to give first preference votes to alliance candidate Alapati Rajendra Prasad, who is supported by TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP in the upcoming Graduates' MLC elections. He campaigned and distributed pamphlets at the TDP office in Nandigama town, NTR district, emphasizing the election's significance.

Speaking on the occasion, Devineni Uma stated that the MLC election results would directly impact the development and welfare measures implemented by the alliance government over the last eight months. He asserted that winning this election is



a historical necessity to secure a majority in the state legislature and legislative council, ensuring smoother governance. He urged party leaders and workers to take responsibility at the booth level and work under the leadership of MLA and Government Whip Tangirala Soumya to secure a strong majority for Alapati Rajen-

dra Prasad from the Nandigama constituency.

Devineni Uma stressed that party workers should approach every voter directly, make extensive use of social media, and pay special attention to urban graduate voters. He also urged them to highlight Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's governance, particularly how the alliance is reviving the state's financial condition after the economic mismanagement under Jagan Reddy's rule.

The campaign witnessed the participation of Nandigama Municipal Chairperson, TDP town leaders, and coalition representatives, who pledged their support for the alliance candidate.

# YCP Expels Shankar Nayak After Spa Raid Controversy



## TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The YSR Congress Party (YCP) central office has announced the expulsion of party leader and former ST Commission member Vaditya Somashankar Nayak after he was found at a prostitution center operating under the guise of a spa. The decision follows a police raid on 'Studio 9 Spa' in Veterinary Colony,

Vijayawada, where Machavaram police uncovered illegal activities.

During the raid, Shankar Nayak allegedly attempted to hide under a bed, but the police dragged him out, and the videos of the incident quickly went viral on social media.

Following the release of the footage, Shankar Nayak reportedly argued with the police, expressing outrage and distress over his tarnished reputation. It is also learned that he claimed his wife had threatened to commit suicide over the controversy. He further alleged that the release of his videos was deliberate and lamented that he had fallen from a high position to disgrace overnight.

## Elephant Attack in Annamayya District Kills Five Devotees



- Incident occurred in Obulavaripalle mandal  
- A herd of elephants attacked devotees heading to the Shiva temple  
- Five people lost their lives, and two others were critically injured

TPN Correspondent | Annamayya

A tragic incident occurred in Annamayya district, where five devotees lost their lives in an elephant attack. The devotees, hailing from Y. Kota, were walking towards the Shiva temple in Gundalakona to celebrate Maha Shivaratri when a herd of elephants suddenly attacked them in Obula-

varipalle mandal. While five people were killed on the spot, two others sustained serious injuries. Further details about the incident are yet to be ascertained.

**₹10 Lakh Compensation Announced for Victims' Families**

A herd of elephants attacked 14 devotees on Monday night while they were on foot to the

Shiva temple in Gundalakona. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed deep shock over the tragic incident and stated that he was personally disturbed by the news. After consulting with forest department officials, he announced financial assistance of ₹10 lakh each for the families of the deceased and ₹5 lakh each for the injured.

Pawan Kalyan also directed officials to ensure the best possible medical care for the injured victims. Additionally, he instructed authorities to implement adequate security measures for devotees visiting temples located in forested areas to prevent such incidents in the future.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu also expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy. He urged local MLAs to visit the families of the deceased and provide them with support. The Chief Minister assured that the government would extend all possible assistance to the affected families. (eom)

## Tulsi Seeds Chairman arranges food for police, Scouts & Guides



TPN Correspondent | Kotappakonda

Tulsi Seeds Chairman Tulsi Ramachandra Prabhu organized breakfast and food facilities for 300 Scouts and Guides personnel and 3,000 police personnel deployed at the Seva Shibi-

ram camp in Kotappakonda for Maha Shivaratri security arrangements. The program, inaugurated by Tulsi Ramachandra Prabhu and Smt. Aruna on February 24, marks the 14th consecutive year of Tulsi Seeds providing food for police per-

sonnel during the annual Kottappakonda Thirunalla.

Speaking on the occasion, Prabhu highlighted the importance of service programs by Bharat Scouts and Guides in fostering patriotism and social responsibility. He emphasized that the commitment of police, Scouts, and Guides in ensuring devotees' safety is invaluable and that their welfare remains a priority. He assured that the food facilities would continue for three days leading up to Maha Shivaratri. Tulsi Seeds Managing Director Yogish Chandra, addressing the Scouts and Guides students, urged them to set ambitious goals and pursue them with determination. He also presented mementos to students from various schools.

The event saw participation from Camp Convener Rambabu, Camp Officer T. Srinivasa Rao, Camp Assistants V.V. Haranath, Sheikh Dawood, S. Anji Reddy, students, and Tulsi Seeds staff.

## VH Meets Pawan Kalyan, Appeals for Kurnool to Be Named After Sanjeevaiah



TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

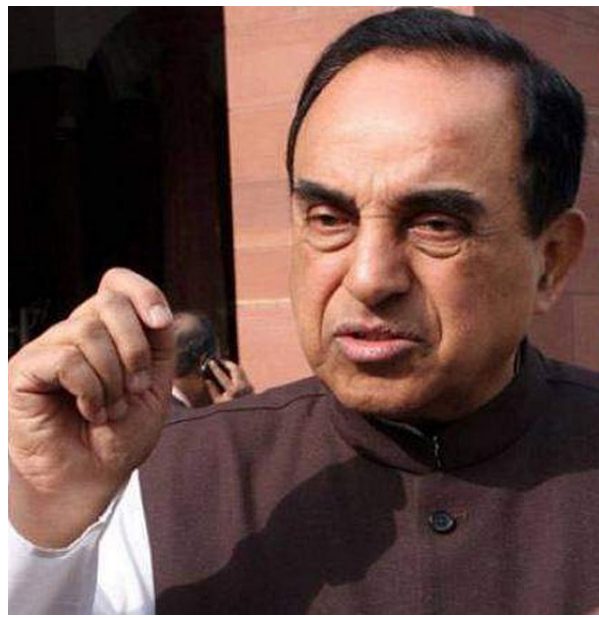
Senior Telangana Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao (VH) met Andhra Pradesh Dep-

uty Chief Minister and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan at his camp office in Mangalagiri, urging him to rename Kurnool district after Damodaram

Sanjeevaiah. During their discussion, VH highlighted Sanjeevaiah's contributions as the former Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh and Union Minister, emphasizing his role in introducing social pensions and securing workers' rights. He also requested the construction of a memorial building in Sanjeevaiah's honor.

Pawan Kalyan assured VH that he would bring the request to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's attention. As a token of respect, Pawan Kalyan honored VH with a shawl and presented a Lord Ganesha statue before reading the petition.

## Subramanian Swamy Moves HC Over Tirupati Deputy Mayor Election



TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy has approached the Andhra Pradesh High Court, alleging irregularities and violence in the recent Tirupati Deputy Mayor election. Known for his legal battles on various national issues, Swamy has filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) questioning the fairness of the election process. He alleged that an atmosphere of fear and violence was created during the election and criticized the authorities for merely registering an FIR without taking further action. Swamy emphasized that his PIL, scheduled for hearing on March 12, aims to bring legal clarity on maintaining law and order during elections. The BJP leader asserted that if the court intervenes and sets a precedent, it could pave the way for new legal frameworks to prevent electoral violence in the future.

## Govt Fears Jagan, Denying Opposition Status: Harsha Kumar

TPN Correspondent | Rajahmundry

Former MP Harsha Kumar has alleged that the Andhra Pradesh government is deliberately denying opposition status to the YSRCP out of fear of Jagan Mohan Reddy. He stated that granting opposition status is the government's decision and questioned why the ruling alliance is resisting it.

Addressing the media in Rajahmundry, Harsha Kumar pointed out that in the past, the BJP was given opposition status in Delhi despite winning just three seats. He argued that the current government's refusal to grant the same to YSRCP, which secured 11 seats, reflects its fear of Jagan.

Meanwhile, YSRCP leaders continue to demand official recognition as the opposition party, while alliance leaders argue that a party with only 11 seats does not qualify.

Harsha Kumar also criticized Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu over the handling of the Group-2 exam controversy. He accused Naidu of deceiving the aspirants and staging a drama by releasing an audio recording related to the exam. He claimed that Group-2 candidates will express their anger against the government in the upcoming MLC elections.

Further, he attacked the Governor's address in the Assembly, calling it a speech filled with lies.



## Jana Sainiks Sai Mani and Mahesh, who have actively coordinated emergency platelet donations



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Megastar Chiranjeevi extended special appreciation to Vasu Oncomore, who donated platelets (SDP) during emergencies, recognizing his dedication to saving lives through Chiranjeevi Charitable Trust (CCT). For 27 years, lakhs of blood donors have contributed to CCT, playing a crucial role in medical emergencies. In a recent event, Chiranjeevi honored those who donated SDP during critical situations, pre-

senting them with mementos for their invaluable service. As part of the program, Vasu Oncomore shared his experiences and spoke about CCT's impact. Additionally, a tribute was paid to Jana Sainiks Sri Mamidala Sai Mani Pradeep and Sri Swarnapuri Mahesh, who have actively coordinated emergency platelet donations, saving hundreds of lives over the past two years. Their swift action in mobilizing donors has been instrumental in critical cases.

Apart from blood donation efforts, Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan has been organizing the 'Dokka Seethamma Gari Annadanam' program every Saturday in Kukatpally for the past five years, providing meals to the needy.

Sai Mani Pradeep and Swarnapuri Mahesh, who are actively supporting the Megastar's blood donation movement while strengthening the Jana Sena Party, expressed their commitment to continuing their service.

**Donate blood! Be a life donor!! Chiranjeevi Eye & Blood Center**



**Tribute to Vasu, a dedicated SDP donor in emergencies**

## Extensive Arrangements for Mahashivratri in Pattisama and Balive

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

Officials have made extensive arrangements for the Mahashivratri celebrations at Pattisama and Balive shrines in Eluru district. Sri Bhadrakali Sametha Sri Veereshwara Swamy Temple, located in the middle of the Godavari River at Pattisama in Polavaram mandal, is set to witness a large influx of devotees. Boats and swimmers have been deployed to ensure safety, as around four lakh devotees are expected to visit the temple.

District Collector K. Vetrivelvi has instructed officials to take all necessary precautions to ensure a hassle-free experience for devotees. The revenue and police departments have been tasked with continuous monitoring at bathing ghats and queue lines. Officials have been directed to send situation reports at regular intervals.

However, devotees are facing severe difficulties in reaching Pattisama port due to traffic restrictions. Vehicles are being stopped at Kannapuram Adda Road and Kovvada Canal Outfall Sluice, forcing devotees to walk four kilometers. Additionally, elderly individuals and children are struggling to cross the three-kilometer stretch of Godavari sand dunes.

Adding to their troubles, the ferry ticket price has been increased by ₹10 on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of this month, bringing the total cost to ₹40. Many devotees



have expressed their displeasure over the increased fare at the Aetikaedu ferry. Furthermore, no shelters or tents have been set up for devotees walking under the sun, causing significant inconvenience. Arrangements in Balive

At Sri Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple in Balive, Musunur mandal, known as Dakshina Kashi, Mahashivratri celebrations will be held for three days until the 27th. Officials estimate that around two lakh devotees will visit the temple.

In anticipation of the rush, Nujiveedu Sub-Collector Smaran, Tehsildar K. Rajakumar (Nodal Officer), Sarpanch Rao Praveena Sudhakar, and EO Pamarthi Seetharamaiah have overseen the arrangements. The construction of a check dam cum high-level bridge and bathing ghats on the Tamilleru River, which began during the previous government's tenure, has now been completed, providing more space for devotees.



## Happy Shivratri

# Life of Lord Shiva is reflection of principles of Santana Dharma

- Santana dharma made a most simple god as supreme God.
- Which emphasis equality there is no caste hierarchy in Sanatana dharma
- Life of lord shivs is shared equally between the divine beings of the Himalayas and the cremators in graveyards.
- A common individual like god is elevated to the status of the supreme deity Layakarakudu.
- In Sanatana Dharma, there is no place for hierarchy or untouchability.



## Tamil vs Hindi: The Unending Tussle Over NEP

The ongoing confrontation between the Tamil Nadu government and the Centre over the National Education Policy (NEP) is poised to dominate the political landscape in the state, especially with the 2026 elections on the horizon. At the heart of this dispute is the Centre's insistence on implementing a three-language policy, which the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) vehemently opposes. While the Centre maintains that there will be no imposition of Hindi, the DMK refuses to back down, citing concerns of linguistic and regional identity.

### The History of Tamil Nadu's Two-Language Policy

The roots of this debate can be traced back to 1968 when the DMK, under the leadership of Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai, adopted the two-language policy. This policy rejected the central government's push for a three-language formula and emphasized Tamil and English as the primary languages of instruction in the state. Over the years, Tamil Nadu has steadfastly defended this policy, viewing the protection of Tamil as crucial to the state's identity.

Dravidian politics in Tamil Nadu has always been closely tied to the protection of Tamil. The strong opposition to Hindi, a symbol of North Indian dominance in the eyes of many in the South, has been one of the most defining features of the political narrative since the state's formation in 1949. The protests against Hindi imposition in the 1950s, culminating in the creation of linguistic states in 1956, set the stage for Tamil Nadu's unique relationship with language politics.

### Language: Still a Defining Issue in Politics?

Given this historical backdrop, the current confrontation over the NEP's three-language policy is not surprising. The policy suggests that any Indian language could be taught as a third language, but the DMK remains suspicious. Its leaders argue that, in practice, Hindi would become the third language in most schools. This suspicion has been heightened by recent comments from Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who stated that the Centre might withhold funds from Tamil Nadu if the state refuses to implement the NEP. The DMK's narrative positions this as an assault on the state's linguistic rights, fueling the party's political stance in the lead-up to the 2026 elections.

### The Three Dimensions of the Debate

The DMK's opposition to the NEP can be understood in three key dimensions. First, it sees the issue as a matter of federalism, arguing that education should remain under the state's control, not the Centre's. Since 1976, education has been placed on the Concurrent List, which allows both the Centre and states to legislate on the matter. The DMK contends that this has led to the gradual introduction of Hindi in Tamil Nadu schools, even though Tamil is the state's official language.

Second, the DMK frames this debate as one of Hindi imposition, alleging that the Centre is pushing Hindi onto non-Hindi speaking regions through its policies. Third, the confrontation is depicted as a broader ideological battle between Dravidian politics and Hindutva, which the DMK claims is being advanced by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its ideological partner, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

### BJP's Caution in Handling the Issue

As the DMK continues to project the NEP debate as a fight for Tamil identity, the BJP and the Centre must tread carefully. Any perceived coercion could bolster the DMK's position, especially with the party's narrative gaining traction in the state. The BJP must avoid turning the issue into a polarizing political battle, as this would only solidify the DMK's stance and alienate regional allies.

At the same time, the question arises whether the linguistic divide in Tamil Nadu still holds the same weight it once did. Can one truly advocate for the protection of Tamil while appreciating the cultural richness of Hindi and other languages? The intellectual discourse on language must evolve, moving away from political confrontations and instead focusing on the idea that the celebration of one language does not diminish the value of another.

As Tamil Nadu continues to grapple with this issue, one thing is clear: the emotional charge surrounding language in the state remains a potent force. Whether the debate will evolve or continue to fuel political campaigns remains to be seen. But one thing is certain—the tussle over the NEP will not die anytime soon.



Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

Lord Shiva embodies simplicity and strength, serving as a profound representation of the principles of Sanatana Dharma, which emphasizes accessibility and equality for all individuals, regardless of their social status or background. Unlike many deities who are often depicted with opulence and grandeur, Lord Shiva is portrayed in a manner that reflects humility and a deep connection to the natural world. He is not adorned with lavish jewels or surrounded by extravagant symbols of wealth; instead, he finds significance in the serene heights of the majestic Himalayas, where he meditates in solitude, as well as in the solemnity of graveyards, where he reminds us of the transient nature of life and the importance of embracing mortality.

This duality in his presence—both in the tranquil mountains and the quiet resting places of the departed—highlights his role as a protector and guide for all beings. Lord Shiva's joy is not found in material possessions but in the purity of devotion and the sincerity of offerings. He is known to accept even the smallest gestures of love and reverence, such as a simple drop of water offered as Prasadam, symbolizing that true devotion comes from the heart rather than from the grandeur of the offering.

Moreover, Lord Shiva's approachability is a testament to his inclusive nature. He welcomes everyone, regardless of their circumstances, and encourages individuals to seek a personal connection with the divine. His appreciation for Vibhuti, the sacred ash made from the remnants of burnt offerings, further emphasizes this principle. Vibhuti, composed of fundamental carbon molecules, serves as a reminder of the interconnectedness of all life and the idea that even the most basic elements of existence can hold profound spiritual significance.

Carbon is vital to life on Earth because it forms the basis of all living things. It's a key component of food, energy, and the Earth's climate.

In essence, Lord Shiva stands as a beacon of simplicity, strength, and equality, inviting all to partake in the spiritual journey without barriers. His teachings encourage individuals to look beyond material wealth and societal divisions, fostering a sense of unity and shared humanity. Through his example, he inspires countless devotees to embrace humility, recognize the divine in everyday life, and find joy in the simplest acts of devotion.



## The Ukraine Peace Talks: A Dangerous Game Played by Trump and Putin

This week, US-Russia peace talks over the fate of Ukraine have begun—but one glaring issue stands out: Ukraine itself has been notably excluded from the discussions. While this omission has rightfully drawn criticism, the underlying problem is far more complex. A peace deal could theoretically be brokered with an intermediary, but only if the talks acknowledge the harsh realities of the situation. The actual obstacles to peace—such as enforcing a ceasefire across a 1,000 km front line—are barely being addressed. What's unfolding is less a serious diplomatic effort and more a chaotic game of chess, where one side doesn't understand the rules, and the other is making them up as it goes along.

Donald Trump, the self-proclaimed "artist of the deal," has confidently declared that he could end the war in a single day. Meanwhile, Vladimir Putin and his inner circle are laughing behind the scenes. Humiliating the United States has long been a goal for the Russian leadership, and now, with Trump's assistance, they are enjoying just that. Pu-



tin is not negotiating in good faith; this is not his style. Whether in Georgia or Donbas, ceasefires have served as strategic traps in the past, and there's no reason to believe this time will be any different. Despite the mounting costs of the war, Putin remains steadfast in his demands: full control over Ukraine, either through annexation or by installing a puppet government. For Russia's conservative elites, Ukraine is seen as vital to Russia's imperial ambitions, while economic oligarchs covet its vast mineral resources and the potential for sanctions relief. Trump, amplifying Kremlin propaganda, helps legitimize the war in

the eyes of ordinary Russians.

While these talks may not result in Putin securing his ultimate goal of Ukraine, they are serving his broader objectives: easing sanctions, humiliating the US, and weakening NATO. With Trump's collaboration, Putin is getting exactly what he wants. The irony here is that Ukraine may not be the biggest loser in this situation. Kyiv has seen a decrease in US military aid, but it has also ramped up its own weapons

production and sought additional support from Europe. Today, Ukraine is in a much stronger position than it was three years ago, and it will continue to fight, with or without Washington's help.

The real casualty in these talks is the United States. Trump is willing to trade the country's global standing for the entertainment of Putin and the confusion of US allies. The world watches as the US president echoes the rhetoric of one of its greatest adversaries. The long-term damage to the US's reputation and to international security may be far greater than Trump realizes.

# Amid global uncertainty, there is certainty of India's economic growth': PM Modi

- Emphasized strong economic growth despite global uncertainties.
- Highlighted reforms attracting global investors.
- Assam's infrastructure and business potential were key points.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

During the inaugural session of the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized India's robust economic growth, even amid global uncertainties. Speaking to a gathering of business leaders and investors, the Prime Minister expressed confidence that despite the current volatile global environment, India's economy continues to garner attention and trust from experts worldwide.

PM Modi acknowledged the challenges posed by global uncertainties but assured that India stands out as a beacon of growth. He emphasized that experts, both domestic and international, continue to have confidence in India's rapid economic progress. Modi pointed to India's growing role in the global economy and highlighted the positive



investment climate the country offers, which has attracted attention from businesses across sectors.

He further noted that India's economic resilience is driven by its reforms, strategic partnerships, and the ability to adapt to changing global dynamics. The Prime Minister remarked that

the country is positioned well to achieve even greater growth, thanks to its vast potential, young workforce, and a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment Summit is a significant platform for promoting investment in Assam and the northeastern region of India. Modi's

speech underscored the government's efforts to create an enabling environment for businesses, showcasing the region's potential for growth in sectors like infrastructure, manufacturing, and services.

The Prime Minister also reiterated that Assam, and the broader northeastern region, offer immense opportunities for businesses, driven by the government's focus on improving infrastructure, connectivity, and local industries. He assured that the government is committed to facilitating ease of doing business and fostering sustainable development in the region.

Modi's address reflects India's growing position on the global economic stage, highlighting its resilience and the increasing confidence of international stakeholders in its future growth prospects.



## Preserve India's Glaciers: Sonam Wangchuk's Open Letter to PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Renowned climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, fresh from his recent tour of the United States, has penned an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling for urgent action to address the rapid melting of glaciers in India. In his letter, Wangchuk stresses the critical need for India to take a leadership role in the global fight to preserve these vital sources of freshwater.

Wangchuk, who gained international attention by carrying a piece of ice from a glacier in Ladakh to highlight the dire situation, warned of the severe consequences of inaction. During a press conference in the national capital, he drew attention to the situation in the Himalayas, which are home to many of India's major rivers. These glaciers, which provide a steady flow of water, are now retreating at an alarming rate due to climate change.

The activist's message to PM Modi was clear: the preservation of these glaciers is vital for the future of millions who depend on the water they provide. Wangchuk pointed out that if immediate steps are not taken to restore these glaciers, India could face a catastrophic water crisis. He suggested that, in the future, the next Maha Kumbh, which occurs every 144 years, may be held on dry land, as the rivers could run dry if the glaciers continue to melt.

Wangchuk's warning highlights the urgency of preserving the Himalayas' glaciers and ensuring that India becomes a global leader in tackling climate change. With rivers that support agriculture, industry, and daily life for millions of people, the survival of these glaciers is crucial for India's environmental and economic stability. Through his letter, Wangchuk calls on PM Modi to take immediate, decisive action to protect these invaluable natural resources before it's too late.



## Sword Over South States: MK Stalin Slams Delimitation, 'Hindi Imposition'

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

The upcoming delimitation exercise, which involves redrawing parliamentary constituencies based on population levels, has become the latest flashpoint in the ongoing tensions between Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK and the BJP-led central government. This exercise is expected to significantly alter the proportion of Lok Sabha MPs from southern states, and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has raised alarms over its potential impact on the state's representation in Parliament.

In a statement on Tuesday, Stalin called for an all-party meeting to discuss the issue, warning that the state's voice in the national legislature could be "crushed." He emphasized that Tamil Nadu, which has been successful in controlling its population growth, could either see minimal gains of only two additional seats or, more dramatically, lose up to eight seats if the centre opts for a redistribution of the 543 existing seats. Under such a scenario, the total number of Lok Sabha seats would increase, with Uttar Pradesh—a BJP stronghold—gaining additional seats, potentially making it easier for the BJP to win in the future.

Critics argue that this change could be skewed in favour of BJP-dominated states like Uttar Pradesh, leaving southern states like Tamil Nadu at a disadvantage. In response, Stalin reiterated that this issue is about Tamil Nadu's rights and asked all political parties to unite in defense of the state's representation.

Simultaneously, the state remains embroiled in a contentious debate over the National Education Policy (NEP) and the three-language policy, which the DMK has strongly criticized as an imposition of Hindi. This issue has sparked a renewed call for a "language war," evoking memories of fierce language riots in the 1930s and 1960s. Stalin's son, Udhayanidhi Stalin, has echoed the call, and the DMK has opposed any move to impose Hindi in Tamil Nadu's schools.

# NSA Ajit Doval Attends An Exhibition On Bangladeshi Minorities' Plight

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) recently organized an exhibition and panel discussion titled "The Never-Ending Persecution of Minorities in Bangladesh," highlighting the systemic discrimination and violence faced by religious and ethnic minorities. The event, held at the VIF Auditorium in Delhi, drew attention with the presence of India's National Security Advisor (NSA), Ajit Doval, KC.

The exhibition, curated by FACT (Foundation Against Continuing Terrorism), presented visual documentation of human rights violations against Hindus, Buddhists, Christians, and Ahmadiyya Muslims in Bangladesh. It showcased forced displacements, attacks, and persecution, emphasizing the increasing challenges these communities face.



The panel discussion, chaired by VIF Director Arvind Gupta, featured distinguished experts including Ambassador Satish Chandra, former Deputy National Security Advisor; Ambassador Veena Sikri, former High Commissioner to Bangladesh; Francois Gautier, correspondent for *Actualités*; and Anirban Ganguly, Chairperson of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation. They provided insights into the historical, socio-political, and international aspects of the crisis, stressing the need for urgent intervention.

NSA Doval attended both the exhibition and panel discussion, reaffirming India's concerns over the situation in Bangladesh. The event underscored India's commitment to advocating for regional security and minority rights while also raising awareness on the escalating threats faced by these communities.

In response to remarks made by India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar regarding anti-India sentiments in Bangladesh, Bangladesh's Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain reaffirmed his country's commitment to maintaining strong bilateral ties based on mutual respect and reciprocal interests.

The VIF event brought global attention to the continuing plight of minorities in Bangladesh, urging policymakers, human rights advocates, and international organizations to take meaningful action.

# No Matter What: Mamata Banerjee's Takedown Of Yogi Adityanath On Kumbh

TPN Correspondent | Kolkata

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who recently came under heavy criticism for her "Mrityu Kumbh" comment, today issued a strong rebuttal, specifically targeting Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his remarks. Banerjee defended herself, stating that her criticism had been "distorted" and turned into "complete lies."

"I will not get blisters from any abuses that Yogi Saheb hurls at me. I respect him as a Chief Minister," Mamata Banerjee said during a press conference. She also expressed concern about the lack of post-mortem certificates and death certificates for those who died in the incident in Uttar Pradesh. "We conducted post-mortems of the bodies that reached here. I don't know what happened in other states. And if you have announced compensation, you should give them the money," she added, referring to the deadly stampede at the Kumbh Mela, which led to at least 30



fatalities and more than 60 injuries.

Banerjee's remarks come after Yogi Adityanath's address in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, where he had sharply criticized critics of the Kumbh Mela. He made a comparison, saying, "Vultures got dead bodies. Pigs got filth... whereas sensitive people got a beautiful picture of relationships, traders got business, devotees got clean arrangements." His comments were met with

applause from the members of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly.

The West Bengal Chief Minister also used the opportunity to highlight her state's handling of large crowds during festivals, drawing parallels to the preparation required for events in Bengal, such as the Gangasagar Mela and Durga Puja. "One should always consider one's capacity. How many can go, how many can stay... preparations that are necessary even for a wedding

feast," she stated, adding that the "hype" surrounding the Kumbh Mela was unnecessary.

Banerjee reiterated that her original remarks had been misrepresented. "What they have been saying are untruths. Complete lies. I have never disrespected any religion in my life and will never do that," she stressed.

The Chief Minister also referred to the tragic fire at a Kolkata hospital and the swift actions of her government in managing the aftermath. "We do not sleep for days. We keep an eye on things. We plan minutely, else the people suffer," she said, emphasizing the need for meticulous planning and quick response in handling such incidents.

Her controversial "Mrityu Kumbh" remark, made in reference to the stampede, had stirred significant backlash from the BJP, particularly as it came at a time when the Opposition had already been critical of the handling of the Kumbh Mela disaster.

# Imran Khan orders PTI members holding govt jobs to relinquish party positions

- Ordered PTI members in government roles to step down.
- Junaid Akbar appointed as PTI's KP president, replacing Ali Amin Gandapur.
- Despite jail, Imran Khan continues to direct PTI's strategy.

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Imran Khan Orders PTI Members in Government Positions to Resign Imran Khan, the jailed founder of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), has directed all party members serving in government positions to step down from their roles. The instructions were communicated through the PTI Secretary General, Salman Akram Raja, earlier this week. This move marks a significant step towards reorganizing the party, particularly in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) region, where party leadership changes have been ongoing.

According to PTI's Secretary General, the decision is aimed at providing Junaid Akbar, the newly appointed president of PTI's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter, the necessary space to restructure the party effectively. The party leader emphasized that this decision would grant Akbar a free hand in managing party affairs in the province,



which has been central to PTI's political operations.

The reshuffling of leadership began last month when Imran Khan made the decision to remove Ali Amin Gandapur, the former Chief Minister of KP, from his position as the provincial president of PTI. In his place, Khan appointed Junaid Akbar,

signaling a shift in the party's leadership dynamics at the provincial level. The move to reorganize PTI comes amid mounting challenges for the party, including internal disputes and external political pressures following Khan's imprisonment.

Imran Khan's instructions highlight his ongoing influence within the party, despite being incarcerated in Adiala jail. His efforts to realign PTI's leadership indicate his determination to maintain control over the party's direction during a turbulent period in Pakistani politics.

The development also sheds light on the strategic focus of the PTI leadership to stabilize and revitalize the party, particularly in regions where it has considerable support. The reshuffling in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reflects Khan's long-term vision for PTI's future political engagements and his attempts to reinforce his party's influence ahead of future elections.

# Donald Trump calls France 'Oldest Ally, Macron stresses shared vision for peace



TPN Correspondent | US

Former US President Donald Trump recently highlighted the deep-rooted historical ties between the United States and France, referring to France as "America's oldest ally." In a statement posted on X, Trump underscored the long-standing diplomatic relationship between the two nations, emphasizing their shared commitment to global peace, freedom, and prosperity. He acknowledged that France's support for the United States during the American Revolution marked the beginning of a cherished partnership that has been a force for good in the world.

Trump's remarks came at a time when global discussions around security, diplomacy, and economic collaboration are prominent. He reaffirmed the strength of the US-France alliance and its importance in addressing key global challenges. Trump's statement was a reminder of the historical significance of the relationship, which spans centuries of cooperation, including during world wars, diplomatic agreements, and economic partnerships.

French President Emmanuel Macron also reaffirmed the enduring bond between the two countries. In a statement, Macron expressed France's ongoing commitment to working with the United States in upholding peace and cooperation on the international stage. He emphasized that both nations share a long-standing dedication to global stability and continue to collaborate on key international issues such as NATO commitments, economic growth, and counterterrorism efforts.

The US-France alliance has its roots in the American Revolution, when France provided critical support to the American colonies. Over the years, this relationship has shaped global policies and reinforced democratic values. The two countries have stood together through wars, diplomatic negotiations, and economic ventures, with military cooperation and trade being central aspects of their partnership.

As the world faces evolving challenges, the US-France alliance remains a cornerstone of both nations' foreign policies. The recent statements from Trump and Macron serve to reinforce the commitment to maintaining a strong, peaceful, and prosperous relationship between the two countries. This partnership continues to be crucial in navigating the complexities of modern global affairs.

# South Korea's Yoon Impeachment Trial Wraps Up: What's Next?



TPN Correspondent | Seoul

The impeachment trial of South Korea's ousted President Yoon Suk Yeol is nearing its conclusion, capping weeks of political upheaval following his controversial declaration of martial law. The Constitutional Court's eight judges will soon decide whether to uphold the December parliamentary vote that removed Yoon from office. The key issue is whether Yoon's martial law declaration violated the constitution, and whether he demonstrated a genuine commitment to upholding it.

Experts predict that a verdict could be delivered by mid-March, with some drawing comparisons to past cases. For instance, former president Roh Moo-hyun was reinstated after a 14-day trial, while Park Geun-hye, removed in 2017, had her verdict in just 11 days. This has led to speculation that Yoon's case could follow a similar timeline.

Legal scholars largely agree that the court will likely uphold the impeachment. Experts argue that Yoon's refusal to cooperate with prosecutors and his handling of martial law make it difficult to justify his commitment to the constitution. Unlike Park's case, which involved multiple corruption issues, Yoon's trial is relatively straightforward, focusing solely on his declaration of martial law.

However, Yoon's legal troubles don't end with the impeachment trial. He faces charges of insurrection for his martial law declaration, with the potential for life imprisonment or even the death penalty if convicted. His criminal trial could stretch on for one to two years, with a possible heavy sentence if he is found guilty.

If Yoon is removed from office, South Korea would be required to hold fresh elections within 60 days. The current frontrunner in the polls is Lee Jae-myung, leader of the opposition Democratic Party. However, analysts caution that the political landscape remains fluid, especially given Lee's own legal challenges, including a suspended prison sentence for election law violations.

# As Trump Eyes Ukraine's Rare Metals, Putin Offers Him Russia's Reserve



TPN Correspondent | Washington, US

The United States and Ukraine are on the verge of finalizing a deal that would grant Washington a share of Kyiv's natural resource revenues, a proposal that has sparked significant tension between US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Trump announced that Zelenskyy might visit the White House soon to sign the agreement, which has been at the center of the rift between the two leaders.

The deal, initially proposed by Ukraine as part of Zelenskyy's "victory plan" in September, aimed to offer business incentives to Trump in exchange for continued US security support. However, the latest draft of the agreement reportedly asks for 50% of Ukraine's mineral revenue without providing the security guarantees Ukraine desperately needs in its fight against Russia. Zelenskyy rejected an earlier draft, fearing the long-term financial burden it would place on future generations. Negotiations

between US and Ukrainian officials have since focused on finding a middle ground.

Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister, Olha Stefanishyna, confirmed that the two sides were in the final stages of discussions, with most key details settled. She emphasized the importance of completing the deal swiftly and hoped that both leaders would sign it soon. Despite more favorable terms for Ukraine in this version, the agreement still lacks the security commitments Kyiv has sought. The White House has made it clear that the deal would not guarantee future military aid or involve US personnel in the region. Meanwhile, Russia has proposed a similar offer to the US, suggesting that American companies could profit from Russia's vast natural resources, including rare earth metals in Russian-occupied Ukraine. President Vladimir Putin highlighted the opportunity for lucrative business in the region, further complicating the dynamics surrounding the natural resource deals in both Ukraine and Russia.

# Canada's New Visa Rules May Become A Nightmare For Indian Students, Workers

TPN Correspondent | Canada

Canada's recent changes to its immigration policies are expected to negatively affect thousands of foreign students, workers, and migrants, particularly from India. These new rules, which took effect in February, grant Canadian border officials broad powers to alter the visa status of students, workers, and migrants at any time, potentially leading to the cancellation of permits, visas, and even residency.

The Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations now give border personnel the authority to deny or cancel temporary resident documents, such as electronic travel authorizations (eTAs) and temporary resident visas (TRVs). This includes work permits and student visas. The new regulations also allow border



officials to cancel permits if they are not convinced that the individual will leave Canada when their autho-

rized stay expires, with the officer making the final judgment on the matter.

These regulations bring a level of uncertainty for tens of thousands of international students and workers in Canada, with Indians forming the largest group in both categories. Currently, over 420,000 Indian students are pursuing higher education in Canada. If a student, worker, or migrant is rejected at the port of entry, they will be sent back to their home country. If their permit is canceled while already in Canada, they will be required to leave by a specified date.

In addition to students and workers, Canada also experiences a significant influx of tourists from India, with more than 360,000 Indians having received travel visas in the first half of 2024 alone. These travelers are also subject to the new temporary permit regulations.



# Indian Stock Markets End Flat Amid Mixed Signals



Domestic stock markets ended flat today, with benchmark indices starting the day with moderate gains before moving in a range-bound manner.

The volatility was primarily due to mixed signals from Asian markets, leading to profit-taking in several sectors. Despite some ups and downs

during the session, market sentiment showed signs of stabilizing, as the India VIX dropped sharply to 13.75%, indicating reduced uncertainty and suggesting that the markets might stabilize in the coming days.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 74,454 in the previous session, opened at 74,440 and reached an intraday low of 74,400. It later climbed to an intraday high of 74,785 before closing at 74,602, marking a gain of 147 points. Meanwhile, the NSE Nifty opened at 22,516 and hit a low of 22,513 and a high of 22,625, ultimately closing at 22,547, down by 5 points. The Nifty Bank index fell 43 points, settling at 48,608.

Among the Nifty50 stocks, 19 companies recorded gains while 31 stocks



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faceted losses. Sectors such as auto, FMCG, and consumer durables performed well, while IT, metal, pharma, PSU bank, realty, and oil and gas stocks saw selling pressure. Airtel, M&M, Bajaj Finance, Nestle India, and Titan emerged as the top gainers. On the other hand, Dr. Reddy's, Hindalco, Trent, Hero MotoCorp, and Sun Pharma were the biggest losers of the day.

Market breadth on the NSE favored sellers, with 1,117 stocks gaining and 1,717 losing. Of the 2,914 stocks traded, 12 companies reached 52-week highs, while 181 stocks touched 52-week lows. In terms of circuit limits, 100 stocks reached their upper circuit, and 86 touched the lower circuit.

Mahindra & Mahindra shares gained

for the second consecutive day, bolstered by bullish ratings from brokerage houses. The rupee weakened by 50 paise against the dollar, settling at 87.20. Bharti Airtel shares saw a recovery after six consecutive days of losses, rising by 3% due to a deal with Ericsson. Jefferies issued a buy rating for Caffeine Technologies with a target price of Rs. 1310, and Motilal Oswal set a target of Rs. 1250 for 360 One.

Other notable movements included a rise in Vijaya Diagnostics' shares by 11%, while metal stocks like Hindalco, Nalco, and Vedanta faced selling pressure. Central Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra received approval to raise funds, while the Adani and Ambani groups each announced investments of Rs. 50,000 crore in Assam, signaling further economic interest in the region.

## India Imports €49 Billion Worth of Russian Oil in Third Year of Ukraine Invasion



India, the world's third-largest oil consumer and importer, purchased crude oil worth 49 billion euros from Russia in the third year of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, according to a recent report by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air. India, which traditionally relied on oil from the Middle East, significantly increased its imports of Russian crude after the invasion in February 2022.

This surge in Russian oil imports can be attributed to the steep discounts on Russian crude, a result of Western sanctions and some European nations halting purchases. As a result, India's imports of Russian oil grew

dramatically, rising from less than 1% of its total oil imports to around 40% in a short span of time.

The report highlights that Russia's dominance in new markets has solidified in the third year of the invasion. The three largest buyers of Russian fossil fuels—China, India, and Turkey—accounted for 74% of Russia's total revenues from fossil fuel exports. Specifically, China bought oil worth €78 billion, India €49 billion, and Turkey €34 billion.

India's imports of Russian oil showed an 8% year-on-year increase, underscoring the contin-

ued reliance on discounted Russian crude. Meanwhile, Russia's total global earnings from fossil fuels in the third year of the invasion reached 242 billion euros, adding to a cumulative total of 847 billion euros since the start of the war.

This trend marks a significant shift in global energy markets, with India emerging as a key buyer of Russian oil amid the ongoing geopolitical conflict. However, the growing reliance on Russian crude continues to raise concerns about the long-term implications for both global energy security and India's foreign policy.

## ICRA Predicts 7-8% Revenue Growth for India Inc in Q4

Domestic rating agency ICRA projected that Indian companies are likely to see a 7-8% revenue growth during the March quarter of the current fiscal year, driven by a revival in rural demand and increased government spending. However, the agency also highlighted that the private capital expenditure (capex) cycle is expected to remain subdued due to geopolitical uncertainties and a relatively weak outlook on merchandise exports from India.

ICRA noted that despite these challenges, certain sectors, particularly those receiving government support through production-linked incentive schemes, will continue to thrive. These include sunrise industries such as electronics, semiconductors, and electric vehicles (EVs), which are set to see increased investments.

The agency further mentioned that the recovery in operating profit margins (OPM) for India Inc. observed in the past quarter is likely to be sustained, with expectations of margins staying between 18.2-18.4%. This growth will be supported by rising demand, bolstered by improved consumer sentiments.



ICRA also emphasized the outlook for rural demand, which is expected to remain robust in the first half of CY2025. This will be supported by strong output from the kharif crops and a favorable forecast for the ongoing rabi season. However, the outlook for agriculture will depend on the arrival of a normal and well-distributed monsoon in 2025.

Urban demand, which has been weak in recent quarters, is anticipated to improve. This recovery will be driven by factors such as the significant income-tax relief in the Union Budget for 2025, monetary easing by the Reserve Bank of India, and expectations of a moderation in food inflation, which would aid discretionary consumption, according to Kinjal Shah, Senior Vice President and Co-Group Head of Corporate Ratings at ICRA.

## Adani Green Energy Secures 1,250 MW Energy Storage Project in UP

Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL), India's largest renewable energy company, has received a Letter of Award (LOA) from Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) for the development of a 1,250 MW energy storage capacity through Pumped Hydro Storage Projects (PSP). This project, named Panaura PSP, will be located in the Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh and is expected to be completed within the next six years. The project will have a minimum commitment period of 40 years, reinforcing AGEL's long-term focus on clean energy infrastructure.

This move is aligned with India's clean energy goals, which emphasize the need for large-scale utility storage projects to integrate renewable energy into the grid and provide consistent,

round-the-clock energy. The storage capacity will help manage the intermittent nature of renewable sources like solar and wind, making the grid more stable and efficient.

In line with this strategic goal, Adani Green Energy is expanding its portfolio to include energy storage solutions alongside its existing solar, wind, and hybrid projects. The company has ambitious plans to add over 5 GW of hydro PSP capacity by 2030. AGEL is already progressing with several pumped hydro storage projects, including a 500 MW project at the Chitravathi River in Andhra Pradesh, a 1,500 MW project at Tarali in Maharashtra, and an 1,800 MW project at Gandikota in Andhra Pradesh.

Hydro pumped storage is a mature,



cost-competitive, and scalable technology with significant potential. It works by using electricity generated from solar during the day to pump water to a higher elevation, which can then be released to generate electricity during peak demand at night. This process is not only sustainable but

also ensures grid stability and flexibility in energy management. Hydro PSPs are also known for their ability to provide frequency regulation and reserve generation, making them a key component of a resilient and robust energy infrastructure.

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) is currently the largest renewable energy company in India, with a portfolio of 11.9 GW of renewable energy projects across 12 states. The company aims to achieve a 50 GW renewable capacity by 2030, in line with India's decarbonization objectives. AGEL is also developing the world's largest renewable energy plant at Khavda, Gujarat, with a target capacity of 30 GW. This project, set to cover 538 square kilometers, is five times larger than Paris.

AGEL is committed to sustainable growth, with its operating portfolio certified as water-positive for plants over 200 MW, single-use plastic-free, and zero waste-to-landfill. These efforts underline the company's dedication to supporting India's clean energy transition.



## Mahindra Scorpio N Carbon Edition Launched to Celebrate 2 Lakh Sales Milestone



Mahindra has achieved a major milestone with the record sale of 2 lakh units of its Scorpio N. To commemorate this achievement, the company has launched the new Scorpio N Carbon Edition, which offers a fresh look and premium features. Here's everything you need to know about the new variant:

### Engine and Performance

The Scorpio N Carbon retains the same engine options as the original Scorpio N: - A 2.0-litre mStallion TGD1 petrol engine that generates 203 HP of power and 370 Nm of torque (manual) and 380 Nm (automatic). - A 2.2-litre mHawk CRDi diesel engine delivering 175 HP and 400 Nm of torque.

### Exterior and Interior Features

-Exterior: The Scorpio N Carbon boasts a stunning metallic black theme complemented by one-on-tone dark treatment, smoked chrome accents, and black alloy wheels. It also gets dark Galvano-fin-

ished roof rails, enhancing its bold, stylish look.

Interior: Inside, the Scorpio N Carbon adopts a sleek blacked-out interior theme with premium upholstery and contrast deco stitching. Additionally, it comes with modern features like:

### Wireless charging

- Auto-dimming IRVM
- Dual-zone climate control
- Ventilated front seats
- 7-inch digital instrument cluster
- 8-inch touchscreen infotainment system
- 12-speaker Sony audio system

### Safety Features

The Scorpio N Carbon includes a comprehensive safety suite with features such as: Tyre pressure monitoring system, ISO Fix child seat anchorages, Hill hold and hill descent control, Driver drowsiness detection, Electronic stability control

Rear parking cameras and front/rear parking sensors

### Variants and Pricing

The Scorpio N Carbon is available in the Z8 and Z8 L variants. The pricing for the model starts at Rs 19,19,400 (ex-showroom), while the top-spec Scorpio N Carbon 4WD AT is priced at Rs 24,89,100.

### Rivals

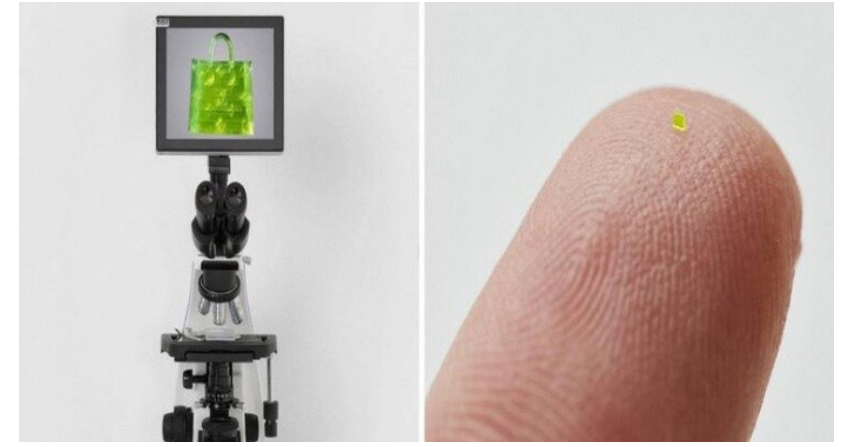
The Scorpio N Carbon goes head-to-head with other SUVs in the segment, including:

Tata Harrier  
Hyundai Alcazar  
MG Hector

Tata Safari

With its striking design, powerful engine options, and premium features, the Scorpio N Carbon is poised to be a strong contender in the competitive SUV market.

## MSCHF Auctions World's Tiniest Handbag, It Needs a Microscope to Be Seen



Fashion enthusiasts who follow high-end brands like Hermes and Jacquemus are no strangers to the trend of miniature handbags. However, one US artist collective, MSCHF, has taken the concept to a whole new level. In a groundbreaking move, MSCHF is auctioning off a bag so tiny that it is barely visible to the naked eye. In fact, the purse is so small, you'll need a microscope to see it clearly.

This neon green handbag, designed to resemble Louis Vuitton's OnTheGo collection, is smaller than a grain of sea salt. The miniature accessory features tiny pockets that are no larger than a speck of dust, rendering it practically invisible without a magnifying lens. To make sure potential buyers can admire the minuscule details, the bag comes with its own microscope.

MSCHF's description of the bag adds to the allure: "Smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle, this is a purse so small you'll need a microscope to see it." The collective

goes on to explain that the bag represents the final frontier of bag miniaturization, with its diminutive size making it more of a brand symbol than a functional object.

The tiny handbag has already created a buzz on social media platforms, attracting attention from fashion lovers and collectors alike. The Instagram post showcasing the handbag has garnered over 78,000 likes and sparked a flurry of comments. Some users expressed amazement at the level of detail, while others joked about the idea of displaying the bag in a magnifying glass cabinet.

One user commented, "Actually incredible. I'd love to see how the absolute tiniest details were done." Another humorously added, "Imagine getting arrested for shoplifting a microscopic purse." With its eye-catching design and surreal size, the microscopic handbag has become a sensation and is expected to fetch a hefty price during the Paris auction, coinciding with the excitement of fashion week.

## Meet 'Protoclone The Synthetic Human That Walks, Moves And Can See Like Us



Clone Robotics, a Poland-based startup, has introduced its latest creation—a humanoid robot that moves with uncanny realism. The robot, named Protoclone, is designed with synthetic muscles beneath a transparent skin, allowing it to mimic human motion in a strikingly lifelike manner. The latest prototype was recently showcased in a chilling video that quickly captured the attention of social media users. In the video, Protoclone is seen hanging from the ceiling, its movements eerily fluid and human-like, resembling a character

straight out of a sci-fi film. The unsettling visuals are paired with haunting background music composed by Ludwig Göransson, which amplifies the robot's uncanny presence. The combination of the robot's realistic motions and the eerie soundtrack left viewers both fascinated and unnerved.

Protoclone's lifelike motion is achieved through a unique technology developed by Clone Robotics. The robot's frame and joints are designed to replicate natural human movement with extraordinary precision. At the core of Protoclone's design is the company's innovative artificial muscle system, Myofiber. Introduced in 2021, Myofiber uses musculotendon units that are strategically attached to anatomically accurate points on the robot's bones. This allows the robot to achieve highly realistic movement, closely resembling the motions of the human body.

The unveiling of Protoclone has sparked conversations about the potential of robots in mimicking human-like motions and their possible applications in various fields, including robotics, healthcare, and entertainment. However, the lifelike appearance of Protoclone also raises questions about the ethical and emotional impact of robots that resemble humans so closely. As technology continues to advance, the line between human and machine is becoming increasingly blurred, leaving society to grapple with both the potential and the unsettling consequences of such developments.

## IIT Madras Creates Concrete To Help Build Homes On The Red Planet



A team from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, led by Dr. Piyush Chaunsali, Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, has made a significant breakthrough in extraterrestrial construction. The team, known as Extraterrestrial Manufacturing (ExTeM), has developed a unique type of concrete specifically designed for use on Mars. What sets this concrete apart is that it does not require water—a major challenge for future Mars colonization.

While studies have suggested that water may exist in small quantities in Mars' crust, no large, accessible sources have been found, making it difficult to plan long-term human settle-

ments. The new water-free concrete developed by ExTeM could be a game-changer in overcoming this limitation. The innovative concrete is strong, durable, and meets Earth's construction standards, thanks to a special compound that is mixed with sulphur—a material readily available on the Martian surface. Adithya Plato Sidharth, a postdoctoral researcher with ExTeM, explained in an interview with India Today that the team used sulphur-based compounds to create concrete that can withstand the harsh Martian environment. "We used a compound mixed with sulphur, which is abundant on Mars, to develop a concrete that matches Earth standards," said Sidharth.

This breakthrough could play a pivotal role in building sustainable infrastructure on Mars, as water-free concrete would eliminate the need for importing water or relying on scarce Martian resources. The development is part of ongoing research aimed at addressing the challenges of establishing human presence on Mars, focusing on utilizing local materials for construction. The innovative concrete is not only a technical achievement but could also pave the way for more efficient, resourceful colonization efforts on the Red Planet, allowing future generations to build habitats and other necessary structures without the constraints posed by the lack of water.

## 'Bahubali' Samosa Challenge, Offers Rs 71,000 For Eating A 12 Kg Samosa In 30 Mins



Chinese influencer Gu Xixi is making waves after revealing that she earned a staggering 3.03 lakh yuan (approximately Rs 35 Lakh) in a single day—all by simply lying in bed. The 25-year-old influencer, who operates a shop on Douyin (the Chinese equivalent of TikTok), shared the details of her impressive earnings between February 8 and 16. Over that period, Xixi raked in a total of 1.039 crore yuan (approximately Rs 12 Crore) on one platform, with a commission of around 27.9 lakh yuan (approximately Rs 3 Crore). On another platform, her sales reached 89.4 lakh yuan within a week. In a recent live stream, Xixi described her earnings as "hard-earned" and revealed an interesting twist—she claimed that

the more people criticize her, the more money she makes. "Today, I spent the entire day lying in bed, did nothing, and still made 11.6 lakh yuan in sales on my Douyin shop, with an estimated commission of 3.03 lakh yuan," she said. "The more you cannot stand seeing me doing well and the more you criticize me, the more I make."

Xixi, who has amassed a large following, made it clear that she doesn't just aim to earn a few hundred thousand yuan monthly. Her goal is far more ambitious: earning that much every single day. "It is not about earning hundreds of thousands of yuan per month; it is about earning hundreds of thousands of yuan per day. Understand?" she added.

Her unorthodox approach to business and success has garnered both admiration and criticism. While some are impressed by her entrepreneurial skills, others argue that such claims perpetuate unrealistic expectations. Regardless, Gu Xixi's rise in the influencer world demonstrates the growing power of social media platforms, where individuals can generate enormous income with innovative approaches.

## Bruised England, Afghanistan Eye Victory To Stay Afloat In Champions Trophy



tournament opener, failing to defend a 350-plus total against an Australian side missing key pacers. Their bowling unit lacked penetration, allowing an under-strength Aussie batting line-up to chase down the target with ease.

Afghanistan, known for their spin prowess, will look to exploit England's weakness against slow bowlers. Rashid Khan, Noor Ahmad, and Mohammad Nabi pose a serious threat, especially with England's batters showing inconsistency against spin in recent outings. England suffered a setback with all-rounder Brydon Carse ruled out due to injury, replaced by leg-spinner Rehan Ahmed to bolster their spin attack. However, their main concerns remain the form of opener Phil Salt and middle-order batter Harry Brook, both struggling for consistency.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan will aim to bounce back from a heavy 107-run loss to South Africa. While they have the talent, their challenge lies in adapting to the demands of the ODI format and executing their plans effectively against a vulnerable English side.

England and Afghanistan will battle for survival in the Champions Trophy as they face off in a crucial Group B match in Lahore on Wednesday. With South Africa and Australia already securing two points each, a defeat here would put the losing side on the brink of elimination.

England, once a dominant force in white-ball cricket, struggled in their

## Vidarbha Eye 3rd Title, Kerala Seek Historic Win in Final

Vidarbha will bank on their dominant form and home advantage as they take on a spirited Kerala in the Ranji Trophy final starting Wednesday. While Vidarbha, two-time champions, are aiming to reclaim the title after five years, Kerala are eyeing their maiden triumph in the prestigious tournament.

Led by Akshay Wadkar, Vidarbha have been the team to beat this season, winning eight of their nine matches and drawing one. They cruised through the knockouts, defeating Tamil Nadu by 198 runs in the quarterfinal and Mumbai by 80 runs in the semifinal. Having lost to Mumbai in last year's final, they are eager to make amends.

Yash Rathod has led their batting with 933 runs, supported by Wadkar, Karun Nair, Danish Malewar, and Dhruv Shorey. On the bowling front, 22-year-old Harsh Dubey has been sensational with 66 wickets, nearing the record for most wickets in a Ranji season.

Kerala, led by Sachin Baby, have shown immense resilience, advancing through the knockouts with thrilling first-innings lead wins over Jammu and Kashmir (by one run) and Gujarat (by two runs). Salman Nizar and Mohammed Azharuddeen have been Kerala's batting pillars, with Azharuddeen's 177 in



the semifinal standing out. Jalaj Saxena leads Kerala's bowling with 38 wickets, while former Vidarbha player Aditya Sarwate has taken 30 wickets, adding depth to their attack. With Vidarbha's experience and Kerala's fighting spirit, the final promises an intense battle for the coveted title.

## FIH Hockey Pro League Sam Ward's brace powers England to 3-2 win over India



England edged past India with a thrilling 3-2 victory in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2024/25 at the Kalinga Stadium on Monday, thanks to a brilliant brace from Sam Ward.

England struck first through James Payton (15'), but India responded quickly with an equalizer from Abhishek (18'). However, Ward took charge, netting twice

(19', 28') to put England ahead 3-1. Sukhjeet Singh (39') pulled one back for India, but England's resolute defense, led by goalkeeper James Mazarelo, denied them a late equalizer.

Despite India's relentless pressure in the final quarter and a last-minute penalty corner, England held firm to seal the victory.

## Rachin Ravindra's century powers New Zealand into CT semis

Rachin Ravindra anchored New Zealand's chase with a brilliant century, guiding his team to a five-wicket victory over Bangladesh and securing a spot in the Champions Trophy semifinals. The win also confirmed India's progression while eliminating hosts Pakistan and Bangladesh from the tournament.

Chasing 237, New Zealand suffered an early setback, losing Will Young and Kane Williamson for just 15 runs. However, Ravindra steadied the innings with a crucial 112 off 105 balls, hitting 12 fours and a six. His 129-run stand with Tom Latham (55 off 76 balls) ensured the Black Caps completed the chase in 46.1 overs.

Earlier, Michael Bracewell was instrumental in restricting Bangladesh to 236/9, claiming 4/26 in 10 overs. Captain Najmul Hossain Shanto top-scored for Bangladesh with 77, but a slow middle-order



and 86 dot balls in the first 21 overs hurt their total.

Despite some early breakthroughs by Taskin Ahmed and Nahid Rana, Bangladesh couldn't prevent New Zealand's controlled chase. The result sees New Zealand and India advance to the semifinals, while Pakistan and Bangladesh bow out of the competition.

## Sophie Ecclestone shines as UP Warriorz beat RCB in WPL's first-ever Super Over

In a thrilling contest, UP Warriorz edged past Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the first-ever Super Over of the Women's Premier League (WPL) on Monday, thanks to a stunning all-round performance by Sophie Ecclestone.

RCB, after being sent to bat, posted a strong 180/6, driven by Ellyse Perry's unbeaten 90 off 56 balls and Danni Wyatt-Hodge's 57. Ecclestone, despite going wicketless with figures of 4-0-29-0, made a crucial impact with the bat, scoring 33 off 19 balls to take the match into the Super Over.

A dramatic finish UP Warriorz, chasing 181, lost wickets at regular intervals. Kiran Navgire (24) and Dinesh Vrida (14) gave them a promising start, but RCB's bowlers kept striking back. Deepti Sharma (25 off 13) and Shweta Sehrawat (31 off 25) kept UP's hopes alive, but Perry and Sneha Rana (3/27) ensured the

game went down to the wire. Needing 18 off the last over, Ecclestone smashed Renuka Singh for two sixes and a four, leveling the scores before getting run out on the penultimate ball. UP Warriorz were bowled out for 180, pushing the match into a Super Over.

Super Over showdown UP Warriorz managed just eight runs in the Super Over, bowled by Kim Garth. With RCB needing nine to win, Ecclestone stepped up with the ball, conceding only four runs to seal a historic win for UP Warriorz.



## Praggnanadhaa Hot Favourite To Win Prague Masters



Fresh off his thrilling victory at the Tata Steel Masters, Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa is the hot favorite to win the Prague Masters, starting Wednesday. The Indian prodigy, who recently edged out World Champion D Gukesh in a tiebreak battle, aims to continue his strong form in this nine-round all-play-all event.

Chinese GM Wei Yi leads the seedings, with Praggnanandhaa second, followed by Vietnam's Le Quang Liem and Germany's Vincent Keymer. Making his debut in elite chess, Aravindh Chithambaram is seeded fourth,

thanks to his consistent rise in ratings, currently standing at 2730 in live ratings.

Other top players include Dutch GM Anish Giri, Czech veteran David Navara, and American GM Sam Shankland. According to statistical analysis, Praggnanandhaa holds a 14.98% chance of winning, ahead of Wei Yi at 10.52%.

Meanwhile, Divya Deshmukh will compete in the Challengers' section, adding to India's strong presence. The tournament kicks off Wednesday after the drawing of lots on Tuesday.

## IOA sets up Adhoc Committee to handle BFI, conduct elections

With the tenure of the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) office-bearers ending on February 2 and elections delayed due to legal disputes, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has constituted a five-member Adhoc Committee to manage its affairs and oversee the election process.

The committee includes senior boxer Shiva Thapa, along with administrators Madhukant Pathak, Rajesh Bhandari, Dr. D.P. Bhatt, and Virendra Singh Thakur. The panel has been tasked with addressing grievances with-

in the boxing community, ensuring athlete participation in international events, and expediting the BFI elections.

IOA President PT Usha stated that the delay in elections had created administrative instability, prompting numerous complaints from athletes and officials. She emphasized that the committee would operate independently, maintain transparency, and ensure due process in conducting the elections. The order has come into immediate effect.





## Kalyan's Inner Circle Actively Planning Akira's Debut



Speculation surrounding Akira Nandan's film debut continues to gain traction, especially with his frequent public appearances alongside his father, Pawan Kalyan. However, reports suggest that fans may have to wait a little longer before witnessing Akira's transformation into "Junior Powerstar."

Sources indicate that Pawan Kalyan's close associates, including Trivikram Srinivas, producer Naga Vamsi, and art director Anand Sai, are actively involved in planning Akira's debut. Interestingly, Pawan himself is reportedly the driving force behind these discussions and has influenced Akira's mindset regarding a career in cinema. Until recently, Akira was often seen with his mother,

Renu Desai, and had shown interest in pursuing a career in music. He had even enrolled in formal training for the same. However, his focus has now shifted toward acting, leading to intense preparation, including acting training under renowned coach Vizag Satyanand, with future plans for martial arts and dance. With uncertainty surrounding Pawan Kalyan's film commitments post-OG, Hari Hara Veera Mallu, and Ustaad Bhagat Singh, the actor-politician is said to be prioritizing his son's launch before shifting his full focus to politics ahead of the general elections. If all goes as planned, top production houses are expected to compete for Akira's grand debut. The film's release, with anticipation building over this

## Aadar Jain and Alekha Advani's Wedding Kareena, Ranbir, and Alia's Heartfelt Moments Captured



Aadar Jain and Alekha Advani's fairytale wedding continues to make headlines, with new pictures from their intimate ceremony surfacing online. The couple, who tied the knot in a Christian ceremony on February 21, 2025, in Goa, has been sharing glimpses of their celebrations on social media.

In the latest set of pictures, Aadar is seen posing with Kareena Kapoor, Karisma Kapoor, and Saif Ali Khan, along with his parents, Reema Jain and Manoj Jain. Another snapshot captures Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, and Neetu Kapoor, while Riddhima Kapoor Sahni and

Kareena are also seen sharing a special moment with the newlyweds. Aadar and Alekha, who began dating in 2023, got engaged in September last year, followed by a roka ceremony in November. Before Alekha, Aadar was in a relationship with actress Tara Sutaria, but the two eventually parted ways.

Aadar Jain, the son of Raj Kapoor's daughter Rima Jain, made his Bollywood debut with Qaidi Band in 2017 and was last seen in Hello Charlie (2021). Meanwhile, Alekha Advani is the founder of the wellness brand Way Well.



## 97th Academy Awards Star-Studded Performances and A-List Presenters Set the Stage

The 97th Academy Awards are gearing up for a dazzling night filled with electrifying performances and Hollywood's biggest stars gracing the stage. The Oscars, set to take place on March 2, 2025, will be hosted by comedian Conan O'Brien and broadcast live on ABC and Hulu.

Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo, stars of the Wicked film adaptation, will bring a touch of Oz to the ceremony with a special live performance. Global K-pop icon Lisa, from Blackpink and The White Lotus, is also set to perform, along with rap sensation Doja Cat, legendary actress-musician Queen

Latifah, and rising star Raye. Adding to the spectacle, the Los Angeles Master Chorale will deliver a grand musical segment.

This year's Oscars will take a unique approach by forgoing live performances of Best Original Song nominees. Instead, viewers will be treated to behind-the-scenes insights into the songwriting process, offering a deeper look at the creative minds behind the music.

An impressive lineup of presenters is also set to take the stage. Last year's acting winners—Cillian Murphy, Emma Stone, Robert Downey Jr., and Da'Vine Joy Randolph—

will return to present awards, joined by a star-studded roster that includes Joe Alwyn, Ana de Armas, Halle Berry, Penélope Cruz, Willem Dafoe, Lily-Rose Depp, Elle Fanning, Whoopi Goldberg, Selena Gomez, Goldie Hawn, Scarlett Johansson, John Lithgow, Connie Nielsen, Amy Poehler, June Squibb, Ben Stiller, Oprah Winfrey, and Bowen Yang.

With an exciting mix of performances, tributes, and Hollywood's biggest names, the 97th Academy Awards promise an unforgettable night celebrating cinema at its finest.

## Yami Gautam in Talks for Multiple Projects Across Genres



Bollywood actress Yami Gautam, who is currently basking in the success of Dhoom Dhaam on Netflix, is reportedly in discussions for multiple upcoming projects spanning various genres.

A source close to the actress revealed that Yami's growing success has made her a preferred choice for filmmakers, as she continues to deliver powerful performances. "She has been very selective about her projects, ensuring strong scripts and compelling narratives. Currently, she is in talks for more than four films, all of which showcase her versatility," the source said.

Following the success of OMG 2 (2023), Article 370 (2024), and now Dhoom Dhaam (2025), Yami has solidified her reputation as a bankable star. Her performances in Bala (2019), Lost (2022), and A Thursday (2022) were widely praised, with critics lauding her ability to carry female-centric and socially relevant films.

Dhoom Dhaam, directed by Rishab Seth and produced by Aditya Dhar, was released on Netflix on February 14, 2025, and has been receiving positive feedback. As she gears up for her next ventures, fans can expect Yami to take on diverse and impactful roles once again.

## NTR Begins Promotions for Devara's Japanese Release

After the massive success of RRR in Japan, Jr NTR is now gearing up to expand his stardom further with the Japanese release of Devara Part 1. The film is set to hit Japanese screens on March 28, 2025, and ahead of its release, NTR has already begun promotions. The actor, who gained significant popularity among Japanese audiences after RRR became the highest-grossing Indian film in Japan—surpassing Rajinikanth's Muthu—is currently giving interviews to Japanese media. He is also scheduled to visit Japan on March 22 to actively promote the film.

Directed by Koratala Siva, Devara features Janhvi Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan in key roles. The film, which was originally released on September 27, 2024, turned out to be a major box office success. Fans are eager to see if it can recreate the same magic in Japan.

On the work front, Jr NTR has a busy lineup with War 2, NTRNeel, and Devara 2. While War 2 is expected to release later this year, NTRNeel recently went on floors. The actor is likely to start Devara



2 after wrapping up his current commitments.

## SC Grants Relief to Dil Raju in Mr. Perfect Copyright Case



Producer Dil Raju has received relief from the Supreme Court in the copyright case filed against his 2011 film Mr. Perfect. The apex court has put a stay on the City Civil Court's order, which had directed action against him over alleged copyright infringement.

The case was initially filed in 2017 by writer Mummudi Syamala Devi, who accused Dil Raju of copying the storyline of her novel Naa Manasu Ninnu Kore. Following her complaint, the Madhapur Police registered a copyright case against the producer. After hearing arguments and examining the evidence, the City Civil Court had

ruled in favor of the writer and ordered action against Dil Raju.

Challenging this decision, Dil Raju approached the Supreme Court seeking a stay on the lower court's order. On Monday, a bench comprising Justice JB Paridwala and Justice R Mahadevan took up the case and, after hearing the arguments, stayed the City Civil Court's orders. The next hearing has been scheduled for two weeks later.

Mr. Perfect, directed by Dasarath, starred Prabhas, Kajal Aggarwal, and Taapsee Pannu in lead roles, with music composed by Devi Sri Prasad.