



Weather Forecast

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

MINISTER PONGULETI CORNERED BY OWN PARTY MLA



Anirudh Reddy questions action against Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy.

Newly elected MLA Anirudh Reddy forms a group with 13 MLAs.

Congress leaders engage in talks with Anirudh Reddy.



TPN | Ch. Suraj Reddy Hyderabad, Feb 03

The political landscape in Jadcharla is heating up as newly elected MLA Anirudh Reddy, a disciple of Minister Komatireddy Venkata Reddy, has begun to challenge the status quo. Anirudh, a young industrialist, is quickly becoming a significant figure in local politics. He has already formed a political faction of about 13 MLAs, mostly from the influential Reddy community, positioning himself as a rising force.

Reddy's actions have caught the attention of his party leaders, particularly over his stance on Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, a senior leader in the region. Anirudh has openly questioned party

leadership on what actions they plan to take against Ponguleti, who he referred to as the "Thirty Percent Minister," hinting at allegations of corruption. He demanded that the party take concrete steps and summoned Ponguleti to face inquiry over these accusations.

This political rift between Anirudh and Ponguleti is seen as significant, especially since KCR (Chief Minister of Telangana) had already recognized potential issues with Ponguleti's activities, leading him to be expelled from the party. Anirudh's push for action against the minister signals a further sharpening of his political edge as he tries to position himself as a reformer within the party, aligning with the

ongoing changes in the political environment.

This challenge has not gone unnoticed. Congress leaders are now actively engaging with Anirudh Reddy, seeking clarity on his stance and the political direction he might take. The power dynamics within the region are shifting, and all eyes are on how these political confrontations unfold in the coming weeks.

Anirudh's calls for transparency and accountability in leadership may very well shape the future of Congress politics in the region, with both political observers and party loyalists waiting for the next move in this growing political heat.

BCs Largest Population Group in Telangana at 46.25%

- BCs form 46.25% of Telangana's 3.70 crore population.
- Survey covered 96.9% of total households in the state.
- SCs constitute 17.43%, STs 10.45%, and Muslim BCs 10.08%.
- Report to be presented in Cabinet, discussed in Assembly on Feb 4.
- Minister Uttam calls it a historic step for data-driven welfare policies.



TPN Correspondent Telangana, Feb 03

Backward Classes (BCs) constitute the largest segment of Telangana's 3.70 crore population, accounting for 46.25%, according to the caste survey conducted by the State Planning Department. The survey report was submitted to the Cabinet Sub-Committee, headed by Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, on Sunday.

The survey data reveals that the BC population is followed by Scheduled Castes (SCs) at 17.43%, Scheduled Tribes (STs) at 10.45%, Backward Classes among Muslims at 10.08%, and Other Castes (OCs) at 13.31%. Additionally, OCs among Muslims make up 2.48% of the population, bringing the total Muslim percentage in the state to 12.56%. In absolute numbers, the SC population stands at 61,84,319, STs at 37,05,929, BCs other than Muslim minorities at 1,64,09,179, and BCs among Muslim minorities at 35,76,588. The total Muslim (OC) population is 8,80,424.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that the survey report would be presented before the State Cabinet on February 4 and discussed in a special session of the Legislative Assembly the same day. He emphasized that the comprehensive socio-economic, employment, and caste survey, conducted over 50 days from November 6, 2024, fulfills an electoral promise made by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

The survey covered 3,54,77,554 individuals, accounting for 96.9% of Telangana's total population. The remaining 3.1%—around 16 lakh people—were either unavailable or did not participate. Uttam Kumar Reddy described the survey as a landmark step in the state's history, enabling data-driven policymaking to support marginalized sections. He added that the findings would help provide targeted welfare initiatives to the "poorest of the poor and weakest of the weak" in the state.

MLC Kavitha demands 42% reservation for BCs in local bodies



- Kavitha pushes for 42% BC reservation in local body elections
- BC organisations strategize next steps with Telangana Jagruthi
- Meeting held ahead of caste census report submission to Cabinet
- pledge to fight for BCs' political representation

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 03

Leaders of BC organisations and Telangana Jagruthi met at the residence of BRS MLC K Kavitha on Sunday to discuss the future course of action for ensuring 42% reservations for Backward Classes in local body elections in Telangana.

The meeting was held in the backdrop of the Cabinet

Sub-Committee preparing to submit the caste census report for approval. Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy had earlier stated that the BC population in Telangana stands at 46.25%, and the survey was conducted to ensure social justice. The discussions focused on the extent to which BC reservations could be increased in upcoming local body elections.

Kavitha, who recently led a protest at Indira Park under the Telangana Jagruthi banner, reiterated the demand for at least 42% reservations for BCs. The leaders at the meeting emphasized their commitment to securing adequate representation and vowed to continue their efforts until their demands are met.

Mallanna Opposes Congress' MLC Pick, Demands 42% BC Quota

TPN Correspondent Warangal, Feb 03

Congress MLC Teenmaar Mallanna has openly opposed the party high command's decision to field Narender Reddy for the Karimnagar-Nizamabad-Adilabad MLC seat. Speaking at the BC Rajakeeya Yudhabheri public meeting on Sunday, he challenged Reddy community leaders to secure victory for Narender Reddy without BC votes.



Mallanna insisted that the Congress must fulfill its promise of implementing 42% reservations for BCs. He also demanded the cancellation of the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) quota, warning that failure to do so could lead to a larger political backlash.

Congress MLC Teenmaar Mallanna has strongly opposed the party high command's decision to field Narender Reddy for the Karimnagar-Nizamabad-Adilabad MLC seat, challenging Reddy community leaders to secure his victory without BC votes. Speaking at the BC Rajakeeya Yudhabheri public meeting on Sunday, he demand-

ed the implementation of 42% BC reservation as promised by the Congress and called for the scrapping of the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) quota. Questioning the government's stance, Mallanna warned that failure to act on these demands could lead to a larger political backlash.

The meeting, organized by BCJAC, saw participation from BC leaders across party lines, including BJP Rajya Sabha MP R Krishnaiah. Mallanna's strong remarks have intensified the debate within the Congress over its stance on BC representation.

Another MBBS Doctor Found Dead in RG Kar Quarters

No suicide note, police suspect depression.

Mother discovered body after unanswered calls.

Case registered, post-mortem underway.

Incident revives RG Kar scrutiny.



TPN Correspondent | Kolkata

A 20-year-old medical student at RG Kar Medical College in Kolkata was found hanging in her hospital quarters on Friday, in what police suspect to be a case of suicide linked to depression. The tragic incident has sparked concerns over mental health issues among medical students, especially amid mounting academic and professional pressures.

The deceased, identified as Ivy Prasad, was a second-year MBBS student residing in the Kamarhati ESI Hospital quarters. Her mother, who is also a doctor, had repeatedly attempted to

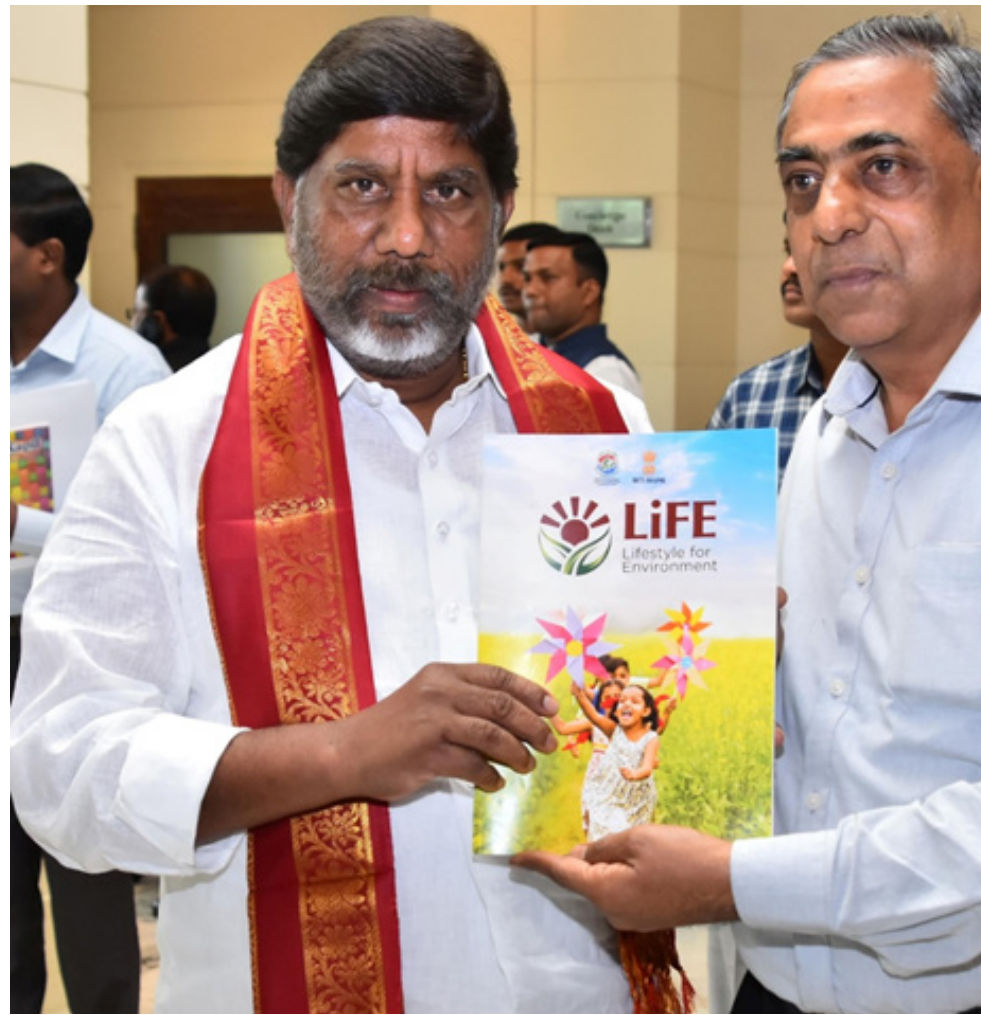
Telangana strengthens green energy commitment with Mission LIFFE initiative

- **Telangana collaborates with BEE, EESL, and TERI for energy efficiency**
- **Mission LIFFE to drive renewable energy and water management initiatives**
- **Telangana Clean and Green Energy Policy 2025 targets 40,000 MW RE by 2035**
- **State plans to add 12,000 EV charging stations by 2035**
- **Energy efficiency efforts expected to save 20-25% of power consumption**

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

The Telangana government has taken a significant step towards energy efficiency and climate action by collaborating with national institutions such as the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). This partnership aims to drive energy efficiency (EE) programs, including Mission LIFFE, setting new benchmarks in sustainability. Mission LIFFE, focusing on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and water management, is designed to boost economic growth, ensure energy security, and improve citizens' quality of life. As part of this initiative, Telangana has supported an MoU to establish a world-class Centre of Excellence in Energy Transition (COET) in Hyderabad. Led by BEE in partnership with

TERI, this landmark initiative aims to combat climate change while promoting economic development through enhanced energy efficiency. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, while receiving a special report on Mission LIFE from A. Chandra Sekhara Reddy, Media Adviser (Southern States/UTs) BEE MOP, and supported by V. Aneela, MD & VC of TGREDCO, stressed the importance of public participation in energy and water conservation. "The Telangana government is fully committed to environmental protection, green energy, and a sustainable economy. Collaborating with national organizations like BEE, EESL, and the Ministries of Power and Environment will enhance energy efficiency—a key element in the fight against climate change," he said. With Telangana's industrial growth and economic activity on the rise, the state's peak power demand is projected to double from 15,623 MW in FY 2024 to 31,809 MW by FY 2035, according to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Energy consumption is expected to increase from 85,644 MU in FY 2024 to 1,50,040 MU by FY 2035. To meet this growing demand, the Telangana Clean and Green Energy Policy 2025 has been introduced, targeting an increase of 20,000 MW in renewable energy capacity by 2030 and 40,000 MW by 2035. The policy, set to be in effect for ten years, ensures a 24/7 high-quality power supply, aligning with international standards while achieving 100% energy security for consumers. Additionally,



Deputy Chief Minister Shri. Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka is releasing a copy of Mission LIFE presented by A. Chandra Sekhara Reddy.

Media Adviser Southern States/UTs BEE MOP GOI in Hyderabad.

the state aims to expand its electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure by adding 12,000 EV charging stations by 2035.

Energy efficiency measures are expected to save over 20-25% of energy consumption while maintaining a high-quality power supply. The

Deputy CM appealed to all 1.89 crore power consumers to actively support the government's energy conservation movement, making Telangana a role model for the country. He also praised the efforts of Principal Secretary for Energy Sandeep Kumar Sultania and his team for their dedicated work in promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency. Chandra Sekhara Reddy, Media Adviser and Nodal Officer for Mission LIFE on behalf of BEE, highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks at COP26 in Glasgow, emphasizing that Mission LIFE democratizes climate action by enabling individuals to contribute within their capacities. The mission aims to mobilize one billion individuals globally by 2028, with a focus on making 80% of villages and urban areas in India adopt environmentally friendly practices. Mission LIFE outlines 75 simple, eco-friendly actions, including the use of LED bulbs, public transport, bicycles for short commutes, CNG/EV vehicles, carpooling, and solar energy solutions. By embracing these sustainable practices, state governments can pave the way for a greener and more prosperous future. VC & MD of TGREDCO, V. Aneela, emphasized the impact of state and BEE programs, including the Energy Conservation Building Code, Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme, and Demand Side Management, which are key to achieving Telangana's ambitious energy efficiency and sustainability goals.

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Another MBBS Doctor Found Dead in RG Kar Quarters



contact her on Friday night but received no response. Growing increasingly anxious, she rushed to the hospital quarters, only to find the door locked from the inside. "Despite multiple calls, she did not respond, which raised suspicion. When her mother reached the quarters and found the door locked, she forcibly broke it open, only to find her daughter hanging from the ceiling," a senior official from the Barrackpore Commissionerate stated. Prasad was immediately rushed to the hospital, but doctors declared her dead on arrival. Police officials investigating the case confirmed that no suicide note was found at the scene. However, preliminary findings suggest she may have been battling depression. The authorities have registered a case of 'unnatural death' and launched an investigation into the circumstances leading to her demise. Her body has been sent for post-mortem examination at the College of Medicine and Sagore Dutta Hospital, and further details will emerge based on forensic findings. **RG Kar Medical College Under Scrutiny Again** The tragic death of Ivy Prasad comes at a time when RG Kar Medical College is already under scrutiny due to a series of alarming incidents. The institution made headlines in 2024 following the brutal rape and murder of a

trainee doctor, a case that shook the medical fraternity and raised serious concerns about campus safety. On January 20, 2025, a Sealdah Civil and Criminal Court convicted Sanjoy Roy for the crime and sentenced him to life imprisonment. However, the verdict has been met with mixed reactions, with many doctors and medical professionals demanding a harsher punishment, including the death penalty. Several activists and colleagues of the victim continue to push for a re-investigation, alleging that multiple perpetrators may have been involved and that some suspects have escaped justice. The recent death of Ivy Prasad has further intensified concerns over student well-being and safety within the institution. The case highlights the immense pressure medical students endure, often leading to mental health struggles that remain unaddressed. Authorities are now being urged to take proactive measures to support students and provide adequate mental health resources to prevent such tragedies in the future. As the investigation into Ivy Prasad's death continues, police officials are expected to question her family, friends, and colleagues to determine any underlying factors that may have contributed to her suspected suicide. The findings of the post-mortem examination will play a crucial role in shaping the course of the probe.

A Historic Budget Favoring the Middle Class and Farmers - Bandi Sanjay

- Tax exemption for employees earning up to ₹12 lakh is a revolutionary step.
- Budget provides relief to the poor, middle class, farmers, small traders, and young entrepreneurs.
- 50 lakh farmers in Telangana can access ₹5 lakh loans through Kisan Credit Cards.



TPN Correspondent
Telangana, Feb 03

BJP National General Secretary Bandi Sanjay Kumar praised the Union Budget, calling it the most favorable budget for the middle class, farmers, and small traders in 75 years. He highlighted the tax exemption for employees earning up to ₹12 lakh, describing it as a historic and

revolutionary decision that will ease the financial burden on the middle class. Bandi Sanjay emphasized that the

budget prioritizes economic growth and social welfare, providing significant relief to small businesses, young entrepreneurs, and the agricultural sector. He pointed out that nearly 50 lakh farmers in Telangana now have the opportunity to secure loans of up to ₹5 lakh through Kisan Credit Cards, helping them invest in better farming practices and improve productivity. He further stated that the budget reflects the pro-people governance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ensuring that key economic reforms directly benefit the common man. Bandi Sanjay urged the people of Telangana to utilize these benefits and strengthen their financial stability.

KCR's Leadership is Sri Rama's Protection for Telangana, Says Sabitha Indra Reddy

TPN Correspondent
Maheshwaram, Feb 03

Former Minister and Maheshwaram MLA Sabitha Indra Reddy has stated that the leadership of former CM and BRS leader K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) is like Sri Rama's protection for Telangana. She made these remarks while welcoming BJP leader Gaudicharla Venkatesh and his followers into the BRS party at a meeting held in Janwada village, Shankarpalli mandal. The event saw a grand reception for Sabitha Reddy, with bonas, kolatas, drum performances, and firecrackers. A huge crane was used to pay floral tributes to late leader Indra Reddy, highlighting his legacy. Speaking at the event, Sabitha Indra Reddy expressed confidence that the BRS will return to power in the next elec-



tion, stating that the pink flag will fly high again. She criticized the Congress-led government, claiming it has failed to outline a clear agenda for the people. She pointed out that despite three rounds of applications, beneficiaries are yet to receive any financial aid. She also slammed the Congress for failing to waive farm loans, contrasting it with KCR's governance, where farmers received direct financial support even during minor rainfall. She credited KCR's leadership for initiatives like Mission Bhagiratha, 24-hour electricity, road infrastructure, Gurukuls, and modern school buildings. Sabitha Indra Reddy urged BRS supporters to work diligently to ensure BRS victories in the upcoming local body elections.



MLA Anirudh Reddy Alleges Corruption in Revenue Department

Criticism of Minister Ponguleti Sparks Controversy

Denies Secret Meeting, Defends MLA Gathering

Plans to Meet Party Leadership with Evidence

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Jadcharla Congress MLA Anirudh Reddy has made sensational allegations against his own government, claiming that an officer demanded a bribe of Rs. 1 lakh to process an official matter. Speaking in a YouTube interview, Reddy criticized the rampant corruption within the Revenue Department and emphasized the need to question the system on behalf of the people.

His remarks have triggered political tensions, particularly with Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, who also serves as the District Minister. Anirudh Reddy accused Ponguleti of neglecting the concerns of his constituency, stating that people are suffering due to the Minister's alleged inaction. Meanwhile, reports surfaced about a secret meeting involving ten Congress MLAs at Anirudh Reddy's residence, sparking speculations of internal dissent within the party. Political circles are abuzz with discussions that Ponguleti Srinivas



Reddy might have played a role in orchestrating the meeting.

**'We Met, But Not in Secret':
MLA Anirudh Reddy**

Responding to reports of a covert meeting, Anirudh Reddy clarified that while the MLAs did gather, it was not a secret meeting. Speaking to the media on Sunday, he confirmed, "It is true that we met, but it was for discussing development in our constituencies. There was nothing secret

about it."

He also addressed allegations regarding official files, stating, "I have not submitted any file to the Revenue Minister. If any such claims exist, Nagarkurnool MP Mallu Ravi should clarify which file it was."

Reddy further hinted at dissatisfaction among Congress MLAs over fund allocations, stating that some legislators feel they are being treated unfairly. He asserted that he would discuss these issues with the state party in-charge, Deepa Das Munshi, and present all evidence regarding his claims. "If my character is misrepresented, I will not remain silent. I will speak to senior leaders with all the necessary proof," he added.

Amidst these developments, some ruling party MLAs have expressed displeasure over Reddy's statements, indicating growing internal tensions within the Telangana Congress. Political analysts suggest that this controversy could impact party dynamics and governance in the state

MLC Kavitha Questions Centre Over Delay in Census



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has questioned the central government over the delay in conducting the census. She emphasized that the census is crucial for inclusive development and demanded clarity on when it will be held again.

Expressing her frustration, Kavitha accused the Centre of neglecting the issue. "How is progress possible without a census? Without accurate data, how can we assess

the country's social and economic conditions?" she asked. She argued that the absence of a census hinders effective policymaking and growth.

Kavitha stressed that a census is essential for shaping progressive policies that address the needs of different sections of society. She demanded that the central government make an official statement on the matter and take immediate steps to conduct the long-overdue census.

V. Hanumantha Rao Slams Union Budget

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao has criticized the Union Budget, accusing the Centre of favoring NDA-ruled states while neglecting Telangana. Speaking in Delhi, he stated that none of the promises made during the state's bifurcation have been fulfilled.

Rao pointed out that despite repeated requests, no funds were allocated for the Musi River cleansing project. He accused the Centre of showing bias against opposition-ruled states while funding projects like Polavaram, Amaravati, and the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh.

Referring to a claim that mentioning Indiramma's name prevents housing scheme approvals, Rao dismissed it as politically motivated.



ed. "This discrimination has been ongoing for years. Politics should end after elections, and all states should be treated equally," he said.

He further criticized the BJP-led government, stating that during the UPA regime, such partiality was not shown against states ruled by different parties. Rao concluded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan, "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas," is not reflected in the Centre's actions.

RS Praveen Controversial Remarks on CM Revanth



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

BRS leader and former IPS officer RS Praveen Kumar has made sharp remarks about Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, questioning his mental state.

Praveen Kumar stated that he, along with the people of Telangana, has serious doubts about the CM's psychological condition. "His thoughts, words, and actions exhibit symptoms of Anti-Social Personality Disorder (APD), Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD), or Bipolar Disorder," he alleged. In a provocative statement, he urged Revanth Reddy's family members to consider temporarily relieving him of his duties and seeking professional medical help. He suggested referring the CM to mental health institutions such as the Mental Hospital in Erragadda, Asha Hospital, or Chetana Hospital.

His comments have sparked a political storm, drawing criticism from Congress leaders and supporters, while BRS circles continue to target the CM over governance issues.

TPCC Chief Goud Calls Jana Reddy to Gandhi Bhavan



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

There are reports that TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud has called senior Congress leader Jana Reddy to Gandhi Bhavan. The move comes in the wake of the upcoming local body elections, sparking speculation within political circles.

Meanwhile, the BRS (Pink Party) has taken to social media, claiming that senior Congress leaders being summoned is causing unrest within the party. Netizens are trolling the Congress, suggesting that this reflects the party's internal struggles.

Adding to the controversy, reports have emerged that 10 Congress leaders recently held a secret meeting. Following these developments, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy reportedly stepped in to address the situation and diffuse any tensions within the party.

Ponguleti Attends Bhakta Ramadas Jayanti Celebrations

TPN Correspondent
Khammam, Feb 03

Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy attended the Bhakta Ramadas Jayanti celebrations in Nela-kondapalle, Khammam district, on Sunday. In his address, he expressed pride in the birthplace of Bhakta Ramadas, calling it a "good fortune" for the region. He also announced plans to develop the Ramadas temple in Nela-kondapalle, honoring the saint's legacy.

The 392nd Jayanti celebrations of Bhakta Ramadas are also being held at the Sita Ramachandra Swamy temple in Bhadrachalam. The festivities, which began on February 1 at the Bhakta Ramadas Dhyana Mandir, will continue until February 3. The celebrations feature a variety of musical and cultural programs, attracting large numbers of devotees to the temple.



Congress of Trying to Erase KCR's Legacy

TPN Correspondent
Jagityala, Feb 03

Former Minister Koppula Eshwar stated that whenever Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's (KCR) name is mentioned, the Congress party becomes anxious and worried.

Speaking to reporters outside Dharmapuri Minority Gurukul College, where he had gone to

visit students who fell ill after consuming contaminated food, Eshwar criticized Congress for its attempts to diminish KCR's influence. He expressed anger that the Congress-controlled administration had prevented his entry into the college, citing orders from the District Collector.

Eshwar accused Congress of trying to erase KCR's legacy, partic-

ularly the minority college KCR had founded with great ambition. He claimed that these actions were part of a broader conspiracy to undermine the BRS and damage its credibility. Despite the alleged efforts to file false cases against BRS, he emphasized that the party would continue fighting for the people and their rights, no matter the challenges.

Beerla Ayilayya Denies Secret Meeting, Calls Reports Fake

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Aleru MLA and government whip Beerla Ayilayya has responded to the recent rumors about a secret meeting involving 10 Congress MLAs. He filed a police complaint, labeling the news as fake and baseless.

In a video released to the media, Ayilayya clarified that the claims were a ploy by the BRS to manipulate social media narratives. He expressed his anger over the fabricated story, accusing BRS of under-



mining public administration.

Ayilayya also criticized the attempt to link him to a meeting against the Revanth Reddy government, asserting that he was unfairly portrayed as a creator of fake news. His response aims to put an end to the growing speculation surrounding the alleged meeting.

MLA Naini Denies Participation in Secret Meeting

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Amid growing speculation about a secret meeting of Congress MLAs, MLA Naini Rajender Reddy has denied his involvement. The meeting, reportedly held at the residence of Jadcharla MLA Anirudh Reddy, stirred political unrest in the state. Sources suggest that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy held an emergency cabinet meeting after the news broke, warning ministers and instructing them to work in coordination ahead of the upcoming local elections.

Naini, visibly upset, expressed his anger over what he called a deliberate conspiracy to tarnish the government's image. He strongly rejected the reports and vowed to take strict action against those responsible for spreading false information. Naini stated that legal measures would be taken against the YouTubers and others behind the fake news, and he confirmed that he had written a letter to CM Revanth Reddy to address the matter. The MLA emphasized that those involved in the conspiracy would not be spared.



Super Sunday at iFocus Mission Inspires Youth with Career Conclave



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Super Sunday Celebrations of iFocus Mission commenced with the 'Youth Career Conclave' at Sujanaalaya, the organization's headquarters. The event, held at Shri Dakshina Murty Auditorium, witnessed an enthusiastic gathering of young aspirants eager to shape their careers. Eminent personalities from various fields shared valuable insights, inspiring the youth to pursue their goals with clarity and determination.

Adding to the excitement, iFocus Street in Uppal Bhagayath saw a grand 'iFocus Premier League' rally, reinforcing the mission's commitment to guiding young minds toward successful careers and positive lifestyles. The rally was flagged off by iFocus Mission's Chief Coordinator, Sri Vasudeva Sarma, and featured a distinguished cohort of students, professionals, entrepreneurs, political leaders, bureaucrats, and eminent citizens.



Participants, riding on bikes and cars, carried power displays representing their respective fields, symbolizing their dedication to mentorship. Their collective enthusiasm and spirited slogans resonated with onlookers, making a lasting impact on the citizens of iFocus Street. The rally stood as a testament to unity and shared success, emphasizing that true achievement lies in uplifting others. The initiative was met with widespread appreciation, further strengthening the mission's vision of shaping a future-ready generation.

Rao Calls for Shutdown of Hydra and Support for Builders

- * Harish Rao Urges Govt to End Hydra's Impact on Builders
- * Calls for Action to Support Builders and Revive Real Estate
- * BRS MLA Criticizes Hydra, Demands Government Intervention

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Former Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao has strongly condemned Hydra for its harmful impact on small builders, leading to financial distress and suicides. Speaking to the media after visiting the family of builder Venugopal Reddy, who tragically took his own life, Harish Rao called on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to shut down Hydra shops without resorting to violence. He expressed deep concern over the adverse consequences Hydra is causing for the real estate sector and the builders who are struggling to survive.

continue their work. Rao criticized the fear instilled in potential buyers and investors due to Hydra, which has caused people to hold back from buying properties, further exacerbating the challenges for builders.

The BRS leader also criticized the government for demolishing houses with valid permissions in the name of Hydra and called for accountability. He stressed the importance of restoring confidence in the real estate sector, urging the government to streamline the permission process and stop harassment by officials.

Rao further stated that politics and positions are temporary, but people's lives are invaluable. He demanded that the government step in to support Venugopal Reddy's family and ensure no other builder faces similar struggles. The BRS party vowed to stand by the family and help in their time of need. Harish Rao urged builders' associations to come together and provide support for the grieving family.

Harish Rao recalled how the BRS government had created a flourishing environment for the construction industry in Hyderabad and Telangana, which supported the livelihoods of thousands. He lamented that due to poor decisions by the Congress-led government, the real estate sector had collapsed, making it difficult for small builders like Venugopal Reddy to



Shri Bandar Dattatraya Hon'ble Governor of Haryana had a courtesy meeting with Shri Manoj Sinha ji Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir and Shri CH. Vijaya Shanker ji Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya on 2nd February, 2025 at Hyderabad - Kailas Nagesh Private Secretary to Governor of Haryana

Hyderabad Witnesses Cultural Resurgence with Ramayana Kalpavrkamsam 2025

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

The city witnessed a vibrant cultural revival with Ramayana Kalpavrkamsam 2025, a three-day festival celebrating the timeless epic Ramayana through music, dance, storytelling, and scholarship.

The festival featured performances such as Takkuvemi Manaku by Shankarananda Kalakshetra, a Harikatha by Vishaka Hari, and a musical presentation by the children of Swarnam School of Music. Workshops on Sanskrit, Kathasvadanam, and traditional Cherial painting engaged participants of all ages.

A major highlight was Sabari Moksham by the Kalakshetra Foundation and a mesmerizing Manipuri Raas, marking a first-of-its-kind performance in Hyderabad. The musical duo Ranjani and Gayatri presented RAMA by RaGa, entrancing the audience.

The event also featured an exhibition of vintage lithographs, a traditional Bommala Koluvu, and Kala Grama, an artisan bazaar, making it an enriching cultural experience.



Hyderabad Tyagaraja Aradhana Music Festival 2025 Concludes with Grand Tribute

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

The 10th edition of the Hyderabad Tyagaraja Aradhana Music Festival (HTAMF) 2025 concluded on Sunday with a heartfelt tribute to Sadhguru at the Ethnic Hall, Shilparamam.

The festival witnessed an enchanting performance by over 500 musicians, who sang and played Tyagaraja's ghana raga Pancharatna Kritis in perfect unison, creating a reverberating experience for the audience. The day began with a traditional Unchavrutti procession fea-



turing Nagara Sankirtana, maintaining the deep-rooted traditions of Carnatic music. The Sanskriti Foundation honored renowned Carnatic violinist Nadasudharna Dr. Sri Annavarapu

Ramaswamy for his invaluable contributions to the art form and his role in training many musicians who continue to carry forward the Carnatic music legacy. The felicitation ceremony was led by Governor Jishnu Deb Barman.

The festival concluded with a mesmerizing vocal concert by the Priya Sisters, Vidushi Shanmukapriya and Vidushi Haripriya, accompanied by talented instrumentalists. Their soulful performance received a standing ovation, marking a fitting end to the grand musical celebration.

Unhygienic Conditions Found in Two Jubilee Hills Restaurants

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

The Commissioner of Food Safety teams inspected Kishkinda Kitchen (Kake di Hatti) and Poshnosh Lounge and Bar in Jubilee Hills, detecting multiple violations under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

At Kishkinda Kitchen, live cockroaches and rat feces were found in storage. Expired food items were discarded, and food handlers lacked gloves and essential

safety certifications. The kitchen was unhygienic, with clogged drains and unclean refrigerators. At Poshnosh Lounge and Bar, the establishment was operating with an expired license since December 2024. Pest control records and employee medical reports were missing. Food storage was unhygienic, and expired items, including insect-infested cashews, were discarded. Authorities have issued warnings to rectify violations.



Cyberabad Police Rescues 924 Children Under Operation Smile – XI

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

The Cyberabad Police rescued 924 children, including 61 girls, during the Operation Smile – XI drive conducted in January.

As part of the initiative, 11 special teams were formed under the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate, working throughout the month to rescue children from child labor, begging, and rag-picking. Many of the rescued children hailed from other states, including Odisha, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan. Legal action was taken against those exploiting children for labor and begging. The rescued children were presented before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and later sent to shelter homes for rehabilitation and care.



Notorious Criminal Arrested After Shooting at Cop in Hyderabad Pub

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 03

Notorious burglar Bathula Prabhakar was arrested by the Gachibowli police on Sunday after attempting to kill a policeman by firing at him at Prism Bar.

Prabhakar, who was taken into custody by the Cyberabad Central Crime Station (CCS) police on Saturday night, fired at head constable Venkat, injuring him in the leg. The police overpowered him and seized three country-made firearms, 451



bullets, Rs. 62,000 in cash, and other items.

A habitual offender, Prabhakar has been involved in 23 cases in the Telugu States over the past two years. He had previously escaped from police custody in Visakhapatnam and had been arrested seven times in over 80 cases. He allegedly procured weapons from Bihar to settle old grudges.

Police, tracking his movements due to recent burglaries, arrested him and sent him to judicial remand.

28-Year-Old Ends Life Over Love Failure in Siddipet



TPN Correspondent Siddipet, Feb 03

A 28-year-old man, identified as Markanti Prasanth, died by suicide, allegedly due to love failure, at Kondapak in Siddipet district on Sunday.

Prasanth had completed his BED and was preparing for competitive examinations. According to reports,

he had fallen in love with a girl, but she rejected his proposal, which left him heartbroken.

On Saturday, Prasanth left home without informing anyone and did not respond to phone calls. Concerned family members started searching for him and eventually found him hanging from a tree in their agricultural field.

The local police were informed, and a case was registered. His body was shifted to the government hospital in Siddipet for postmortem. The tragic incident has left the family and villagers in shock. Authorities have urged youngsters facing emotional distress to seek help from friends, family, or mental health professionals instead of taking extreme steps.

Mission Bhagiratha Pipes Set on Fire in Telangana's Sangareddy



TPN Correspondent Sangareddy, Feb 03

In a shocking incident, a large stock of Mission Bhagiratha pipes was set on fire by unidentified persons at Budhera in Muniapally mandal on Sunday.

The pipes were stored near the pump house as part of the government's rural drinking water supply project. However, some miscreants deliberately set them ablaze, causing significant damage.

On receiving information, fire tenders rushed to the spot, but by the time they arrived, the pipes were already reduced to ashes. Officials are now assessing the extent of the damage caused by the fire.

A complaint has been lodged with the Muniapally police, and an investigation is underway to identify those responsible for the act. Authorities suspect sabotage or local disputes as possible reasons behind the incident.

Farmers in Major Crisis as Tomato Prices Crash in Telangana

TPN Correspondent Sangareddy, Feb 03

Tomato farmers in Telangana are facing a severe financial crisis as prices have drastically fallen, leaving them with no returns on their investment. While tomatoes are being sold at ₹10-₹15 per kg in the retail market, farmers are receiving only ₹5 per kg. In Siddipet, some traders have even offered a mere ₹2.5 per kg, forcing many farmers to abandon their crop.



Farmers in erstwhile Medak district cultivated tomatoes in about 2,000 acres, but the price slump over the past two months has pushed them into deep financial trouble. Many farmers spent ₹50,000 to ₹70,000 per acre but are struggling to recover their investment. The lack of cold storage and processing units has further worsened their situation. A farmer, Vadithya Lachiram Nayak, who brought tomatoes to Sangareddy market, received only ₹10 per kg. Another farmer, Ravi Goud, even set his crop on fire last month in frustration. Without guidance from the Horticulture Department, farmers are unable to plan cultivation effectively.

In Kondapur, young farmer Chatri Srikanth and others abandoned their crop after receiving only ₹60 per 25 kg box. With transportation and labor costs making matters worse, farmers are demanding government intervention and better price regulation to save them from financial distress.

Leopard Sighting in Asifabad Triggers Panic Among Villagers

TPN Correspondent Asifabad, Feb 03

The sighting of a leopard in a forest near Chintapalli in Tiryani mandal caused panic among villagers on Sunday. Some locals reported spotting the big cat perched on a tree while crossing the forest area. Concerned about the safety of residents, they immediately alerted the forest officials.

Upon receiving the information, a team of forest department officials rushed to the location but could not locate the leopard. They urged the villagers to remain cautious and avoid any sudden confrontation with the animal. Officials are monitoring the area and have advised locals to avoid venturing into the forest unnecessarily until further inspections confirm the leopard's movement.



Australian National Takes Part in Asifabad Bird Walk

TPN Correspondent Asifabad, Feb 03

The two-day bird walk festival conducted by the forest department in Kagaznagar division concluded on Sunday, with an Australian national participating in the event, much to the surprise of officials.

Julie, an avid naturalist from Australia, along with her friend Manogna Reddy from Hyderabad, expressed delight at visiting the pristine landscapes of Kagaznagar. Julie was mesmerized by the re-

gion's rich biodiversity and admitted that she had no prior knowledge of Telangana's forests until recently. She was particularly impressed by the hospitality and arrangements provided by the forest department.

Kagaznagar Forest Divisional Officer Sushant Bobade noted that the event attracted nature lovers from across Telangana. Participants spotted around 70 bird species, including migratory and common birds. International Wetlands Day

was also observed as part of the event. About 35 wildlife enthusiasts, photographers, and students participated, exploring irrigation tanks and streams in Kagaznagar and Penchikalpet ranges. Participants enjoyed birdwatching, campfires, and indigenous cuisines.

Bird species such as green bee-eater, white-throated kingfisher, Asian openbill, red-crested pochard, and yellow-footed green pigeon were among the many spotted during the walk.

Farmer Dies by Suicide Over Medical Expenses in Jagtial

TPN Correspondent Jagtial, Feb 03

Unable to bear the burden of medical expenses, a farmer, Lakkam Pedda Gangaram (47), died by suicide at Kalikota in Kathalapur mandal. He was found hanging from a tree on a hillock near his agricultural field on the outskirts of the village.

According to family members, Gangaram met with an accident two years ago and had been suffering from severe health problems in recent months. The increasing medical expenses became a major source of worry, leaving him distressed.

On Saturday evening, he left home saying

he was going to his agricultural field but did not return. Concerned family members tried to contact him but received no response. The next morning, they started searching for him and found him hanging from a tree near the farm.

The local police registered a case based on a complaint filed by his wife, Lakshmi, and an investigation has been launched.

This tragic incident sheds light on the financial hardships faced by farmers struggling with health issues and medical costs. Authorities have urged individuals dealing with distress to seek support from family or mental health professionals.

Operation Smile: 266 Children Rescued in Adilabad

TPN Correspondent Adilabad, Feb 03

In the 11th edition of Operation Smile, 266 children under the age of 14 were rescued from bonded labor across the erstwhile Adilabad district. The special drive, which concluded on January 31, was conducted under the Union government's initiative to combat child labor and exploitation.

Of the rescued children, 235 were boys and 31 were girls. Mancherla district accounted for 77 children, Nirmal 62, Kurnam Bheem Asifabad 57, and Adilabad 68. The children, primarily from financially weak backgrounds, were forced into labor at hotels, brick kilns, fruit stalls, and other establishments for meager wages.

While many children were reunited with their parents, orphans and children with special needs were admitted to government-run homes. Cases were booked against individuals who had employed these minors. Since its launch in 2017, Operation Smile has rescued near-



ly 7,000 children through eight editions conducted till July 2024. The initiative is a collaborative effort between the women and child welfare department, police, labor departments, and NGOs.

A dedicated seven-member team carries out month-long special drives to identify child laborers, counsel parents, and ensure children return to school. Legal action is taken against employers exploiting them.

Fake Journalist Arrested for Blackmailing Nalgonda CI



TPN Correspondent Nalgonda, Feb 03

A fake journalist gang has been exposed for blackmailing police officers in Nalgonda district, threatening to expose alleged misconduct unless their financial demands were met.

The gang demanded ₹5 lakh from a Circle Inspector (CI), who, under pressure, handed over ₹1.10 lakh through a friend. However, the threats persisted, with the

group demanding the remaining ₹4 lakh. Unable to bear the harassment, the CI alerted his superiors, leading to a police investigation.

Based on the complaint, authorities arrested one member of the gang, while efforts are ongoing to nab the remaining culprits. The police have urged the public to be cautious of such fraudulent individuals posing as journalists for extortion.



Donald Trump Hits China With Fresh Tariffs, Beijing Vows Retaliation

TPN Correspondent

Former U.S. President Donald Trump announced on Saturday that Chinese exports to the United States will be subjected to an additional 10 percent tariff, escalating trade tensions between the world's two largest economies. The decision, aimed at countering China's trade practices and its role in America's fentanyl crisis, has drawn a sharp response from Beijing. China swiftly condemned the move on Sunday, declaring its "firm opposition" and warning of "corresponding counter-measures" to protect its interests.

The Scale of Trade at Stake

Trade between the U.S. and China remains substantial, surpassing \$530 billion in the first 11 months of 2024, according to Washington. Chinese exports to the U.S. alone accounted for over \$400 billion, second only to Mexico.

China plays a crucial role in supplying goods ranging from electronics to textiles, but the trade imbalance—standing at \$270.4 billion last year—continues to be a major concern in Washington. The U.S. has long accused China of unfair industrial subsidies, market restrictions, and mistreatment of American companies operating in its territory.

Trump's Trade War Legacy

During his first term, Trump aggressively imposed tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of Chinese goods, sparking a trade war. China retaliated, particularly targeting U.S. agricultural exports. The conflict led to a "phase one" trade deal, where China pledged to purchase \$200 billion in U.S. goods, including \$32 billion in agricultural products. However, analysts note that China only



fulfilled 58 percent of its commitments under the agreement, failing to meet pre-trade war import levels.

Biden's Approach and Continued Restrictions

Trump's successor, Joe Biden, did not roll back his predecessor's tariffs but took a more strategic approach. His administration focused on curbing China's access to advanced U.S. technology, particularly in semiconductors, and imposed tariffs on \$18 billion worth of Chinese imports last year. This included quadrupling duties on electric vehicles to 100 percent and doubling semiconductor tariffs to 50 percent, targeting China's dominance in green energy and battery production.

Beijing's Response and Next Steps

Trump's latest tariff escalation signals

a serious move rather than a mere negotiation tactic. Additionally, he has linked tariff policies to the fate of TikTok, warning of possible action if the Chinese-owned app is not sold.

China has pledged strong countermeasures, with the commerce ministry confirming plans to take the issue to the World Trade Organization. While a WTO ruling could take time, China's foreign ministry has hinted at more immediate retaliation, warning that the new tariffs could impact future U.S.-China cooperation on drug control.

This raises concerns over counternarcotics efforts, especially regarding fentanyl precursor regulation, which had seen renewed engagement after Biden's 2023 meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in San Francisco. With both sides refusing to back down, the U.S.-China trade conflict appears set for another heated chapter.



Government Opens Nuclear Power Sector for Private Participation

TPN Correspondent, New Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a significant policy shift in the Union Budget 2025-26 by proposing to open the nuclear power sector to private players. She also unveiled a Rs 20,000 crore Nuclear Energy Mission aimed at advancing research and development in the field, with a target to establish five small modular reactors (SMRs) by 2033.

Sitharaman emphasized that producing at least 100 GW of nuclear power by 2047 was crucial for India's energy transition. To facilitate private sector involvement, amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act will be introduced. The initiative marks a historic step in reforming India's nuclear industry, which has traditionally been restricted to state-controlled operations.

India currently generates 8.1 GW of nuclear power through 24 operational atomic power plants and aims to increase this capacity to 20 GW by 2032. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), which currently holds a monopoly over nuclear power generation, has formed joint ventures with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to expand nuclear energy projects. However, private sector investment has remained absent due to legislative restrictions.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the decision as a "historic reform" that would enable nuclear energy to play a more significant role in India's development. Former Atomic Energy Commission chairman Anil Kakodkar welcomed the move, stating that a targeted approach was essential to achieving the vision of "Viksit Bharat." Kakodkar, who was instrumental in negotiating India's civil nuclear agreement with the United States, stressed that generating 100 GW of nuclear power by 2047 was critical to meeting India's net-zero emission commitments.

Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh had earlier highlighted nuclear energy's potential in securing long-term sustainable energy solutions. He stated that the government's nuclear expansion plan aims to increase installed capacity from 8,180 MW to 22,480 MW by 2031-32. Singh also pointed out that nuclear power serves as a reliable 24x7 source of clean electricity, crucial for India's energy security.

The NPCIL had previously invited private sector proposals to establish 220 MW Bharat Small Reactors as a replacement for coal-fired captive power plants in energy-intensive industries such as steel, aluminum, copper, and cement. Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), which are being developed globally, offer a scalable and cost-effective nuclear power solution. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), more than 80 SMR designs are in various stages of development worldwide, with four advanced-stage SMRs under construction in Argentina, China, and Russia.

With these policy changes, India is set to embark on a new era in nuclear energy, leveraging private sector expertise to accelerate progress toward a cleaner and more sustainable power infrastructure.

Extreme Weather Events Fueling Food Inflation in India

The latest Economic Survey tabled in Parliament on Friday highlighted that frequent extreme weather events in India have significantly contributed to rising food inflation, particularly in horticultural commodities. The report pointed out that while global food inflation has remained stable or declined over the past two years, India's food inflation rate has remained firm due to climate-related disruptions and supply chain challenges.

According to the survey, major horticulture-producing states faced severe crop damage in 2023-24 due to extreme weather conditions, leading to inflationary pressure on essential food items. The decline in onion and tomato production in the past two years was partly attributed to such climate anomalies in key producing regions.

Extreme Weather Impact on Food Prices Citing data from the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), the survey revealed that the total crop area damaged in 2024 was higher than in the previous two years due to erratic weather patterns. The government also referred to India Meteorological Department (IMD)

data, which indicated a sharp rise in the frequency of extreme weather events, especially heatwaves.

Between 2022 and 2024, heatwaves occurred on 18% of days, compared to just 5% in 2020-21. This rise in extreme weather conditions has had a direct impact on agricultural output, disrupting the supply chain and pushing up food prices.

"Over the past two years, India's food inflation rate has diverged from global trends. This can be attributed to supply chain disruptions exacerbated by extreme weather events and a reduced harvest of key food items," the Economic Survey stated.

Government's Response and Future Measures

The Economic Survey acknowledged that external shocks such as geopolitical conflicts and erratic weather patterns have caused price fluctuations in food commodities. However, the impact of these disruptions has now started to subside, leading to increased variation in prices rather than continuous inflationary pressure.

To ensure long-term price stability, the

report emphasized the need for proactive measures, including:

- **Developing climate-resilient crops to withstand extreme weather conditions.**
- **Strengthening data systems to closely monitor price trends and anticipate market fluctuations.**
- **Reducing crop damage through improved farming techniques and infrastructure.**
- **Minimizing post-harvest losses by enhancing storage and distribution systems.**

In a significant move, the government on Saturday announced a six-year mission to boost pulse production, aiming for self-sufficiency in three widely consumed varieties—tur, urad, and masoor. The initiative seeks to reduce India's dependence on imports while ensuring stable prices for pulses, a key component of the Indian diet.

With food inflation remaining a major concern, the government's focus is now on implementing climate-smart agricultural strategies to safeguard food security and stabilize market prices in the long run.

Over 90% of US Air Traffic Control Facilities Understaffed

TPN Correspondent, New Delhi

A new report has revealed that over 90% of air traffic control facilities in the United States are facing severe staff shortages, raising concerns about aviation safety. The issue came into focus days after a passenger jet and a military helicopter collided in Washington DC, killing all 67 people aboard.

According to The New York Times, 285 of the 313 air traffic control facilities in the US are operating below the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) recommended staffing levels. Among them, 73 facilities are critically understaffed, with at least a quarter of their workforce absent.

The issue gained attention after an American Airlines flight and a Black Hawk Army chopper collided near Reagan National Airport. At the time, only one air traffic controller was

managing helicopters and planes, a task usually requiring two individuals.

The US air travel system remains one of the safest globally, but persistent staff shortages and underinvestment in safety measures have increased close-call incidents. The shortage is particularly severe in New York, where two major facilities on Long Island operate with only 40% of required personnel. These facilities manage air traffic for some of the busiest US airports, including JFK, LaGuardia, and Newark, which handled 1.2 million flights last year.

FAA projections indicate that ongoing hiring and training efforts will still leave three-quarters of facilities below recommended staffing levels. Training a new air traffic controller takes over four years in some locations and nearly 16 months at Reagan National



Airport.

A CBS News report found that only 2% of air traffic control towers met the

2024 staffing targets for fully trained personnel. An analysis of 2023 data for nearly 200 airport towers revealed

that only 8% met the required staffing levels, even after considering trainees in the system.

SC National Conference Stresses Judicial Reforms, Faster Case Disposal

- SC conference stresses judicial reforms and faster case disposal.
- Over 5.1 crore cases pending, 90% in district courts.
- Policy and Action Plan-2024 aims to bridge the case backlog gap.
- Sessions focused on staffing, technology, and accountability in judiciary.

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Supreme Court, under Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna, hosted a national conference on Saturday, focusing on judicial reforms and strategies to expedite case disposal. The conference brought together Supreme Court judges, chief justices of high courts, district judges, and senior officials from the ministries of home affairs and law. Discussions centered on implementing the Policy and Action Plan-2024 formulated by the National Court Management Systems (NCMS) Committee, aimed at reducing judicial backlogs. With over 5.1 crore pending cases nationwide—90% of them in district courts—the conference emphasized the urgent need for systemic improvements. The conference featured four key sessions addressing critical judicial issues. The first session, chaired by CJJ Sanjiv Khanna, along with justices Abhay S Oka, BV Nagarathna, and Dipankar Datta, focused on strategies to reduce case backlogs and bridge the gap between case institution and disposal. The second session, led by justice Bhushan R Gavai with justices



PS Narasimha and KV Viswanathan, explored the feasibility of a uniform case categorization system and the integration of technology to streamline judicial processes. The third session, chaired by justice Surya Kant, with justices JK Maheshwari and Sudhanshu Dhulia, discussed judicial staffing challenges, the expansion of legal aid, and the need for a permanent IT cadre in courts to enhance efficiency. The final session, chaired again by CJJ Khanna, with justices Vikram

Nath, MM Sundresh, and Bela Trivedi, focused on the career progression, performance evaluation, and accountability of judicial officers, emphasizing the need for structured mentoring and standardized training programs. The conference underscored collaboration among all judicial levels to enhance efficiency. The adoption of Policy and Action Plan-2024 is expected to significantly streamline case resolution and strengthen the justice delivery system.



'Jhunjhuna, Not Special Package': Congress, RJD Slam Budget for Bihar

TPN Correspondent | Patna

Congress Rajya Sabha MP Pramod Tiwari has criticized the Union Budget, stating that Bihar was promised a special package but received only a "jhunjhuna" instead. He accused the Centre of reducing funds for key sectors like education, rural development, and MGNREGA while claiming to push for "Viksit Bharat."

Speaking to ANI, Tiwari argued that the budget failed to deliver meaningful relief. "They made income up to ₹12 lakh tax-free, but the same people will pay more through GST. The education budget has been slashed, yet they talk about development," he said. He also questioned the reduction in rural development and employment schemes, calling the budget a disappointment for Bihar.

In her budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced several initiatives for Bihar, including the development of Greenfield airports, expansion of Patna Airport, and construction of a brownfield airport in Bihta. She also highlighted the Western Kosi Canal ERM project in the Mithilanchal region.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav also criticized the budget, stating that it lacked clarity on Bihar's demands. "They did not mention a special package or special state status. The Greenfield airport proposal lacks specifics, and no budget allocation was provided. This is just another 'jumla'," he said.

Addressing a press conference in Vaishali, Yadav accused Bihar CM Nitish Kumar of failing to secure a better deal for the state despite his alliance with the BJP. "Today's budget was unfair to Bihar. Whatever was given in the last budget has just been repeated this time. Train fares are increasing, but no relief has been provided," he added.

While the Centre has announced infrastructure projects, opposition leaders remain skeptical about their execution and the overall benefits Bihar will receive from this budget.



200 New Vande Bharat Trains in Next 2-3 Years

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that India will see the addition of 200 new Vande Bharat trains, 100 Amrit Bharat trains, 50 Namoo Bharat rapid rail, and 17,500 general non-AC coaches over the next two to three years. The minister's remarks came after the Union Budget 2025-26 allocated ₹2.52 lakh crore as gross budgetary support for the Indian Railways. Calling the budget "amazing," Vaishnaw said the new allocation will ensure faster, safer, and more comfortable rail travel. He emphasized that the new trains and modern coaches would benefit the low and middle-class population significantly. The total railway infrastructure projects outlined in the budget amount to ₹4.6 lakh crore, with a major focus on safety improvements. The reimbursement of losses on the operation of strategic lines has been set at ₹2,739 crore, while ₹706 crore is allocated for debt servicing of market borrowings for national projects. Vaishnaw highlighted that the railway budget's gross budgetary support is now nearly nine times what it was in 2013-14 when it stood at just ₹28,174 crore. The government also aims to develop 7,000 km of high-speed rail lines supporting speeds of up to 250 km per hour by 2047. On the sustainability front, the minister reiterated that Indian Railways will achieve 100% electrification by FY 2025-26, aligning with the budget's focus on small modular reactors as a clean energy source.

5 Killed, 17 Injured as Pilgrims' Bus Falls Into Gorge in Gujarat

TPN Correspondent | Gujarat

Five pilgrims lost their lives, and 17 others sustained serious injuries after a private bus plunged into a deep gorge in Gujarat's Dang district early Sunday morning. The incident occurred around 4:15 am near the Sapatara hill station when the driver lost control of the vehicle, officials confirmed. The bus, carrying 48 pilgrims, broke through a crash barrier and fell nearly 35 feet into the gorge. Among the deceased were two women and three men, who died on the spot, according to in-charge Superintendent of Police SG Patil. "Five pilgrims died, and 17 others suffered serious injuries. They have been rushed to a civil hospital in Ahwa. Some passengers sustained minor injuries. The rescue operation is nearly complete," the official said. The bus was traveling from Trim-bakeshwar in Maharashtra to Dwarka in Gujarat when the tragedy struck. The passengers were from Guna, Shivpuri, and Ashok Nagar districts of Madhya Pradesh.



Modi Backed Tax Cuts, Took Time to Convince Bureaucrats: FM Sitharaman

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman revealed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was fully supportive of the idea of tax cuts, but it required time to convince bureaucrats. Speaking in an interview, she emphasized that Modi was clear about his intent, and the primary challenge lay in convincing the concerned officials. "The PM was very clear that he wanted to do something. The effort was more within the ministry to ensure that the tax board was convinced about efficiency in collection and the voice of honest taxpayers," Sitharaman stated. She highlighted that Modi has always been attentive to feedback from various sectors, engaging with industrialists, tribal communities, and vulnerable groups to understand their concerns.

In the Union Budget 2025-26, presented on Saturday, Sitharaman announced a significant tax relief for the middle class. Under the new provisions, no income tax will be payable on annual earnings up to ₹12 lakh. "A tax rebate is being provided in addition to the benefit of slab rate reductions, ensuring that individuals with income up to ₹12 lakh pay no tax," she said in Parliament.

The announcement was met with strong approval from the treasury benches, with Prime Minister Modi leading the applause. Later, Modi described the budget as a "force multiplier," emphasizing its role in increasing citizens' savings and making them active participants in development. "This budget focuses on filling the pockets of the people rather than just the government treasury," he said in a video address.

Rahul Gandhi slams UP govt over woman's brutal murder



TPN Correspondent | Muzaffarnagar

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi strongly criticized the Uttar Pradesh government over the brutal murder of a 22-year-old Dalit woman in Ayodhya, calling it "heartbreaking and deeply shameful." He accused the BJP-led administration of neglecting the family's pleas and failing to act in time. The woman's unclothed body was found in a canal on Saturday morning. Her family claimed her eyes were violently removed, her body had broken bones, and authorities suspect she was gangraped. They alleged that despite filing a missing complaint on Friday, the police did not actively search for her.

Rahul Gandhi, in a post on X, said, "Had the administration paid attention to the family's pleas, which had been echoing for three days, her life might have been saved." He demanded the harshest punishment for the culprits and strict action against negligent police officials. "Please, for once, do not harass the victim's family, as is often the case. The daughters of this country and the entire Dalit community are looking to you for justice," he added.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav also condemned the crime and blamed the administration. He demanded strict action against the culprits and negligent police officers, along with ₹1 crore compensation for the victim's family.

Faizabad SP MP Awadhesh Prasad visited the family and expressed deep sorrow over the incident. Speaking to reporters, he said, "I will raise this issue in Parliament, and if justice is not served, I will resign."

As outrage grows, opposition leaders continue to question the Yogi Adityanath-led government's handling of the case.

"Sorry to Spoil Udda Assam Party" Says CM Himanta Sarma as Poppy Farms Worth ₹27 Crore Destroyed

TPN Correspondent | Guwahati

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday announced that over 56 acres of illegal poppy cultivation, valued at more than ₹27 crore, were destroyed in Goalpara district as part of the state's intensified crackdown on drug-related activities. Taking to X, Sarma mocked those involved in the illicit trade, stating, "Dear Local Pablo Escobars, sorry to spoil your planned Udda Assam party! Because @Goalpara_Police destroyed 170 Bighas of poppy cultivation in the Char areas worth ₹27.20 crore in January." The Chief Minister also shared a video of a tractor uprooting the vast poppy fields under heavy police supervision. "So next time you

think of drugs, think of @assampolice first. #AssamAgainstDrugs," he added, reinforcing his government's commitment to eradicating drug networks in the state. Assam has been conducting extensive anti-drug operations in recent years, targeting illegal cultivation and trafficking networks. The latest action in Goalpara is part of a broader effort to curb the production and distribution of narcotics. Officials have warned of strict action against those involved in drug-related



offenses, with continued surveillance and enforcement measures in place.

Musk's DOGE Team Gains Access to US Govt's Payment System

TPN Correspondent | Washington, D.C.

Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), an advisory group under the Trump administration, has reportedly gained access to the federal payment system, allowing it to monitor and potentially limit government spending. The New York Times, citing sources familiar with the matter, reported that the move aligns with President Donald Trump's directive for Musk and his team to implement spending cuts.

The development follows the resignation of David Lebryk, a top-ranking Treasury Department official, after a reported clash with Musk's allies over payment system access. According to the report, Musk's team members were made Treasury employees, cleared background checks, and obtained security clearances, though they currently lack operational control and have not blocked any government payments.

Musk claimed on X that his team discovered Treasury payment officers were instructed to approve payments "even to known fraudulent or terrorist groups," alleging that such approvals were never denied in the past.

Trump and Musk have previously suggested that cutting federal spending could save up to \$2 trillion. Initially, Trump had also appointed entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy to co-lead DOGE with Musk, but Ramaswamy later opted to run for gover-



nor of Ohio instead. Since assuming office on January 20, Trump has dismissed or sidelined hundreds of civil servants in an effort to downsize the federal workforce. Musk Aides Restrict Access to Federal Data Systems Meanwhile, Musk's aides overseeing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) have reportedly locked career civil servants out of critical data systems containing the

personal information of millions of federal employees, according to a Reuters report. The restricted access includes a vast database known as Enterprise Human Resources Integration, which holds sensitive details such as Social Security numbers, home addresses, pay grades, and employment history. "There is no visibility into what they are doing with the systems," an official was quoted as saying, raising cybersecurity and oversight concerns.

Eyal Zamir Appointed as Israel's New Army Chief



TPN Correspondent | Jerusalem

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has appointed retired Major General Eyal Zamir as the new Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Zamir replaces Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi, who resigned last month, taking responsibility for the military's failure to prevent the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023. A statement from Netanyahu's office confirmed the appointment, which was finalized in consultation with Defence Minister Israel Katz. Zamir, 59, previously served as the deputy chief of staff until 2021 and was the head of the army's Southern Command, overseeing security operations related to the Gaza Strip. He had been serving as the defence ministry's director general since 2023.

Halevi stepped down on January 21, just two days after a ceasefire took effect in Gaza, which led to the release of 18 hostages by Hamas and Islamic Jihad. In his resignation letter, he cited accountability for the military's failure but also highlighted the IDF's recent operational successes. Shortly after Halevi's resignation, Major General Yaron Finkelman, the wartime head of Southern Command, also stepped down, further shaking the Israeli military leadership. Zamir's past experience includes leading efforts to dismantle Hamas's tunnel networks that extended into Israeli territory. His appointment comes at a critical time as Israel continues its military operations in Gaza and faces security challenges on multiple fronts.

Ukraine Unveils Long-Range Drone With 2,000 Km Range, 250 Kg Payload



TPN Correspondent | Kyiv

Ukraine has introduced a new long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) capable of flying up to 2,000 km, carrying a 250-kg bomb, and returning to base. The latest addition to Ukraine's drone arsenal could be the most potent reusable UAV deployed in the ongoing war with Russia, significantly enhancing Kyiv's ability to strike deep inside enemy territory.

The Ukrainian military's unmanned systems branch confirmed the development on Friday, calling it a "game-changing" innovation for the battlefield. Since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion three years ago, Ukraine has been developing drones capable of striking targets over vast distances. Recent attacks on Russian sites more than 1,600 km away hinted at the emergence of a reusable bomber drone, which was officially acknowledged with this announcement.

Unlike traditional one-way strike drones, this new UAV can drop its payload and return to base, enabling multiple missions until it is destroyed or rendered inoperable. This capability could allow Ukraine to sustain a higher frequency of deep strikes against Russian military infrastructure, including bomber bases and oil facilities.

Recent Ukrainian drone attacks have disrupted Russia's oil production and increased the cost of its bombing campaigns against Ukrainian cities. The Volgograd refinery, one of Russia's largest, was recently targeted by Ukrainian drones. Kyiv also claimed responsibility for strikes on a Lukoil refinery in the Nizhny Novgorod region and another refinery in Ryazan, southeast of Moscow, which was forced to halt operations.

While the exact airframe of Ukraine's new drone remains unclear, photographic evidence suggests it may be based on a modified civilian sport plane. Ukrainian forces have previously converted Aeroprakt A-22 aircraft into remotely piloted one-way attack drones, but this new UAV represents a shift toward a more advanced, reusable design.

One major challenge for reusable long-range drones is landing. While small UAVs can deploy parachutes, larger ones require a proper landing system. Advanced militaries integrate sophisticated landing technologies, but it is uncertain whether Ukraine has equipped its strike drones with similar capabilities, given their relatively low cost, estimated at a few hundred thousand dollars per unit.

As Ukraine continues its campaign targeting Russian industrial and energy assets, Moscow has intensified retaliatory strikes. On Thursday, a Russian drone attack on an apartment block in Sumy, eastern Ukraine, killed nine people, including three elderly couples.

Trudeau Slams Trump's Tariffs, Warns of Fallout in US-Canada Trade

TPN Correspondent, Ottawa

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has hit back at US President Donald Trump's sweeping 25% tariffs on Canadian imports, calling them an unjustified attack on one of America's closest allies. Speaking at a press conference in Ottawa, Trudeau reminded Americans of Canada's longstanding support in critical moments—from military conflicts to disaster relief efforts.

"From the beaches of Normandy to the mountains of the Korean peninsula, from the fields of Flanders to the streets of Kandahar, we have fought and died alongside you during your darkest hours," Trudeau said. "We've built the most successful economic, military, and security partnership the world has ever seen."

Trudeau acknowledged past tensions between the two nations but emphasized that Canada had always worked through its differences with the US. He urged Trump to rethink his approach, stating, "If President Trump wants to usher in a new golden age for the United States, the better path is to partner with Canada, not to punish us."

The tariffs, which take effect on Tuesday, will apply to nearly all Canadian exports to the US, with energy resources facing a slightly reduced 10% levy. In response, Canada is imposing 25% tariffs on CAD



155 billion (\$106 billion) worth of American goods, starting with CAD 30 billion worth of products in the first phase. The remaining tariffs will be implemented in three weeks.

"We're certainly not looking to escalate. But we will stand up for Canada, for Canadians, for Canadian jobs," Trudeau asserted. He warned that the trade conflict would impact not only Canadians but also American businesses and consumers, with potential shutdowns of auto manufacturing plants and increased costs for essential goods like food and gas.

Trump, citing concerns over illegal im-

migration and drug trafficking, defended the tariffs as necessary for protecting American interests. However, with the US-Canada border facilitating over \$2.5 billion in trade daily, the economic repercussions of the escalating tensions could be severe. In 2023 alone, Canada exported nearly CAD 550 billion worth of goods and services to the US, with energy and manufacturing making up a significant portion.

Trudeau stressed that these measures threaten to disrupt a critical economic relationship and urged the US to reconsider its stance before further damage is done.

Los Angeles Wildfires Fully Contained After Weeks of Destruction

TPN Correspondent, Los Angeles

Firefighters have fully contained the two massive wildfires that ravaged Los Angeles County for more than three weeks, killing about 30 people and displacing thousands. The Palisades and Eaton fires, which started on January 7, destroyed over 10,000 homes and burned more than 37,000 acres, making them the most destructive in the city's history.

Cal Fire, California's firefighting agency, confirmed on Friday that both fires were 100% contained, meaning their perimeters were fully controlled. While evacuation orders had already been lifted, officials warned of extensive rebuilding efforts ahead.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass assured affected residents that recovery efforts were underway. "Our priority is to help people return home safely and start rebuilding," she stated. Meanwhile, police chief Jim McDonnell announced increased security in affected areas to prevent potential looting.

The fires, fueled by prolonged drought and strong Santa Ana winds, were worsened by climate change, according to a recent study. Researchers found that global warming made such extreme conditions 35% more likely, as reduced rainfall and dry vegetation set the stage for rapid fire spread.

The economic impact of the disaster is expected to be severe, with AccuWeather estimating losses between \$250 billion and \$275 billion. Authorities continue to investigate the exact cause of the blazes while focusing on recovery efforts for the thousands affected.

Ken Martin Elected DNC Chair, Vows to Rebuild Democratic Party

TPN Correspondent
Washington, D.C.

In a bid to recover from a significant electoral defeat, the Democratic National Committee (DNC) on Saturday elected Ken Martin, the longtime leader of the Minnesota Democratic Party, as its new chair. Martin will now be responsible for steering the party out of its crisis following its loss to Donald Trump in the 2024 presidential election, which also saw Democrats fail to secure control of either the House or Senate.

The Democratic Party has been struggling to counter Trump's sweeping executive actions, many of which overturned key policies implemented by former President Joe Biden. Martin, a veteran political strategist, wasted no time in launching an attack on Trump's proposed tariffs on Mexico, Canada, and China, arguing that they would ultimately hurt working-class Americans.

"Trump isn't going to make corporate billionaires pay for these tariffs—working families and small businesses will," Martin said in a statement. "He's using American workers as pawns in his petty political games."

Martin has vowed to restore and expand the Democratic Party's national infrastructure, ensuring it is equipped to contest elections across the country. He won the DNC chairmanship after defeating Wisconsin Democratic Chair Ben Wikler on the first ballot.



Uncertainty Ends, Markets Set for Gains

The domestic stock markets are expected to move upward this week, breaking out of their recent range. With key economic events—such as the US Federal Reserve, European Central Bank, and Bank of Japan interest rate decisions—now concluded, and the Modi government having presented the Union Budget, uncertainty in the markets is easing. Moving forward, market trends may depend on geopolitical developments and the impact of Trump's proposed tariffs. Sectors like finance, defense, public sector enterprises, infrastructure, and agriculture are likely to rebound following the budget announcements. Last week, stocks in the realty, consumption, auto, tourism, and FMCG sectors performed well, while IT, pharma, media, and metal indices saw declines. Meanwhile, the India VIX Fear Index dropped by 15%, signaling reduced volatility.



Phoenix Mills

Currently available at attractive prices, Phoenix Mills shares offer a favorable risk-reward ratio despite weak recent results. The stock has shown relative strength, gaining 21% in the last six sessions. Closing at ₹1,764 last Saturday, investors should consider entering around ₹1,700 with a target of ₹1,950-₹2,000. A stop-loss at ₹1,650 is advised.

Kaveri Seeds

After hitting a lifetime high, Kaveri Seeds shares have corrected by 32% and are now gaining momentum after months of consolidation. Showing relative strength compared to Nifty, the stock is in an attractive zone. It closed at ₹965 last Saturday, and investors should consider entering at ₹940 with a target of ₹1,050. A stop-loss at ₹910 is recommended.



CarTrade



This stock has demonstrated strength

even in a weak market, rebounding with higher volumes after positive quarterly results. With stable performance post-IPO and strong EPS, net profit, and revenue growth, it remains promising. Closing at ₹1,766 last Saturday, investors should enter around ₹1,700 with a target of ₹1,950. A stop-loss at ₹1,660 is advised.

Emami Limited

The company's shares have rebounded following strong Q3 results. After falling 40% from its lifetime high, the stock has gained 17% in the last seven sessions. Closing at ₹625 last Saturday, investors should consider an entry at ₹610 with a target of ₹740. A stop-loss at ₹575 is essential.



Hero MotoCorp

Down 35% from its lifetime high, Hero MotoCorp shares have found support at the crucial ₹4,000 level and are showing a turnaround. The stock has been in profit for the last five sessions as quarterly results approach. Closing at ₹4,402 last Saturday, investors should enter at ₹4,375 with a target of ₹4,800. A stop-loss at ₹4,325 is recommended. With the

easing of economic uncertainties and favorable budgetary policies, analysts anticipate a positive trajectory for the markets in the coming weeks.



Income Tax Rebate Up to ₹12 Lakh: New Slabs Explained



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
The Union Budget 2025 has brought a major relief for the middle class, with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announcing that no income tax will

be payable for incomes up to ₹12 lakh under the new tax regime. However, the revised tax slabs still show applicable taxes for this range, leading to confusion among taxpayers.

New Income Tax Slabs (FY 2025-26)	Income Slab	Tax Rate
	₹0 - ₹4 lakh	No Tax
	₹4 lakh - ₹8 lakh	5%
	₹8 lakh - ₹12 lakh	10%
	₹12 lakh - ₹16 lakh	15%
	₹16 lakh - ₹20 lakh	20%
	₹20 lakh - ₹24 lakh	25%
	Above ₹24 lakh	30%

Under this structure, the tax slabs indicate that individuals earning up to ₹12 lakh should pay tax. However, the government has introduced a rebate that cancels out the tax liability for these individuals.

How the Rebate Works

A person earning ₹12 lakh per year would have faced:

Income Slab	Tax Rate	Tax Amount
₹4 lakh - ₹8 lakh	5%	₹20,000
₹8 lakh - ₹12 lakh	10%	₹40,000
Total Tax Payable		₹60,000

But due to the rebate, this ₹60,000 gets eliminated, making the final tax liability zero for incomes up to ₹12 lakh.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clarified, "For taxpayers with income up to ₹12 lakh (excluding capital gains and special income), tax rebate is being provided, ensuring no tax is payable."

Tax on Higher Incomes

For individuals earning above ₹12 lakh, the rebate does not apply. Tax is calculated only on the income exceeding ₹12 lakh.

Example: If an individual earns ₹16 lakh, their tax liability will be

This structured reform is expected to ease the tax burden on middle-class taxpayers, leaving them with more disposable income. The Modi-led government aims to boost household consumption, savings, and investment while simplifying the tax process.

Income Slab	Tax Rate	Tax Amount
₹4 lakh - ₹8 lakh	5%	₹20,000
₹8 lakh - ₹12 lakh	10%	₹40,000
Total Tax Payable		₹60,000

Tata Power, Swiggy, Bharti Airtel Among Key Companies to Announce Q3 Earnings

Several major companies, including Tata Power, Swiggy, Bharti Airtel, Hero MotoCorp, Cochin Shipyard, Sula Vineyards, Torrent Power, and Info Edge India Ltd (Naukri), are set to announce their October-December quarter (Q3) results next week. The Indian stock market ended flat after investors reacted negatively to the Union Budget 2025 capex numbers, which fell short of expectations. The Nifty 50 index closed 0.11% lower at 23,482.15 points, down from 23,508.40 in the previous session. The BSE Sensex, however, saw a marginal increase of 0.01%, closing at 77,505.96 points compared to 77,500.57 earlier. Economists had anticipated a higher capex allocation, given concerns over India's slowing economic growth. Market participants are now keenly watching the opening session on Monday, February 3, for any further reactions.

Upcoming Q3 Results

Monday, February 3: Notable companies announcing results include Aditya Birla Capital Ltd, Castrol India, Bombay Dyeing & Manufacturing Co. Ltd, Barbeque-Nation Hospitality Ltd, Bajaj Steel Industries, Divi's Laboratories Ltd, Dredging Corp of India Ltd, Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE), KEC International Ltd, Poly Medicare Ltd, Power Grid Corp of India Ltd, Premier Energies Ltd, Religare Enterprises Ltd, Tata Chemicals Ltd, and Thomas Cook India Ltd.

Tuesday, February 4: Companies reporting earnings include Asian Paints Ltd, Bajaj Electricals Ltd, Birla Corp Ltd, Ceigall India Ltd, Essar Shipping Ltd, Godrej Properties Ltd, JK Tyre and Industries Ltd, JSW Holdings Ltd, Lemon Tree Hotels Ltd, One Mobikwik Systems Ltd, Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Ltd, Paisalo Digital Ltd, PC Jeweller Ltd, Quick Heal Technologies Ltd, Tata Power Co. Ltd, Titan Co. Ltd, and Torrent Power Ltd.

Wednesday, February 5: Key firms scheduled to release Q3 earnings include Abbott India Ltd, Avalon Technologies Ltd, Cummins India Ltd, Eveready In-



dustries India Ltd, Info Edge India Ltd (Naukri), Piccadilly Agro Industries Ltd, Skipper Ltd, Sula Vineyards Ltd, Swiggy Ltd, and Welspun Corp Ltd.

Thursday, February 6: Major announcements include those from Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Apollo Tyres Ltd, Aurobindo Pharma Ltd, Bharat Dynamics Ltd, BEML Ltd, Bharti Airtel Ltd, Bharti Hexacom Ltd, Bikaji Foods International Ltd, Britannia Industries Ltd, Cochin Shipyard Ltd, Emcure Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Hero MotoCorp Ltd, ITC Ltd, JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd, MRF Ltd, Orient Technologies Ltd, PVR Inox Ltd, Ramco Cements Ltd, Sai Life Sciences Ltd, Sapphire Foods India Ltd, and State Bank of India.

Friday, February 7: Companies concluding the week's earnings announcements include 3M India Ltd, Century Plyboards Ltd, Delhivery Ltd, Dreamfolks Services Ltd, Edelweiss Financial Services Ltd, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, and Shipping Corp of India Ltd.

With multiple heavyweight companies set to declare their financial results, market sentiment in the coming week is expected to be influenced by these earnings reports along with broader economic and global market trends.

Historic Ripley Castle Up for Sale After 700 Years

Ripley Castle, a historic estate in England that has remained with the Ingilby family for over 700 years, is now on the market. The Grade I-listed property, located near Yorkshire Dales National Park, is being sold along with its 445-acre estate for £17 million (Rs 182.5 crore). The Ingilby family has owned the castle since the early 1300s, witnessing centuries of history, from royal visits to wartime events. Sir Thomas and Lady Emma Ingilby, the current custodians, decided it was time to move on. "We've been working seven days a week for so long, and we're nearly 70. Now it's time for us to travel and be impulsive," Sir Thomas told The New York Post.

Originally acquired through the marriage of Sir Thomas Ingilby to Edeline Thweng in the 14th century, the castle has survived wars, economic shifts, and changing times. Among its many legends is the story of "Trooper Jane" Ingilby, who allegedly held Oliver Cromwell at gunpoint while secretly protecting her brother.

The estate blends medieval architecture with Georgian-era additions. Its Knight's Chamber is known for oak paneling and a Tudor-style ceiling, while a hidden priest hole was discovered in 1963. The property also features a deer park, ornamental gardens, an 18th-century orangery, and a thriving commercial venture.

Mark Granger of Carter Jonas Christie's International Real Estate emphasized the castle's vast potential for commercial, agricultural, and

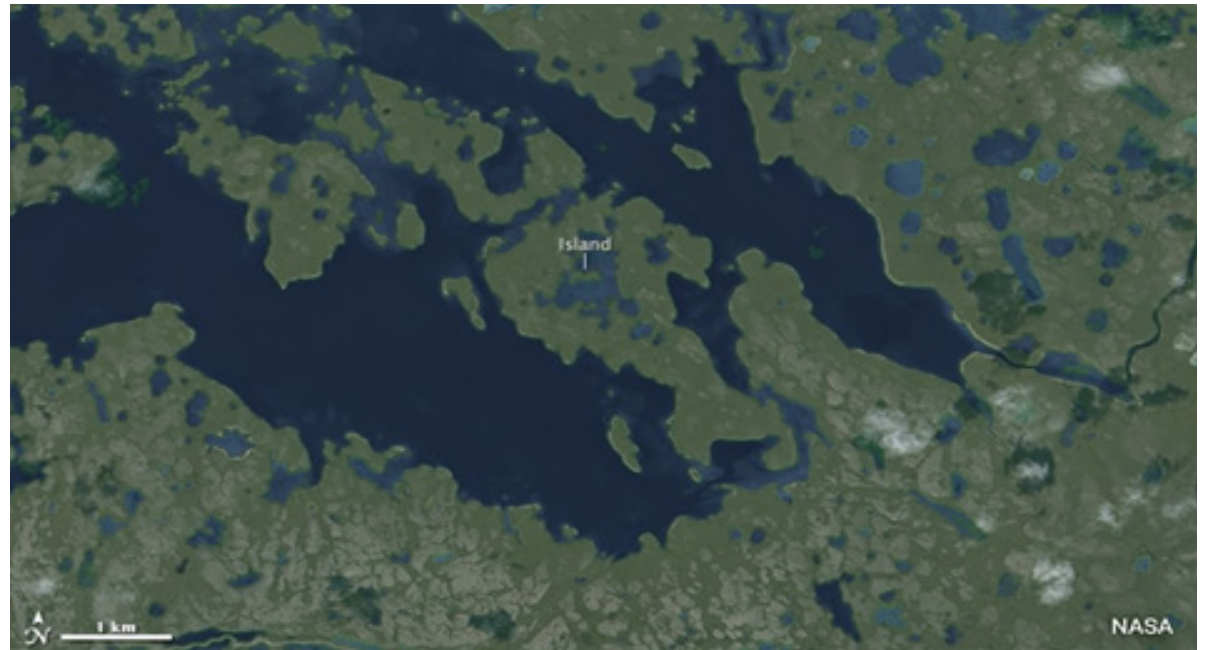


conservation projects. The Ingilbys have meticulously maintained the estate, including major restoration efforts.

Lady Emma Ingilby described their time at Ripley Castle as a privilege. "Some of the events we've hosted here have been incredibly moving. Walking around the gardens in the evening, with deer drinking from the lake, feels like something out of a fairy tale."

The decision to sell was made with the agreement of their children, who opted not to take on the estate's responsibilities.

World's Largest 'Island-In-A-Lake-On-An-Island' Confirmed in Canada's Arctic



TPN Correspondent | Nunavut, Canada

A nameless island within Victoria Island in Canada's Nunavut Territory has been officially recognized as the world's largest island-in-a-lake-on-an-island-in-a-lake-on-an-island, a rare geographical phenomenon confirmed through satellite imagery.

Satellite images captured by the Operational Land Imager (OLI) on Landsat 8 verified the existence of this unique landform. At its core, a seahorse-shaped island, approximately 1,000 feet wide, sits within a small unnamed lake. This lake itself is situated on a larger island, which is enclosed by a long, finger-shaped lake about 90 kilometers inland from Victoria Island's southern coast.

Guinness World Records has formally acknowledged this location as the largest landform of its kind. Victoria Island, known as "Kitlineq" by the Inuit, is the world's eighth-largest island and part of the expansive Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Given the region's vast and largely

unexplored landscape, experts believe similar undiscovered formations may still exist.

The Canadian Arctic is home to thousands of islands and millions of lakes formed after the Ice Age. Many recursive landforms—patterns of islands within islands or lakes within lakes—have been identified through satellite imagery. However, due to the extreme remoteness of this Arctic region, it is highly unlikely that any human has ever set foot on this particular island.

As mapping technologies and satellite capabilities continue to advance, geographers expect more unusual landforms to be discovered. In a separate instance, NASA satellites recently observed a temporary island emerging off Azerbaijan's coast in the Caspian Sea due to an eruption from the Kumani Bank mud volcano. The landmass, first spotted in early 2023, had completely eroded by the end of 2024, mirroring similar short-lived formations recorded in the area since 1861.

Google Pixel 9a Spotted on Certification Site, Hints at Android 15 Launch

Google Pixel 9a has appeared on the GEMVCo certification website, suggesting its launch could be imminent. The listing reveals the smartphone's model number as GTF7P, though its name is not explicitly mentioned. The upcoming device is expected to run on Android 15 out-of-the-box and could debut before Android 16's release in mid-2025.

Reports indicate that Google may launch the Pixel 9a in March, mark-

ing the first time a Pixel A-series device arrives before the annual Google I/O event in May. The smartphone is rumored to feature a 6.3-inch Actua display with a peak brightness of 2,700 nits and Gorilla Glass 3 protection. It is expected to be powered by Google's Tensor G4 chip, paired with 8GB of RAM and 256GB of internal storage.

The Pixel 9a is likely to come with a 48-megapixel primary camera and a 13-megapixel ultrawide sensor. It may

also retain an IP68 rating for dust and water resistance. The phone is expected to pack a 5,100mAh battery with 23W wired and 7.5W wireless charging support, alongside an in-display fingerprint scanner.

With its anticipated launch, the Pixel 9a could set a new precedent for Google's midrange smartphone lineup, offering flagship-like features at a competitive price.



Turkish Man Sets Guinness World Record for Longest Axe Throw

TPN Correspondent | Istanbul

Turkish national Osman Gurcu has set a new Guinness World Record for the longest axe throw, achieving a remarkable distance of 183 feet, 8.72 inches. The 43-year-old surpassed the previous record of 143 feet, held by American Jesse Rood, and even exceeded the length of an Olympic swimming pool (164 feet). This latest feat marks Gurcu's eighth Guinness World Record title.

Osman, a father of two, has long been passionate about record-breaking. He actively follows Guinness World Records updates and seeks new challenges to conquer. Reflecting on his achievement, he said, "It was an incredible feeling to break the record because the distance is very far, and you have to be able to get far. At the same time, the axe has to get stuck in the target board. I hit it many times, but it didn't get stuck, and I never gave up."

Overcoming Challenges

Despite his determination, Osman faced multiple challenges in his journey to the record. As a private security guard, he found it difficult to allocate time for rigorous training, especially given the cold and wet weather conditions. Additionally, while he was



attempting to break the record, another competitor raised the previous mark, increasing the distance he needed to surpass. However, Osman credits his natural throwing ability, which he developed in childhood, for helping him succeed.

Future Ambitions

Osman is not stopping at axe throwing. He now aims to set a record for hitting the bullseye on a dartboard from the farthest distance. Additionally, he plans to continue breaking basketball shooting records and explore other challenging feats. "Being a record holder makes me very happy," he said, expressing his desire to inspire others through his achievements.

Ahmedabad Auto Driver's Coldplay Rendition Wins Hearts Online

A video of an auto-rickshaw driver in Ahmedabad singing Coldplay's "Sky Full of Stars" while driving through the city's streets has gone viral, drawing admiration from social media users. The clip, shared by Instagram user Navendu, captures the driver passionately singing along to the popular song, creating a heartwarming moment for netizens.

The video showcases the driver immersed in the music, effortlessly belting out the lyrics while maneuvering through traffic. Navendu, who uploaded the video, captioned it, "Found this auto driver enjoying Coldplay tunes in Ahmedabad. Coldplay should invite him to their next performance. Getting on to the stage in his auto." The lighthearted remark sparked a wave of reactions, with many supporting the idea. Social media users were quick to respond, with



many praising the driver's passion for music and his ability to spread joy. Some even suggested that Coldplay should invite him to their next concert. "This man should be performing in front of thousands," one user commented. Another added, "Coldplay needs to make him part of the show."

Many users appreciated the positivity of the moment, with comments like, "Such pure joy! I wish I could be as carefree as this driver," and "This is the kind of content we need in our feeds, heartwarming and full of energy." Others humorously suggested that the driver deserved a stage of his own. "He needs his own concert," a comment read, while another user added, "Let's get this guy a mic and a stage!" The uplifting video continues to gain traction online, proving that simple moments of joy can bring people together across the internet.

India's Young Queens Dominate U19 T20 World Cup Again

- India thrash South Africa by 9 wickets to retain U19 Women's T20 World Cup.
- Gongadi Trisha shines with 3/15 and unbeaten 44 off 33 balls.
- India win all matches, becoming first team to lift title undefeated.



TPN Correspondent | Kuala Lumpur

India's dominance in women's cricket continued as they secured their second consecutive U-19 Women's T20 World Cup title with a commanding nine-wicket victory over South Africa. The Indian team showcased their strength by completing the chase with 52 balls to spare, becoming the first side to win the tournament without losing a single game.

All-rounder Gongadi Trisha was the standout performer, delivering an impressive 3/15 with the ball before guiding the chase with an unbeaten 44 off 33 balls. Vice-captain Sanika Chalke (26* off 22) sealed the victory with a boundary, setting off celebrations among the Indian players draped in the Tricolour.

South Africa, opting to bat first, struggled against India's disciplined spin attack and were bowled out for just 82. Left-arm spinner Aayushi Shukla starred with figures of 2/9 in four overs, while Trisha further underlined her all-round ability with three wickets. Parunika (2/6) and right-arm seamer Shabnam Shakil (1/7) also contributed to South Africa's batting collapse.

South Africa's innings never gained momentum, with early wickets putting them on the back foot. Parunika struck early, dismissing opener Simone Lourens for a duck, while Shabnam Shakil removed the dangerous Jemma Botha. At 20/2 in four overs, the South African lineup struggled to find stability. Captain Kayla Reyneke (7) was dismissed while attempting to accelerate, and despite brief resistance from Mieke van Voorst (23)

and Fay Cowling (15), South Africa failed to post a competitive total.

In response, India started aggressively, with Trisha leading the charge. Kamalini G contributed before falling for 8, but Sanika Chalke provided the finishing touch as India cruised to victory. The win capped off a flawless campaign for the defending champions, who remained unbeaten throughout the tournament.

India's dominance was evident from the group stage, where they defeated West Indies, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka before securing wins against Bangladesh and Scotland in the Super Six stage. Their semi-final triumph over England ensured a perfect path to the final, where they reaffirmed their status as the best in the world.

India Secures Davis Cup World Group I Spot with Dominant Win Over Togo

India secured its place in the Davis Cup World Group I after N Sriram Balaji and Rithvik Choudhary Bollipalli delivered a commanding straight-set victory over Togo in the play-off tie at DLTA Complex on Sunday. The win handed India an unassailable 3-0 lead in the best-of-five contest.



With a 2-0 lead already in hand, India needed just one more win to seal the tie, and Balaji-Bollipalli got the job done in the opening match of the day, defeating M'lpa Tingou Akomolo and Hod'abalo Isak Padio 6-2, 6-1 in just 57 minutes. Togo's top player, Thomas Setodji, was replaced by Akomolo due to an arm injury, which severely weakened the visiting side. Akomolo struggled, failing to hold serve even once in the contest.

Balaji was outstanding with his serves, barely losing a point throughout the match. Bollipalli, making his Davis Cup debut, initially showed some

nerves but soon settled into his rhythm. India broke Akomolo's serve early in the first set and built a solid lead.

The second set followed a similar pattern, with the Indian pair breaking their opponents early and dominating the match. Togo's resistance crumbled as their serves came under relentless attack, with Akomolo committing crucial double faults.

India is now likely to give young player Karan Singh his Davis Cup debut in the dead rubber. Balaji and Bollipalli's dominant performance further strengthens India's standing as they move ahead to the next stage.

Virat Kohli Praises Railways Pacer Himanshu Sangwan After Being Dismissed in Ranji Trophy Match



Virat Kohli's much-anticipated return to Ranji Trophy cricket ended abruptly when he was dismissed for just six runs by Railways pacer Himanshu Sangwan in Delhi's match against Railways at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. Despite Delhi's dominant win by an innings, Sangwan's dismissal of Kohli made headlines.

After the match, the young Railways pacer approached Kohli to sign the ball that was used to dismiss him. Sangwan later revealed in a conversation with Dainik Jagaran that Kohli was impressed by the delivery, saying, "What a ball it was; it was a beautiful delivery. I really enjoyed that!" before signing the ball.

Kohli also acknowledged Sangwan's talent, as the bowler had previously played for Delhi at the under-19 level. "I've heard about you. You're a good bowler. Best wishes for the future," Kohli told him.

Meanwhile, Delhi's off-spinner Shivam Sharma took five wickets as the team secured a bonus point win over Railways. Delhi ended their campaign with 21 points but failed to qualify for the knockout stage. Despite Kohli's low score, his return to domestic cricket after 13 years was a major highlight of the match.

Two-Tier Test Format Likely Before India's Tour of England

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is reportedly considering revamping the World Test Championship (WTC) by introducing a two-tier format, potentially before India's tour of England in June this year.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chairman Richard Thompson, who also heads the ICC's strategic growth committee, has been in discussions with ICC chairman Jay Shah regarding the restructuring of the Test format. With just five months left before England hosts India at Headingley from June 20, Thompson acknowledged the need for immediate changes.

"The current structure does not work as it should. We need a fairer, better competition, but at this stage, no recommendations have been finalized," Thompson



told Telegraph Sport. He emphasized that the revamped format should encourage the best teams to reach the final while

also ensuring that nations outside the top tier continue playing Test cricket.

The two-tier system has gained traction following record-breaking attendance for Australia's recent series against India. However, cricketing legends, including West Indies great Clive Lloyd and Sri Lanka's Arjuna Ranatunga, have voiced strong opposition, arguing that it could sideline smaller teams.

Discussions are also underway about introducing four-day Test matches, which could make scheduling three-Test series around franchise leagues more feasible. However, marquee series like The Ashes and contests between top-tier nations will remain five-day affairs.

Critics argue that the two-tier system primarily benefits the "big three" (India, Australia, and England), leaving smaller cricketing nations like West Indies, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh at a disadvantage.

Abhishek Sharma Sets Massive T20I Record in India's Dominant Win Over England



India's young batting sensation Abhishek Sharma scripted history on Sunday by smashing his second T20I century during the fifth and final game against England in Mumbai. Abhishek reached his century in just 37 balls, narrowly missing out on equaling the record held by Rohit Sharma and David Miller, who have the fastest T20I centuries (35 balls) among batters from Test-playing nations.

Despite missing the all-time record, Abhishek still made history by becoming the fastest player to reach a T20I century in terms of overs faced. He reached the milestone on the first ball of the 11th over, breaking Quinton de Kock's previous record of reaching a century in 10.2 overs.

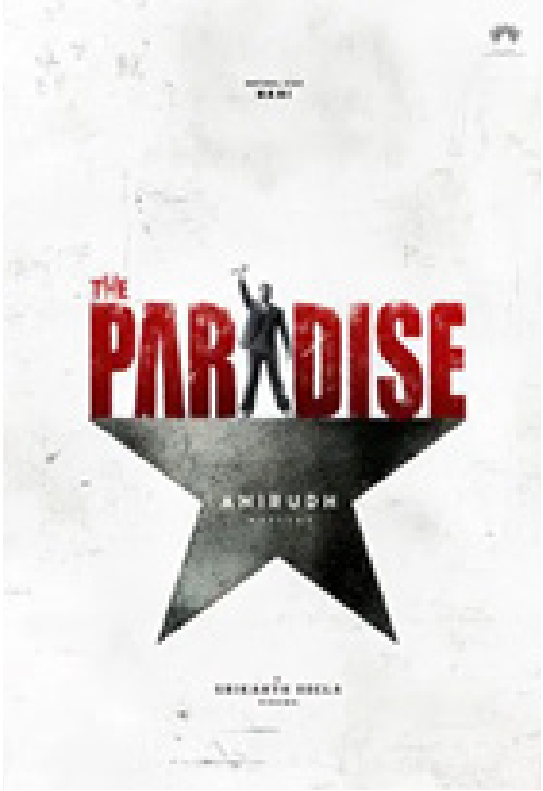
After India was put in to bat, Abhishek launched a brutal counter-attack, dismantling England's bowling attack. His aggressive approach began in the third over when he smashed Jofra Archer for a four and two massive sixes. He continued his carnage, reaching his half-century in just 17 balls with back-to-back sixes off Jamie Overton.

With Tilak Varma also joining the onslaught, India recorded their highest-ever Powerplay score in T20 internationals, posting an astonishing 95/1 in six overs.

Abhishek's innings further cemented his reputation as a dangerous T20 batter. In late 2024, he had already equaled the record for the fastest T20 century by an Indian, smashing a 28-ball hundred for Punjab in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.



Anirudh Ravichander Joins Nani's 'Paradise' as Music Director



Hyderabad: The highly anticipated film Paradise, marking the second collaboration between Nani and director Srikanth Odela, has officially onboarded Anirudh Ravichander as its music composer. The announcement was made by the makers on Sunday, creating a buzz among fans. This marks the third collaboration between Nani and Anirudh after Jersey and Nani's Gang Leader, both of which delivered chart-buster soundtracks. With Anirudh's proven track record of composing hit music, expectations for Paradise have skyrocketed. Fans eagerly await whether the composer can recreate his magic and add another blockbuster album to Nani's filmography. After the grand success of Dasara, which won multiple Filmfare awards and received critical acclaim, Nani and Srikanth Odela have teamed up once again. With Dasara becoming a milestone film in Telugu cinema, the duo aims to deliver another powerful cinematic experience. Nani, who was last seen in Saripodhaa Sanivaaram, has been on a winning streak with consecutive hits like Dasara, Hi Nanna, and Saripodhaa Sanivaaram. His upcoming projects include Paradise, HIT: The Third Case, and an untitled film with director Sujeeth. With his growing dominance in the Telugu film industry, expectations continue to soar for Nani's next venture.

February 2025 Movie Releases : A Diverse Mix of Action, Romance, and Thrillers

As the cinematic world steps into February 2025, audiences can expect an exciting line-up of films across multiple languages, spanning action-packed thrillers, heartwarming

romances, family dramas, and experimental cinema. After a mixed January, which saw some major releases like Game Changer and Daaku Maharaj underperform while Sankran-

thiki Vastunnam emerged as a surprise hit, February is expected to bring a fresh wave of excitement to theaters.

Major Telugu Releases in February 2025

February 7 Releases

1. Thandel - A much-anticipated action drama starring Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi, directed by Chandoo Mondeti. The film is based on the real-life story of a fisherman from Srikakulam who gets captured by Pakistani forces. With intense action and an emotional storyline, this film has already created significant buzz.



2. Brahma Anandam - A special project starring comedy legend Brahmanandam in a lead role, sharing the screen with his son, Raja Goutham. The film is expected to be a laughter riot with a touch of family drama.



3. Sundarakanda - A family entertainer starring Nara Rohith. The film follows the life of a man born under Mula Nakshatra, facing constant misfortune in relationships.



4. Bhavani Ward 1997 - A musical horror drama where a romantic love story takes a terrifying turn after an evil spirit takes over, blending supernatural elements with intense emotions.



February 14 Releases

1. Laila - Vishwak Sen is set to surprise fans with a unique role, playing a character who disguises himself as a woman in this action-packed drama.



2. Captain America: Brave New World - The latest Marvel superhero film, releasing in multiple Indian languages including Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, and Kannada.

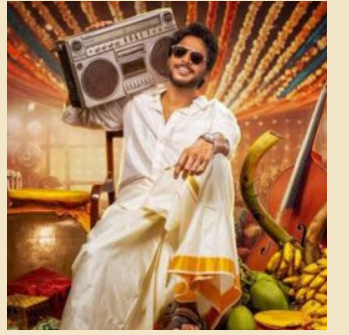


3. Dilruba



A romantic entertainer starring Kiran Abbavaram. However, there is still uncertainty surrounding its release date. February 21 Releases

4. Mazaka - A mass entertainer starring Sundeeep Kishan and Ritu Varma, directed by Thrinadha Rao Nakkina.



February 28 Releases

1. Thalli Manasu - A heartwarming family drama starring Adarsh Balakrishna and Kamal Kamaraju, focusing on a middle-class mother's struggles.



With a mix of mainstream entertainers and unique content-driven films,

2. Aghathiyaa - A fantasy thriller featuring Jiiva, Raashi Khanna, and Arjun Sarja, releasing in Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi.



February is shaping up to be an exciting month for movie lovers across India.

Ibrahim Ali Khan to Make His Digital Debut with Romantic Drama 'Nadaanian'

Bollywood star Saif Ali Khan's son, Ibrahim Ali Khan, is set to make his acting debut digitally with the young adult romantic drama 'Nadaanian', alongside Khushi Kapoor. The film, directed by Shauna Gautam, will premiere on Netflix, though the release date remains undisclosed. 'Nadaanian' revolves around Piya, a bold and spirited girl from South Delhi, and Arjun, a determined middle-class boy from Noida. As their worlds collide, they embark on a journey filled with mischief, heart, and the sweet messiness of first love.

The film boasts a stellar supporting cast, including Mahima Chaudhary, Suniel Shetty, Dia Mirza, and Jugal Hansraj. It is produced under Dharmatic Entertainment, backed by Karan Johar, Apoorva Mehta, and Somen Mishra.

Speaking about the film, the producers said, "Love has always been at the heart of our storytelling, and with 'Nadaanian', we're celebrating it in its purest, most youthful form." Director Shauna Gautam, making her debut, previously worked as an assistant director on 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani'.

Netflix India's Ruchika Kapoor Sheikh



shared, "Nadaanian captures the innocence and irreverence of young love. It takes audiences on an emotional rollercoaster while introducing a fresh, dynamic pairing." The first poster was shared by Netflix on Instagram, captioned: "Every love story has thodi si nadaani." Fans are eagerly awaiting the debut of Ibrahim Ali Khan and the chemistry between the two young stars.

Rapper Raftaar Marries Fashion Stylist Manraj Jawanda in Traditional Kerala Wedding



Indian rapper Raftaar has tied the knot with fashion stylist and fitness professional Manraj Jawanda in a traditional Kerala-style wedding in Thiruvananthapuram. The wedding was an intimate and elegant affair, embracing the rich cultural heritage of Kerala. This marks Raftaar's second marriage, following his divorce from Komal Vohra in 2022. Komal, the sister of actor Karan Vohra, and Raftaar had parted ways after a few years of marriage. For the wedding, Raftaar, whose real name is Kalathilkuzhiyil Devadasan Dilin Nair, donned a traditional Kerala mundu, while Manraj Jawanda looked stunning in a white and gold saree.

The couple's wedding pictures, shared on social media, captured the serene and elegant ambiance of the ceremony. Fans and friends from the entertainment industry showered them with love and best wishes. The ceremony was kept private with close friends and family in attendance, making it a personal and cherished celebration. Raftaar, known for his energetic rap and music, continues to make waves in the Indian music industry. With this new chapter in his life, fans are excited for what's next, both personally and professionally.