



Weather Forecast

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

Supreme Court Issues Notices to Defected MLAs



- SC Issues Notices to Defected MLAs
- By-Elections Likely After SC Hearing
- Supreme Court Reviews Defection Case
- BRS Seeks Action on Rebel MLAs
- SC to Decide on Disqualification of MLAs

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 In a significant development, the Supreme Court has issued notices to 10 Telangana MLAs who defected from the TRS (now BRS) party. This decision comes after hearing a petition seeking the disqualification of the defected lawmakers. The court has revealed that it will hear the petitions together, including those of former leaders Danam Nager, Kadiyam Srihari, and Tellam Venkat Rao.

The Supreme Court has directed that the disqualification petitions for the seven defected MLAs be handed over to Telangana Speaker's lawyer, Mukul Rohatgi, who is the respondent in the case. Additionally, the bench has issued notices to the defected MLAs, requiring them to respond to the disqualification

claims.

During the previous hearing, the Supreme Court questioned the Telangana Speaker regarding the appropriate timeline for deciding on the disqualification petitions. The bench expressed concerns over the delay in addressing the matter and requested a clear timeline. The next hearing is scheduled for February 10, 2025.

The petition was filed by BRS, represented by Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) and other party members, seeking action against the defected MLAs. These MLAs, including Srinivas Reddy, Banda Krishnamohan Reddy, Kale Yadayya, T. Prakash Goud, Arikapudi Gandhi, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and M. Sanjay Kumar,

2 PAGE

Cabinet Sub-Committee Receives Report on SC Classification

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 A meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on SC Classification was held at the Secretariat under the chairmanship of Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy. The meeting was attended by Vice-Chairman of the Committee Damodar Rajanarsimha, Member Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, and senior officials.



During the session, the one-member judicial committee, constituted by the government to review the issue in accordance with the Supreme Court's verdict, submitted its report to the sub-committee. The report was prepared based on the recommendations of the sub-committee

and is expected to play a key role in future policy decisions on SC classification. The sub-committee will now examine the report and take the necessary steps for implementation. Further deliberations are expected in the coming days as the government moves forward on this critical issue.

₹5,337 Crore for Telangana: Railway Minister Announces

- Kazipet Railway Station Development on Track
- More Vande Bharat Trains for Telugu States
- Kavach Technology Expansion in Telangana
- Secunderabad to Get Kavach Center for Excellence
- Namo Bharat & Amrit Bharat Trains Coming Soon
- Swiss System for Railway Track Management



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has assured that Telangana is receiving fair allocations in railway projects. In the Union Budget 2025, ₹5,337 crore has been

sanctioned for railway development in the state. Speaking at Rail Bhavan in Delhi on Monday, he addressed concerns regarding the Kazipet railway station, stating that its

2 PAGE

Key Meeting at Union Home Ministry on AP Division Issues

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 A crucial meeting on the unresolved issues related to the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh was held at the Union Home Ministry under the leadership of Home Secretary Govind Mohan. The meeting was attended by the Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, along with other senior officials.

During the session, the Union Home Secretary reviewed the AP Reorganization Act and emphasized the need for both states to coordinate in resolving pending matters. Despite the state's bifurcation in 2014, several key issues remain unresolved, particularly concerning the distribution of assets and liabilities of insti-

- AP-Telangana Officials Meet on Bifurcation Issues
- Home Ministry Reviews AP Reorganization Act
- States Advised to Coordinate on Pending Issues
- Legal Advice Sought on Asset and Debt Distribution
- Final Decision Expected in Next Meeting

tutions listed under Schedules 9 and 10 of the Act. The Home Ministry conducted an in-depth review of the implementation of the Reorganization Act, marking the first such review in nearly two years. Officials were advised to approach the issues with a positive outlook, as insisting on a greater share could lead to losses for both states. As a way forward, the officials have decided to seek legal advice regarding the division of assets and debts. The Home Secretary stated that a final decision on these matters will be taken in the next meeting. The ministry also assured support for infrastructure projects in both states.

- Calls for BC Chief Minister in 2028
- Slams EWS Reservations, Demands Abolition
- Supports KCR's Survey Over Congress Data
- Sparks Controversy Over Reddy Community Remarks
- Declares Revanth Reddy as Last OC CM

Mallanna: "BCs Can Even Buy BRS If Needed"

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 Congress MLC Teenmar Mallanna has stirred controversy with his remarks on the Telangana government's caste census. Speaking at a BC political rally in Hanamakonda, Mallanna criticized his own party's initiative, alleging that the census is biased in favor of the Reddy community.

"KCR's Survey Was Accurate"

Mallanna claimed that the caste census currently being conducted by the Congress government is fraudulent and



2 PAGE

BJP Appoints New District Presidents in Telangana

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 04
 The BJP has taken significant steps to strengthen its organizational structure in Telangana with the appointment of new district presidents. On Monday, State BJP Election Officer Endela Lakshminarayana officially announced the appointments for 19 districts and 52 assembly constituencies. These appointments, which will come into effect immediately, are aimed at enhancing the party's organizational strength at the grassroots level.



2 PAGE

KTR Calls for Readiness in By-Elections

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has made significant comments on the ongoing issue of party defections in Telangana, urging the party ranks to be ready for upcoming by-elections. His statement follows the Supreme Court's recent hearing on the disqualification of MLAs who defected from Congress to BRS. KTR's tweet has sparked political discussions across the state.

KTR tweeted, "Since the law prescribed by the Constitution and previous judgments of the Supreme Court are clear, it is impossible to protect Congress party defectors anymore. My fellow BRS party soldiers, let's be ready to fight in the by-elections soon." This comment has triggered widespread debate, with opinions divided over the implications for the state's political landscape.



The issue of defections has been a hot topic in Telangana, with the BRS party approaching the Supreme Court seeking the disqualification of defected MLAs. Notably, MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy has filed a petition regarding this matter, leading to the issuance of notices to several MLAs who

have switched parties.

KTR, who has also filed a petition on the issue, saw the Supreme Court's two-judge bench take up the matter. The bench, comprising Justices BR Gavai and Vinod Chandran, adjourned the hearing to February 10, 2025, and made it clear that this hearing will proceed alongside another petition related to the same issue.

In the meantime, the government's lawyer requested adequate time to decide on the matter, suggesting that reasonable time should extend until the end of the current Legislative Assembly term, similar to what occurred in Maharashtra. The decision will be communicated to the court after consultation with the Assembly Speaker.

As the issue continues to unfold, KTR's comments have set the stage for what could be an intense political period ahead, with by-elections likely in the near future.

Kabali Producer KP Chowdhury Found Dead in Goa

- "Financial Troubles Linked to KP Chowdhury's Suicide"
- "KP Chowdhury's Death in Goa: Suicide After Legal Woes"
- "Drug Case and Financial Strain Lead to KP Chowdhury's Tragic End"



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Film producer Krishna Prasad Chowdhury, known for producing the Telugu version of Kabali, reportedly committed suicide in Goa on Monday morning. His family members believe financial struggles and his involvement in a drug case may have contributed to his tragic decision.

KP Chowdhury, hailing from Khammam district, entered the film industry in 2016 and was the producer for the Telugu version of Kabali, starring Rajinikanth. He also worked as a distributor for several films, including Sardaar Gabbar Singh and Arjun Suravaram. However, his career faced setbacks, leading him to open a pub in Goa,

which also failed. In recent years, reports suggest Chowdhury became involved in the drug trade, with connections to celebrities.

In 2023, KP Chowdhury was arrested in the Hyderabad Varalakshmi Tiffins drug case after being caught with cocaine. He was released on bail but reportedly continued living in Goa. Chowdhury's relationship with several film stars came under scrutiny after the drug case surfaced, though many celebrities distanced themselves from him.

Financial difficulties and legal troubles are suspected to have led to KP Chowdhury's suicide. Goa Police have informed his family about the incident, and an investigation is underway.

Mohan Babu and Manoj Clash Again Before Collector

- Father-Son Dispute Escalates
- Mohan Babu and Manoj in Heated Confrontation
- Family Feud Continues Before Collector

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

The ongoing feud within the Manchu family shows no signs of settling, as veteran actor Mohan Babu and his son Manchu Manoj clashed again on Monday. This time, their confrontation took place in front of Rangareddy District Additional Collector Pratima Singh during a hearing on Mohan Babu's earlier petition.



As per reports, the collector first spoke to both individually before bringing them together to understand the issue. However, tensions flared, and the father and son reportedly exchanged heated insults in front of officials.

to have insisted that he earned his wealth through hard work and claimed that Manoj had no right to it. He demanded that his assets be returned.

week.

Mohan Babu's petition alleges that Manoj illegally entered his house in Jalpalli village, Balapur mandal, Rangareddy district, and is demanding a share of the assets. With the dispute escalating, the next hearing is expected to be crucial in determining the outcome of the family feud.

Following the hearing, both Mohan Babu and Manoj left without addressing the media. The collector has ordered them to appear again for another hearing next

The District Magistrate questioned them for nearly two hours. Mohan Babu is said

1st Page Cont..

Supreme Court Issues Notices to Defected MLAs

joined the Congress party despite winning their seats on the TRS ticket. However, the Speaker has yet to make a decision on the matter.

This case raises significant questions about political defections in Telangana, and if the defected MLAs are disqualified, by-elections are likely to be held. The issue is set to be revisited by the Supreme Court in its next hearing on February 10.

BJP Appoints New District Presidents in Telangana

The newly appointed district presidents are as follows:

1. Adilabad – Pantangi Brahmanand
2. Manchiryal – Venkateswar Goud
3. Komaram Bheem Asifabad – Srisailam Mudiraj
4. Nizamabad – Dinesh Kulachari
5. Kamareddy – Neelam Chinna Rajulu
6. Jagityala Rachakonda – Yadagiri Babu
7. Peddapalli – Karre Sanjeev Reddy
8. Medak – Valdas Radhamallesh Goud
9. Medchal Malkajgiri Rural – Buddi Srinivas
10. Nalgonda – Nagam Varshit Reddy
11. Mahabubnagar – P. Srinivas Reddy
12. Wanaparthy – Duppalli Narayana
13. Hanamkonda – Kolanu Santosh Reddy
14. Warangal – Ganta Ravi Kumar
15. Jayashankar Bhupalpally – Nishidhar Reddy
16. Janagama – Souda Ramesh
17. Mulugu – Sirikonda Balaram
18. Mahankali Secunderabad – Gundagoni Bharat Goud
19. Hyderabad Central – Lankala Deepak Reddy

It is important to note that none of the new district presidents are women, sparking some discussion within the party. Additionally, the party has reportedly delayed appointing district presidents in some areas due to disagreements. BJP sources also indicated that a decision regarding the state president will be made by the 15th of this month.

₹5,337 Crore for Telangana: Railway Minister Announces

development is progressing, though some approvals are pending. He confirmed that a railway production unit will be set up in Kazipet. So far, Telangana has received ₹41,677 crore for railway projects.

Vaishnav also announced that Telangana will soon benefit from Namo Bharat and Amrit Bharat trains. Additionally, more Vande Bharat trains will be introduced in the Telugu states.

Kavach Center

for Excellence in Secunderabad

The minister highlighted the implementation of the Swiss system for railway track management. Currently, 1,326 km of Kavach technology is operational in Telangana, with plans to expand it to another 1,026 km. Five Vande Bharat trains are already running from the state, and a Kavach Center for Excellence will be established in Secunderabad. Vaishnav further stated that Kavach technology will be implemented across India by 2056.

Mallanna: "BCs Can Even Buy BRS If Needed"

labeled it as a "Jana Reddy survey." He further stated that the caste survey conducted during KCR's BRS regime was "100 percent accurate." His remarks, including a call to burn the BC caste census report, have caused unrest within the Congress party.

"BC CM by 2028"

Mallanna made bold claims that Telangana would have a Backward Class (BC) Chief Minister after the 2028 elections. He asserted that Revanth Reddy would be the last OC (Open Category) CM and emphasized that Reddys and Velamas do not represent Telangana. He also stated that BCs are not financially weak

and could even "buy BRS if necessary."

Demand for 42% BC Reservation

Mallanna demanded the abolition of EWS (Economically Weaker Sections) reservations in Telangana and insisted that BCs should receive 42% reservation in local bodies. He argued that BCs contribute ₹1.2 lakh crore annually to the state's economy but receive only ₹9,000 crore in return.

His comments have sparked a debate, with opposition parties accusing him of attempting to create caste-based divisions for political gains.

Governor of Telangana Felicitates Republic Day Parade Contingent

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

The Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, felicitated the officers and cadets of the 2025 Republic Day Parade Contingent at a special ceremony held at Raj Bhavan on Monday. The cadets, who represented Telangana in New Delhi, were honored for their dedication and achievements.

In his address, the Governor commended the National Cadet Corps (NCC) for its role in shaping young minds and instilling qualities such as discipline, leadership, and social responsibility. He em-

phasized the importance of NCC training in developing responsible citizens.

The Governor also urged educational institutions to encourage more student participation in the NCC, stressing the importance of fostering leadership, courage, and self-confidence among youth.

Senior NCC officers and contingent members were presented with mementoes in recognition of their outstanding contributions. The event was attended by various senior officials, including Shri V.M. Reddy and Smt. Smita Sabharwal.

Janwad Farm House Case Hearing Postponed

- Revanth Delays Caste Census Report Release
- CM Cancels Press Meet on Caste Report
- Revanth Demands Cabinet Discussion First



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has expressed strong concerns over the premature release of details from the caste census report, stating that such matters should be discussed within the cabinet before making them public. He was reportedly angered by the disclosure of the report without prior cabinet approval. A press meet scheduled for today to disclose details of the SC Commission report was canceled, and CM Revanth Reddy made it clear that the decision to reveal the report's contents would only be made after the cabinet meeting tomorrow.

In other news, the Telangana

High Court has postponed the hearing of a petition filed by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in connection with the Janwad Farm House case. The case, which involves allegations of flying a drone at the farm house in March 2020, was previously registered by the Narsingi police. Revanth Reddy's lawyer pointed out that the police had applied incorrect sections in the case. The hearing, initially scheduled for Monday, has now been postponed to the 20th of this month, with a senior lawyer set to argue the case during the next session.

Minister Ponnamm Calls for Clarity on Caste Census



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar has raised concerns over the lack of participation from major political leaders in the caste census, emphasizing the need for transparency and accountability. Speaking to the media, Prabhakar pointed out that the Kalvakuntla family, except for Kavitha, failed to provide the necessary details for the survey. He also highlighted incidents where individuals were discouraged from participating, with some even facing attacks by dogs when attempting to complete the survey.

Prabhakar called on all political parties to clarify their stance on the caste census, particularly regarding its implications for weaker sections of society. He urged that all parties present their arguments in the upcoming Assembly session.

"We conducted the caste census as a movement, and the number of people in the state has been calculated," Prabhakar said. "If there is any attempt to block the caste census, there will be no peace." He expressed pride in being part of the caste census process, from its inception to the final report.

The Minister further stated that future actions will be decided in a Cabinet meeting. He also called on Chief Minister KCR to attend the Assembly session to ensure justice for BCs, stating that if KCR is committed to this cause, he will show up tomorrow.

Kavitha Criticizes Congress's Caste Census, Calls It a "Fake Count"

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

In a scathing attack on the Congress party's caste census, BRS MLC Kavitha has labeled the survey as a "fake count." Speaking to the media in Kothi Rampur, Karimnagar, Kavitha highlighted discrepancies in the census, particularly the increase in the population of OCs and SCs. She expressed concerns over the failure to conduct the BC census properly, noting that the BC population was counted at 46.2%, which she believes is an inaccurate figure.

Kavitha further criticized the Congress government for forming a BC Commission in response to public demands, yet failing to conduct a proper caste census. She pointed to KCR's successful implementation of the comprehensive family survey, which she claims was completed in one day. The MLC also commented on the upcoming EREJ bill, urging Congress to introduce it and provide 56.03% reservations for BCs, as promised by their leader Rahul Gandhi. "Prove your sincerity by immediately implementing these reservations and stop obstructing elections," she demanded.

Kavitha concluded by accusing Congress of duplicity, claiming the party used fraudulent calculations in both Karnataka and Telangana, and called for a 15-day review period of the caste census results.

BJP's Words Empty, Funds Nil: MP Chamala

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Bhuvanagiri Congress MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy has strongly criticized the Union Budget, accusing the Center of discriminatory practices and unfair treatment towards Telangana. Taking to Twitter, he posted a poster titled "Gadidha Guddu," emphasizing his dissatisfaction with the budget's provisions for the state.

Chamala Reddy expressed outrage over the lack of funding for crucial projects, particularly the Pasupu Board and the Mulugu Tribal Central University. Despite both Telangana's Union Ministers being in the Cabinet, the MP pointed out that the budget did not allocate a single paisa for the construction of buildings for the university, even though 211 acres of land were allotted.

He also criticized the zero al-

locations for the implementation of bifurcation promises and pointed out that while Andhra Pradesh received 15,000 crores for its development, Telangana received no financial support for its irrigation projects or other key infrastructural needs. Reddy condemned the government's empty promises and termed the allocation for AP's Polavaram project as an unjustified priority over Telangana's needs.



Congress Government Cheating BCs: Former Minister Srinivas Goud

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Former Minister Srinivas Goud has accused the Telangana government of deceiving backward classes (BCs) following the recent caste census report. Speaking at a press conference in Kamareddy, Goud criticized the government's handling of the caste census, alleging that false reports were issued to serve political interests ahead of elections.



He expressed concern over the lack of a dedicated ministry for BCs, pointing out that their population remains unclear despite the government's declaration. Goud claimed that Telangana's population exceeds 4 crores, with more than 3.4 crore voters, but the official figures do not align with these estimates. He further questioned the government's findings, pointing to inconsistencies such

as the reported decline in the Muslim population compared to 2011.

Goud emphasized that BCs should make up more than 60% of Telangana's population and called for an accurate survey. He criticized Congress for delaying the issue for a year and now rushing to address it, adding that BC movements are growing in response to the government's actions.

Central govt showing "Fake Love" for the state

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Congress Working President and former MLA Jagga Reddy has strongly criticized the NDA government at the Center and Telangana BJP leaders over the recent Union Budget. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Reddy expressed his anger over the lack of any allocation for Telangana in the budget, accusing the central government of showing "hypocritical love" for the state's people.



He questioned the effectiveness of Telangana's BJP MPs, pointing out that despite having two central ministers and eight MPs, they had failed to bring any significant resources or development to the state. Reddy emphasized that the budget appeared more like an election budget for Bihar and Delhi, rather than one aimed at addressing the needs of Telangana. Reddy further criticized BJP leaders in the state, accusing them of focusing only on making noise without achieving any real progress for Telangana. He called on BJP leaders Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay to apologize to the people of Telangana for the "fraud" committed by the Center, stressing that they had failed to secure any funds specifically for the state.

Case Filed Against Allu Arjun, Bakka Judson Questions CP

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Expelled Congress leader Bakka Judson has raised questions about the selective filing of cases following an incident during the pre-release of the movie Pushpa-2. A case was filed against actor Allu Arjun after the tragic death of a woman during the event. However, Judson questioned why a case has not been filed against Union Minister Kishan Reddy, whom he accused of causing the deaths of two individuals at Tank Bund. According to Judson, Reddy organized a program without proper permis-



sion, which led to the fatalities.

Judson further criticized City Police Commissioner CV Anand, alleging that he was avoiding action against Reddy. He also targeted Telangana Congress leader Revanth Reddy, describing him as a criminal with 83 cases and accusing him of mismanaging the state. Judson also condemned Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi, accusing them of deceiving the people of Telangana and causing the death of 49 students, despite claiming to represent youth interests. He demanded accountability from the leadership and questioned their sincerity.

Congress Poll Backfires, Satish Kumar Faces Removal

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

A recent Congress party poll on social media, aimed at evaluating the state government's performance, has caused a stir within the party. The poll revealed that 75% of participants favored the previous BRS government, while only 25% supported the current Congress government. This result has raised concerns among party leaders, as it tarnished the image of both the party and the government.

Internal discussions have revealed that CM Revanth Reddy is seriously concerned about the outcome of the poll. Allegedly, he has questioned why the poll was conducted in the first place and who was responsible for the negative results. As a result, Manne Satish Kumar, the Congress social media chairman and TSTS chairman, may be removed from both positions. Sources indicate that either Gutta Amit or Peddapalli MP Vamsi could replace Manne Satish in these roles.



Minister Accuses Centre of Budgetary Discrimination

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

State Agriculture Minister Tummala Nagewara Rao has accused the Central government of discriminating against Telangana in its recent budget allocations. Speaking at a Congress Party rally on Monday, Minister Rao criticized the Modi administration for prioritizing political interests over the state's needs.

The protest commenced at the Congress Party office and proceeded to the ZP Center, where Minister Rao addressed the gathering. He expressed disappointment that Telangana's irrigation projects, such as Polavaram, were overlooked in the budget. Ad-

ditionally, he noted the absence of funds for critical infrastructure like airports and the Bayyaram steel factory. Minister Rao alleged that the Central budget allocation is discriminatory towards Telangana, favoring BJP-ruled areas. He emphasized that despite multiple appeals to the Prime Minister and Union Ministers, Telangana's requests for financial support have been ignored.

The protest was attended by Congress Party District President Durga Prasad, leaders Sadhu Ramesh Reddy, corporators, and other party members. They collectively condemned the Central government's stance on Telangana's budgetary concerns.

Congress MLA Rammohan Challenges KTR and KCR to Public Debate

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04

Congress MLA Rammohan Reddy has issued a direct challenge to BRS Working President KTR and party chief KCR regarding the farmer loan waiver issue. During his remarks, Rammohan Reddy questioned KTR's claims about the state's loan waiver initiatives and invited him for a public discussion on the matter. The MLA specifically challenged KCR to visit Shivreddypalli and clarify under whose government the loan waivers were implemented.



Rammohan Reddy revealed that Rs. 1,000 crores of farmer loans were waived in the Parigi con-

stituency alone, stating that no amount of social media criticism from KTR would change the public's understanding of the truth.

In response, KTR, who was in Parigi constituency recently for the unveiling of Ambedkar statues, remarked that KCR's leadership is history and mocked CM Revanth Reddy's position. KTR challenged Revanth to visit the Assembly without security, asserting that KCR would never attend, and invited Rammohan Reddy for a face-off on his allegations.



HYDRAA Demolishes Encroachments in Shamshabad

**Illegal Structures Removed in Shamshabad
HYDRAA Acts on Land Grievances
FIR to Be Filed Over Repeat Violations**

**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (HYDRAA) launched a demolition drive in Shamshabad, Ranga Reddy district, on Monday, February 3, following multiple complaints about illegal encroachments. The operation targeted unauthorized structures built on public land, ensuring that encroachments were cleared efficiently.

As part of the drive, HYDRAA demolished a fencing and shed that had

illegally occupied a 998-square-yard park in Southern Paradise, Sri Sampath Nagar. Officials also acted on complaints from Ootpally village's Cape Town-2 Colony, where a wall had encroached on a 33-foot-wide road. The structure was removed to restore access and maintain proper urban planning in the area.

Earlier, HYDRAA had resumed the demolition of encroachments near Ameenpur Pedda Cheruvu after receiving complaints through the Prajavani program at Buddha Bha-

**Encroachments Cleared Following Public Complaints
Demolition Drive Targets Unauthorized Constructions**

van. Complainants alleged that a local politician had illegally occupied and developed plots near the lake, selling them unlawfully. The issue has been the subject of legal disputes since 2006. Officials confirmed that, given the repeated violations, a First Information Report (FIR) will be filed at the local police station to address the matter legally. The agency has been actively receiving and addressing public grievances. On January 27, it recorded 78 complaints related to land encroachments, while on January 21, 85 similar complaints

were registered. One complainant, Murlidhar Reddy, reported that his plot in Badangpet village, purchased in 1986, had been illegally occupied, and despite previous complaints to municipal offices, no action had been taken. He approached HYDRAA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath, who assured him that the issue would be resolved.

HYDRAA continues its efforts to remove illegal structures and protect public and private land from encroachment.



Ananth Diamonds Flagship Showroom Inaugurated by Ch. Sailaja Kiran



**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
The Ananth Diamonds Telangana flagship showroom was inaugurated by Smt. Ch. Sailaja Kiran, Managing Director of Margadarsi, at Road No. 46A, Jubilee Hills. The event was attended by Smt. Rekha Rani, Commissioner of Handloom & Textile AP, along with Managing Directors Venkata Bhanu Prakash and Vishnu Priya of Ananth Diamonds.

Ananth Diamonds is renowned for its refined approach to Indian classic jewellery, blending tradition with innovation. During the ceremony, MD Sailaja Kiran commended the team's hard work and dedication. She noted that the journey began with their first branch in Vijayawada 13 years ago, and their commitment to quality and unique design has led to exponential growth. Each diamond is carefully selected, ensuring that only Grade A stones are chosen to meet customer preferences.

Commissioner Rekha Rani remarked on the showroom's exceptional range of gold and diamond creations, crafted especially for the new generation of modern brides. Managing Director Venkata Bhanu Prakash emphasized the company's rigorous selection process, commitment to responsible sourcing, and expert craftsmanship. The showroom also offers custom design services, honoring the timeless art of temple and jadau jewellery while creating future heirlooms.

Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh Supports Temple Celebrations



**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh attended the annual Vasantha Panchamini Abhishekam, Ganapati Homam, and an extensive Anna Prasad distribution program held at the Muthialamma temple in Bapuji Nagar, Cantonment constituency. During the event, he prayed for the blessings of Muthialamma to be upon all the people and performed special pujas as the chief guest.

After the ceremonies at the Muthialamma temple, Sri Ganesh visited the Surya Bhagwan temple, where he participated in additional special pujas. Speaking on the occasion, he affirmed his full support and cooperation for all puja programs and temple celebrations. His presence underscored the commitment to preserving and promoting cultural and religious traditions within the community.

Cryptocurrency Fraud of Rs. 100 Crore - Accused Arrested While Fleeing Abroad

**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
Police have arrested an accused who was attempting to flee abroad after allegedly defrauding investors of Rs. 100 crore in a cryptocurrency scam. Ramesh Goud, who operated in the joint districts of Karimnagar, Medak, and Warangal, is accused of running an illegal business under the guise of cryptocurrency investment.



Goud created a fraudulent website in the name of GDR, where he convinced people that investing in cryptocurrency would yield high profits. To further lure investors, he formed WhatsApp groups and promoted the idea that they would win lucrative vacations to destinations such as Singapore, Goa, and Dubai. This deceptive campaign led many hopeful investors to deposit substantial sums of money into what they believed was a legitimate investment scheme.

After accumulating around Rs. 100 crore, Goud attempted to escape the

country. However, acting on complaints lodged by defrauded victims with the DJP office, the police successfully apprehended him while he was en route overseas. The investigation is ongoing, and authorities are urging anyone with further information about the scam to come forward.

The victims have demanded that Goud be compelled to return their money, and the case continues to unfold as law enforcement seeks to bring justice to those affected by the fraudulent scheme.

Telangana ACB Cracks Down on Corruption

**19 Cases Filed
Public Servants Arrested
Trap Cases Yield Seizures**



**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
The Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) registered a total of 19 cases in January, targeting various departments across the state. The cases include 10 trap cases, one disproportionate assets case, three criminal misappropriation cases, and additional general and discretionary inquiries. Seventeen public servants, including three outsourcing employees and private individuals, were apprehended during the operation. All the arrested individuals have been remanded to judicial custody by the court. In the trap cases, a sum of Rs. 1,45,000 was seized from officials in departments such as Education, Revenue, Home, Finance, Animal Husbandry, MA & UD, and Health Medical & Family Welfare. Furthermore, the ACB identified assets worth Rs. 65,50,000 in the disproportionate assets case involving the Tribal Welfare Department. The aggressive actions by the ACB reflect its commitment to rooting out corruption within the government. Officials urge citizens to remain vigilant. If you are asked for a bribe, please call the toll-free number 1064 immediately.

Mastan Sai Arrested in Lavanya-Raj Tarun Case

**Complaint Sparks Arrest
Hard Disk Revelations**

Video Blackmail Uncovered

**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
Mastan Sai was arrested by the nursing police at Kokapet following a complaint filed by Lavanya, Raj Tarun's ex-girlfriend. According to the complaint, Mastan Sai is accused of recording private videos with several girls and blackmailing them with the footage. Lavanya handed over a video she claimed Mastan had recorded of her, prompting the police investigation.

Authorities discovered that Mastan Sai's hard disk contains more than 200 videos, including intimate recordings of Lavanya. In a shocking twist, it was also revealed that Mastan had previously hacked the phone of Tollywood actor Nikhil. His hard disk allegedly held private videos of Nikhil as well as those of Varalakshmi Tiffin Center owner Prabhakar.

Further complicating the case, police recovered another hard disk from Lavan-



ya containing nude videos of nearly 300 girls. Lavanya's complaint also alleges that Mastan raped her and threatened to kill her when she refused to hand over the hard disk. The investigation is ongoing as authorities work to unravel the full extent of Mastan Sai's criminal activities.

Historic First: OU Appoints First Woman Joint Registrar

**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
In a landmark move to strengthen its administrative framework, Osmania University has promoted several senior officials to key positions. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kumar Molugam handed over appointment orders to the newly appointed administrative officers.



Notably, Smt. Y. Neeraja, formerly Deputy Registrar in the Pre-Audit Section, has been promoted to Joint Registrar (Administration), becoming the first woman in the university's history to hold this position. Other promotions include Sri. P. V. Somayajulu, now Deputy Registrar; Sri. M. Srinivas, appointed as In-charge Finance Officer; Sri. V. Narsing Rao, pro-

moted as Assistant Registrar for the University College of Commerce & Business Management; and Sri. P. Sreenanath, now Assistant Registrar at the University College of Arts and Social Sciences.

These advancements underscore Osmania University's commitment to merit-based progress and gender inclusivity, promising enhanced administrative efficiency and academic excellence.

BC Welfare Association Demands Review of Caste Census Results

**TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 04**
National BC Welfare Association Vice President Gujja Satyam has demanded an immediate review of the Telangana caste census results, citing serious discrepancies. Speaking at a meeting in Kacheguda, he questioned the reduction of the BC population from 52% in the previous family survey to 46.25% in the latest census.

reduced, while the OC population increased from less than 10% to 15.79%, allegedly to favor EWS reservations. He accused the government of manipulating figures to undermine BCs' political rights and reservations in education and jobs.

Satyam pointed out that while the overall population of Telangana grew, the BC count was inexplicably

He warned that unless the government ensures transparency and corrects the data, a statewide BC movement would be inevitable. The BC Welfare Association has demanded immediate corrective measures and a comprehensive review of the census findings.



Fire Breaks Out in Secunderabad Market, No Casualties Reported



TPN Correspondent Secunderabad: A major fire broke out in a busy market area of Secunderabad late Monday night, triggering panic among shop owners and local residents. The fire, which reportedly started in a textile shop, quickly spread to neighboring stores before firefighters brought it under control.

Authorities suspect that an electrical short circuit may have caused the fire, though an official investigation is underway. Four fire tenders were rushed to the scene, and after nearly two hours of efforts, the flames were doused. Fortunately, no casualties were reported, but property worth several lakhs was damaged.

Eyewitnesses described the chaos as thick smoke engulfed the area. Many shop owners rushed to salvage their goods, but several establishments suffered extensive losses. "We have lost everything in the fire," lamented one affected shopkeeper.

Officials have urged traders to follow fire safety guidelines to prevent such incidents in the future. The market remains partially closed as authorities assess the extent of the damage. Further details are expected after the fire department submits its report.

Illegal Liquor Seized in Karimnagar, Three Arrested

TPN Correspondent Karimnagar: In a major crackdown on illegal liquor trade, the Karimnagar police seized a large consignment of illicit liquor and arrested three individuals involved in smuggling. The operation, conducted late Sunday night, uncovered nearly 500 bottles of unauthorized liquor transported from neighboring states.

Based on a tip-off, a special police team intercepted a vehicle near the outskirts of the town. Upon inspection, they found liquor hidden in secret compartments. The accused were allegedly planning to distribute the alcohol in local markets without proper permits.

Authorities believe the arrested individuals are part of a larger smuggling network. "We are investigating further to track down the main suppliers and dismantle the entire operation," a police official stated.

The illegal liquor trade has been a growing concern in the region, with authorities stepping up efforts to curb smuggling. Officials have urged the public to report suspicious activities related to illicit alcohol sales. The arrested individuals have been booked under relevant sections, and further legal action is underway.

Suspicious Death of Woman in Kothagudem Sparks Investigation

TPN Correspondent Kothagudem:

A woman's mysterious death in Kothagudem has triggered a police investigation, with suspicions of foul play arising from initial findings. The deceased, identified as a 35-year-old resident, was found dead under unclear circumstances in her home.

Family members initially believed it to be a natural death, but inconsistencies in the scene prompted police to launch a probe. Forensic teams have been deployed to gather evidence, and authorities are questioning close relatives and neighbors.

Preliminary reports suggest possible involvement of personal disputes, though officials have not ruled out other angles. "We are analyzing all aspects, including financial issues and family conflicts," a police officer stated.

The case has created tension in the locality, with residents demanding a thorough inquiry. Police have assured that the investigation will be conducted transparently, and further details will be revealed as evidence is analyzed. The woman's body has been sent for post-mortem, and authorities are awaiting the report to determine the next course of action.



Police Crack Down on Fake Certificates Racket in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent

Hyderabad: Hyderabad police busted a fake certificate racket, arresting multiple individuals involved in producing counterfeit educational documents for employment and academic purposes.

Acting on a tip-off, law enforcement raided several locations and seized forged degree certificates, mark sheets, and official seals from various universities. The accused allegedly charged hefty sums from individuals seeking fraudulent qualifications for jobs and higher education.

Investigators believe the network operated for



several years, helping candidates bypass official procedures. Authorities are now tracking

down those who purchased fake certificates and may take legal action against them as well.

Officials have urged job seekers and students to obtain genuine credentials and warned against fraudulent shortcuts. "Employers and educational institutions should conduct thorough verifications to prevent such malpractice," a senior officer advised.

The case highlights the growing issue of document forgery and the need for stricter regulations to curb fraudulent activities. Police have assured that further arrests will follow as the investigation progresses.

Animal Cruelty Case in Sangareddy: 10 Dogs Killed

TPN Correspondent

Sangareddy: In a shocking case of animal cruelty, ten dogs were killed after being

eleven dogs thrown, only one survived with severe injuries. The incident has sparked outrage among animal welfare activists, who are demanding strict action against the culprits.



Police have registered a case under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and are reviewing CCTV footage from nearby areas to trace those involved. The incident has also drawn attention from political leaders, with calls for stronger laws to prevent such cruelty.

Animal rights organizations have urged the government to take immediate steps to curb violence against stray animals. They are also calling for

thrown from a 40-foot-high bridge in Sangareddy district. Authorities are investigating the incident to identify those responsible for the heinous act.

According to local reports, eyewitnesses saw unidentified individuals dumping the animals from the bridge late at night. Out of the

awareness campaigns and stricter enforcement of animal protection laws.

The lone surviving dog is receiving medical treatment at a local veterinary hospital, and authorities are appealing to the public for any information that may help in the investigation.

Missing Karimnagar Boy Found in Chennai Hotel

TPN Correspondent, Karimnagar: In a major breakthrough, Karimnagar police successfully traced a missing boy to a hotel in Chennai, reuniting him with his family after days of frantic search efforts.

The boy had reportedly gone missing under mysterious circumstances, prompting his family to file a complaint. Following a thorough investigation and technical tracking, police discovered that he had checked into a hotel in Chennai.

Upon locating him, officers ensured his safe return to Karimnagar. Authorities are now investigating the circumstances that led to his disappearance and whether any external influence was involved.

Family members expressed immense relief, thanking the police for their swift action. Meanwhile, officials have urged parents to re-



main vigilant and report any suspicious activities that may put children at risk.

The case has highlighted the importance of coordinated efforts between law enforcement agencies across states in locating missing persons. Further inquiries are ongoing to determine if the boy left home voluntarily or if foul play was involved.

Devotees Gather for Jogulamba Brahmotsavam Finale

TPN Correspondent

Jogulamba Gadwal: Thousands of devotees gathered at the Jogulamba temple for the grand finale of the annual Brahmotsavam celebrations, marking an auspicious occasion for spiritual seekers in Telangana.

The temple town witnessed vibrant festivities as devotees from across the state participated in religious rituals, special prayers, and cultural events. The concluding day featured a Maha Abhishekam and a grand procession of the deity.

Temple authorities ensured smooth arrangements, deploying additional security and crowd management measures. Religious leaders emphasized the importance of the Brahmotsavam festival in Hindu tradition, highlighting its role in fostering devotion and community bonding. Devotees expressed their joy at witnessing



the grandeur of the celebrations, with many sharing their spiritual experiences. The event saw participation from prominent priests and scholars, adding to its significance.

The Brahmotsavam festivities concluded on a high note, with temple authorities thanking devotees for their disciplined participation and ensuring that rituals were performed with traditional authenticity.

Man Dies of Electrocution While Repairing Borewell Motor in Warangal

TPN Correspondent

Warangal: A tragic incident occurred in Warangal when a 40-year-old man died of electrocution while attempting to repair a borewell motor at his residence. The victim, identified as a local farmer, was reportedly handling the equipment when he suffered a fatal electric shock.

Family members rushed him to a nearby hospital, but doctors declared him brought dead. Preliminary findings suggest faulty wiring may have caused the accident, raising concerns over electrical safety in rural areas.

Police have registered a case and are conducting an inquiry to determine if negligence played a role in the incident. Authorities have urged residents to seek professional assistance for electrical repairs and avoid handling high-voltage equipment without proper precautions.

The unfortunate event has left the local community in shock, with relatives mourning the sudden loss. Officials have reiterated the importance of safety awareness to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

16 Suspected Poachers Arrested in Kagaznagar

TPN Correspondent, Kumram Bheem-Asifabad:

Telangana police have arrested 16 suspected poachers at the Kagaznagar railway station in Kumram Bheem-Asifabad district during a routine security check. Authorities suspect the group was involved in illegal wildlife hunting activities.

According to police sources, the suspects were carrying hunting equipment and animal carcasses when intercepted. Upon questioning, they failed to provide satisfactory explanations regarding their activities. Wildlife officials have been informed, and a deeper investigation has been launched to assess the extent of their involvement in poaching.

Preliminary reports suggest the group may be linked to organized hunting networks targeting endangered species in Telangana's forests. If confirmed, they could face severe legal consequences under the Wildlife Protection Act.

Forest officials have reiterated the need for stricter surveillance in forested areas to curb poaching activities. The arrests highlight ongoing concerns about illegal hunting and the need for stronger enforcement of conservation laws.

The suspects have been remanded into custody, and further interrogations are expected to reveal more details about their operations.

Ban Google Reviews!!

Open Letter to the Prime Minister – Ban Google Reviews?

A medical professional has written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, urging an immediate ban on Google Reviews. He alleges that the review system is being misused for blackmail and extortion, harming Indian entrepreneurs and professionals. Given his regular contributions to our publication, we are reproducing his letter in full.

– Editor

Sri Narendra Modi ji
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
South Block, New Delhi

Subject: Urgent Request to Ban Google Reviews in India, Google is another east India company in hatching.

Respected Sir,

I write to seek your urgent intervention in banning Google Reviews in India. This platform is being exploited as a tool for manipulation, blackmail, and extortion, seriously harming Indian entrepreneurs and professionals.

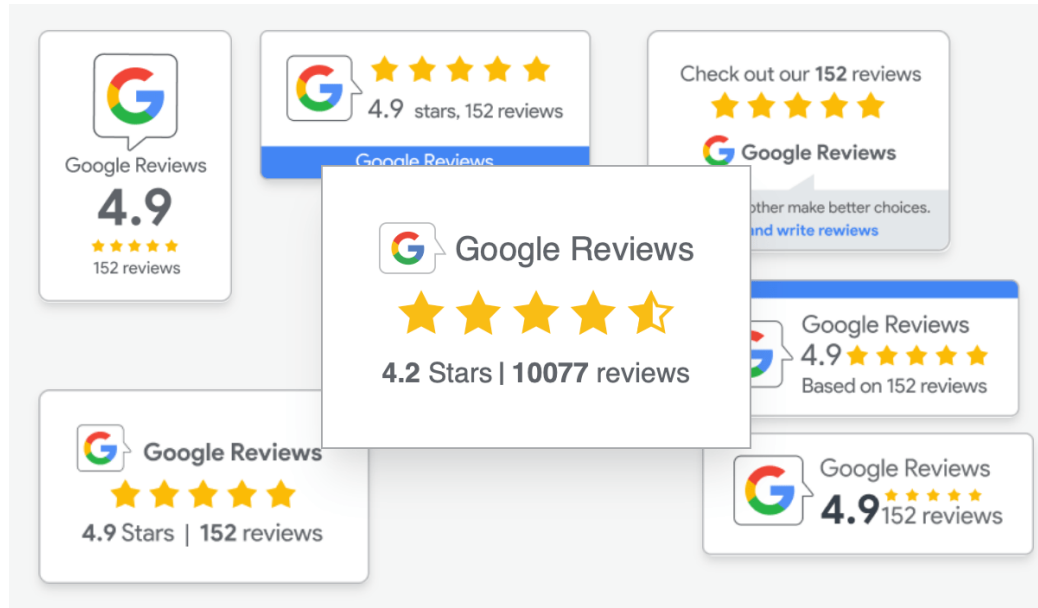
For years, I have witnessed a disturbing pattern: individuals—often linked to Google representatives—post fraudulent negative reviews against businesses, only to later offer "package deals" to remove them in exchange for payment. This is nothing short of blackmail, allowing a foreign entity to exploit Indian professionals for financial gain.

As a medical professional, I have personally suffered due to these unethical practices. Fake reviews from people who have never visited my facility have damaged my reputation, causing financial loss and eroding public trust. Despite lodging complaints with both Google and the local cybercrime police, no action has been taken.

It is imperative that the Indian government does not remain passive while a multinational corporation engages in such misconduct within our borders. Furthermore, in light of these unethical practices, I urge the government to reconsider the Padma Bhushan award granted to Google CEO Sundar Pichai. Honoring corporations that engage in predatory tactics sends the wrong message about our nation's commitment to protecting its citizens and businesses.

I urge you to take decisive action—either by banning Google Reviews or implementing strict regulations to prevent misuse. Protecting Indian professionals from exploitation should be a priority to maintain a fair and trustworthy business environment.

Google represents a multifaceted and intricate Frankenstein monster creation that, despite its vast capabilities and technological advancements, struggles to effectively control the misuse that arises from its fundamental elements. The platform, while designed to enhance connectivity and access to information, inadvertently becomes a breeding ground for various forms of cybercrime. Our nation is already grappling with the serious repercussions of these cybercrimes, which manifest in alarming ways, including digital arrests and fraudulent loan applications that exploit unsuspecting individuals.



The consequences of these cybercrimes extend far beyond mere financial loss; they have devastating effects on mental health and community well-being. Tragically, we are witnessing an increasing number of young individuals who, overwhelmed by the pressures and challenges posed by the digital landscape, are taking their own lives. This heartbreaking trend highlights the urgent need for more robust safeguards and support systems to protect vulnerable populations from the darker sides of technology.

Moreover, families across the nation are facing severe economic hardships as a result of these digital threats. The financial strain caused by identity theft, scams, and other cyber-related crimes can lead to a cascade of difficulties, affecting not only individual households but also the broader economy. The emotional toll on families dealing with the aftermath of such crimes cannot be overstated, as they navigate the complexities of recovery and rebuilding their lives.

In this context, Prime Minister Modi's advocacy for the "Make in India" initiative aims to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance within the country. However, it appears that Google's pervasive influence and the challenges associated with its platform may undermine this vision from the outset. The reliance on foreign technology gi-

ants can stifle local innovation and entrepreneurship, as domestic businesses struggle to compete in an environment dominated by powerful multinational corporations.

Furthermore, the potential for misuse of technology can deter investment and growth in homegrown solutions, as entrepreneurs may hesitate to enter a market fraught with risks associated with cybercrime and data breaches. To truly realize the goals of the "Make in India" initiative, it is essential to create a balanced ecosystem that empowers local businesses while also addressing the challenges posed by global tech giants like Google.

In conclusion, while Google has revolutionized the way we access information and connect with one another, it is imperative to recognize and address the complexities and challenges that accompany its influence. As we navigate this digital age, we must prioritize the protection of individuals and families from cyber threats, support mental health initiatives, and foster an environment that encourages local innovation and entrepreneurship. Only then can we hope to build a resilient and thriving society that aligns with the aspirations of the "Make in India" Before independence, British entity, the East India Company, controlled Indian commerce. Today, once again we find ourselves under the control of foreign companies like Google, which now exerts significant control over Indian businesses. Are we to remain subservient to these profit-driven foreign companies? Google's overarching aim appears to control of the Indian enterprises, ranging from micro, small, and medium enterprises in villages to major businesses in urban centers.

We, Indians should not remain captive in hands of these profit making unethical companies

I trust you will consider the severe implications of this issue and take appropriate steps. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Dr. Buragadda Srinadh, MD
Director, Asian Institute of Fetal Medicine and Reproductive Genetics
Hyderabad

How China Allegedly Contributes To Fentanyl Crisis



The United States continues to grapple with a devastating opioid epidemic, and fentanyl—a synthetic opioid 50 times more potent than heroin—is at the center of the crisis. The drug, which is cheaper and easier to produce than heroin, has claimed tens of thousands of American lives each year. Fentanyl is now the leading cause of death among individuals aged 18 to 45, and its rapid spread has been a point of contention between Washington and Beijing.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has accused China of being the primary source of fentanyl-related substances trafficked into the U.S. While China tightened its controls on fentanyl production in 2019, U.S. authorities assert that this only shifted the trafficking methods. Chemical components required to produce fentanyl are shipped to Mexico, where the drug is manufactured and then smuggled into the United States. Many of these precursor chemicals are legal in China and have legitimate medical uses, complicating prosecution efforts.

In response, Beijing has denied responsibility, asserting that there is no illegal trafficking of fentanyl between China and Mexico. However, the Chinese government has vowed to strengthen its regulations, pointing to some of the world's harshest drug laws. Despite these efforts, U.S. authorities argue that drug manufacturers continue to develop new variants of synthetic precursors faster than Chinese authorities can identify and regulate them.

The Biden administration has ramped up its efforts to curb the fentanyl crisis by targeting Chinese entities and individuals allegedly linked to the trade. In October 2023, sanctions were imposed on over two dozen Chinese firms accused of facilitating the shipment of fentanyl precursors to the U.S. and Mexico. These actions include individuals from both mainland China and Hong Kong, with U.S. officials attributing a significant portion of fentanyl-related deaths to the global supply chain that begins with Chinese chemical manufacturers.

China's cooperation in addressing the fentanyl trade remains uncertain. While U.S. and Chinese leaders agreed to restart counternarcotics talks following a summit in 2023, the effectiveness of these negotiations is still in question. Analysts note that cooperation between the two nations often hinges on the state of bilateral relations, and Chinese authorities may be less inclined to cooperate with countries with whom they have strained relations.

Learning from Past: The Importance of Disaster and Mitigating Modern Catastrophes



The devastating wildfires that ravaged Southern California in 2025 echo the destructive power of the Great Fire of 1910, which consumed over 3 million acres across Montana, Idaho, and Washington. Descriptions from that historic fire—such as "The forests staggered, rocked, exploded, and then shrieked under the holocaust" and "Great red balls of fire rolled up the mountainsides"—are chilling reminders of the recurring nature of such natural disasters. Similarly, the tragic events of the Wayanad disaster in July-August 2024 resonate with the accounts of a 1924 landslide in the region, highlighting the vulnerability of isolated communities in the face of natural calamities and the historical struggles of rebuilding economies after disasters.

While history may seem to repeat itself, there are valuable lessons to be learned by examining past disasters closely. Analyzing specific cases and their impacts, both immediate and long-term, can shed light on effective strategies for future disaster management and recovery. It is especially important to study historical disaster patterns and their socio-economic consequences to improve preparedness in today's world.

Disaster history has long played a crucial role in shaping how regions and nations deal with calamities. Although it has been an essential aspect of human experience, the study of disasters from a historical perspective has not always been systematically pursued. Pioneering studies, such as those on the 1755 Great Lisbon Earthquake and the 1920 dynamite explosion in Halifax, Canada, have provided insight into the multifaceted impacts of disasters, including their religious significance, social dynamics, and recovery processes. These early works laid the foundation for modern disaster studies, which have gained momentum since World War II, especially in the context of Cold War tensions.

Elon Musk and Donald Trump Target USAID, Sparking Controversy Over Government Oversight

Elon Musk and Donald Trump have launched a coordinated attack on the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), accusing the agency of corruption and overreach. Musk went as far as labeling it a "criminal organization," while Trump described USAID as being "run by radical lunatics." This marks a notable shift in the Trump administration's stance on government agencies, as the duo seeks to challenge what they perceive as wasteful and unchecked operations within the U.S. government.

Trump, speaking publicly on Sunday, criticized USAID's leadership, hinting at a potential overhaul of the agency. He suggested that the current leadership would be removed and that a future reassessment of USAID's role would take place, though he provided no specific details. This comment fueled speculation that Trump may be considering a significant restructuring or even

the potential dissolution of USAID. Musk, a staunch ally of Trump, escalated the attack by making unsubstantiated claims on his X platform. He accused USAID of engaging in "rogue CIA work" and "internet censorship." Additionally, Musk made controversial allegations that USAID had funded bioweapons research, including studies related to COVID-19. These accusations, which have been previously linked to Russian disinformation efforts, remain unsubstantiated and have been widely disputed by experts.

This rhetoric from Musk and Trump comes after the former president's administration previously froze aid spending, sparking concerns that USAID could face major cuts or a complete restructuring. While waivers were issued to allow humanitarian aid to continue, there are rumors that Trump plans to integrate USAID into the State Department, although no official comments have been made by his team.

Musk's involvement in the matter is linked to his leadership of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), a temporary body tasked with reviewing government operations. However, DOGE does not hold official status as a federal agency, and Musk's authority to make sweeping decisions remains unclear. Reports surfaced suggesting that DOGE staff attempted to access classified USAID materials, leading to forced leave for two senior USAID officials.

The attacks on USAID have sparked significant backlash from Democratic lawmakers. Senator Chris Murphy and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez have voiced strong concerns about the dismantling of the agency and the involvement of an unelected billionaire in governmental affairs. Critics argue that Musk's actions could pose a serious threat to national security and undermine the integrity of U.S. institutions.

India, Indonesia share motto of 'unity in diversity': PM Modi inaugurates Murugan temple

- Modi praises acceptance of diversity as key to harmony in India and Indonesia.
- Stresses deep-rooted cultural and historical ties beyond geopolitics.
- Highlights common spiritual connections, including Lord Murugan, Ram, and Buddha.



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the deep cultural and spiritual connection between India and Indonesia, noting that the acceptance of diversity is a key reason why people of different faiths coexist harmoniously in both countries. Addressing the Maha Kumbabhishagam in Shri Sanathana Dharma Aalayam in Jakarta on Sunday, Modi underscored that the relationship between the two nations goes beyond geopolitics and is grounded in thousands of years of shared culture and history.

In his virtual address, Modi highlighted the profound historical and cultural ties that

have shaped the bond between India and Indonesia. He pointed out that this connection is not only about heritage but also extends to science, faith, shared beliefs, and spirituality. Modi further elaborated on the importance of this relationship, noting that it encompasses common reverence for figures like Lord Murugan, Lord Ram, and Lord Buddha, who are significant to both countries' religious and cultural landscapes.

The event was attended by Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, who had recently visited India as the Chief Guest for the Republic Day celebrations. The participation of both leaders in such a significant religious and cultural event further symbolizes the

strong ties between the two nations. Modi's address at the ceremony emphasized how the cultural and spiritual exchanges between India and Indonesia have played a crucial role in fostering a deep and lasting bond between their peoples.

Modi's comments also reaffirmed the importance of shared values, such as respect for diversity and religious tolerance, which have been central to the harmonious coexistence of different faith communities in both countries. The Prime Minister's remarks reflect the broader vision of strengthening Indo-Indonesian relations, rooted not only in modern-day diplomacy but also in the enduring legacy of mutual respect and cultural affinity.



Did Manipur Chief Minister Stoke Violence? Supreme Court Seeks Government Lab Report

TPN Correspondent | Manipur

In a significant development, the Supreme Court of India has ordered the submission of a forensic report on audio clips that allegedly feature Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh instigating ethnic violence. The court has instructed that the forensic findings from the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) be submitted in a sealed cover.

The request for the forensic examination follows the presentation of audio tapes by advocate Prashant Bhushan, who is representing the petitioner in the case. The tapes, which were verified by Truth Labs with over 93 percent certainty, purportedly feature Singh's voice. In the recordings, Singh is reportedly heard discussing the protection of Meitei groups and their involvement in looting the state armoury during the ethnic clashes in Manipur. The tapes are alleged to have been recorded during a private meeting and leaked afterward, with Bhushan suggesting that the Chief Minister may have been instigating and abetting the violence.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the state, raised preliminary objections, arguing that the petitioner should first approach the High Court. He also informed the court that an FIR had already been filed, and an investigation was underway. Mehta further stated that the investigating agency had contacted the Twitter accounts that uploaded the audio clips for verification and sent the tapes for forensic analysis. He also accused the petitioner of having a "separatist mindset" that could be influencing the case.

The Supreme Court bench, led by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna, pressed for the timely submission of the forensic report. However, Mehta suggested that the results might not be available immediately. The case highlights the ongoing ethnic tensions in Manipur, which have led to widespread violence, including the involvement of militant groups.

In a related development, a militant from the banned Kangleipak Communist Party (People's War Group) was arrested in Imphal West district for alleged extortion activities targeting government employees and the public. This arrest further underscores the volatile situation in the region.

BJP MPs' privilege motion against Sonia Gandhi for calling President 'poor thing'



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

BJP MPs in the Rajya Sabha have filed a privilege notice against senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi for her controversial "poor thing" comment about President Droupadi Murmu. The MPs have called for exemplary action, accusing Gandhi of displaying an elitist and anti-tribal mindset. The notice, addressed to Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, claims that Gandhi's remark shows a lack of understanding of the struggles faced by tribal communities and poor individuals.

The BJP MPs argue that such a statement is a violation of the established rules of conduct and Parliamentary ethics, which demand respect for constitutional offices. They emphasized that the Parliament, as the highest legislative body in India, holds the responsibility of maintaining decorum and respect for all constitutional authorities. Any deviation from this, they said, undermines the credibility and trust that citizens place in the institution.

The notice also stresses that Sonia Gandhi's comments undermine the dignity of the office of the President. The BJP MPs called her actions "disparaging" and "contemptuous," noting that they are inconsistent with the principles of mutual respect and decorum that are essential for the functioning of a healthy democracy.

India Reevaluates Cryptocurrency Stance Amid Global Shifts

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India is reconsidering its position on cryptocurrencies, with the country's growing interest aligning with global trends as other nations adjust their approaches to virtual assets. A senior government official revealed this development on Sunday, noting that the shift in stance comes in the wake of crypto-friendly policy announcements, notably in the United States.

Ajay Seth, India's Economic Affairs Secretary, explained in an interview that the government is revisiting its stance on cryptocurrency, especially after witnessing changes in how various jurisdictions are embracing or regulating digital assets. As a result, the planned release of a discussion paper on cryptocurrencies, initially set for September 2024, may be delayed. Seth emphasized that cryptocurrencies, by their very nature, do not adhere to borders, meaning that India cannot adopt a unilateral approach toward the evolving global landscape of virtual assets.

Though Seth did not directly reference the United States, the timing of his remarks coincides with recent moves by U.S. President Donald Trump. Last week, Trump ordered the creation of a cryptocurrency working group to propose regulations for digital assets and explore the possibility of creating a national cryptocurrency reserve, signaling a more favorable regulatory environment for virtual currencies in the U.S.

Despite India's historically cautious stance toward cryptocurrencies, marked by high trading taxes and regulatory hurdles, the nation has seen a surge in crypto investment from its citizens. As the sector expands, the Indian government is increasingly forced to reevaluate its policies. In December 2023, the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) issued show-cause notices to nine offshore cryptocurrency exchanges for failing to comply with local regulations. In a related move, Binance, the world's largest crypto exchange, was fined 188.2 million rupees (\$2.25 million) in June 2024 after registering with the FIU to resume operations in India.

While some regulators in India have expressed openness to managing cryptocurrency trade, the Reserve Bank of India has consistently warned that private digital currencies pose a macroeconomic risk. This ongoing tension between government bodies signals the challenges India faces as it navigates its stance on the rapidly evolving world of digital finance.



Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Passes 50-Point Resolution, Rejects CAA, NRC, and UCC

TPN Correspondent | Jharkhand

The ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) passed a 50-point resolution during its 46th foundation day celebration at Gandhi Maidan in Dumka on Sunday night. Among the key points, the party strongly rejected the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), the National Register of Citizens (NRC), and the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), stating that these measures should not be implemented in Jharkhand.

The resolution also called for the strict enforcement of the Chotanagpur Tenancy (CNT) Act and the Santal Pargana Tenancy (SPT) Act, both of which aim to protect tribal land rights. Additionally, the party demanded that the central government release the "Rs 1.36 lakh crore dues" owed to the state government immediately, emphasizing the need for financial justice for the state.

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren addressed a large gathering during the event, where he lashed out at the Centre for allegedly ignoring the state's needs. He claimed that the people of Jharkhand had been "cheated" in the Union budget, as the state's concerns had been overlooked. Soren criticized those with a "feudal mindset," suggesting that they did not want the residents of the tribal-majority state to become self-reliant.

Soren also pointed out that despite Jharkhand contributing significantly to the nation's economy, particularly through its mineral resources, the state remains one of the most backward regions in the country. He voiced his frustration over the continued neglect of Jharkhand's development needs and emphasized the importance of financial justice for the state's growth and empowerment.

The resolution passed by the JMM and Soren's comments underscore the ongoing tensions between the state government and the central authorities, particularly regarding issues related to tribal rights, state finances, and the controversial national policies like the CAA, NRC, and UCC.



Rahul Gandhi's Remarks on Foreign Policy Spark Heated Debate in Lok Sabha

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Lok Sabha witnessed a tense exchange on Monday as Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remarks on India's foreign policy led to strong objections from the ruling BJP benches. Gandhi, while addressing the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, claimed that External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was sent to the inauguration of US President Donald Trump to secure an invitation for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the United States. This statement quickly provoked BJP MPs, including Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, who strongly objected, calling Gandhi's claim baseless and unfounded.

Gandhi began his speech by criticising the President's Address, claiming that it was repetitive, with the government listing the same achievements as in previous years. He also raised concerns about the rising unemployment in the country, asserting that neither the UPA government nor the current NDA administration has provided a satisfactory solution for the nation's youth regarding jobs.

On India's economic situation, Gandhi pointed out that despite the government's 'Make in India' initiative, the share of manufacturing in the country's GDP has decreased from 15.3% in 2014 to 12.6% today. He said that while the concept of 'Make in India' was a good one, the government has failed to implement it effectively. He further accused India of relying heavily on China for production, stating, "Every time we use a phone or wear Chinese products, we pay a tax to China."

In a controversial statement, Gandhi referenced the Trump inauguration, saying, "If we had a production system and were working on technologies, the US President would come here and invite the Prime Minister." This remark sparked protests from the treasury benches, with Rijiju demanding an apology for such "unverified" statements. Gandhi responded sarcastically, apologising for "disturbing their peace of mind."

Trump Slams Democrats for Delaying Nominees, Urges GOP to Act Tough

Trump claims Democrats are purposefully delaying his nominees, urging the GOP to respond.

- Trump accuses Democrats of deliberately delaying his nominees.
- Calls for Republicans to take swift action against confirmation delays.
- Claims nominee delays threaten national safety and governance.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former President Donald Trump has accused Democrats of deliberately delaying the approval of his nominees, claiming that they are holding up the process for political reasons at the expense of the country's safety and well-being. In a post on his social media platform, Truth Social, Trump voiced his frustration with the ongoing nomination process for his administration picks.

"Democrats are purposefully delaying virtually all of my nominees. No matter how good and well-qualified someone is, they are taking maximum time for approval — and laughing about it. They're having a good time at the country's expense and safety," Trump wrote, sharing a Fox News clip in which host Mark Levin discussed how Democrats were allegedly undermining the Constitution.

Trump further criticized Democrats, claiming that even if figures like George Washing-



ton or Abraham Lincoln were nominated, they would still be delayed until the last moment. He blamed their actions on their inability to accept the results of the previous presidential election, warning that their obstructionist tactics would only increase the Republican Party's strength. "Republicans must GET TOUGH —

AND MUST GET TOUGH VERY FAST. We need our nominees NOW, for the safety and good of our country!" he added.

As of now, only eight of Trump's 114 nominees have been confirmed by the Senate, with 68 still under consideration and 38 awaiting votes, according to The Washington Post. Among those confirmed are key figures like Marco Rubio as Secretary of State, John Ratcliffe as CIA Director, and Pete Hegseth as Secretary of Defense. Notably, other high-profile picks like Pam Bondi for Attorney General, Elise Stefanik for UN Ambassador, and Doug Collins for Veterans Affairs Secretary are still waiting for Senate votes.

In response to the delays, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., defended the right to delay nominations for candidates lacking broad support in the Senate. Schumer cited concerns over certain nominees, including Ratcliffe's qualifications to lead the Office of National Intelligence.



Panama drops Belt and Road deal with China amid Donald Trump's warning

TPN Correspondent | Panama

Panama has officially announced its decision to withdraw from China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), signaling the country's intention not to renew the 2017 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that tied it to China's global infrastructure project. This decision comes as Panama reaffirms its sovereignty over the Panama Canal, rejecting any foreign influence or claims over the strategic waterway. President Jose Raul Mulino emphasized that Panama's control over the canal, the world's second busiest waterway, is non-negotiable.

The move comes amid growing tensions with the United States, as former President Donald Trump and US officials have voiced concerns over China's involvement in the region. Trump has repeatedly suggested that the US should regain control of the Panama Canal, a vital maritime route. "China's running the Panama Canal... that was given to Panama, foolishly, but they violated the agreement, and we're going to take it back, or something very powerful is going to happen," Trump said previously.

In response to these concerns, President Mulino clarified that Panama's neutrality treaty with the US, which governs the canal's use, remains intact. "Sovereignty over the canal is not in question," Mulino stated. The Panama Canal, which was originally built by the US in the early 20th century, was handed over to Panama in 1999. Since then, the canal has remained under Panama's control, despite ongoing disputes over its strategic importance.

Homes Blacked Out, Bridge Torn Into Two: Rising Floodwaters In Australia Wreak Havoc

TPN Correspondent | Australia

Rising floodwaters have wreaked havoc across northeastern Australia, forcing evacuations, cutting off communities, and causing extensive damage to infrastructure. Storms that began over the weekend have dumped more than a metre (39 inches) of rain in parts of Queensland, submerging homes, businesses, and roads under muddy waters.



In Townsville, a popular coastal tourist spot near the Great Barrier Reef, authorities have declared certain areas a "black zone" due to the severity of the floods. The state's premier, David Crisafulli, warned that the region could face additional rain and more flooding, including both flash floods and riverine flooding. "We remain prepared for the ongoing prospect of more rain," Crisafulli said during a news conference. Emergency services reported conducting 11 "swift water rescues" overnight.

More than 2,100 people were ordered to evacuate Townsville over the weekend, but about 10 percent of residents refused to leave, according

to emergency officials. Tragically, one woman in her 60s lost her life when a rescue boat capsized in the flood-hit town of Ingham, located about 100 kilometres from Townsville.

The floods also caused significant damage to infrastructure, including the collapse of a critical bridge over Ollera Creek, which severed the main coastal road, the Bruce Highway. "It's not every day you see a bridge torn in two," Cris-

afulli remarked, highlighting the scale of the destruction.

Nearly 11,000 properties remain without power across northern Queensland, with no immediate timeline for restoration, according to Ergon Energy. Townsville's acting mayor, Ann-Maree Greaney, said that communities were isolated due to road closures, and efforts were underway to deliver food and restore power.

Deadly Wildfires in Argentina's Patagonia Force Evacuations, Destroy 3,000 Hectares

TPN Correspondent | Argentina

A deadly wildfire has ravaged around 3,000 hectares of land near El Bolson, a popular tourist destination in Argentina's Patagonia region, prompting the evacuation of hundreds of residents. The fires, which broke out on Thursday in the Cajon del Azul hiking area in Amprale, have caused widespread devastation. High summer temperatures and strong winds helped the fire spread rapidly, leaving destruction in its wake.

The fire has claimed the life of one individual, who suffered a cardiac arrest from inhaling smoke while inside his residence, as reported by Bruno Pogliano, the mayor of El Bolson. "This disaster left one fatal victim, devastated thousands of hectares and caused enormous damage to our community," said Alberto Weretilneck, governor of Rio Negro province, where the fires are burning.

Over 800 people have been evacuated from the affected areas, as authorities work to contain the spread of the flames. The provincial government of Rio Negro has declared a state of emergency, imposing a ban on open fires and strengthening surveillance and prevention measures, which will remain in place until April 30.

Firefighters are facing a challenging task in battling the blazes, with the ongoing threat of the fires being fueled by dry conditions and unpredictable weather patterns. The region has been experiencing extreme summer temperatures, exacerbating the risk of wildfires in an already vulnerable landscape.

In response to the disaster, authorities are mobilizing resources to assist in firefighting efforts and support the affected communities. While the situation remains dire, officials are hopeful that these measures will help control the fires in the coming days.

Zelenskyy Warns Against Excluding Ukraine from US-Russia Talks on War

TPN Correspondent | Ukraine

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned on Saturday that excluding Ukraine from talks between the United States and Russia about the ongoing war would be "very dangerous." He stressed the importance of Ukraine being directly involved in any discussions aimed at ending the conflict, especially as both sides work toward a potential ceasefire.

Zelenskyy expressed concern over Russia's reluctance to engage in meaningful ceasefire talks, pointing out that Moscow views any form of concessions as a loss, particularly with the current military advantage on the battlefield. He argued that the Kremlin's stance has made negotiations difficult, and he emphasized that the war could not be resolved without Ukraine's active participation in the dialogue.

In the interview, Zelenskyy highlighted that US President Donald Trump could play a key role in bringing Russian President Vladimir Putin to the negotiation table by leveraging sanctions targeting Russia's energy and banking sectors, in addition to continuing military support for Ukraine. "I think these are the closest and most important steps," Zelenskyy said, referring to the need for a strategic and coordinated approach involving Ukraine, the US, and its allies.

Zelenskyy's comments came after Trump's remarks on Friday, in which the former president indicated that US and Russian officials had already begun talks about ending the war. However, Trump did not provide further details on the discussions. Zelenskyy expressed that while Russia may have its own diplomatic channels, excluding Ukraine from the conversation would be detrimental to global stability. "Talking about Ukraine without us — it is dangerous for everyone," he concluded, emphasizing the crucial role his country plays in shaping the outcome of the war.

Trump Threatens EU Tariffs, Cuts Funding to South Africa Amid Trade War Escalation

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

US President Donald Trump has announced plans to impose tariffs on goods from the European Union, following his recent moves to target Canada, Mexico, and China. Trump said on Sunday that tariffs on the EU would be implemented "pretty soon," accusing the bloc of taking advantage of the United States. This statement adds to his ongoing criticism of the EU's trade practices, which he claims have been unfair to the US.

Trump's comments on tariffs come on the heels of his recent actions, including 25% tariffs on Mexican and Canadian goods and a 10% tariff on Chinese imports. While Trump has previously threatened to impose tariffs on the EU, this latest declaration marks a potential escalation of the trade war. He reiterated his grievances over the US trade deficit with the 27-nation bloc, stating, "The European Union has treated us so terribly."

The European Union has vowed to retaliate if Trump follows through on his tariff threat. A spokesperson for the EU stated that it would "respond firmly" to any unfair tariffs imposed by the US. In addition to the EU, Trump's trade war has sparked backlash from key allies, including Canada and Mexico, who have already pledged retaliatory measures. China has also said it plans to challenge Trump's tariffs at the World Trade Organization.

In a related development, Trump also criticized South Africa, accusing the country of "confiscating" land and mistreating certain classes of people. He announced that the US would cut off all future funding to South Africa, pending an investigation into these claims.

Stock Markets Decline on Global Uncertainty; IT and Healthcare Limit Losses



Domestic stock markets closed lower on Monday. The Nifty opened with a gap-down of 162 points in the morning on negative signals from global markets. Donald Trump's decision to stop funding to South Africa, preparations to impose tariffs on other countries, signals from those countries to impose tariffs in retaliation, and international uncertainty contributed to this. After that, there was a slight recovery as investors took up some buying. However, the further weakening of the rupee against the dollar increased the negative sentiment. Nifty ended with a loss of 121 points and Sensex 319 points on support from IT and healthcare shares.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,505 in the previous session, opened at 77,063 today. It touched an intraday low of 76,756. It reached an intraday high of 77,260. It ended at 77,186, down 319 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,319 on Monday, touched

a low of 23,222 and a high of 23,381. It lost a total of 121 points and closed at 23,361. The Nifty Bank fell 296 points to settle at 49,210.

In the Nifty50, 16 companies gained while 35 lost. Bajaj Finance, Shriram Finance, M&M, Wipro, Bajaj Finserv were the top gainers. IT, Tata Consumer, Hero Moto, Coal India, BEL were the biggest losers. Today, all sectoral indices, except IT, healthcare, auto, pharma, and consumer durables, were in the red. Bank, FMCG, metal, oil and gas indices fell the most.

Market breadth on NSE today completely shifted in favor of sellers. Out of a total of 2928 stocks traded, 2063 lost. Only 787 gained. Shares of 34 companies reached 52-week highs



while 79 reached 52-week lows.

Rupee weakened by 58 paise to settle at 87.19 against dollar. Jefferies reduced GMR Airports target to Rs.92 from Rs.100. Nomura maintained buy rating with a target price of Rs.870 for Five Star Business Finance. Kamat Hotels and Sky Gold ended in the upper circuit. Railways, defense and infra shares were volatile today due to reduced capex spending. Stove Craft's net profit in the third quarter rose 79% from Rs 6.7 crore to Rs 12 crore. Alembic Pharma's net profit fell 23% to Rs 138 crore from Rs 180 crore. Poly Medicure's net profit rose 31% from Rs 65 crore to Rs 85 crore. The heads of the respective companies believe that India will register double-digit growth in the financial year 2026. Mahindra Life Space has won a project worth Rs 950 crore for the redevelopment of residential societies in Mumbai. Sky Gold's net profit rose from Rs 9 crore to Rs 37 crore. Hero MotoCorp's January exports rose 140.8%. Swan Energy won an order worth Rs 111 crore. Divis Laboratories' profit rose from Rs 358 crore to Rs 589 crore.

1. Bajaj Finance (BAJFINANCE) – NBFC Leader

Bajaj Finance is a market leader in the Indian non-banking financial company (NBFC) space, offering consumer loans, SME loans, and commercial lending. It has a strong digital lending platform



and a growing customer base. Bajaj Finance remains a strong long-term bet due to its consistent earnings growth, high return ratios, and leadership in digital lending. Valuations are on the higher side, but growth potential remains strong.

2. Wipro (WIPRO) – IT Services Giant

Wipro is one of India's largest IT services firms, providing consulting, cloud computing, and digital transformation solutions globally. It has a significant presence in the BFSI, healthcare, and manufacturing sectors. Wipro's growth has lagged behind peers like TCS and Infosys due to weaker deal wins and margin pressures. However, the company is focusing on improving execution efficiency and large deal acquisitions. Suitable for long-term investors seeking stability.

3. Bharti Airtel – Telecom & Digital Services Leader

Bharti Airtel is one of India's leading telecom providers, offering mobile, broadband, and enterprise solutions. It is expanding its 5G network and increasing ARPU (Average Revenue Per User) with premium offerings. Bharti Airtel is benefiting from strong subscriber growth, premiumization, and tariff hikes. Its high P/E suggests premium valuation, but



long-term growth potential remains strong due to rising data consumption and enterprise business expansion.

4. Cholamandalam Investment & Finance (CHOLAFIN) – Leading NBFC in Vehicle Finance



Cholamandalam is a Murugappa Group NBFC, focusing on vehicle finance, home loans, and SME loans. It has a strong rural and semi-urban lending presence. Cholamandalam is well-positioned to benefit from rising demand for auto and rural credit. While valuations are high, its consistent profitability and strong loan growth make it a solid long-term NBFC play.

5. TVS Motor Company (TVSMOTOR) – Two-Wheeler & EV Leader

TVS Motor is a leading two-wheeler manufacturer in India with a growing presence in electric vehicles (EVs) and premium motorcycles. It competes with Hero MotoCorp and Bajaj Auto. TVS is rapidly expanding its EV portfolio and premium segment motorcycles. Strong brand loyalty and international expansion support long-term growth. A good pick for investors looking for a blend of stability and growth in the auto sector.



Rupee hits an all-time low to go past Rs 87 against US dollar



The Indian rupee plunged to a record low of Rs 87.07 against the US dollar on Monday, following new trade tensions triggered by fresh tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump. The rupee's sharp decline, which amounted to a 0.5% drop in early trade, reflects broader instability in the global currency markets as the US dollar strengthened significantly.

The rupee's weakness was largely a result of three executive orders signed by Trump over the weekend, which introduced new tariffs on major trading partners. These measures included 25% tariffs on imports from Mexico and Canada, along with a 10% tariff on goods from China, set to take effect on Tuesday. As the US dollar gained strength in response to these tariffs, it placed significant pressure on other currencies, particularly in Asia.

Traders anticipate continued pressure on the rupee throughout the day, with further weakness expected as global markets adjust to the news. The strengthening of the US dollar, spurred by the tariffs, contributed to the rise of the dollar index, which climbed 0.3% to 109.8. This stronger dollar has affected not only the Indian rupee but other Asian currencies as well.



Budget is By the People, For the People, Of the People: says Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, paraphrasing Abraham Lincoln, described the Union Budget as "by the people, for the people, of the people." In her remarks, she highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's strong support for tax cuts aimed at easing the burden on the middle class. According to Sitharaman, while the idea for tax cuts was driven by the Prime Minister's vision, it took time to convince bureaucrats to implement the changes.

The newly introduced tax rates are designed to reduce the financial strain on the middle class, leaving more disposable income in the hands of households. This move is expected to stimulate household consumption and support the economy by encouraging spending. Sitharaman emphasized that widening the tax base is an ongoing process, and it is crucial for citizens to understand the importance of tax payment in sustaining government welfare schemes.

Sitharaman acknowledged the concerns of the middle class, which had long been expressing dissatisfaction about their unmet aspirations despite being honest taxpayers. She explained that the government's decision to provide tax relief was a response to their calls for assistance, especially amid rising inflation.

However, while Prime Minister Modi was quick to approve the tax cuts, convincing the officials in the Finance Ministry and the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), responsible for ensuring revenue collection, required more effort. Sitharaman shared that the process took some time but ultimately led to the announcement of the tax relief, which has been in the works for several months.

Adani Power Plans Major Expansion to Boost Capacity by 1.7x by 2030

Adani Power Ltd (APL), India's second-largest thermal power generation company, is on track to significantly expand its power generation capacity. According to a report by Jefferies, APL aims to increase its capacity from 17.6 GW to 30.7 GW by 2030, marking a 1.7 times growth.

The company's strategic expansion plan comes with strong backing in terms of land acquisition and financing. APL is working closely with Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) for the delivery of necessary equipment. Additionally, APL's in-house engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) team is ensuring that capital expenditure progresses according to schedule, driving the company's expansion forward.

Jefferies highlighted that India's peak power deficit situation, combined with APL's exposure to the merchant power market, provides a positive outlook for the compa-



ny. The report projects a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10% in EBITDA between FY24 and FY27. As new power capacity comes online, EBITDA growth is expected to accelerate, with a 19% CAGR forecasted between FY27 and FY30. Overall, the report estimates a 2.2x increase in EBITDA from FY24 to FY30.

In terms of funding the expansion, APL will

require an incremental capital expenditure of Rs 1.6 trillion to add 13 GW of capacity. The company plans to manage this investment through operational cash flows of Rs 1.4 trillion between FY25 and FY30. However, APL's debt-to-equity ratio is expected to peak at 1.4x during FY26-FY27 before declining post-FY27 as new plants begin generating revenue.



Araku Chali Festival Concludes with Grand Success

TPN Correspondent | Araku

The three-day Araku Chali Festival concluded on a grand note, attracting large crowds who enjoyed the celebrations in the scenic valley. The festival, which featured trekking, cultural performances, traditional competitions, and adventure activities, showcased the rich heritage and natural beauty of Araku.

Trekking to Instill Enthusiasm in Tourists

Many youths enthusiastically participated in the trekking program organized to instill joy and courage in tourists. On the third day of the festival, participants trekked approximately three kilometers from the Sun-kara Metta Coffee Trail, experiencing the beauty of the region while also contributing to its preservation. In line with the District Collector's vision of making tourist areas plastic-free, trekkers actively removed plastic waste, spreading awareness about the responsibility of respecting nature. The trek was supported by the OP Agarwal team from Madhya Pradesh.

Under the guidance of Visakhapatnam District Judge M Giridhar, Divisional Forest Officer Sandeep Reddy, Sub-Divisional Forest Officer Umamaheswari, and Freedom Fighters Museum Curator P Shankar Rao, the trekking experience became a memorable one. Participants expressed their delight in witnessing diverse bird species, inhaling the fresh aroma of medicinal plants, and immersing themselves in nature's tranquility.

Muggula Competitions Add to the Festive Spirit
A major highlight of the festival was the muggula (rangoli) competitions, which attracted significant participation. Women from tribal and local communities enthusiastically displayed their artistic talents, creating vibrant and intricate rangoli designs. Several women officers also took part, adding to the festival's celebratory atmosphere.

The winners of the muggula competition were:

- **First Prize: B. Devi**
- **Second Prize: L. Madhu Sri**
- **Third Prize: U. Sunitha**
- **Consolation Prize:** Three-year-old Chinmayi, who impressed everyone with her participation.

District Collector S. Dinesh Kumar, while presenting the awards, lauded the enthusiastic response and highlighted the festival's ability to bring together locals and tourists in cultural harmony.

Government's Commitment to Tourism Development

Special Chief Secretary of the Tourism Department, Ajay Jain, addressed the festival's closing ceremony virtually, emphasizing the government's strong commitment to developing tourist destinations. He noted that after a five-year gap, the Araku Chali Festival was successfully

revived, setting an example for other districts. He announced that next year, a large-scale Alluri Tribal Destination festival would be organized to further promote tourism.

District Collector S. Dinesh Kumar revealed ambitious plans to boost adventure tourism in the region. He stated that nine key destinations had been identified for development, with 20 paragliding setups and cross-country flying planned for April next year. Additional tourism projects in Tajangi and Jolaput areas were also announced, with a focus on enhancing cultural experiences. Notable festival highlights included a 300-person marathon, a 20-member cycling event, and trekking expeditions, alongside mesmerizing performances by artists from Manipur, Nagaland, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh. The festival also featured food courts offering authentic tribal cuisine, adding a gastronomic delight to the event.

Celebrity Participation Adds to the Festivities

The Araku Chali Festival 2025 was further enlivened by the participation of notable personalities who added a special charm to the event. A standout moment was when IAS officer M.J. Abhishek Gowda captivated the audience with his rendition of the popular Telugu song Neeli Neeli Aakasam from the movie 30 Rojullo Preminchadam Ela. His performance, along with his participation in traditional dances, garnered widespread praise on social media.

Adding to the festival's allure, popular singer Mangli delivered an electrifying performance on February 2nd, energizing the crowd with her dynamic stage presence.

A Grand Conclusion with Promises for the Future

As the curtains came down on the Araku Chali Festival, it left an indelible mark on the visitors who cherished its cultural and adventurous experiences. The festival successfully brought together nature enthusiasts, adventure seekers, and cultural connoisseurs, setting a new benchmark for tourism events in the region. Officials reaffirmed their commitment to making the 2026 edition of the festival even more spectacular, transforming it into a must-visit event for both domestic and international tourists. With its blend of nature, adventure, culture, and tradition, the Araku Chali Festival has firmly established itself as a premier tourism attraction in Andhra Pradesh.

Anakapalle District Collector Vijaya Krishnan, Joint Collector Dr. M.J. Abhishek Gowda, ITDA Project Officer V. Abhishek, Sub-Collector Sooryaman Patel, Rampachodavaram Sub-Collector Kalpasri, DFO Sandeep Reddy, DRO K. Padmalatha, and other dignitaries graced the event, making it a grand success.



Telangana's Young Cricket Sensation Trisha

- A Journey of Sacrifice and Triumph

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana's rising cricket star Gongidi Trisha has become a national sensation after her outstanding performance in the Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup. With her remarkable all-round skills, she played a crucial role in leading Team India to victory in the mega tournament, making her one of the brightest prospects in Indian women's cricket. However, behind Trisha's success lies an extraordinary tale of perseverance, sacrifice, and unwavering parental support, particularly from her father, Gongidi Ramireddy.

The Father's Sacrifice Behind Trisha's Success

Trisha's journey to international cricket is not just a story of talent and hard work but also of immense sacrifice by her father. Similar to fellow Telugu cricketer Nitish Kumar Reddy, Trisha's success was shaped by the dedication and relentless efforts of her father. Gongidi Ramireddy, a native of Bhadrachalam in the erstwhile Khammam district, was a fitness trainer in a private company. A sports enthusiast himself, he envisioned a career in sports for his future child even before she was born. On December 15, 2005, when Trisha was born, Ramireddy did not let the societal mindset about girls in sports deter him. Determined to nurture his daughter's sporting career, he took it upon himself to guide her every step of the way. Initially, he introduced her to different sports, including tennis and badminton, but it was cricket that caught Trisha's interest. She shared her father's passion for the game and often watched matches with him, strengthening his resolve to shape her into a professional cricketer.

Overcoming Hurdles and Relocating for Cricket

Despite facing skepticism from people around him and struggling with financial difficulties, Ramireddy never wavered. He made the life-altering decision to quit his job as a fitness trainer and dedicate himself entirely to his daughter's cricketering



journey. Realizing that opportunities in their hometown were limited, he took another bold step—moving his entire family to Hyderabad to provide Trisha with better training facilities. In Hyderabad, he enrolled her at St. John's Cricket Academy in Secunderabad, one of the finest cricket academies in the state. This shift came with its challenges—balancing her cricket training and education, financial constraints, and the pressure to prove that their sacrifices were not in vain. But Trisha, inspired by her father's dedication, put in relentless effort to hone her skills in both batting and bowling.

Trisha's Rise Through the Ranks

Trisha's hard work soon bore fruit as she began making waves in Hyderabad's cricketering circuit. She gained recognition as a talented all-rounder, earning a spot in Hyderabad's team for the 2017-18 Senior Women's T20 League. Her performances there led to her selection for India B in the Senior Women's Challenge Trophy held in Andhra Pradesh in 2021-22. By 2023, she had secured a place in India's

Under-19 Women's team and played a key role in the Under-19 World Cup that year. She showcased her batting prowess by scoring 24 runs in the final, contributing significantly to India's victory.

A Star Performer in the 2025 Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup

Trisha's defining moment came in the 2025 edition of the Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup, held in Malaysia. She emerged as the highest run-scorer in the tournament, playing a crucial role in India's dominant run.

In the final against South Africa, India chased down the target of 83 runs with ease, losing only one wicket in 11.2 overs. Trisha top-scored with an unbeaten 44, guiding the team to victory. Earlier in the match, she had also played a pivotal role with the ball, taking three crucial wickets to restrict South Africa to a meager total.

Her standout performances extended beyond the final. In the Super Six stage, she smashed a record-breaking 110 runs off just 59 balls against Scotland, hitting 13 fours and four sixes. This innings made her the first cricketer to score a century in the 2025 Women's Under-19 World Cup, further solidifying her reputation as an exceptional talent.

A Dream Yet to Be Fulfilled

Trisha's achievements have brought immense pride to Telangana and to her father, Ramireddy, whose sacrifices have finally paid off. Yet, his ultimate dream remains unfulfilled—seeing his daughter represent the senior Indian Women's team. With her current trajectory, it is only a matter of time before Trisha dons the India jersey at the highest level.

Her story is a testament to the power of perseverance, determination, and parental sacrifice. From a small town in Telangana to the global cricketering stage, Gongidi Trisha has become a beacon of inspiration for aspiring young cricketers across the country.

Praggnanandhaa Defeats Gukesh in Tiebreaker to Win Tata Steel Chess Masters Title



Chennai's chess prodigy, Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa, triumphed over World Champion D Gukesh in a nerve-wracking tiebreaker to claim his first-ever Tata Steel Chess Masters title. The 19-year-old battled exhaustion and immense pressure to overcome his compatriot 2-1 in the final of the tournament's 87th edition on Sunday.

Both players ended the regular rounds with 8.5 points each, forcing a tiebreaker. Gukesh suffered a loss to Arjun Erigaisi, while Praggnanandhaa was defeated by Germany's Vincent Keymer. In the tiebreaker, Gukesh took the lead in the first game due to a blunder by Praggnanandhaa, but the latter bounced back in the second, employing the Trompowsky opening to level the score at 1-1.

The match then moved to sudden death, where Gukesh initially had an advantage, gaining a pawn. However, under pressure, he lost control, first giving away a pawn and later his last remaining knight. Praggnanandhaa capitalized on the errors with his impeccable endgame technique, securing victory.

With this win, Praggnanandhaa became the first Indian since Viswanathan Anand to win the Tata Steel Chess title. Gukesh, unfortunately, faced heartbreak for the second consecutive year, having lost the 2023 tiebreaker to Wei Yi.

After the victory, Praggnanandhaa expressed his excitement, calling it his most stressful day. "I didn't expect to win, but somehow things went my way," he said.

Sift Kaur Samra, Jonathan Anthony Win Gold at National Games 2025

Punjab's Sift Kaur Samra and Karnataka's Jonathan Anthony clinched gold medals in the women's 50m 3 positions and men's 10m pistol events, respectively, at the ongoing 38th National Games on Monday.

Samra, an Asian Games gold medallist, delivered a stellar performance, scoring 461.2 points at the Maharana Pratap Sports College. Her Punjab teammate Anjum Moudgil secured silver (458.7 points), while Telangana's Surabhi Bhardwaj Rapole took bronze (448.8 points).

In the men's 10m pistol final, Karnataka's Jonathan Anthony secured gold with a flawless performance, while SSCB's Ravinder Singh and Gurpreet Singh bagged silver and bronze, respectively.

Expressing her joy, Samra said, "This feels like a comeback after the Olympics. Winning gold today is special." Anthony added, "Competing against top shooters made this victory even more meaningful."

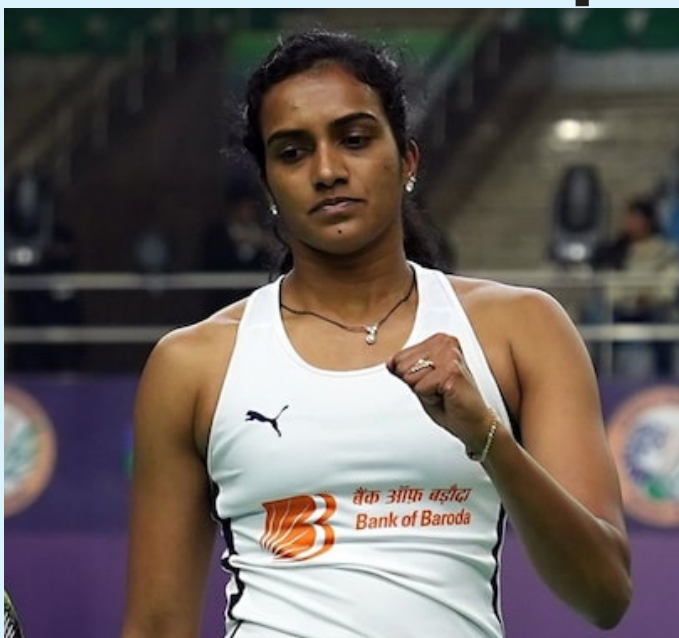


Indian Shuttlers to Attend Preparatory Camp in Guwahati Ahead of Asia Mixed Team Championship

The Indian badminton team, including top players like PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen, will take part in a five-day preparatory camp in Guwahati from Tuesday, ahead of the Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championships scheduled in Qingdao, China, from February 11-16.

After securing a bronze medal in the 2023 edition, the Indian squad aims to better their performance this time. The team will depart for the tournament on February 8.

Badminton Association of India (BAI) Secretary General Sanjay Mishra emphasized that the camp at the National Center of Excellence would not only en-



hance players' technical skills but also provide exposure to young shuttlers by training alongside India's finest talents.

"In addition to technical training, the camp will focus on discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship, ensuring a well-rounded preparation ahead of this major team event," Mishra said in a release.

The 14-member Indian squad will be spearheaded by PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen, with support from Asian Games gold medalists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, and World Championship bronze medallist HS Prannoy. The preparatory camp is expected to boost team bonding and refine their strategies ahead of the high-stakes tournament.

La Liga: Lewandowski's Goal Secures Barcelona's Win Over Alaves, Keeps Title Hopes Alive



Robert Lewandowski's decisive second-half goal helped Barcelona secure a crucial 1-0 victory over Alaves on Sunday, narrowing the gap on La Liga leaders Real Madrid to four points. The win came after Real Madrid dropped points against Espanyol, giving Barcelona an opportunity to close in on their rivals.

The match at the Olympic Stadium saw Barcelona struggle to break down Alaves' strong defense in the first half. However, a brilliant cross from Lamine Yamal in the 61st minute allowed Lewandowski to net his 18th goal of the season, making him the league's top scorer.

Barcelona coach Hansi Flick praised Lewandowski, calling him "the best number nine in the box." The win places Barcelona three points behind Atletico Madrid, who face Real Madrid next weekend.

Despite Alaves' defensive resilience, Barcelona maintained composure. Substitute Ferran Torres nearly doubled the lead, but his curling shot was saved. With the victory, Barcelona remains in the title race, keeping pressure on their Madrid rivals. Meanwhile, Athletic Bilbao drew 2-2 against Real Betis, while Osasuna secured a 2-1 win over Real Sociedad.



Prabhas' First Look as 'Rudra' from 'Kannappa' Unveiled

The much-awaited first look of Prabhas as 'Rudra' from the epic film 'Kannappa' has been officially revealed. Starring Manchu Vishnu in the lead, the film is being made on a grand scale with a massive star cast. Prabhas plays a crucial role in this ambitious project, which is produced by Manchu Vishnu under his home banner. The first look showcases Prabhas in a powerful and intense avatar, increasing anticipation for the film. Directed by Mukesh Kumar Singh, 'Kannappa' is set to be a visual spectacle and will release worldwide on April 25, 2025. With its grandeur and star-studded lineup, the film is expected to be one of the biggest releases of the year.

'Coffee With a Killer' Movie Review: An Underwhelming Thriller Set in a Coffee Shop

'Coffee With a Killer', directed by CRP Patnaik, is a crime thriller that unfolds entirely in a coffee shop. Released directly on Aha, the film attempts to blend suspense with multiple subplots but struggles with its execution.

The story revolves around a coffee shop where people discuss personal and professional matters. Among them, a contract killer enters, waiting for instructions to eliminate a target. As the film progresses, multiple characters, including a cop, film producers, land mafia members, and lovers, contribute to the chaotic environment. The suspense builds around who the target is and how the events unfold.

Despite an intriguing premise, the film fails to maintain engagement. The screenplay feels disjointed, with subplots like hawala transactions and relationship troubles lacking depth. The humor track involving Srinivasa Reddy and Suresh falls flat, while the excessive number of characters dilutes the tension.

Performance-wise, Ravi Babu, Sathyam Rajesh, and Srinivasa Reddy deliver decent performances, but the weak narrative under-



mines their efforts. The cinematography and background score are passable, but the execution lacks finesse.

With a better screenplay and stronger character arcs, the film could have been a gripping thriller. Unfortunately, it misses the mark, making it a forgettable watch.

Rating: (2/5)

Beyonce Wins First Grammy for Album of the Year with 'Cowboy Carter'

Los Angeles: Beyonce won her first-ever Album of the Year award at the Grammy Awards 2025 on Sunday for her country album "Cowboy Carter." The music icon, who already holds the record for the most Grammy wins, finally secured the prestigious award, beating Taylor Swift, Billie Eilish, and others.

"I just feel very full and very honored. It's been many, many years," Beyonce said in an emotional acceptance speech. Rapper Kendrick Lamar won Record of the Year and Song of the Year for "Not Like Us." Meanwhile, Chappell Roan was named Best New Artist and used her stage time to call for better wages and healthcare benefits for musicians.

The Grammys also served as a fundraiser for victims

of the recent wildfires, which had displaced thousands, including many musicians. The night opened with an all-star performance of "I Love LA" by John Legend, Brad Paisley, St. Vincent, and Brittany Howard.

Hosted by Trevor Noah, the show directed viewers toward donation options while celebrating musical excellence.

Grammy 2025 Highlights

- **Album of the Year:** Cowboy Carter – Beyonce
- **Record of the Year:** Not Like Us – Kendrick Lamar
- **Song of the Year:** Not Like Us – Kendrick Lamar
- **Best New Artist:** Chappell Roan
- **Best Pop Vocal Album:** Short n' Sweet – Sabrina Carpenter
- **Best Country Album:** Cowboy Carter – Beyonce



Grammys 2025: Indian-Origin Chandrika Tandon Wins Big, Beats Ricky Kej and Anoushka Shankar

Indian-American vocalist Chandrika Tandon won the Best New Age, Ambient, or Chant Album award at the 67th Annual Grammy Awards for her album Triveni, held on Sunday at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles.

Chandrika shared the honor with her collaborators, South African flautist Wouter Kellerman and Japanese cellist Eru Matsumoto. She triumphed over other notable nominees, including Ricky Kej (Break of Dawn), Anoushka Shankar (Chapter II: How Dark It Is Before Dawn), Ryuichi Sakamoto (Opus), and Radhika Vekaria (Warriors of Light).

The Consulate General of India in New York congratulated her via social media, stating: "Congratulations to Ms. Chandrika Tandon @chandrikatandon on winning the Grammy Award @RecordingAcad in the Best New Age, Ambient, or Chant Album category for Triveni! A mesmerizing fusion of ancient mantras, flute, and cello, Triveni bridges cultures and traditions through the universal language of music."

Apart from Tandon's historic win, the Grammy Awards 2025 had several headline-making moments. Kanye West and his wife Bianca Censori were escorted out by police, while Hollywood star Will Smith made his first major awards show appearance since the infamous 2022 Oscar slap incident. Smith participated in a tribute to Quincy Jones, introducing Herbie Hancock on piano and later welcoming Cynthia Erivo, who performed Fly Me to the Moon.

Tandon's victory marks another proud moment for Indian-origin artists on the global stage.



Ed Sheeran and Armaan Malik Set Stage on Fire with '2Step' at Hyderabad Concert

British pop sensation Ed Sheeran and Indian singer Armaan Malik set the stage ablaze during Sheeran's India Tour concert at Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad, on Sunday. The event witnessed a spectacular musical collaboration as the duo performed the Indian rendition of 2Step, followed by the original English version, leaving the audience in awe.

A video shared by BookMyShow captured the electrifying moment when Ed Sheeran welcomed Armaan Malik on stage, saying, "Can you please make some noise for Armaan Malik?" The crowd erupted in cheers as the two artists delivered a power-packed act.

In another special moment, Armaan Malik performed the hit Telugu song Butta Bomma from Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo, a song that Ed Sheeran had previously grooved to during his Mumbai visit in 2023. Malik took to Instagram to share a clip of his performance, captioning it, "Performing Butta Bomma in Hyderabad is always just 'perfect'."

Ahead of the concert, Ed Sheeran and Armaan Malik also enjoyed a day out in Hyderabad, which Malik documented in a series of Instagram posts.

Ed Sheeran's six-city India tour, which began in Pune on January 30, will continue with performances in Chennai, Bengaluru, Shillong, and Delhi in the coming days.

