

POINT

Weather Forecast

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

Published from : Vijayawada - Hyderabad - Delhi - Bengaluru

Wednesday, 5th February, 2025 | 12 Pages

PARTY NEEDS CHANGE IN YOU

Has the time come to strengthen the party?

Will activists continue to watch the chaos?

Why are leaders abandoning the social group they once trusted?

YSRCP faces internal turmoil as key leaders distance themselves from Jagan Mohan Reddy.



Super Six schemes

Unfulfilled promises by Chandrababu and Pawan Kalyan

Strengthen YSRCP's organizational structure.

Prevent further exodus of key leaders.

Effectively counter the coalition government's shortcomings.



KOLLERU LAKE ENCROACHMENTS, A1 IS CHINTAMANENI PRABHAKAR?

- Kolleru Lake is located in the delta of the Krishna and Godavari rivers.
- Total area of Kolleru Lake: 245 Sq Km (lake) and 302 Sq Km (wet area).
- Encroached area of Kolleru Lake with fish ponds: 105 Sq Km.
- Falls under Denduluru, Kaikaluru, and Unguturu constituencies.



The situation in Kaikaluru and Unguturu will be detailed, including the approach of the respective MLAs.

Allegations against MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar will be continued with a series of investigative stories starting today.

TPN Correspondent Amaravati, Feb 05

orders and threats from the local MLA.

Kolleru Lake, an environmental beauty and a biodiversity hotspot, has been severely impacted by encroachments over decades, turning it into little more than a drain. Repeated orders and judgments from judicial and environmental institutions have been in vain. Recently, the Supreme Court pointed out the failure of the Government of Andhra Pradesh in protecting Kolleru Lake and asked for an immediate report. The question arises—who is responsible for protecting this lake? Obviously, it is the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The government's representative in that area should safeguard the lake. But what happens when they themselves become the villains of Kolleru Lake? Officials exist, but they cannot perform their duties due to unofficial

If an FIR were to be filed on Kolleru encroachments, MLA CHINTAMANENI PRABHAKAR of DENDULURU CONSTITUENCY would have to be registered as A1. Allegedly, he is ruling Kolleru's fish tank business with his muscle power. Almost eight villages are cultivating fish in Kolleru Lake against the rules. These areas are auctioned yearly and distributed to the people of those villages, but all of them allegedly have to pay amounts to the MLA. His primary source of income is Kolleru, as alleged. Earlier, he served as an MLA for two terms, and after a five-year gap, he became an MLA again in 2024. Everybody knows his attitude, manipulations, and style of dealing with officials, police, and others. Many cases have been filed against him.

TPN | K.S. Shekar Andhra Pradesh, Feb 05

YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's greatest political asset has always been the unwavering admiration of the youth. His meteoric rise, culminating in a landslide victory with 151 seats in the 2019 elections, was largely due to two factors: However, instead of consolidating this victory, Jagan focused solely on welfare schemes, sidelining his party's organizational structure. The result? A shocking downfall in the 2024 elections, where YSRCP was reduced to just 11 seats. Despite this devastating loss, Jagan has shown little interest in course correction. Senior leaders who once formed the backbone of YSRCP are now leaving the party one after another. If the exodus continues, what remains of the party's leadership? This is the burning question haunting YSRCP activists who once carried the party flag with pride. Eight months into the opposition, YSRCP still appears directionless. The

party frequently announces agitations against the ruling coalition on issues. However, these protests are often postponed at the last moment. Similarly, schedules for direct meetings with activists are announced, only to be canceled later. This inconsistency has left YSRCP workers confused and demoralized. The Reddy community, once a strong pillar of YSRCP, is now gradually drifting away. Even the party's 40% vote share in the 2024 elections appears shaky, raising doubts about its long-term sustainability. Upon returning from his 15-day London trip, Jagan met with key leaders at the Tadepalli camp office but failed to address crucial concerns. Instead, he instructed leaders to focus on fee reimbursement issues, a move that seemed disconnected from the party's internal crisis. Jagan's reliance on a tight circle of advisors has become a major cause for concern. He ruled Andhra Pradesh by depending on a select few, and now, as Leader of the Opposition, he seems to be repeating the

same mistake. Political analysts, including senior leader Undavalli Arun Kumar, have pointed out that Jagan does not allow another leader to rise within YSRCP. While this strategy worked when he was in power, it is now weakening the party's foundation. YSRCP activists, who once passionately supported Jagan, are now questioning the party's indecisiveness. Protest plans against the ruling NDA government are frequently announced and then postponed without explanation. This has left cadres frustrated, as they feel disconnected from the leadership and unsure of the party's future strategy. The growing uncertainty has also caused a significant rift between Jagan and his core support base—the Reddy community—raising concerns over YSRCP's long-term survival. Jagan's leadership will be defined by whether he can adapt and change. Will he break free from his coterie and take charge? Or will YSRCP continue its downward spiral? The answer will shape the future of the party.

KOLLERU IN DANGER



Let's Continue This Path in the Future: Minister Lokesh with Coalition MPs

- Minister Nara Lokesh meets Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav
- Push for AI Center for Education and data city in Visakhapatnam
- Emphasizes the role of unity in securing vital projects for AP

TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Feb 05

Andhra Pradesh IT Minister Nara Lokesh, during his visit to Delhi, met with Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav to discuss the allocation of additional funds in the Railway Budget for the state. Lokesh expressed his gratitude for the increased financial support and took the opportunity to explain the new policies introduced in Andhra Pradesh, which are aimed at accelerating development and economic growth. Lokesh highlighted the state's plans



to expedite project approvals and requested the establishment of an AI Center for Education in Andhra Pradesh, stressing that the state is ready to embrace the opportunities offered by artificial intelligence. He also requested cooperation in setting up a data city in Visakhapatnam, citing the growing demand for data centers with the rapid advancement of AI technology. Additionally, Lokesh urged for support in establishing electronic companies within the state to boost industrial growth.

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Nagaphani Sharma Praises CM Naidu Vision for State Development

- Madugula Nagaphani Sharma meets CM Chandrababu at Secretariat
- The Avadhana Saraswati Peetham established to promote Telugu culture in IT hub

TPN Correspondent
Amaravati, Feb 05

Prominent Avadhani and Saraswati devotee Madugula Nagaphani Sharma, recently honored with the prestigious Padma Shri award, met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at the State Secretariat on Tuesday. During their meeting, Nagaphani Sharma blessed CM Naidu and expressed his confidence in the success of the programs undertaken by the government. He emphasized that all initiatives led by Chandrababu would yield positive results, bringing prosperity to the state. Sharma reiterated his belief that under CM Naidu's leadership, the state will thrive. He specifically mentioned that Amaravati would transform into a world-class city upon the completion of the capital and that crucial projects like Polavaram would be successfully completed, benefiting the people.



CM Chandrababu Naidu, who had invited Nagaphani Sharma to Amaravati to congratulate him on receiving the 'Padma Shri', honored him with a shawl. On this occasion, Sharma expressed his admiration for CM Naidu's unparalleled vision, stating that there is no other leader in the country with such foresight. He praised Naidu for promoting Andhra Pradesh's culture and traditions, noting that

it was Chandrababu's vision that brought IT to Hyderabad. Sharma fondly recalled that, 30 years ago, CM Naidu had predicted the transformation of the Madhapur area, which was once filled with stones and rubble, into a thriving hub of IT companies. He acknowledged the role of this vision in attracting both local and international talent to the area. Further, Sharma emphasized the importance

Free Cancer Tests Being Conducted in AP - Minister Satyakumar



- Free tests for breast, cervical, and throat cancer available at Ayushman Bharat centers
- 71 Lakh people tested so far, with 66,000 showing cancer symptoms
- 1,500 teams of medical professionals conducting the tests

TPN Correspondent
Tirupati, Feb 05

Andhra Pradesh's Medical and Health Minister Y. Satyakumar on Tuesday announced that free cancer screening tests are being conducted across the state. The initiative, under the guidance of the State Medical and Health Department, offers free tests for breast, cervical, and throat cancers to the public.

To carry out this large-scale effort, the government has set up 1,500 teams consisting of 4,000 doctors, 18,000 PHC staff, 4,000 ANMs, and 155 super specialists along with 238 specialists. These teams are working tirelessly to conduct tests at Ayushman Bharat centers located in villages.

So far, 71 lakh people have undergone the tests, and 66,000 individuals have shown symptoms indicative of cancer. Those who are identified with symptoms will be referred to cancer prevention departments at medical college hospitals, where they will be tested further on Tuesdays and Thursdays to determine the stage of the cancer.

Minister Satyakumar emphasized the importance of early detection and commended the widespread efforts being made to ensure that every citizen has access to these essential health services.

1,033 Market Infrastructure Projects Approved under MIDH in AP for 2024-25

₹703.09 crore released to AP under MIDH since its inception



TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Feb 05

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ramnath Thakur, reported that 1,033 market infrastructure projects have been approved in Andhra Pradesh under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for 2024-25. This is a significant increase from the 608 projects approved in 2023-24. The highest number of projects was approved in Chittoor district, with 123 projects, while NTR district received 28 projects under the scheme.

MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) had raised concerns in the Lok Sabha regarding the MIDH scheme, requesting detailed information on the number of market infrastructure projects approved since its inception. He also sought data on the number of Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Local Bodies, and Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) that have received assistance under the scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

In his written response, Union Minister Ramnath Thakur highlighted the funds released for market infrastructure in the state, mentioning that Rs 74.59 crore was allocated in 2014-15, with Rs 64.68 crore released. As of 2024-25, a total of Rs 703.09 crore has been disbursed to Andhra Pradesh under the MIDH scheme to improve the state's horticulture market infrastructure.

Recognition Period for Private Schools Extended to 10 Years

- APPUSMA Representatives requested a Campus Protection Act and streamlined certification processes.
- Minister Lokesh assured that all concerns would be reviewed and addressed.



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Minister for Education Nara Lokesh met with representatives and management of various private school associations across the state and discussed key reforms under the Andhra Model of School Education. He emphasized the need for collective efforts to strengthen the education system and urged all stakeholders to work together in bringing positive changes.

During the meeting, considering the request of private school associations, Lokesh announced the extension of the recognition period for private schools to ten years. He assured the associations that their concerns regarding administrative and regulatory challenges would be addressed.

The representatives highlighted several issues faced by private schools, including the need for a Campus Protection Act and the facilitation of fire certificates, structural NOCs, and sanitation certificates. In response, Lokesh assured them that all concerns raised would be thoroughly examined and necessary solutions would be implemented.

MLCs Paruchuri Ashok Babu, Kancharla Srikanth, Bhumireddy Ramgopal Reddy, and Vepada Chiranjeevi attended the meeting along with school administrators and representatives from various private school associations. Among the key participants were APPUSMA State President K. Tulasi Prasad, State Associate President J.S.P. Balaji, and State Senior Vice President M.V. Subba Reddy.



YS Jagan Meets Key YCP Leaders in Tadepalli

TPN Correspondent
Tadepalli, Feb 05

YSR Congress Party (YCP) Chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy held a crucial meeting with key party leaders at the YCP office in Tadepalli on the evening of February 3, after arriving from Bengaluru. The meeting, attended by prominent leaders like Botsa Satyanarayana, Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy, Kurasala Kannababu, Karumuri Nageswara Rao, and Thota Trimurthulu, is expected to cover several important topics.

One of the primary issues being discussed the Deputy Mayor, Municipal Chairperson, and Vice Chairman elections in various locations. In addition, there are reports that Jagan's upcoming plans with party workers, as well as his participation in the Assembly Budget sessions, will also be part of the discussions.

Another significant issue likely to be addressed is the resignation of Rajya Sabha MP Vijayasai Reddy from both the party and his Rajya Sabha seat, which has caused some controversy within the party.

Jagan's return from his overseas trip to London was marked by a warm welcome from local party leaders at Gannavaram Airport.

KOLLERU LAKE ENCROACHMENTS...

Continued from page 1

From 2019 to 2024, MR. ABBAY CHOWDARY was the MLA and took over the fish business of those eight villages in Kolleru. Now, MR. CHINTAMANENI has allegedly taken back all those fish ponds, leading to friction between the ABBAY CHOWDARY group and the CHINTAMANENI group in those areas.

"The difference between the earlier MLA and

Chintamaneni is vast. ABBAY CHOWDARY used to leave the business to locals and was not particular about his cut. But MR. CHINTAMANENI is very strict in that aspect. His word is final, and he dictates all the rules, leaving no chance for others. Even if any official or police question him, he is ready to attack them. Several cases have already been filed against MLA CHINTAMANENI PRABHAKAR," a local explained.

How can Kolleru Lake be protected? Thousands

of families depend on the illegal fish ponds in Kolleru Lake. The government and its MLA should provide them with an alternative and protect Kolleru. Instead, he himself is allegedly leading encroachments and further damaging the lake. According to sources, the extent of encroachment has increased significantly under MR. CHINTAMANENI PRABHAKAR.

"All the evidence is with us. But what can we do? Our lives would be in danger. They don't even

care about Supreme Court orders or Green Tribunal orders. After all, we are small officials—either we remain silent or resign from our jobs. The State Government itself is backing him, so what can we do?" an official expressed in anguish.

Now, we have to wait and watch whether the State Government will react positively to the Supreme Court's orders or continue to run the drama as before.

Govt is Focused on Tirupati's Development: MLA Arani



- NDA government committed to Tirupati's progress with a vision for industrial and infrastructure growth.
- CM Naidu, Dy CM Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Lokesh working in unison for state development.
- Allegations against Karunakar Reddy's leadership and financial mismanagement in Tirupati.

TPN Ganesh Tirupati, Feb 05
MLA Arani Srinivasulu emphasized that under the leadership of CM Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Nara Lokesh, the NDA government is working towards Tirupati's development. He stated that all alliance leaders are united in transforming the city and ensuring prosperity. Several major projects, including Amaravati, Polavaram, and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, are being revived to position Andhra Pradesh at the top in national development rankings. The government is also focusing on generating 25 lakh jobs in five years. He criticized the previous YSRCP administration for neglecting infrastructure and failing to utilize river waters efficiently. Comparing past and present road conditions, he highlighted how the NDA government has significantly improved connectivity. He also mentioned that 13,324 Gram Sabhas have been conducted,

resulting in ₹4,405 crores being sanctioned for various development initiatives. Srinivasulu accused former Tirupati Mayor Karunakar Reddy of suppressing councilors and misusing power. He claimed that Karunakar Reddy's family has no political future, citing alleged financial irregularities, misuse of DDR bonds, and illegal activities. He predicted that more corporators would soon align with TDP, realizing NDA's commitment to progress. Deputy Mayor RC Munikrishna, who won against YSRCP, criticized Karunakar Reddy's governance, stating that his leadership was marked by anarchy. He thanked CM Chandrababu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, and PM Modi for their support and vowed to develop Tirupati. He urged Karunakar Reddy to retire from politics, asserting that the people had rejected dictatorship and chosen development. TDP leaders assured that Tirupati's growth would continue under the NDA's governance.

YS Sharmila Demands to CM Naidu for Caste Census in AP



TPN Correspondent Andhra Pradesh, Feb 05
Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) President YS Sharmila has made strong remarks regarding the caste census conducted by the Congress government in Telangana. She described it as a historic moment for the country and urged the Chandrababu Naidu-led government to conduct a similar exercise in Andhra Pradesh. Taking to the 'X' platform, she emphasized that the survey serves as a model for the entire nation and is a reflection of Rahul Gandhi's vision for social justice. Sharmila pointed out that the Telangana caste census revealed a staggering 90 percent of the population belongs to weaker and backward sections—56 percent BCs, 17 percent SCs, and 10 percent STs. She believes that a similar demographic pattern exists in Andhra Pradesh and stressed the need for a comprehensive

caste census to determine the exact numbers. She argued that a clear understanding of caste composition is essential to ensure fair representation in political, social, educational, and employment sectors. She further alleged that the previous YSRCP government had conducted a caste survey before the elections but suppressed the findings at the behest of the BJP. According to her, former CM Jagan, whom she referred to as the BJP's "adopted son," deliberately withheld the report. She also accused the BJP of misleading people by falsely claiming that a caste census is a ploy to abolish reservations. Sharmila called on Chandrababu Naidu to act decisively and not succumb to BJP's tactics. She demanded that the Andhra Pradesh government immediately initiate a caste census to ensure rightful representation and social justice.

Bhumana Karunakar Reddy Slams NDA Leaders Over Tirupati Politics



TPN Ganesh Tirupati, Feb 05
At a press conference in Tirupati, YSRCP leader Bhumana Karunakar Reddy launched a scathing attack on the NDA leadership, accusing them of using threats and pressure tactics to win the Deputy Mayor election. He targeted Tirupati

- Karunakar Reddy accuses NDA leaders of winning the Deputy Mayor election through threats.
- Criticizes Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivas for lacking leadership and political experience.
- Questions the NDA government on unfulfilled election promises.

upati MLA Arani Srinivas, claiming that she was made an MLA solely for political convenience and lacked the ability to govern effectively. He also criticized the ministers who recently visited Tirupati, stating that they lacked political experience and had no real understanding of governance. Karunakar Reddy emphasized his 53-year political career and asserted that he doesn't need to speak daily to prove his

influence. He claimed that people recognize Jagan Mohan Reddy's good governance and dismissed Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, stating that Naidu made grand promises before elections but has failed to deliver any tangible benefits to the public. He recalled how Arani Srinivas once approached him for a Rajya Sabha post, questioning her credibility now as an MLA. Targeting Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, he mocked his stance on Sanatana Dharma, questioning whether it was Sanatana Dharma to neglect one's own mother while focusing on political theatrics. He declared that YSRCP leaders remain committed and ready to make sacrifices for the party. Directing his frustration at CM Chandrababu Naidu, he demanded answers on why such political tactics were being used in Tirupati under his leadership.

MLA Koneti Adimulam Expresses Distress Over Political Conspiracies

TPN | C. Sekhar Satyavedu, Feb 05
At the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) constituency review meeting in Satyavedu, held at MKT Kalyana Mandapam in Pichchatur on Tuesday, MLA Koneti Adimulam became emotional, alleging that certain individuals were conspiring against him to take control of the constituency. He expressed deep anguish, stating that these forces were not only attacking his political standing but also targeting his family, including his mother, causing immense mental distress. Adimulam asserted that despite these challenges, he remains committed to serving the people as an MLA. He accused his political oppo-

nents of attempting to damage his reputation and vowed to take legal action against those responsible for spreading false narratives. He specifically mentioned that he had won the Satyavedu seat with the support of Minister Nara Lokesh and expressed his unwavering loyalty to both Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Lokesh. The MLA recalled his struggles, stating that a senior leader from YSRCP had once denied him an MLA ticket and later secured an MP ticket for himself. He reassured his supporters that he would not be intimidated by political conspiracies and remained focused on his responsibilities.



Ready to Work with TDP MP's on Polavaram Issue - MP Mithun Reddy

TPN Correspondent New Delhi, Feb 05
YSRCP MP Mithun Reddy has expressed concern over the alleged injustice being done to Andhra Pradesh regarding the Polavaram project. Speaking during the debate on the President's address in the budget session of Parliament, he said that the state will not remain silent while its interests are being neglected. He emphasized that if necessary, YSRCP MPs are ready to work alongside TDP MPs in the Lok Sabha to oppose the Centre's decisions on the project. Mithun Reddy pointed out that the Polavaram project was originally designed with a capacity of 194 TMC, intended to irrigate 7.5 lakh acres of land. However, he alleged that the recent budget proposals have reduced the project's height, bringing its capacity down to 115 TMC, which would limit irrigation to just 3.20 lakh acres. He questioned how farmers would receive water if the project's capacity is significantly reduced. In addition to the Polavaram



issue, he demanded an investigation into the alleged ₹2,600 crore Margadarshi scam. He also strongly opposed the privatization of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and called on the central government to take strict measures to curb drug-related activities. Furthermore, he criticized the state government for gradually phasing out English-medium education in government schools, claiming it would negatively impact students. Mithun Reddy reiterated that the YSRCP will continue to fight against the injustices faced by Andhra Pradesh and will take necessary steps to protect the state's interests in Parliament.

Former MLA Kasu Mahesh Reddy Alleges 13 YCP Councilors Were Kidnapped

TPN Correspondent Palnadu Dist, Feb 05
Tensions escalated in Piduguralla town, Gurajala constituency, as former MLA Kasu Mahesh Reddy alleged that 13 YSR Congress Party (YCP) councilors were kidnapped late last night. Speaking to the media, he claimed that the local Circle Inspector (CI) and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) activists were behind the act, orchestrating it between 11 PM and midnight.

Kasu Mahesh Reddy demanded the immediate release of the councilors, warning that YCP is prepared for any legal and judicial battle if they are not freed. He stated that with an hour left to file nominations, the release of the councilors was crucial to ensuring a fair electoral process. The situation remains tense, with YCP leaders accusing the ruling party of resorting to undemocratic

Tuni Municipal Vice Chairman Election Postponed Again Due to Law and Order Issues

TPN | NV Surya Tuni, Feb 05
The election for the Municipal Vice Chairman of Tuni town in Kakinada district has been postponed once again due to law and order concerns. Municipal officials announced the decision, stating that they have informed the State Election Commission and will conduct the election after receiving further instructions. Out of the 30 council members, 24 from the YSR Congress Party attended the meeting. However, the election could not proceed as TDP leaders and activists staged a protest, as they had done previously. Former Minister Dadiseti Raja led the demonstration, demanding an apology from YSRCP leaders for allegedly insulting Dalits



during a media conference. Following the postponement, TDP leaders held a press conference at the residence of Chairperson Eluri Sudabalu, strongly condemning the ruling party's actions. They alleged that individuals who were not public representatives entered the council hall and disrupted the proceedings. Expressing frustration over the authorities' handling of the situation, they asserted that they would take legal action against the ruling party to safeguard democratic values.

YSRCP's Govt Debts Have Become a Burden on the State, Says MLA Ganababu



TPN Correspondent Visakhapatnam, Feb 05
Visakhapatnam West MLA Ganababu criticized the previous YSRCP government, stating that the heavy debts it incurred have become a major obstacle for the current administration. Speaking at a public gathering in Gopalapatnam, he alleged that the former regime burdened people under the guise of various schemes while failing to clear arrears in critical sectors like education.

He pointed out that unpaid dues in fee reimbursement and hostel accommodations had severely impacted students, turning their academic future into a nightmare. The current government, he assured, is actively addressing these issues to ensure smooth implementation of welfare schemes. MLA Ganababu further claimed that the YSRCP government had squandered around ₹19,000 crore solely on publicity instead of development projects. He reaffirmed that the present administration, under CM Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, is taking corrective measures to bring financial stability and ensure proper governance.

MP Kesineni Shivanath Welcomes Minister Nara Lokesh in Delhi



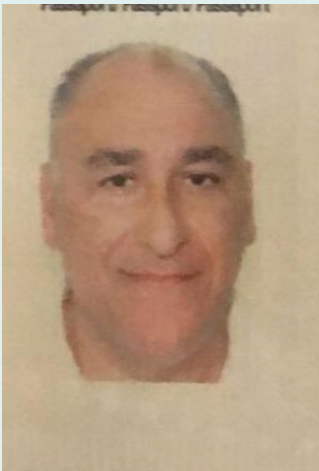
TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Feb 05

Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh was warmly welcomed by Vijayawada MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) and other prominent leaders upon his arrival at the airport in Delhi on Tuesday. Nara Lokesh, who had flown in from Gannavaram Airport at 2 pm, was presented with a bouquet by MP Kesineni Shivanath, MP Putta Mahesh Kumar, MP Ganti Harish Madhur, and Rajya Sabha MP Sana Satish. The Minister's visit to Delhi is primarily focused on meeting Union Minister for IT, Electronics, Railways, and Information and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnav. Nara Lokesh aims to express his gratitude for the substantial allocation of Rs 9,417 crore in the Railway Budget for railway projects in Andhra Pradesh. This funding is expected to significantly enhance railway infrastructure and services in the state.

Students Face Refund Delays from Peppercorn Company After Visa Rejections

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Feb 05

Several students who recently applied to universities in Malta are now dealing with unexpected financial setbacks due to visa rejections. While the universities acted promptly by refunding the tuition fees to the affected students, the same cannot be said for Peppercorn Company, the accommodation provider many students had booked with in advance.



Students report that despite paying significant amounts for accommodation through Peppercorn, the company owner Mr. Jeffrey Farrugia has been unresponsive to refund requests after their visa applications were denied. Complaints of delays, lack of communication, and vague promises have left students frustrated and financially strained. "I've sent multiple emails and made several calls, but they keep delaying the process," said one student. "It feels like they're just stalling without any real intention to refund our money." This issue has added stress to students already disappointed by their visa outcomes. It has also raised concerns about the accountability of service providers working with international students. While universities in Malta have maintained their reputation by handling refunds professionally, Peppercorn's lack of cooperation risks damaging Malta's appeal as a destination for international education. Students and their families are calling for stricter regulations to prevent such incidents and ensure fair treatment for all parties involved.

Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha Inspects Social Welfare Hostel

TPN Correspondent
Vijayawada, Feb 05

In a surprise visit to the Kasturibai Peta Social Welfare Hostel in Vijayawada, District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha made a strong appeal to Class 10 students to study diligently and with passion to secure good results in their upcoming exams. The Collector, accompanied by hostel warden Krishnakumari, conducted the inspection at 8:30 pm to assess the preparations being made to help students succeed.



Dr. Lakshmi Sha stressed that the Class 10 exams, starting from March 17, are a crucial milestone

in students' academic journeys. She urged the hostel management to ensure that each student

receives personalized attention to improve their learning abilities and achieve a 100% pass rate.

The Collector highlighted the importance of subject-specific training from experts and continuous assessments to track students' progress.

Additionally, Dr. Lakshmi Sha encouraged students to draw inspiration from great figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, advising them to study hard and aim for higher positions in life. She also instructed the hostel staff to prioritize the students' nutrition and personal hygiene, emphasizing that good habits formed during this time would lay the foundation for their future success.

MLA Venigandla Ramu Pledges to Focus on Gudivada's Development



TPN Correspondent
Gudivada, Feb 05

MLA Venigandla Ramu of Gudivada expressed his commitment to driving the constituency's development over the next five years. On Tuesday, responding to local requests, the MLA visited Sai Nagar Colony on Vijayawada Road in Gudivada town. During the visit, the residents raised concerns about the colony's underdeveloped infrastructure, highlighting that roads had not been laid despite the colony's 35-year existence and that the street lights were not functioning properly.

In response, MLA Ramu immediately contacted the relevant authorities and directed them to repair the street lights in Sai Nagar Colony. He also assured the people that the main road construction issue would be resolved by next July. The residents expressed their appreciation, noting that unlike previous representatives, MLA Ramu remained accessible even after the elections and regularly interacted with the people to address their concerns.

Following his visit to Sai Nagar, MLA Ramu toured the Chenchupet and Railpet areas, where he reiterated his dedication to solving the problems of Gudivada. He acknowledged that the town had fallen behind in development due to past neglect and confirmed that road construction work would commence in several underdeveloped areas, including suburban colonies, in March.

MLA Ramu's consistent engagement with the public and his proactive approach to resolving community issues have earned him praise from local residents.

Illegal Soil Excavation on the Rise in Chodavaram Village

TPN Correspondent
Pedana, Feb 05

In Chodavaram village, Pedana mandal, illegal soil excavation activities have been rampant for the past three days. Despite lacking permission from the Revenue and Mines departments, individuals have been digging soil from both private and government lands. The illegal excavation is being carried out under the cover of night, with the help of JCBs, as the offenders try to evade detection by local authorities.



The soil extracted is being transported to neighboring villages, further compounding the problem. The Revenue and Mines departments have been bypassed, as the excavation continues unchecked.

When questioned about the ongoing issue, Mandal Tehsildar Kuna-pureddy Anil Kumar assured that strict action would be taken against those involved in illegal soil excavation. He stated that measures would be implemented to prevent such activities in the future.

Student Found Dead in Penamaluru Constituency Hostel

TPN Correspondent
Penamaluru, Feb 05

Tragedy struck at the NRI College hostel in Krishna district's Penamaluru constituency, where Gurram Venu Nath, an 18-year-old second-year intermediate student from Guruvindapalli village in Thotlavallur mandal, was found dead in his hostel room. According to hostel staff, Venu Nath reportedly hanged himself from a ceiling fan, and they believe a love affair may have been the driving force behind his tragic decision.

A suicide note was found, but family members have raised suspicions, stating that the handwriting does not match their son's. In deep sorrow, his parents expressed doubts about the circumstances of his death upon seeing their son's lifeless body. The family is now questioning the validity of the claim that it was suicide.

Venu Nath had been a student of mathematics and was reportedly missing from his studies, raising further concerns. The police have registered a case and are conducting an investigation to uncover the truth behind this tragic incident. The investigation is ongoing, with authorities examining all angles, including the possibility of foul play.



Mandava Krishna Kumari elected as Nandigama Municipal Chairperson

TPN Correspondent
Nandigama, Feb 05

The election of the Nandigama Municipal Chairperson has created considerable excitement, with Mandava Krishna Kumari emerging victorious as the Chairperson, following instructions from the high command. Constituency MLA Than-girala Soumya, who celebrated the election victory by sharing sweets with councilors, later addressed the media, highlighting the positive impact the newly elected Municipal Council Board will have on the town's development.

Rs 4 crore worth of development work in just six months, with plans for even more initiatives in the near future.

Addressing criticism about the delay in electing the chairperson, the MLA responded robustly, asserting that some had claimed she had become a "dummy" due to the delay. She emphasized that the election of the chairperson was conducted with the approval of the high command, demonstrating the strength of her leadership and the backing of 15 council members.

Speaking about the previous administration's performance, MLA Soumya criticized the YSRCP for failing to deliver on development in Nandigama over the last five years. She accused the previous councilors of prioritizing commissions over genuine development, which led to the board's collapse. Despite this, Soumya proudly announced that her team has already carried out

She also addressed concerns raised by the opposition regarding the actions of the previous YCP council members, pointing out that they had failed to attend meetings and had engaged in secretive activities. In contrast, she commended her own councilors for their steadfast loyalty and support, which ultimately led to the successful election of the chairperson.

Awareness Program on "Women Safety App" in Krishna Dist

TPN Correspondent
Krishna Dist, Feb 05

In a significant move to ensure the safety and security of women and children in Krishna district, an awareness program has been launched to promote the "Women Safety App," introduced by the Andhra Pradesh Government. Under the guidance of Krishna District SP R. Gangadhara Rao IPS, women across the district are being educated on the app's services and are being encouraged to download and use it

for their safety. The awareness campaign, spearheaded by Shakti Teams and Women Police Station staff, is taking place at key locations such as schools, colleges, business complexes, bus stands, railway stations, women's hostels, and factories. The police staff are actively installing the app on women's mobile phones, providing them with a demonstration of its functions and benefits. Additionally, the district is conducting awareness programs in schools and col-

leges, aimed at educating women and girls about laws related to their safety. These programs focus on empowering women by raising awareness about sexual harassment, self-defense techniques, and their legal rights, helping to build courage and self-confidence among participants.

The initiative is part of the broader efforts by the Andhra Pradesh Government to ensure a safer environment for women and children in the state.



YCP Corporators Vote for TDP in Tirupati Dy Mayor Elections Amid Controversy

TPN | C. Sekhar
Tirupati, Feb 05

In a surprising turn of events during the Tirupati Deputy Mayor elections, several YCP corporators, including Anish, Mohan Yadav, Anil, and Amarnath Reddy, allegedly voted for TDP candidate Munikrishna instead of the party's official nominee. Following the election, the corporators were seen at the house of former MLA Bhumana Karunakar Reddy, where tensions escalated, with the corporators reportedly causing a commotion.



The corporators later appeared before the media, claiming that they had been kidnapped by unknown individuals and coerced into voting for the TDP candidate. In a dramatic statement, the corporators were seen allegedly grabbing Bhumana's legs, stating they had voted for Munikrishna under duress.

The situation has caused significant political stir, with accusations of irregularities and undue influence surrounding the elections. The claims of kidnapping and forced voting have sparked further controversy in the ongoing power struggle in the region.

TDP Kuppam Municipal Councilors Met Irrigation Minister Dr. Nimmala Ramanaidu



TPN | C. Sekhar
Kuppam, Feb 05

Irrigation Minister Dr. Nimmala Ramanaidu was met by TDP Kuppam Municipal Floor Leader Damu, Councilors Suresh, MR Suresh, Jagan, Ravi, and Minority President Zakir Bhasha at the Kuppam R&B Guest House. The meeting took place following the municipal elections, which Dr. Ramanaidu had monitored in Kuppam.

During the meeting, the minister inquired about the ongoing development programs in the municipality. The TDP councilors discussed various issues and shared insights into the progress of the municipality's development initiatives.

Road Safety Month Celebrations - Helmet Awareness Bike Rally

TPN | Dhanalakshmi
Kakinada, Feb 05

As part of the "Road Safety Month" and in observance of World Cancer Day, a bike rally was organized in Kakinada to raise awareness about the importance of wearing helmets and following traffic rules. The rally saw the participation of Kakinada District SP Shri G. Bindu Madhav IPS, Kakinada SDPO (ASP) Shri Devaraj Manish Patil IPS, Traffic CIs Y. Ramesh and D. Rama Rao, along with various SIs/RSIs, local law enforcement officers, and staff from Medicover Hospital.

The rally, aimed at reducing road accidents, emphasized the critical message that all two-wheeler riders must wear helmets properly. The event started from Medicover Hospital and passed through several key locations in Kakinada, including Achampeta Junction, SP Office, Bhanugudi, 2 Town Bridge, Main Road, Jagannadhapuram Bridge, Wharf Road, and ZP Center.

As the rally progressed, people gathered along the route to cheer and support the participants, contributing to the overall success of the awareness campaign.



KOLLERU IN DANGER

KISHORE B. K. | TPN

The future of Kolleru Lake, India's largest freshwater lake, is under threat as unchecked pollution, sediment accumulation, and encroachments continue to impact its ecosystem. Despite multiple efforts to restore the lake, complications in execution have led to growing concerns over its long-term survival.

Located in Eluru district, Kolleru spans approximately 1.2 lakh acres in the Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin. It is a critical habitat for rare migratory birds and diverse fish species, supporting a population of over three lakh people across 122 Lankan villages. The lake receives water from rivers such as Budameru, Tamileru, Ramileru, and Gunderu, but over the years, pollutants from sewage, industrial waste, and plastic have heavily contaminated it. The situation worsens during floods, as excessive silt, alluvial deposits, and chemical residues further degrade water quality, raising environmental and livelihood concerns.

Shift from Agriculture to Aquaculture
Once a hub of agriculture, Kolleru underwent a dramatic transformation following the 1969 cyclone, which led to widespread flooding and pollution. As farming became unviable, many residents were forced to migrate. In 1976, the Jalagam Venkat Rao-led government introduced Government Order (G.O.) No. 118, initiating fish pond development. By the 1990s, large-scale fish and shrimp farming took over, leading to extensive encroachments.

Private investors and traders soon capitalized on the booming aquaculture sector, leasing land at high rates—₹2.5 lakh per acre—drastically altering the region's landscape. The traditional dependence on Kolleru's freshwater vanished as locals were left with no access to clean drinking



"Kolleru, once a lifeline for farmers, is now a symbol of neglect. Polluted waters and encroachments have pushed locals to the brink, forcing them to buy drinking water while standing beside a freshwater lake."

water, forcing them to rely on pipelines from sources 18 km away.

Encroachment Removal and Contour Reduction Demand

Efforts to clear encroachments began in 1999, when the Chandrababu Naidu government issued G.O. No. 120. The drive was later enforced in 2006 by the YS Rajasekhara Reddy-led government, resulting in the destruction of thousands of acres of illegal fish ponds. However, locals alleged that the operation unfairly targeted small landholders while sparing influential encroachers. A compensation package was promised but reportedly never implemented properly.

For years, residents have demanded a re-

duction of Kolleru's 5th contour to the 3rd contour, arguing that it would free up 40,000 acres of land for cultivation and restore employment opportunities. Narendra Modi, during his 2014 Bhimavaram rally, had assured action on this demand. In 2015, the Chandrababu Naidu government passed a resolution in the assembly supporting the change, but since the issue falls under Central jurisdiction, no concrete action has followed.

As the debate over Kolleru's future continues, farmers and environmentalists alike stress the urgent need for sustainable solutions, balancing ecological conservation with local livelihoods.

17th Great Book Fair - Fourth Day Literary Platform Program

TPN | C. Sekhar
Tirupati, Feb 05

The fourth day of the 17th Great Book Fair, organized by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Sri Venkateswara Vidyalaya Tirupati Kendra with the courtesy of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, featured an engaging literary platform program. The event showcased poetry by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan alumnus, Uppaladadiyam Bharat Sharma, a teacher who captivated the audience with her verses.

The program was presided over by Dr. Nadimpally Satyanarayana Raju, Honorary Director and Treasurer of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. In his address, he highlighted the importance of reading books, stating that it brings mental happiness and helps individuals behave well in society.

Dr. Alladi Mohan, Chief Guest and Tirupati Swims Dean, along with his role as Secretary of Tirupati Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, spoke about the value of reading epic texts like the Ramayana and Mahabharata. He emphasized that literature teaches how to engage with others and overcome life's challenges. He also encouraged everyone to speak their mother tongue, Telugu, to gain fluency in understanding any subject and lead a righteous, peaceful life.

Guest of Honor, Professor Kolakaluri Madhu Jyoti from the Telugu Department at Tirupati Sri Padmavati Mahila University, reflected on the role of contemporary poets and writers in bridging societal gaps and promoting equality through literature.

The program concluded with the felicitation of the guests by the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan management. The event was a grand success, with active participation from the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Committee members, Vice Principals, teaching staff, students, parents, and dignitaries from Tirupati.



Rath Saptami Celebrations Held at Tiruchanur Sri Padmavati Ammavari Temple



TPN | C. Sekhar
Tiruchanur, Feb 05

The Rath Saptami celebrations at the Tiruchanur Sri Padmavati Ammavari Temple were held with great fervor on Tuesday. Devotees were blessed to witness the rays of Bhanu spreading over the Goddess seated in the Suryaprabha Vahanam early in the morning.

The procession began at 7 am, with the Goddess on the Suryaprabha Vahanam, followed by a ride on the Hansa, Aswa, Garuda, and Chinnashesha Vahanams until 2 pm. From 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm, the Snapa Thirumanjanam ceremony was conducted, wherein the Goddess was anointed with milk, curd, honey, coconut water, turmeric, and sandalwood. Later, from 6 pm, the Goddess will be giving darshan to devotees on the Chandraprabha and Gaja Vahanams.

At the affiliated Sri Suryanarayana Swamy Temple, Lord Swamy rode a horse-drawn carriage to give darshan to devotees at 6 am. The TTD Hindu Dharma Prachar Parishad, along with the Dasasahitya Project and SV Sangeetha and Nritya College bands, performed kolatas and chekka bhajanas, adding to the spiritual atmosphere.

The program saw participation from Temple Deputy EO Sri Govinda Rajan, AEO Sri Devarajulu, Superintendent Sri Ramesh, Temple Inspector Sri Subhash, other officials, and a large number of devotees.

District SP Vakul Jindal Inspects the Police Training Center in Saripalli

TPN | A. Narasimhulu
Vizianagaram, Feb 05

Vizianagaram District SP Vakul Jindal conducted a surprise visit to the Police Training Center in Saripalli, where he inspected various facilities and ensured that the necessary basic infrastructure would be provided. He emphasized that training programs aimed at improving the professional skills of police constables were currently underway at the center.

During his inspection, the SP reviewed key areas of the training center, including classrooms, offices, the kitchen, dining hall, storerooms, washrooms, bathrooms, the mineral water plant, library, parade ground, and firing range. He stated that the initial facilities provided would be further evaluated, and any additional needs for effective training would be addressed. Officials briefed the SP on the status of beds, mattresses, sports equipment,

tables, computers, and fans, explaining that prior constructions had been made to accommodate about 200 police constables for training. However, a major issue was raised regarding the lack of fresh water at the center. In response, SP Vakul Jindal assured that he would coordinate with municipal and senior officials to resolve the water supply problem and ensure the center's operations are fully supported.



Debate Over Poverty in India: Government Claims vs. Rangarajan Method Findings

The release of the 2022-23 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) sparked fresh debates around the extent of poverty in India. Following its release, B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, CEO of NITI Aayog, claimed that the poverty headcount ratio had dropped to as low as 5% of the population. This assertion was based on the adjustment of the 2011-12 poverty line (established by the Tendulkar Committee) for inflation, using the Consumer Price Index, and applying it to the latest HCES data.

Subrahmanyam's conclusion was widely celebrated as a testament to the success of government welfare schemes and rapid economic growth. However, an alternative analysis by C.A. Sethu, L.T. Abhinav Surya, and C.A. Ruthu, using the Rangarajan Method, painted a starkly different picture. According to their findings, a substantial 26.4% of Indians remain below the poverty line, a staggering 21 percentage point difference from the government's claims. The analysis revealed that 27.4% of rural Indians and 23.7% of urban Indians fall below the poverty threshold, based on updated cut-offs of Rs 2,515 and Rs 3,639 per capita per month, respectively.

The discrepancy between these two figures stems from differences in the methods used to calculate poverty. The government's approach, which adjusts



older poverty lines for inflation, fails to fully account for the rising costs of essential non-food items like healthcare, education, and housing. In contrast, the Rangarajan Method incorporates a broader consumption basket, including these essential non-food expenses, and uses updated nutritional norms, offering a more accurate reflection of current living standards.

The Rangarajan Method was developed by the 'Expert Group to Review the Methodology for the Measurement of Poverty', set up by the Planning Commission of India in 2012. Its goal was to address the limitations of the Tendulkar Committee's methodology, which estimated poverty based solely on calorie intake and per capita consumption expenditure.

While the Tendulkar Committee's approach faced criticism for setting poverty lines too low, the Rangarajan Method sought to improve upon this by accounting for a wider array of essential goods and services.

In light of these findings, questions about the accuracy and transparency of the government's poverty statistics are being raised. While the government continues to assert significant progress in poverty reduction, the Rangarajan Method suggests that a larger portion of the population still struggles to meet basic living standards. The ongoing debate highlights the challenges of measuring poverty accurately in a rapidly changing economy.

Bangladesh in Turmoil: Political Chaos and Foreign Influence



Turbulence in Bangladesh has become a common occurrence, with protests from various groups, including university students, madrasa teachers, and the general public, almost daily. The interim government, led by Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus, has come under increasing criticism, especially from the Anti-Discrimination Movement. As Yunus and his team work to reverse the policies of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, particularly regarding India, the sustainability of an unelected government's direction remains in question.

Pakistan Seeks Opportunities Amidst the Chaos

In an unexpected move, Pakistan has sought to capitalize on Bangladesh's political instability. Following the fall of Hasina's government, Pakistan's High Commissioner Syed Ahmed Maroof met Yunus and key Bangladeshi officials to discuss various issues. This interaction resulted in the restoration of direct flights and the first-ever direct cargo shipments between Pakistan and Bangladesh. These cargo shipments, including goods such as ceramics and raw materials, mark a significant development in bilateral trade, with a second consignment following soon after.

Moreover, Yunus met with Pakistani leaders, including Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, in Cairo, discussing long-standing issues between the two countries, such as the repatriation of stranded Urdu-speaking Pakistanis. Pakistan's diplomatic activities have also extended to Bangladesh's military, with high-level visits and discussions on defense cooperation, including the potential supply of JF-17 fighter jets to Bangladesh.

China's Strategic Support Amid Bangladesh's Economic Crisis

On the economic front, Bangladesh has turned to China for support as it grapples with a severe economic crisis and inflation nearing 10%. Bangladesh's Foreign Minister Touhid Hossain visited Beijing, seeking reductions in interest rates on loans and extended repayment periods. China responded favorably, agreeing in principle to reduce interest rates, extend loan durations, and offer medical assistance, including hospitals in both Kunming and Dhaka. Additionally, Chinese companies are shifting their manufacturing bases to Bangladesh, strengthening bilateral economic ties.

Bangladesh's economic dependence on China has grown significantly under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), with China investing around \$4.5 billion and another \$22.94 billion in construction contracts. However, this cooperation has raised concerns about Bangladesh's growing debt, including a \$251 million annual interest payment to China.

The Growing Triangular Influence

The increasing military and economic collaboration between Pakistan, China, and Bangladesh is creating a triangular link that could significantly impact the region's geopolitics. India faces a critical moment to act, especially concerning the Rohingya crisis, which could lead to diplomatic goodwill if handled properly. As Bangladesh navigates political and economic turbulence, the future direction of its foreign policies and internal governance remains uncertain. India's diplomatic efforts and the media's role in addressing the country's corruption and political turmoil will play crucial roles in shaping the region's future.

Uttarakhand's Uniform Civil Code: A Comprehensive Legal Reform

Uttarakhand's newly implemented Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is a significant legislative move, comprising 392 sections, seven schedules, and various forms. While a substantial portion of this legislation—nearly 80%—focuses on procedural matters such as the registration of marriages, divorces, and live-in relationships, as well as the administration of wills and deceased estates, its substantive provisions carry substantial implications for the state's legal landscape.

Key Provisions of the UCC

One of the major areas addressed by the UCC is matrimonial law. Drawing from the Special Marriage Act and the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, the code introduces several changes, notably in the registration of marriages. The code replaces the Uttarakhand Compulsory Registration of Marriages Act of 2010, mandating that all marriages in the state be formally registered. Additionally, the UCC requires the registration of divorces granted through judicial proceedings, marking a significant innovation in the state's legal framework.

This shift ensures greater transparency and accountability, particularly in cases of divorce, which will now be officially recorded. It also aims to provide legal certainty to individuals regarding their marital status and to avoid legal disputes that may arise from unregistered marriages or separations.



The UCC also focuses on the "degrees of prohibited relationship," specifying the relatives between whom marriage is prohibited. This provision aligns with the broader objectives of standardizing matrimonial practices and ensuring that there are clear, uniform guidelines for the recognition of legal marriages within the state.

The Broader Implications

While the procedural changes introduced by the UCC are aimed at improving the administration of personal laws, its substantive elements could have far-reaching consequences. By consolidating various aspects of personal and family law, including marriage, divorce, and inheritance, the UCC seeks to create a more uniform legal framework across the state.

However, the law has raised questions

about its potential impact on the diverse religious and cultural practices in Uttarakhand, particularly with regard to personal laws governed by different communities. Critics argue that a one-size-fits-all approach could undermine the autonomy of religious practices and customs. On the other hand, proponents believe that the UCC will help streamline legal processes, promote gender equality, and ensure that all citizens are governed by a single set of laws, irrespective of their religion or personal beliefs.

As Uttarakhand moves forward with the implementation of this groundbreaking legislation, its impact on the state's legal and social fabric will be closely watched. The success of the UCC in balancing uniformity with cultural diversity could set a precedent for similar initiatives in other parts of India.

US Interest in Greenland: Geopolitical Implications and Arctic Dynamics

In August 2019, President Donald Trump sparked global intrigue when he proposed purchasing Greenland from Denmark. Although met with skepticism and amusement, the idea revived discussions about Greenland's strategic significance, highlighting its growing importance in global geopolitics. With Trump now returning to the White House, it's worth revisiting the reasons behind the U.S. interest in Greenland and its implications for international relations.



Greenland's geographical position and vast natural resources, including rare earth minerals, oil, and gas, make it a critical asset in the Arctic. Historically, the United States has recognized

Greenland's importance, with efforts to secure control of the territory dating back to 1868 when William H. Seward, U.S. Secretary of State, envisioned acquiring both Greenland and

Iceland. In 1946, the U.S. even offered Denmark \$100 million in gold to buy Greenland, although the proposal was declined. However, the U.S. was successful in establishing military bases on Greenland, including the strategic Pituffik Air Base (formerly Thule), integral to its Arctic strategy.

The appeal of Greenland has only grown in recent years due to climate change and the resulting opportunities for new shipping routes and resource extraction. As the Arctic ice continues to melt, the region's geopolitical significance continues to rise, drawing more international attention.

Under international law, acquiring Greenland presents complex challenges. Greenland, while an autonomous territory within the Kingdom of Denmark, governs its internal matters but remains subject to Denmark's authority over foreign affairs and defense. Any attempt by the U.S. to acquire Greenland would require the approval of both Denmark and Greenland's government, in line with international treaties and the principle of self-determination under the United Nations Charter. Greenland's indigenous Inuit population, roughly 56,000 strong, would also need to be consulted to ensure their rights and interests are protected.

Although Trump's 2019 proposal was swiftly rejected by Denmark, it underscores a longstanding U.S. recognition of Greenland's importance. Geopolitically, Arctic states like Canada, Russia, and Norway are cautious of U.S. ambitions in the region. Canada, with shared Arctic borders, emphasizes cooperation, environmental protection, and indigenous rights. Russia may view U.S. interest as a strategic challenge, while Norway values collaboration through the Arctic Council.

China, through its Polar Silk Road initiative, has invested heavily in Greenland's infrastructure and mining sectors, further complicating the geopolitical landscape.

PM Modi Recommends 'JFK's Forgotten Crisis' to Lok Sabha MPs

Calls out Nehru's handling of China crisis, Congress questions relevance

- Suggested MPs read Bruce Riedel's book on JFK's diplomatic challenges.
- Criticized Nehru's foreign policy decisions during the 1962 India-China war.
- Faced pushback from Congress MP Shashi Tharoor over book's relevance.

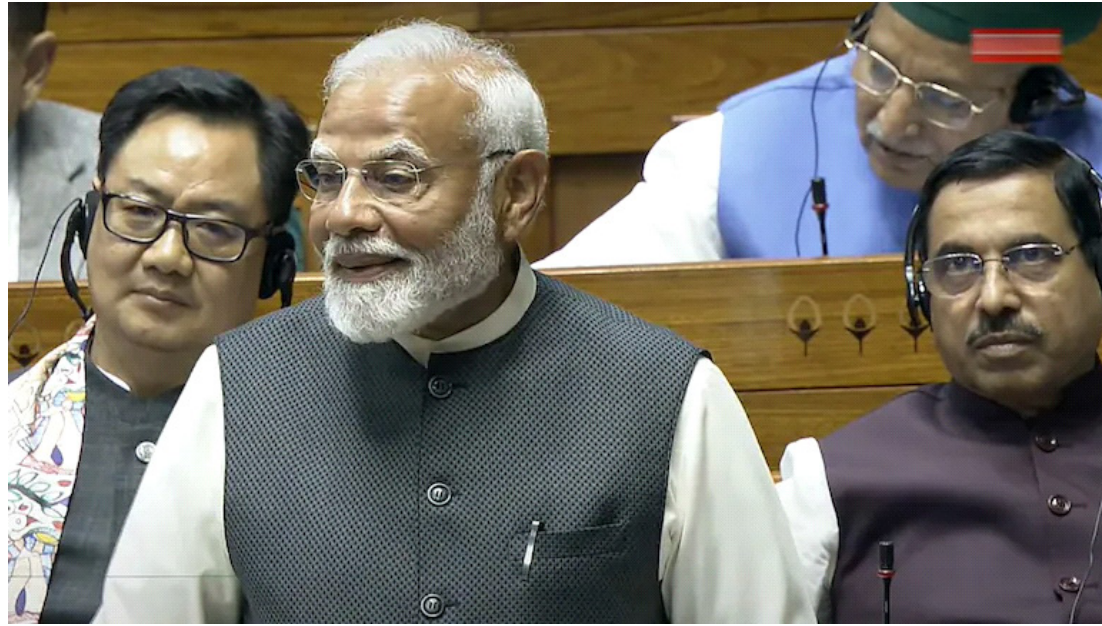
TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday recommended that Lok Sabha MPs read JFK's Forgotten Crisis, a book by US foreign policy expert Bruce Riedel. The book delves into political and diplomatic crises during John F. Kennedy's presidency, including discussions involving India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and his foreign policy decisions during the 1962 India-China war.

The Prime Minister's recommendation came amid increasing political pressure over his government's handling of the ongoing China border dispute. Modi directed the suggestion at those questioning his leadership, particularly Congress MP Rahul Gandhi and Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, who had raised concerns regarding India's territorial integrity. He also used the moment to take a subtle dig at Nehru, often targeted by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for his foreign policy stance, especially in relation to China.

Modi stated that the book revealed "what games" Nehru had played with India's security, referring to the historical context of India's foreign policy during the 1962 border conflict with China. He suggested that MPs interested in foreign policy should read the book, as it includes details about Nehru's communication with JFK during the crisis. According to Modi, the book highlights the games played in the name of foreign policy during that time.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, however,



questioned Modi's recommendation, expressing confusion about how it was relevant to the discussion on the President's speech. Tharoor, who had read Riedel's book years ago, pointed out that it mentioned the US secretly helping India during the 1962 war. The book also revealed that India had asked for this assistance, acknowledging the dire situation it was facing during the conflict.

The Prime Minister's comment came in the wake of Rahul Gandhi's remarks on India's territorial loss to China. Gandhi had questioned the government about reports suggesting that over 4,000 square kilometers of Indian territory had been surrendered to China. This prompted a strong rebuttal from Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who rejected Gandhi's claims.

Meanwhile, Modi's speech also targeted the opposition over corruption allegations, particularly against Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal. The Prime Minister accused Kejriwal of spending taxpayers' money on luxury renovations for his official residence. Additionally, Modi criticized the Congress party for its failure to eradicate poverty despite decades of governance, claiming that his government had successfully lifted 25 crore people out of poverty in just 10 years.

The political attacks set the stage for the Delhi Assembly elections, with Modi using the opportunity to counter the opposition's claims and assert his government's achievements.

West Bengal's Railway Funding Sparks Tensions Between BJP and TMC



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The allocation of Rs 13,955 crore for railway infrastructure in West Bengal as part of the Union Budget 2025 has sparked a war of words between the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the BJP. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, in a statement on Tuesday, emphasized that the funding for the state was three times the amount allocated when Mamata Banerjee, the TMC leader, was serving as the Railway Minister. This comment was aimed at countering claims made by the TMC, which had previously alleged that the Union Budget had not done enough for the state.

Vaishnaw's remark was a pointed jab at the West Bengal Chief Minister, who had criticized the budget as being inadequate for her state. He further highlighted that the railway allocation under the current government was significantly higher than the funds allocated during Mamata Banerjee's tenure as Railway Minister during both the NDA and UPA governments. Vaishnaw noted, "When Mamata Banerjee was the Railways Minister, Bengal was given a lot of projects and funds too. But this year, the allocation has tripled."

However, the TMC was quick to counter Vaishnaw's claims. Party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh argued that the BJP's narrative was misleading, stating that during Mamata Banerjee's tenure, Bengal had received numerous railway projects, new trains, station renovations, and the establishment of new lines and factories. Ghosh criticized the current BJP-led government for not allowing proper paperwork for the ongoing projects, thus hindering progress in the state. He said, "Less funds are coming in for many projects, and in some cases, funds are not enough at all."

In response, Vaishnaw urged the West Bengal government to assist with land acquisition and law and order, emphasizing that such collaboration was crucial for the development of railway projects in the state. He also pointed out the impressive growth of the Kolkata Metro, citing that in the last decade, 32 kilometers of metro lines had been built, surpassing the total length constructed in the past 42 years.

Centre Offers Land for Manmohan Singh's Memorial at Rajghat

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Indian government has offered land in the Rajghat complex to build a memorial for former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who passed away in December 2024, according to government sources. The plot allocated is situated next to the memorial of Pranab Mukherjee, the former Congress leader and President, who served during Singh's tenure as prime minister from 2004 to 2014.

Sources have confirmed that the government is awaiting the formation of a trust by Singh's family before formally allocating the land. Once the trust is established, the government will also provide Rs 25 lakh for the construction of the memorial.

Manmohan Singh, widely credited with ushering in economic reforms as Finance Minister in 1991, played a pivotal role in transforming India's economic landscape, opening the country to global markets. His tenure as Prime Minister from 2004 to 2014 is seen as one of significant economic growth and international diplomacy.

Following Singh's death on December 26, 2024, the Congress party criticized the government for not finding an appropriate site for his memorial. In response, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) reminded the Congress that it had not built a memorial for former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, under whom Singh had served as Finance Minister. This controversy was further amplified when the government, in January, allocated land for a memorial for Pranab Mukherjee, who passed away in 2020. Mukherjee's daughter, Sharmistha Mukherjee, expressed gratitude for the government's decision to create a memorial at the 'Rashtriya Samiti' complex in Rajghat, noting that the gesture was unexpected yet deeply appreciated. She also took a dig at the Congress, pointing out that the party had not even convened a condolence meeting for her father.



Engines Colliding? Akhilesh Yadav Uses BJP Slogan To Jab Yogi Adityanath

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav launched a strong critique of the Uttar Pradesh government in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, accusing it of mishandling the recent stampede during the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj. Yadav questioned the Yogi Adityanath-led administration's failure to disclose the accurate number of casualties, criticizing the government's lack of transparency in the aftermath of the tragedy that occurred on January 29, 2025.

The stampede occurred during the rush for a holy dip on the banks of the Ganga, leading to tragic loss of life. The police initially reported 30 deaths and 60 injuries, but critics argue that the actual toll is likely higher. Yadav expressed his dissatisfaction with the delayed response of the administration, stating, "They gave a lot of numbers in the Budget, they should also give the numbers of the dead at Mahakumbh."

Yadav demanded that Parliament be provided with a detailed report on the incident and the government's arrangements for the event. He also called for an all-party meeting to address the tragedy and ensure that those responsible for concealing the truth are held accountable. "Hiding the truth is a crime. Who will serve the punishment for this?" he asked.

The SP chief accused the government of focusing on publicity rather than providing adequate arrangements for the millions of devotees who attended the event. He criticized the claims of a "Digital Kumbh" organized by the government, pointing out the irony that those behind such claims were unable to provide accurate numbers about the victims of the stampede. He also condemned the government's response to the aftermath, alleging that it involved superficial gestures like dropping flowers from a helicopter instead of addressing the victims' losses in a meaningful way. Yadav took further aim at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, claiming that the CM did not express condolences over the deaths until both the President and the Prime Minister had done so. He also raised concerns over the handling of the religious practices, alleging that the government interfered with long-standing traditions and caused divisions among the akharas (spiritual groups).



Maharashtra Won't Forgive You: D Fadnavis On Rahul Gandhi's Poll Claim

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has strongly rebuked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi following his allegations of voter manipulation in the state. Fadnavis's remarks came after Gandhi, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, claimed that around 70 lakh voters, roughly the population of Himachal Pradesh, were added to the electoral rolls in Maharashtra between the Lok Sabha and state elections.

Addressing the House during the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address, Gandhi claimed that an unusually large number of voters were registered in Maharashtra ahead of the state elections, which raised suspicions regarding the fairness of the process. He alleged that more voters were added in just five months than in five years, particularly in constituencies where the BJP had emerged victorious in the 2019 state elections.

In response, Fadnavis accused Gandhi of insulting the people of Maharashtra and questioning the democratic mandate given to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the state. He emphasized that Maharashtra, known for its legacy of prominent figures like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Phule, and Veer Savarkar, deserved respect. He condemned Gandhi for what he described as slanderous remarks and demanded an apology from the Congress leader. "The people of Maharashtra won't forgive you for this. Apologise, Mr. Rahul Gandhi!" Fadnavis said, asserting that the Congress leader's remarks were an attack on the state's democratic integrity.

Gandhi's comments come after the Congress performed poorly in the Maharashtra Assembly elections, securing only 16 seats, while the BJP achieved its best-ever performance with 132 seats. The Congress leader's claims of voter irregularities in Maharashtra have sparked a political uproar, with the BJP accusing him of undermining the electoral process.

In addition to the allegations about voter rolls, Gandhi had previously raised concerns over the transparency of India's electoral system. He suggested that the Election Commission needed to ensure greater clarity and accountability in its operations. He also claimed that the Congress and other opposition parties had sought voter lists from the Maharashtra and Haryana elections, which they were reportedly denied access to.

PM Modi Likely to Visit US on February 12

Visit follows Paris AI summit, amid trade and energy discussions

- Modi's first US visit after Trump's return to the White House.
- Talks to focus on trade, defence, and energy cooperation.
- India plans nuclear energy reforms ahead of the visit.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to visit the United States on February 12, according to sources in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). This visit will be PM Modi's first to the US following President Donald Trump's return to the White House. Though the visit has yet to be officially confirmed, sources indicate that Modi will travel to Washington DC after his two-day trip to Paris, where he is scheduled to attend the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit on February 10-11.

PM Modi's visit to the US will place him among a select group of foreign leaders to visit Washington DC shortly after the Trump administration's return to power. This timing is significant, as it will come amid growing concerns in India over President Trump's policies on immigration and tariffs, which have raised tensions globally.

In recent days, President Trump announced a 25% tariff on Canadian and Mexican imports, alongside a 10% tax on Chinese goods. Although he later suspended the tariff on Mexican imports, there has been no relief announced for the other two. These moves are part of Trump's "America First" agenda, which has prompted mixed reactions internationally, especially in trade relations with India.

Despite these concerns, PM Modi and President Trump have already engaged in discussions. In a phone call on January 27, a week after Trump's inauguration, both leaders expressed a commitment to strengthening



India-US ties, particularly in trade, energy, and defense sectors. The White House also highlighted Trump's emphasis on India increasing its procurement of US-made security equipment and moving toward a fairer bilateral trade relationship.

Ahead of his visit, India has also signaled its interest in expanding energy cooperation with the US, particularly in clean energy. This includes India's recent announcement to amend its nuclear liability laws and set up a nuclear energy mission. These moves are seen as part of efforts to facilitate the

civil nuclear deal that both countries had initially agreed upon over 16 years ago.

India is also exploring collaboration with US-based Holtec International for small modular reactors (SMRs), a promising sector in nuclear energy. The Department of Atomic Energy is reportedly interested in working with Holtec to advance this technology. As PM Modi prepares for his visit, discussions around trade, energy, and defense are likely to dominate the agenda, marking a crucial moment in the growing India-US partnership.

India Contributes USD 37.64 Million to UN Regular Budget for 2025



TPN Correspondent | United Nations

India has made a significant contribution of USD 37.64 million to the United Nations Regular Budget for 2025, marking its place on the "honor roll" of 35 member states that have paid their assessments in full and on time. The payment was made on January 31, 2025, within the 30-day period specified in the UN's financial regulations.

As of January 31, 2025, thirty-five member states had settled their regular budget assessments in full, meeting the deadline set by the UN. The contributions are part of the UN's regular budget, which finances the organization's day-to-day activities, including peacekeeping, humanitarian efforts, and development projects.

Stephane Dujarric, the spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, acknowledged India's timely payment during a daily press briefing. He expressed gratitude for the contribution, noting, "We thank our friends in India." This continues a long-standing tradition of India fulfilling its financial obligations to the UN by paying its dues promptly and in full, strengthening its reputation as a reliable member state.

India's consistent commitment to paying its UN contributions was highlighted by UN General Assembly President Philemon Yang, who commended India's continued fulfillment of its obligations. Yang, who will visit India from February 4-8, mentioned in an interview that India "continues to fulfil its obligation as a member state of the UN by paying its dues in full and on time."

India's timely payment of its UN dues comes at a time when the country's role in global diplomacy is expanding. As a member of the UN, India has been actively involved in various international forums and peacekeeping efforts. This contribution reinforces India's status as a key player in multilateral diplomacy and strengthens its ties with other UN member states.

The "honor roll" for 2025 includes a number of countries that have consistently met their obligations to the UN. These payments play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth functioning of the organization, allowing it to carry out its work effectively. India's contribution is seen as part of its broader commitment to supporting the United Nations and its objectives.

Marco Rubio Keeps Door Open for USAID Reform Amid Musk's Calls to Shut It Down

TPN Correspondent | Washington DC

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio clarified on Monday that the US Agency for International Development (USAID) will not be shut down, as previously suggested by Elon Musk. While Musk, head of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), had raised the possibility of closing the agency, Rubio expressed the need for USAID to reform and align itself with the State Department's policies rather than operate independently.

Speaking to reporters in El Salvador, Rubio emphasized that the issue was not about ending USAID's programs but rather about how the agency operates. "This is not about ending the programs that USAID does, per se," Rubio stated. "There are things that it does that are good, and there are things that it does that we have strong questions about. It's about the way it operates as an entity." He criticized USAID for not following policy directions from the State Department, saying the agency had long adopted an attitude of independence that was not aligned with US foreign policy or national interests.

USAID, founded in the 1960s, is one of the largest US foreign aid agencies and is responsible for over half of the country's foreign assistance. It has a history of partnerships in countries such as India, helping support public-private partnerships and contributing to development goals. Rubio underscored that taxpayer dollars used in foreign aid should support the US's national interest. "Every penny that we spend in foreign aid needs to be in furtherance and aligned with the national interest and the foreign policy of the US," he added. Elon Musk, speaking as head of DOGE, previously stated that he had discussed shutting down USAID with President Donald Trump, receiving approval to do so. Musk even referred to the agency as "criminal," though President Trump has not made a public statement about Musk's comments. The controversy surrounding the agency deepened when two top USAID officials were removed after obstructing DOGE personnel from accessing rooms at the USAID headquarters in Washington, D.C.

China Launches Investigation into Google Over Anti-Monopoly Violations

TPN Correspondent | China

China has initiated an investigation into Google for suspected violations of its anti-monopoly laws, following the United States' decision to impose additional tariffs on Chinese goods. The probe was announced on Tuesday by Beijing's State Administration for Market Regulation, which stated that Google was "suspected of violating the Anti-Monopoly Law of the People's Republic of China."

The investigation comes amid escalating tensions between China and the US, particularly after Washington recently introduced a 10 percent tariff on Chinese imports. The Chinese government has made it clear that the investigation is part of its broader response to actions that it deems harmful to its national interests and economy.

In addition to the probe into Google, China also announced that it would add US companies PVH Corp. and Illumina to a list of "unreliable entities." PVH, which owns the brands Tommy Hilfiger and Calvin Klein, and Illumina, a major player in biotechnology, were accused of violating market transaction principles and engaging in discriminatory practices against Chinese businesses. The Chinese commerce ministry stated that these companies had disrupted normal transactions with Chinese enterprises, thus jeopardizing China's national sovereignty and security.

The investigation into PVH comes after the company was accused of boycotting cotton from China's Xinjiang region, a move linked to allegations of human rights violations in the area. China has long faced international criticism over its treatment of Uyghur Muslims and other minorities in Xinjiang, including reports of forced labor and mass detentions.

China's latest actions are viewed as part of a broader strategy to protect its domestic interests and assert its position in ongoing geopolitical tensions with the US. The move follows President Trump's imposition of new tariffs on Chinese goods, which he justified as necessary to counter illegal migration and the flow of drugs, particularly fentanyl, into the US.



Sri Lanka President Vows To Transform Country's 'Corrupt' Image

TPN Correspondent | Colombo

Sri Lanka's leftist president, Anura Kumara Disanayake, marked the anniversary of the island nation's independence from Britain on Tuesday with a commitment to change its international image as a "corrupt" nation. The self-avowed Marxist leader opted for a subdued observance of the 1948 handover of power, foregoing the usual lavish military parades, including jet flyovers and horse processions, in favor of a modest military march. This was in line with his promise to reduce extravagant spending on government affairs.

In his address to the nation, Disanayake reaffirmed his government's goal to steer Sri Lanka away from its reputation for corrupt governance. "We are committed to transforming Sri Lanka's global image," he stated. He also acknowledged the nation's deep-rooted issues, which stemmed from a flawed political system, but expressed confidence in the progress being made. "Despite countless obstacles and the deep-rooted flaws of the past corrupt political system, the people's government, built by the collective will of the citizens, is steadily progressing forward," he added.

Disanayake's administration has made significant strides in addressing the country's economic crisis, which reached a peak in 2022 when Sri Lanka defaulted on its \$46 billion external debt. The economic collapse resulted in shortages of food, fuel, and medicines, leading to widespread protests and the resignation of then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa. His successor, Ranil Wickremesinghe, secured a \$2.9 billion bailout loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to stabilize the economy.

Since his election last September, Disanayake has continued many of the austerity measures introduced under Wickremesinghe's administration. His government finalized a long-delayed debt restructuring deal with both bilateral and private creditors, formally ending Sri Lanka's status as a bankrupt nation.

"We have laid the foundation for a stable economy and introduced a new political culture," Disanayake said. He emphasized that the government's commitment to the four-year IMF bailout program would remain steadfast, ensuring the country's path toward recovery continues.

Markets Soar as Sensex Jumps 1,397 Points; Nifty Breaks Key Resistance



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Domestic stock markets took a run today. The sky is the limit. They closed with huge gains on Tuesday. Trump's announcement that he is postponing tariffs on some countries filled positive sentiment in the market. Investors started buying as the dollar index fell, the rupee strengthened, and heavyweights were available at attractive prices. With this, Nifty 370 and Sensex rose by 1300 points. Nifty breaking the 200-day DEMA was a positive factor. Banking, finance, oil and gas stocks were the driving force behind this.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 77,186 in the previous session, opened at 77,687 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 77,402. It reached an intraday high of 78,658. It finally closed at 78,583 with a gain of 1397 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,509, touched a low of 23,423 and a high of 23,762. It closed at 23,739, up 378 points. The Nifty Bank rose 947 points to settle at 50,157.

In the Nifty50, 39 companies gained and 12 lost. Shriram Finance, LT, BEL, IndusInd Bank, Adani Ports were the top gainers. Trent, ITC Hotels, Britannia, Hero Moto, Nestle India were the top losers. Bank, Finance, IT, Metal, Pharma, Healthcare, Oil and Gas indices rose. Profit booking was seen in FMCG shares.

Market breadth on the NSE is in favor of buyers today. Out of a total of 2899 stocks traded, 1951 gained and 863 lost. Shares of 34 companies touched 52-week highs. Shares of 48 companies touched 52-week lows.

The rupee strengthened by 12 paise to settle at 87.07 against the dollar. Bank of America has given a buy rating to Aditya Birla Capitals with a target price of Rs 250. Nomura has maintained a buy rating on LIC Housing Finance, reducing its target to Rs 700 from Rs 795. Motilal Oswal has given a buy rating to Vinati Organics. Kalyan Jewellers shares rose by 14% today, the most in 19 months. SBI Research has predicted that a 25 basis point cut is likely in the February monetary policy meeting. It said it would cut by 75 basis points in tiers. Thermax's net profit fell 51% to Rs 116 crore from Rs 238 crore. 21 lakh shares changed hands in Bandhan Bank. WeMart Retail's net profit rose to Rs 71 crore from Rs 28 crore.

State Bank of India (SBI):

SBI is India's largest public sector bank, offering a comprehensive range of banking and financial services. The bank has demonstrated strong financial performance, with robust growth in net interest income and profitability. Its extensive branch network and significant market share in both urban and rural areas contribute to its solid fundamentals. Analysts consider SBI a strong performer in the banking sector, citing its solid fundamentals.



HDFC Bank:



HDFC Bank is one of India's leading private sector banks, known for its strong asset quality and consistent financial performance. The bank has maintained a healthy growth trajectory in its loan and deposit portfolios, supported by prudent risk management practices. Its focus on retail banking and digital initiatives has further strengthened its market position.

Divi's Laboratories:

Divi's Laboratories is a prominent pharmaceutical company specializing in the manufacturing of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and intermediates. The company has reported a 17% year-on-year increase in net profit for Q3FY2024, amounting to Rs. 358 crores, with revenue increasing by 8.6% to Rs. 1,855 crores. Divi's ongoing investments in expanding production capacities and diversifying its product portfolio underscore its commitment to growth.



Reliance Industries:

Reliance Industries is a diversified conglomerate with interests spanning petrochemicals, refining, telecommunications, and retail. The company's stock price has corrected by 22% from its 52-week high, presenting an attractive valuation. Brokerages highlight this correction as a favorable buying opportunity, citing growth potential across its diverse business verticals.



Adani Ports & SEZ:

Adani Ports & SEZ is India's largest private multi-port operator, managing a network of ports across the country. The company's share price has declined over 10% year-to-date and 30% in the past six months, which some analysts view as a potential buying opportunity. Despite recent stock performance, Adani Ports continues to play a crucial role in India's maritime trade and logistics sector.



India's Inflation Outlook: Projected Decline in FY25 and FY26

India's retail inflation is expected to see a significant decline in the last quarter (January-March) of the financial year 2024-25 (FY25), with projections placing it at 4.5%, according to a recent report by the State Bank of India (SBI). The report also forecasts that the average inflation for the entire fiscal year will hover around 4.8%.

This decline in inflation, particularly in the fourth quarter, indicates a positive shift in the country's inflationary trend. The report points out that inflation in January is expected to trend closer to the 4.5% mark, suggesting that the effects of various policy interventions and global economic conditions are beginning to take hold in stabilizing prices.

The decline in inflation can be attributed to several factors, including the moderation of food and fuel prices, which have been key drivers of inflation in recent months. The government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have been working on managing supply-side disruptions, which have contributed to price hikes in essential commodities. Additionally, global inflationary pressures are easing, benefiting countries like India, whose domestic market has been impacted by fluctuations in international commodity prices. Looking ahead, the report also projected a further easing of inflation in FY26, with the expected



range falling between 4.2% and 4.5%. This suggests that India's inflation outlook is stabilizing, with moderate inflation becoming a more consistent trend in the years ahead.

The anticipated decline in inflation is expected to have a positive impact on household budgets, which have been strained by rising prices in recent years. A more stable inflation rate would also provide a favorable environment for economic growth, as consumers and businesses would face less uncertainty in their purchasing and investment decisions.

The SBI's report highlights that the tra-

jectory of inflation will depend on various factors, including monsoon performance, global commodity prices, and domestic policy actions. The RBI's monetary policy measures, particularly interest rate adjustments, will also play a significant role in determining the inflation path in the coming quarters.

In conclusion, India's inflation outlook for FY25 and FY26 is promising, with a steady decline expected over the next two years. This bodes well for the country's economic stability, as lower inflation can help support growth and enhance the purchasing power of its citizens.

India Increase in FDI limit in insurance sector to woo more foreign players: Moody's

India's insurance sector is set to receive a boost with the recent proposal to increase the foreign investment limit to 100% from 74%. According to Moody's Ratings, this move is expected to attract more global players to the rapidly growing Indian market, enhancing product innovation and improving the sector's overall financial health.

Currently, several foreign insurers operate in India through joint ventures. These foreign stakeholders may now look to increase their ownership stakes in their Indian affiliates following this regulatory change. Moody's views the increased foreign investment as a positive development for the sector, citing the potential for enhanced capital adequacy, financial flexibility, and improved governance standards. With foreign investors bringing their expertise, the market is expected to benefit from greater product diversification and more competitive pricing, ultimately boosting profitability.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sithara-

man announced the proposal during the presentation of Budget 2025-26, highlighting it as part of a broader initiative aimed at modernizing and reforming India's financial sector. The government's push to raise the foreign investment limit underscores its commitment to attracting more global capital and expertise into the insurance space.

The increased foreign investment could be particularly advantageous for health insurance, as rising awareness about health and well-being, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, drives demand for comprehensive coverage. The middle class, India's largest target market for insurance products, is also experiencing an increase in disposable income, further expanding the potential customer base for insurers. These trends bode well for the future growth of the sector, particularly in health insurance.

In addition to the foreign investment reform, the Budget also introduced tax measures aimed at easing the finan-



cial burden on taxpayers. The personal income tax threshold was raised to Rs 12 lakh from Rs 7 lakh, benefiting many middle and upper-income earners. A revision of the tax brackets will allow those earning above the threshold to save up to Rs 1.1 lakh annually, further boosting disposable income. These reforms are expected to have a positive impact on overall economic activity, including in the insurance sector.

In conclusion, the decision to increase the foreign investment limit in India's insurance sector is expected to bring substantial benefits, fostering innovation and growth. With rising disposable income and growing demand for health insurance, the sector is poised for strong growth in the coming years.

India's Palm Oil Imports Fall Due to Shifting Preferences and Refining Margins

India's palm oil imports in January have sharply dropped to their lowest level in nearly 14 years, as refiners opted for cheaper alternatives like soyoil due to negative refining margins for palm oil, according to industry sources. The world's largest importer of vegetable oils, India saw a staggering 46% decline in palm oil imports in January compared to the previous month, with shipments totaling just 272,000 metric tons. This is the lowest level since March 2011, as reported by dealers.

The sharp decline in palm oil imports is attributed to the ongoing economic pressures faced by refiners, who have found refining palm oil increasingly unprofitable. Refining margins for palm oil have turned negative, compelling many refineries to pivot towards soyoil, which is more cost-effective in comparison. The shift in preferences towards soyoil has led to a rise in its imports, helping to offset the reduced demand for palm oil.

This dramatic drop in palm oil imports is likely to impact global markets, particularly Malaysian palm oil prices, which may face downward pressure due to lower demand from India. Malaysia is one of the top exporters of palm oil to India, and a reduction in Indian imports could dampen market expectations for the commodity. On the other hand, the increased demand for soyoil could provide some support to U.S. soyoil futures, as refiners seek cheaper alternatives.

India's reliance on vegetable oils, particularly for cooking, means that changes in import patterns can have significant effects on global vegetable oil markets. While palm oil remains a staple for many Indian consumers, fluctuating global prices and refining costs have led to a shift in buying habits. The impact of these trends on global palm oil markets will continue to unfold in the coming months, with dealers and analysts closely monitor-



ing how refiners adapt to market conditions.

The long-term outlook for India's palm oil imports will depend on several factors, including global prices, domestic demand, and the relative pricing of other edible oils. As the situation evolves, the palm oil market will need to adjust to the changing dynamics of one of its largest consumers.

OpenAI Introduces 'Deep Research' Mode for Enhanced Multi-Step Web Research

OpenAI has unveiled a new feature for ChatGPT called 'Deep Research,' designed to tackle more complex tasks that require multi-step web research. This marks the company's second AI agent, following the debut of Operator AI for browser-related tasks just last month.

What is Deep Research and How Does it Work?

Powered by OpenAI's latest o3 reasoning model, Deep Research is optimized for web browsing and data analysis. It can search, interpret, and analyze vast amounts of text, images, and PDFs across the web to generate comprehensive reports that approach the level of a research analyst. Deep Research goes beyond simple queries, providing users with more detailed insights into complex topics.

However, unlike regular search tasks in ChatGPT, Deep Research is time-intensive. Queries can take anywhere between 5 to 30 minutes to return results, with the AI notifying users once the research is complete. Currently, the feature only supports text output, but OpenAI plans to introduce images, data visualizations, and other analytical outputs in the near future.

Why Deep Research Has Limitations

Despite its promise, Deep Research is not without its flaws. OpenAI has acknowledged that, like other AI tools, the model is prone to 'hallucination,' meaning it can generate incorrect or fabricated information. Additionally, the system can struggle to distinguish between authoritative information and rumors, and it has difficulty accurately calibrating its confidence, sometimes failing to convey uncertain-



ty about its findings.

These limitations raise important questions about the reliability of Deep Research's outputs. While users can review citations to verify information, this process effectively undermines the purpose of using an AI tool in the first place. As the AI generates more detailed reports, users must still cross-check the data manually, which can be time-consuming.

Looking ahead, OpenAI plans to connect Deep Research to specialized data sources, including subscription-based or internal resources, to enhance the robustness and personalization of its results. While this may improve the tool's accuracy, the ongoing challenge of addressing the AI's reliability remains a key hurdle for its widespread use in critical research tasks.

Chinese Astronauts Generate Oxygen and Fuel Through Artificial Photosynthesis in Space

Chinese astronauts aboard the Tiangong space station have achieved a significant milestone by successfully producing oxygen and rocket fuel through artificial photosynthesis. This groundbreaking experiment could play a crucial role in China's ambitious plans to establish a lunar base by 2035, as it allows for the generation of vital resources directly in space, reducing reliance on supplies from Earth.

Conducted by the crew of Shenzhou-19, the experiment utilized water and carbon dioxide to create oxygen and hydrocarbon fuel components, mimicking the natural process of photosynthesis found in plants. The system, which requires minimal energy, represents a promising step towards sustainable resource generation for future space missions.

The artificial photosynthesis system works through engineered physical and chemical reactions, with a semiconductor catalyst and a compact apparatus functioning as the key components. This technology converts carbon dioxide and water into oxygen and hydrocarbon-based fuels, offering flexibility to produce other fuels like methane or formic acid by simply changing the catalyst used.

This method presents a significant advantage over current technologies, particularly electrolysis, which is used on the International Space Station (ISS) to generate oxygen. Electrolysis, while effective, consumes up to a third of the ISS's power supply, making the new artificial photosyn-

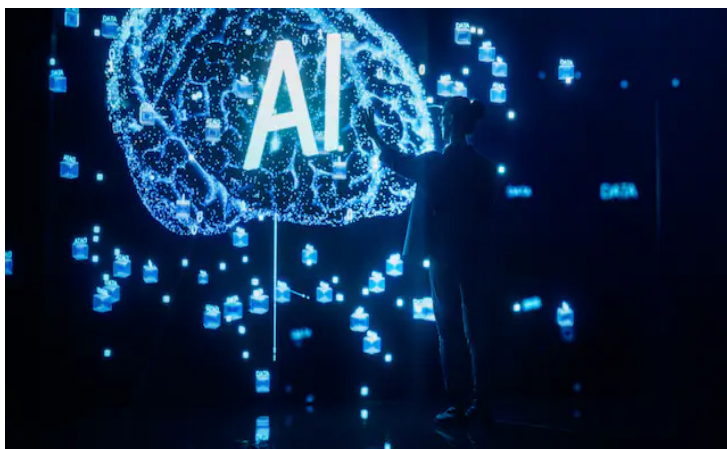


thesis system an energy-efficient alternative for long-duration space missions.

Looking ahead, China's lunar base plans are closely tied to this technology. The base, which aims to be established near the Moon's south pole by 2035, could benefit from this new approach to producing breathable air and fuel for return missions. In addition to artificial photosynthesis, China is also collaborating with Russia on a mini nuclear reactor to power the base. With astronauts expected to land on the Moon by 2030, ahead of NASA's delayed Artemis missions, this innovation could be key to supporting sustainable human presence on the Moon.

As space exploration continues to evolve, China's advancements in artificial photosynthesis may pave the way for more self-sufficient and efficient missions, marking a new era of space sustainability.

Treatment By AI? Bengaluru CEO Gets MRI Analysed By ChatGPT, Shares Result Online



As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to make inroads into various aspects of our lives, its applications in healthcare are garnering attention. Deepak Shenoy, CEO of Bengaluru-based CapitalMind, recently shared an experience that raised intriguing questions about AI's potential role in medical diagnostics. In a post on X, Shenoy detailed how he used ChatGPT to analyze his MRI report, sparking discussions about whether AI could eventually replace traditional healthcare professionals.

Shenoy recounted how, after experiencing knee issues, he consulted with a doctor who recommended an MRI scan. When he input the results into ChatGPT, the AI suggested avoiding deep squats, which was a relevant piece of advice as Shenoy had been training for them. Interestingly, the AI also identified a slight knee displacement and hypothesized that it could be related to a sports injury. Although Shenoy acknowledged the need for professional treatment, he found the insights provided by the AI to be intriguing and useful.

The response to Shenoy's post was mixed. While some users praised ChatGPT's ability to provide helpful health-related suggestions, others expressed skepticism. One user shared a positive experience, claiming, "I gave my ultrasound report to ChatGPT, and it gave me better advice than the doctor." However, others questioned whether AI, with its current limitations, could truly replace the expertise of trained medical professionals.

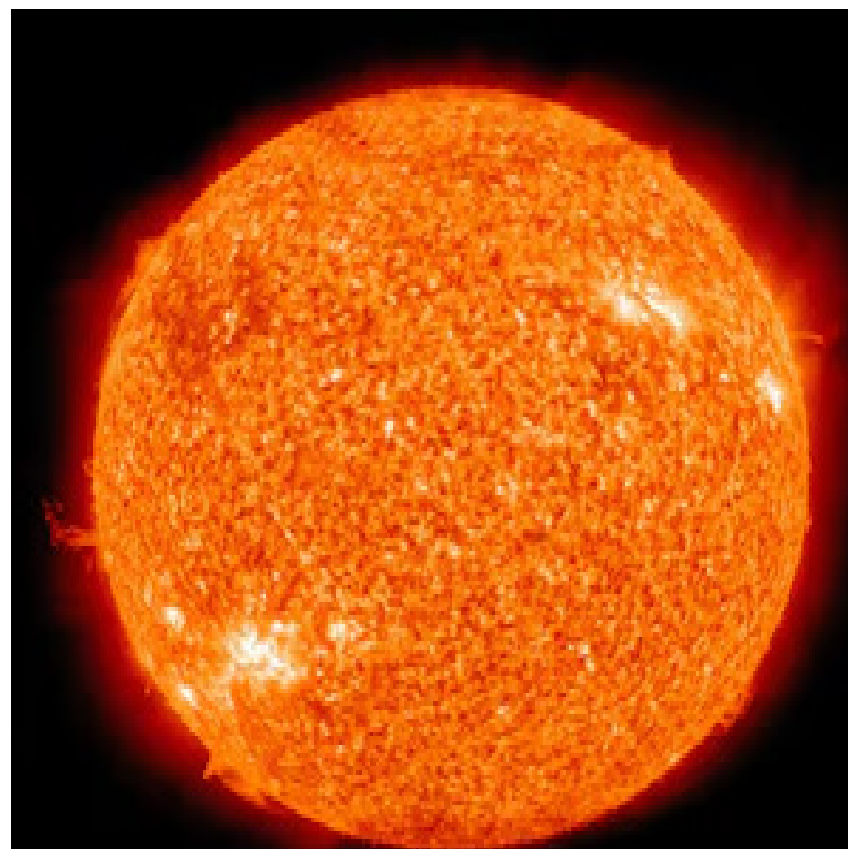
This conversation highlights the growing interest in the role of AI in healthcare, particularly in diagnostic support. While AI can process vast amounts of data and offer valuable insights, many believe it should complement, rather than replace, human expertise. In Shenoy's case, the AI's suggestions were interesting, but they will ultimately need to be validated by a doctor's expertise for accurate diagnosis and treatment. As AI continues to evolve, its integration into healthcare systems will likely continue to raise important questions about the future of medical practice.

AI Could Have Predicted May 2024 Solar Storm, Study Finds

A recent study claims that Artificial Intelligence (AI) could have predicted the powerful solar storm that impacted Earth in May 2024, which was triggered by the highly active region ARI3664 on the Sun. The research, led by Sabrina Guastavino at the University of Genoa, suggests that AI could recognize patterns preceding coronal mass ejections (CMEs) by training on historical solar event data.

Traditionally, solar storm forecasts depend on human analysis of solar images and data, but these methods often provide less accurate and timely predictions. The study highlights that despite advances in technology and model development, uncertainties remain in flare forecasting and predicting the travel times of CMEs. Typically, the forecasted CME arrival time averages 12 hours, leaving little room for preparation.

AI's potential lies in its ability to process vast datasets from solar imagery and space weather parameters, including solar wind



speed, magnetic field changes, and solar flare patterns. The AI model can detect subtle signs in the solar atmosphere's behavior, offering an early warning system for space weather events.

The May 2024 solar storm, which was the most intense since 2003, serves as a reminder of how AI could refine space weather forecasting. The study suggests that

AI's precision in predicting CME travel times not only offers early warnings but can also act as a diagnostic tool for testing and enhancing existing models of CME propagation.

Coronal mass ejections are massive expulsions of plasma and magnetic fields from the Sun's corona. These high-speed gas clouds can cause significant disruptions to power grids, communication systems, GPS navigation, air travel, and satellites. The storm in May 2024 affected global communication networks and was particularly intense, underscoring the importance of accurate forecasting.

Solar activity follows an 11-year cycle, with peaks and lows corresponding to solar maximum and solar minimum phases. Currently, we are in Solar Cycle 25, which is expected to peak around July 2025. This cycle has shown unexpectedly high levels of solar activity, sparking further research to understand the Sun's behavior and improve prediction models.

I Am Single: Woman Flooded With Proposals After Unique Idea At Sporting Event

In today's digital world, predicting what will go viral can seem like an impossible task. Sometimes, content appears that leaves us baffled, while other times, it simply makes us laugh out loud. One such instance recently went viral, when a woman's inventive approach to finding a romantic partner at a sports event captured the attention of viewers around the globe.

Shilo, a single woman attending a sporting event abroad, became the center of attention when she held up a bold sign in the stands. The sign read "Single" with an arrow pointing downwards and included her Instagram handle, inviting potential suitors to connect with her. What happened next was nothing short of fascinating: the video of Shilo aired live on television, and within hours, her social media was flooded with messages and dating proposals from people worldwide.



As reported by the New York Post, Shilo's creative move led to an outpouring of interest, with individuals offering everything from

casual dates to serious romantic proposals. The surge in attention was so overwhelming that Shilo was left with no free time for the next two weeks, as her inbox was packed with messages from potential partners eager to connect. What was meant to be a lighthearted attempt to find a match turned into a viral sensation, showing just how much the digital world has changed the way we form relationships.

While this story is certainly an entertaining one, it also speaks to the power of social media in shaping modern dating dynamics. Whether or not Shilo finds her perfect match through this viral moment remains to be seen, but one thing is for sure: her creative strategy has captured the imagination of people everywhere, sparking a conversation about the evolving nature of romance in the digital age.

“Sri Lanka, Unfortunately...”: Tim Paine Predicts Australian Dominance in 2nd Test

Former Australian captain Tim Paine has made a bold prediction ahead of the second Test between Sri Lanka and Australia, stating that the hosts stand little chance of challenging the dominant visitors. The second Test is set to take place at Galle from February 6, with Australia already leading 1-0 in the series after their massive innings and 242-run victory in the first Test.

Australia, having secured a spot in the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) final, will aim to finish the series on a high. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, will be looking to salvage some pride after a promising WTC campaign.

Speaking to SEN, Paine praised Australia's clinical performance in the first Test, calling it “close to flawless.” He particularly lauded Steve Smith, Usman Khawaja, Travis Head, and debutant Josh Inglis for their batting contributions. Additionally, he highlighted the precision of bowlers Matt Kuhnemann, Nathan Lyon, Todd Murphy, and Mitchell Starc, who dismantled Sri Lanka's batting lineup.

“When you have players of that quality, playing as well as they do, there aren't too many teams that can match them,” Paine stated. “Sri Lanka, unfortunately, I cannot see them getting close to Australia on any surface.”

With the series on the line, Sri Lanka will need an exceptional performance to challenge Steve Smith's Australia and avoid a whitewash.



Squads:

Sri Lanka: Dhananjaya de Silva (c), Dimuth Karunaratne, Pathum Nissanka (fitness pending), Oshada Fernando, Lahiru Udara, Dinesh Chandimal, Angelo Mathews, Kamindu Mendis, Kusal Mendis, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Sonal Dinusha, Prabath Jayasuriya, Jeffrey Vandersay, Nishan Peiris, Asitha Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Lahiru Kumara, Milan Rathnayake.

Australia: Steve Smith (c), Sean Abbott, Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Cooper Connolly, Travis Head (vc), Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Sam Konstas, Matt Kuhnemann, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Nathan McSweeney, Todd Murphy, Mitchell Starc, Beau Webster.

India vs Pakistan Champions Trophy Tickets Sold Out in Minutes



Tickets for the much-anticipated India vs Pakistan clash in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 were sold out within minutes of going on sale, reflecting the massive demand for the high-voltage encounter. Over 1.5 lakh fans queued online, leading to waiting times of more than an hour, as they scrambled to secure seats for the February 23 match at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Fans faced disappointment as tickets across nearly all categories, including the Dh2,000 (₹47,434) Platinum and Dh5,000 (₹1.8 lakh) Grand Lounge sections, were quickly snapped up. “I anticipated a long queue, but the speed at which tickets vanished was shocking,” said Dubai resident Sudhashree. The stadium, which has a 25,000-seat capacity, saw an overwhelming rush, underscoring the fix-

ture's popularity.

With the tournament being held on a hybrid model across Pakistan and the UAE, the India-Pakistan encounter is expected to drive a surge in hospitality and travel sectors. Experts predict increased hotel bookings and rising airfares as fans from both nations flock to Dubai.

The Champions Trophy 2025 will feature eight teams competing in 15 matches over 19 days. Group A consists of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and New Zealand, while Group B includes Afghanistan, England, Australia, and South Africa. Hosts Pakistan, the defending champions, will kick off the tournament against New Zealand in Karachi on February 19.



Ravi Shastri Warns: India's Champions Trophy Winning Chances Could Drop 30% Without Bumrah

As the ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 approaches, former India head coach Ravi Shastri and Australia's Ricky Ponting have raised concerns about India's chances in the tournament if pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah is not fully fit.

Bumrah, the 2024 ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year, played a key role in India's T20 World Cup triumph and delivered a stellar season across all formats. However, a back spasm sustained during the Sydney Test against Australia in January has kept him out of action. While he has been named in India's initial Champions Trophy squad, his absence from the upcoming ODI series against England has fueled speculation about his fitness.

Speaking on The ICC Review, Shastri strongly advised against rushing Bumrah back, stating that forcing him into the squad prematurely would be a “high risk” decision with India's packed cricket calendar ahead. “Bumrah not fit will reduce India's chances of winning the Champions Trophy by 30-35%,” Shastri said. “Ex-

pecting him to return and immediately dominate is unrealistic. If he plays, India gets guaranteed quality death overs, but if he isn't fit, the team loses a crucial edge.”

Ponting echoed these concerns, highlighting that Bumrah's increased workload during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy could have contributed to his injury. He also pointed out that the absence of Mohammed Shami as a backup forced Bumrah to bowl extra spells, possibly aggravating his condition.

With Shami back in the squad, all eyes will be on his performance in the ODI series against England, which will determine whether he can handle the demands of a 10-over spell in 50-over cricket.

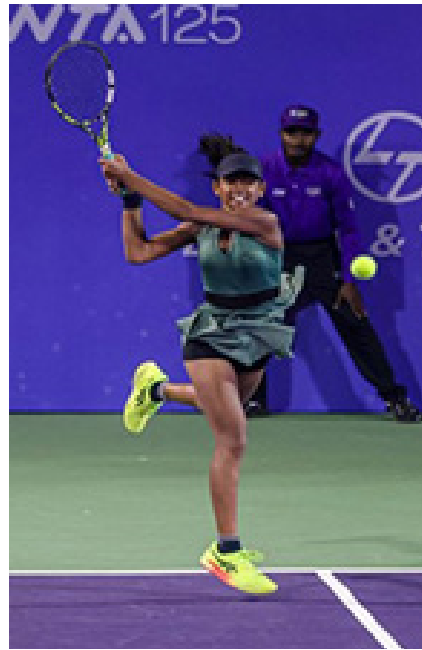
India will kick off their Champions Trophy campaign against Bangladesh on February 20 in Dubai. If both Bumrah and Shami are fit, India will have a formidable pace attack, crucial for success in fast-bowler-friendly conditions.

Magnificent Maaya Shines as Indian Players Dominate Mumbai Open

India's rising tennis sensation Maaya delivered a spectacular performance at the Mumbai Open WTA 125, defeating Belarusian Iryna Shymanovich 6-4, 6-1 to storm into the Round of 16 at the Cricket Club of India. The 15-year-old prodigy displayed remarkable composure and precision, overpowering her experienced opponent with aggressive play and powerful serves.

Maaya set the tone early, breaking Shymanovich's momentum after a 2-2 tie and firing four aces to clinch the first set 6-4. Her baseline aggression kept Shymanovich on the defensive. The Belarusian tried to mount a comeback in the second set, engaging Maaya in long rallies, but the young Indian remained composed. With well-placed shots and impeccable timing, she pressured her opponent and sealed the match with a brilliant ace, drawing huge cheers from the home crowd.

Meanwhile, India's wildcard entry Ankita Raina show-



cased her class, defeating compatriot Vaishnavi Adkar 6-2, 6-2. Raina's tactical precision was evident as she broke Adkar twice in the first set and saved two crucial break points. Her controlled baseline play and aggressive returns proved too much for Adkar, who struggled to keep pace.

In other matches, third seed Anna Karolina Schmiedlova of Slovakia survived a tough battle against Australia's Tina Smith, coming from behind to win 6-7, 6-4, 6-1. Her resilience and tactical play helped her dominate the final set.

Adding to India's success, Shrivalli Bhamidipaty dominated Russia's Elena Pridankina, securing a 6-1, 6-0 victory. With powerful serves and relentless intensity, Bhamidipaty ensured a swift and emphatic win.

With homegrown players making a strong impact, the Mumbai Open is shaping up to be an exciting tournament for Indian tennis fans.

World Padel League Set to Debut in Mumbai from February 5

The World Padel League (WPL) is all set to make its debut in India, marking a significant milestone for the sport in the country. The tournament will be held at Nesco Center, Mumbai, from February 5 to February 8, bringing together 32 of the world's top-ranked padel players to compete in a high-octane league format.

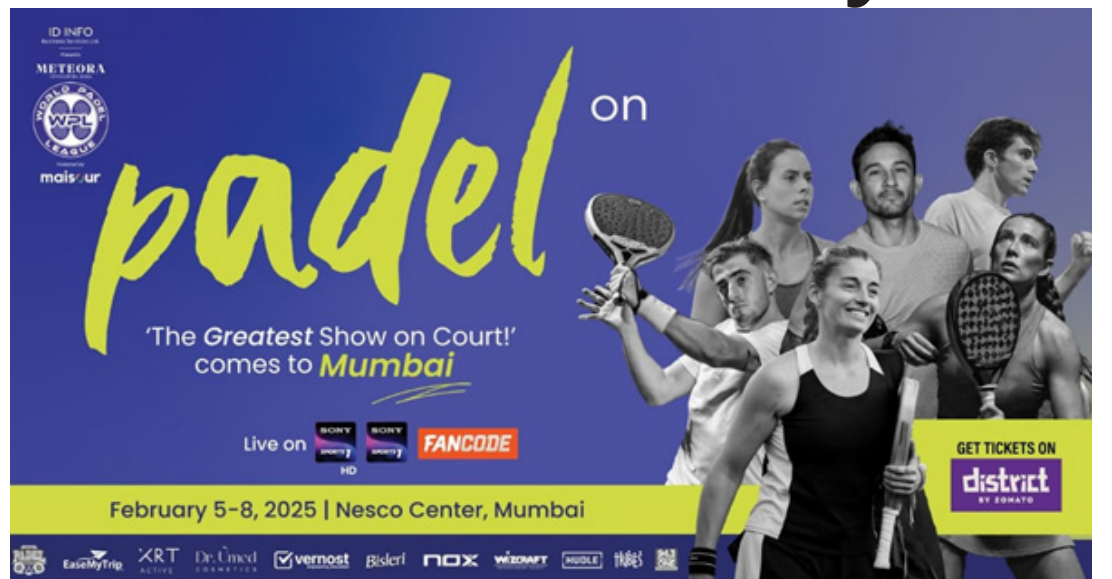
Four teams—Sohail Khan Ent. Panthers, SG Pipers Cheetahs, Game Changers Lions, and Vernost Jaguars—will battle for supremacy, each featuring eight players (five men and three women) along with a coach/captain. The tournament will follow a round-robin format, with each team playing three league-stage matches. The top two teams will face off in the grand final on February 8.

The WPL promises intense action, with top-ranked players such as Carlos Daniel Gutierrez (World No. 19), Claudia Fernandez (World No. 3), Jon Sanz (World No. 9), and Alejandra Salazar (World No. 15) leading their respective squads. Matches will feature two men's

doubles, one women's doubles, and one mixed doubles, following a tennis-style scoring system.

The opening match on February 5 will see Vernost Jaguars take on Sohail Khan Ent. Panthers, followed by a clash between SG Pipers Cheetahs and Game Changers Lions. The final showdown will take place on February 8, where the two best teams will battle for the prestigious title.

With elite global talent, high-stakes competition, and a thrilling format, the World Padel League aims to revolutionize the sport in India and attract new fans.





Rishab Shetty's 'Kantara: Chapter 1' to Feature a Grand War Sequence with Over 500 Fighters

The much-anticipated 'Kantara: Chapter 1', produced by Hombale Films, is set to be a cinematic spectacle, promising to surpass the success of its predecessor. The film, directed by and starring Rishab Shetty, is a prequel to the 2022 blockbuster Kantara, which became a record-breaking success. The first look poster featuring Rishab Shetty has already created immense excitement, with his transformed appearance drawing attention. To elevate the action sequences, the filmmakers have incorporated a grand war sequence featuring over 500 skilled fighters, making it one of the biggest battle scenes in Indian cinema.

A source close to the production stated, "Hombale Films is going all out for 'Kantara: Chapter 1,' bringing together over 500 skilled fighters to create a war sequence like never before. With top action choreography experts, this will be a cinematic experience of epic proportions."

Set in the Kadamba period of Karnataka, the film will explore a pivotal era in Indian history, focusing on the cultural and architectural contributions of the Kadamba dynasty.

'Kantara: Chapter 1' is slated for a grand worldwide release on October 2, 2025.

Netflix India Unveils 14 Exciting Films and Series for 2025

Netflix India is set to deliver a power-packed lineup of movies and series in 2025, catering to a wide range of audiences with fresh stories, star-studded casts, and highly anticipated sequels. The streaming giant is focusing on both original content and returning fan-favorite series, ensuring an exciting year ahead for Indian entertainment lovers. With Bollywood debut projects, gripping thrillers, and heartwarming dramas, Netflix India's 2025 slate promises a diverse selection of content. One of the biggest highlights is Aryan Khan's directorial debut, "The Ba*ds of Bollywood," which explores an outsider's journey in the film industry. Adding to the excitement is "Jewel Thief: The Heist Begins," starring Saif Ali Khan and Jaideep Ahlawat in a high-stakes thriller.

Romantic drama fans can look forward to "Nadaaniyan," featuring Bollywood newcomers Ibrahim Ali Khan and Khushi Kapoor, while R. Madhavan and Fatima Sana Shaikh take the lead in "Aap Jaisa Koi," a mature love story. Comedy-action lovers will be entertained by "Dhoom Dhaam," starring Pratik Gandhi and Yami Gautam, while cricket fans can look forward to "Test," starring R. Madhavan, Nayanthara, and Siddharth. Crime thriller "Toaster," produced by Rajkumar Rao and Patralekhaa, rounds up the list of new films.

Returning Fan-Favorite Series

Netflix is bringing back some of its biggest hits with new seasons in 2025. "Delhi Crime Season 3" will see Shefali Shah's team tack-



ling a human trafficking case, while "Kohrra Season 2" promises another gripping investigation led by Barun Sobti and Mona Singh.

Rana Daggubati and Arjun Rampal return for "Rana Naidu Season 2," bringing more family drama and action. Additionally, the Bengali film industry takes center stage in "Khakee: The Bengal Chapter," starring Jeet and Prosenjit Chatterjee.

Another major highlight is "Akka," a powerful crime drama featuring Keerthy Suresh and Radhika Apte as gangster queens.

Exciting Reality Shows

Netflix is also tapping into Bollywood's charm with its reality show "Dining with the Kapoors," which explores the Kapoor family's history through food and personal stories. Meanwhile, Kapil Sharma returns with "The Great Indian Kapil Show Season 3," promising more laughter and entertainment.

With a mix of fresh faces, established stars, and engaging stories, Netflix India's 2025 lineup is set to dominate the streaming space.

Keerthy Suresh's Fierce Look in 'Akka' Takes the Internet by Storm

Keerthy Suresh, one of India's most beloved actresses, is making waves with her upcoming film 'Akka'. The recently released teaser has left fans in awe of her intense new avatar, with many praising her raw and powerful presence on screen.

Keerthy, who recently made her Bollywood debut with Baby John, continues to impress audiences with her versatility.

In Akka, she embodies a fierce and unshakable character, radiating strength and intensity in every frame. Her transformation for the role has received widespread appreciation, with fans flooding social media with admiration.

One fan commented, "Keerthy flower nahi WILD FIRE hai!" while another wrote, "Gonna witness another raw Keerthy after Saani Kaayitham." Others expressed their excitement with remarks like "Definitely a blockbuster hit because Keerthy



Suresh is there!"

Her piercing gaze and rugged aura in Akka promise a performance that is bold, unfiltered, and unforgettable. This reaction highlights the immense love Keerthy enjoys nationwide, proving once again why she is one of the most admired stars in the industry.

With the teaser setting high expectations, Akka is shaping up to be another milestone in Keerthy Suresh's illustrious career.

Tabu Showcases Her 'Childhood Ties' with Beautiful 'Hyderabad Skies'

Bollywood actress Tabu, known for her stellar performances, is currently in Hyderabad after wrapping up the schedule of Priyadarshan's upcoming horror-comedy Bhoot Bangla, starring Akshay Kumar. The actress took to her Instagram stories to share a stunning picture of the sunset in Hyderabad. Alongside the image, she wrote, "Hyderabad skies, Childhood ties," hinting at her deep-rooted connection to the city.

Tabu recently joined the cast of Bhoot Bangla on January 11, announcing her involvement by posting a picture of the film's clapperboard on social media. She captioned it, "Hum yahan bandh hain (We are locked inside)."

The film also stars Paresh Rawal, Rajpal Yadav, and Asrani in key roles, promising a hilarious comedy of errors. This marks Priyadarshan's reunion with Akshay Kumar after 14 years, following their last collaboration in Khatta Meetha (2010).

On his 57th birthday, Akshay had shared a motion poster of Bhoot Bangla, revealing his excitement about reuniting with Priyadarshan. The duo has previously delivered blockbuster hits like Hera Pheri, De Dana Dan, Bhool Bhulaiyaa, and Garam Masala. The film is expected to bring another dose of classic comedy and entertainment.



'Kobali' Web Series Review: A Gripping Rural Revenge Drama on Hotstar

Kobali, the latest Telugu web series streaming on Hotstar, is an intense revenge drama set in a rural backdrop. Directed by Revanth Levaka, the series unfolds across eight episodes and is available in seven languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi, Marathi, and Bengali. Featuring Ravi Prakash in a lead role, the series explores family feuds, betrayal, and violence.

Storyline: The series is set in Mullakatta, a village on the Andhra-Telangana border, where

Sambayya and his three sons—Gopi, Seenu (Ravi Prakash), and Ramu—live a life of constant struggle. Seenu takes care of the family, while Gopi secretly marries another woman, Sujatha. However, Sujatha's criminal brothers, Ramana and Peeri, bring chaos and violence into their lives. The plot takes a dark turn when Gopi's actions spark a deadly feud, putting the entire family in danger. Seenu must fight to protect his loved ones and seek revenge.

Review: With intense action, deep emotions,

and high-stakes drama, Kobali successfully captures rural life, crime, and family disputes. Ravi Prakash delivers a powerful performance, and Rohith Bachu's cinematography brings a realistic feel. However, excessive violence and profanity may not appeal to all viewers.

Verdict: A gripping revenge drama with compelling storytelling and action, Kobali is a must-watch for fans of crime thrillers.

Rating: (2.75/5)

