



Weather Forecast

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

CABINET EXPANSION DELAYED OR DENIED?



Cabinet expansion postponed for a year

Cabinet expansion or governance is progressing at a snail's pace

CM Revanth Reddy has key portfolios

Governance.. Pressure on Revanth with portfolios

High command says no to the list given by Revanth

SCs and BCs should be given a bigger seat

Leaders from the Reddy community in Revanth's list

Three Reddy leaders, including Revanth, are already in the cabinet

folios continue to remain with the CM, slowing down governance.

Despite mounting pressure, the high command has reportedly rejected Revanth Reddy's proposed list of ministers, emphasizing the need for better social representation. Currently, three leaders from the Reddy community, including Revanth himself, are in the cabinet. However, reports suggest that his new list includes more Reddy leaders, leading to pushback from the party leadership, which is insisting on more representation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Backward Classes (BCs).

Meanwhile, governance issues have intensified as Revanth holds multiple key portfolios, including Education, Home, General Administration, Municipal Administration, and Rural Development. The lack of a dedicated Education Minister has led to deteriorating conditions in government-run Gurukul schools, while law and order issues persist due to the CM's direct control over the Home Ministry. Several crucial cases remain stalled, adding to public frustration.

The delay in cabinet expansion has also sparked fierce competition among Congress leaders for ministerial berths. Reports indicate that six additional ministers could be inducted, with strong contenders including Makthal MLA Srihari (Mudiraj community), Bodhan MLA Sudarshan Reddy, Munugodu MLA Rajagopal Reddy, Mancherla MLA Premeasagar Rao, Chennur MLA Vivek, Parigi MLA Rammohan Reddy, and Ibrahimpatnam MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy. Additionally, the party is considering giving a cabinet seat to a minority leader, with names like Azharuddin and Shabbir Ali in the mix.

Rajagopal Reddy remains firm on his demand for a ministerial position, arguing that he was assured a post when he rejoined Congress before the elections. However, his brother Venkat Reddy is already a minister, complicating matters. There is also growing demand for representation from the joint

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CM Announces 42% Seats for BCs, SC Classification

- Revanth's Big BC, SC Move
- 42% Seats for BCs
- SCs to Get 15% Quota
- Caste Survey Sparks Debate
- Revanth Targets BRS on Survey
- Key Announcements in the Assembly
 - 42% seats for BCs in politics and local body elections.
 - SCs to be classified into three groups with 15% reservation.
 - Criticism of previous government's lack of transparency in surveys.



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy made a significant announcement in the Assembly, stating that 42% of seats will be allocated to Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections. He urged all political parties to follow the same policy to ensure fair representation for BCs. The announcement was made during discussions on the social, economic, and caste census.

Breakdown of the Caste Survey

The Chief Minister explained that the caste survey was divided into four parts, with only the first three being presented in the Assembly. The fourth part, which contains personal information, is protected under the Personal Privacy Act.

Revanth Reddy revealed that the survey

covered 3.54 crore people in Telangana. According to the findings, BCs (categories A, B, C, D, and E) constitute 56.33% of the state's population. He pointed out discrepancies in previous surveys conducted under the BRS government, which claimed that Other Castes (OCs) made up over 20% of the population, whereas the latest survey shows OCs at just 15%.

He also criticized the previous government for keeping its comprehensive family survey secret and questioned why former CM KCR did not present it in the Assembly.

SC Classification and Reservations

Revanth Reddy announced that the SC Classification Commission identified 59 sub-castes among Scheduled

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Telangana Assembly Approves Caste Census Resolution



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

The Telangana State Assembly has approved a resolution supporting the social, economic, and caste census survey. The resolution urges the Central government to conduct a nationwide caste census.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, addressing the Assembly, reiterated the government's commitment to SC classification. He assured that Telangana would be the first state in the country to implement SC

- Census Resolution Passed
- CM Revanth on SC Classification
- Telangana Leads in Caste Survey

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Notices Issued to BRS MLAs Who Defected to Congress

- Notices Issued to Defecting BRS MLAs
- BRS MLAs Asked to Explain Defection
- Legislature Issues Notices to Defected MLAs
- Court Orders Action on Defecting BRS MLAs

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

The Legislative Assembly Secretary has issued notices to the BRS MLAs who defected to the Congress party, requesting written explanations. The notices were sent on Tuesday based on a disqualification petition filed by the BRS. The affected MLAs have requested additional time to provide their explanations.

Ten BRS MLAs joined the Congress party ahead of the 2024 parliamentary elections, including prominent leaders such as Danam Nagender, Kadiyam Srihari, Kale Yadaya, Bandla Krishnamohan Reddy, Tellam Venkat Rao, Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, M Sanjay Kumar, Prakash Goud, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and Arikepudi Gandhi. In response, the BRS



filed a complaint with the Assembly Speaker, seeking action against the defecting MLAs. However, due to a lack of response from the Speaker, the BRS approached the High Court and the Supreme Court for further intervention.

The Supreme Court recently reviewed the BRS petition and directed the

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BRS Stages Walkout in Assembly Over SC Classification Issue

KTR Criticizes Government's Stance on SC Classification

Revanth Reddy Defends SC Classification Commitment

BRS Demands Law on BC Reservations



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

In a dramatic turn of events, members of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) walked out of the Telangana Assembly in protest against the state government's stance on the SC classification issue. BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) led the protest, voicing anger over accusations that the BRS had blocked the SC classification process. KTR clarified that the BRS government had passed a resolution in 2014 in support of SC classification and sent it to the Center. He expressed

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Komatireddy Hits Back at Teenmar Mallanna

- Minister Reacts to BC Allegations
- Komatireddy Defends Congress and BC Growth
- Minister Criticizes Mallanna's Remarks on BCs
- Komatireddy Denounces Mallanna's Insults

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

Telangana Congress Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has responded sharply to the controversial remarks made by MLC Teenmar Mallanna (Chintapandu Naveen Kumar), which have sparked unrest within the party. Mallanna had alleged that a faction within Congress was hindering the political advancement of BCs (Backward Classes) and claimed that this group made efforts to prevent his victory in the MLC elections.



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Minister Assures No Negative Impact from SC Classification

- Minister Clarifies SC Classification Will Benefit All
- Damodar Rajanarsimha: No Impact on Any Community
- CM Revanth Reddy Stresses Permanent Solution for SC Issues



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha assured the Telangana Legislative Assembly on Tuesday that the SC classification would not negatively impact anyone's interests. Speaking in the Assembly, he emphasized that the long-awaited dream of 30 to 40 years had now been realized with the SC classification. He acknowledged that some people were fearful and insecure about the classification but reassured them that it was

not intended to harm any community. "Classification is not against any community," he said, emphasizing that the move was aimed at justice and fairness.

Earlier, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had clarified the state government's commitment to implementing the Supreme Court's verdict on SC classification. He revealed that a one-member

commission had been formed to carry out the verdict. The Chief Minister pointed out that many previous political parties viewed SC classification as a vote bank issue but did not take steps for a permanent solution. "We are committed to providing justice to those who have been neglected and exploited for generations," Revanth Reddy added.

The Chief Minister appealed to all political parties to cooperate and support the SC classification, marking a pivotal step toward a permanent resolution of a long-standing issue. The Telangana government has made it clear that this classification is a move toward social justice and equity, ensuring that no one's rights or interests are compromised in the process.

Vikramarka: Survey Data Key for BC Welfare Plans

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu presented the Integrated Household Survey report in the Legislative Council on Tuesday, asserting that the data will guide the Congress government's welfare policies for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes (BCs), and other weaker sections in Telangana.



Vikramarka revealed that the survey indicated BCs comprise 56.33% of the state's population, and this data will play a key role in the implementation of local body election reservations and the allocation of funds in the state budget. He emphasized that the survey provides an in-depth view of the living conditions of various communities in the state, calling it a "full-body X-ray."

The survey covered 1.12 crore families, totaling 3.54 crore individuals, including 17.43% SCs, 46.25% BCs (excluding Muslim minorities), and 12.56% Muslim minorities. He assured that the government is committed to BC development based on the survey's findings.

Responding to questions about the

participation of key political figures like KCR, KTR, and Harish Rao, Vikramarka noted that 3.56 lakh people did not take part in the survey but stated the government is open to collecting their information if they wish to provide it. He also dismissed the previous TRS-led household survey, pointing out that it was never presented officially in the Legislature.

The Deputy CM also shared the survey's process, which included over 1 lakh enumerators and supervisors. With these insights, the government plans to direct resources toward improving the conditions of the politically, economically, and educationally backward communities, ensuring targeted development.

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CM Announces 42% Seats for BCs, SC Classification

Castes (SCs) and recommended dividing them into three groups:

- **Group 1: 15 sub-castes with 1% reservation.**
- **Group 2: 18 sub-castes with 9% reservation.**
- **Group 3: 26 sub-castes with 5% reservation.**

He provided detailed population figures for each group and confirmed that the total SC reservation recommended is 15%.

Criticism of BRS Leaders

Revanth Reddy took aim at former CM KCR, BRS Working President KTR, and Harish Rao, accusing them of not participating in the caste census survey. He questioned why they and other leaders, including BJP MP DK Aruna, did not provide their land details when required.

He urged the Speaker not to allow those who did not participate in the survey to speak on the issue in the Assembly.

Notices Issued to BRS MLAs Who Defected to Congress

Legislative Assembly Secretary to issue specific notices to the defecting MLAs. On Monday, the Court also issued notices to seven of the defecting MLAs, including Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Bandla Krishnamohan Reddy, Kale Yadaya, T. Prakash Goud, Arikepudi Gandhi, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and M Sanjay Kumar.

BRS Working President KTR had filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking disqualification of these MLAs. The Supreme Court will hear the petitions together, including a separate petition filed by MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy regarding other defecting members. The next hearing is scheduled for February 10.

Komatireddy Hits Back at Teenmar Mallanna

Addressing the media on Tuesday, Komatireddy expressed displeasure with Mallanna's allegations. "It is not individuals but the people who decide the outcome of elections," he said, referring to the MLC election. "During the MLC elections, Teenmar Mallanna handed me the B-form, and we held a major rally to win with the support of all sections." He questioned whether anyone wanted the MLC to lose, especially while serving as a minister in the district.

Komatireddy also criticized Mallanna for holding a BC meeting and insulting other castes, emphasizing that Congress had made significant decisions for the development of BCs. "I welcome personal insults, but insulting a caste is unacceptable," he added.

The Minister also took a swipe at Chief Minister KCR and his family,

suggesting they needed a booklet to declare their assets, referencing the ongoing caste census and SC classification debate. "We will pass a resolution in the Assembly for the SC classification and caste census survey. If the Center agrees, it's fine, but if not, we will move forward with our own stance on reservations," he said.

On the issue of party unity, Komatireddy dismissed claims of disputes, stating that at least 10 MLAs meet with him regularly, and clarified that MLA Anirudh Reddy had never inquired about land.

Meanwhile, TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud addressed Mallanna's comments, stating that the party would examine the matter. He warned that disciplinary action would be taken if Mallanna continued to overstep party boundaries.

CABINET EXPANSION DELAYED OR DENIED?

Nizamabad district, with senior leader Peddireddy Sudarshan Reddy being a strong contender.

Despite earlier expectations of an expansion by December last year, the latest developments suggest that it may not happen anytime soon. Many Congress leaders and aspirants are growing impatient, expressing frustration over the reliance on the Delhi high command

for key decisions. Political analysts warn that if the situation remains unresolved, Revanth Reddy could face significant challenges in managing both the government and internal party dynamics.

For now, the cabinet expansion remains in limbo, and all eyes are on Revanth Reddy to see how he navigates this political challenge.

BRS Stages Walkout in Assembly Over SC Classification Issue

frustration over the Congress-led government's attempts to portray them as opponents of the SC classification, reiterating that the BRS had always supported the move.

Earlier, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy addressed the Assembly, assuring that the state government is committed to implementing the Supreme Court's verdict on SC classification. He announced that a one-member commission had been set up to ensure compliance with the court's ruling. The commission recommended the classification of 59 sub-castes among SCs into three distinct groups and suggested the introduction of the roster points and creamy layer system for these groups. CM Reddy appealed to all political parties to unite and cooperate in the classification process, which he described as a long-overdue step toward social justice for marginalized communities.

In response, KTR demanded

that the government introduce a law to secure BC reservations, citing that 61% of the population in 2014 were BCs. He pointed out that 1.68 crore families had participated in the comprehensive family survey conducted at the time, which was completed in a single day. KTR also questioned the efficacy of the new caste census survey, urging the government to explain how many schemes had been introduced based on these surveys.

KTR recalled that Revanth Reddy, who was an MLA back in 2014, had opposed the comprehensive family survey, questioning the validity of conducting such a survey in a single day. He pointed out the contradictions in the government's current stance, adding that the same survey had already been revealed by Uttam Kumar Reddy in a media briefing earlier, raising doubts about what new information the government had to offer.

Telangana Assembly Approves Caste Census Resolution

classification and affirmed that the government would follow the Supreme Court's verdict on the matter.

When CM Revanth Reddy introduced the caste census report in the Assembly, a heated debate followed. Opposition leaders, including BRS leaders Talasani Srinivas Yadav and KTR, BJP's Payal Shankar, AIMIM's Akbaruddin Owaisi, and CPI's Sambasiva Rao, raised their concerns. The Chief Minister and ministers responded to their arguments, defending the need for the caste census.

After the discussions, the Assembly passed the resolution, marking a significant step in Telangana's efforts toward social justice and equitable representation.

BJP Backs SC Classification Report

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

BJP MLA Payal Shankar declared full support for the SC classification report presented in the Telangana Assembly, emphasizing the party's backing of the initiative. Speaking during the discussion on the report, Payal Shankar credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his efforts in advocating for SC classification, highlighting the Supreme Court's favorable verdict on the matter.



He further pointed out that the Telangana government holds significant responsibility in the process and urged that there should be no misconceptions surrounding the classification. He also acknowledged the contributions of Mandakrishna Madiga and stated that BJP recognizes his efforts in the fight for SC classification.

While reaffirming the BJP's support for the classification, Payal Shankar suggested that the government should consider classifying SC sub-castes to ensure no injustice is done. The commission's report recommends categorizing all 59 sub-castes into Group-1, 2, and 3, while also proposing the implementation of roster points and a creamy layer system for these groups.

KTR Questions Congress's Emergency Rule

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has sharply criticized the Congress government over its handling of demolitions in the state, likening the situation to an "emergency rule" and questioning whether this is "Indiramma's kingdom."



KTR's remarks, posted on the X platform, came after the demolition of 29 houses along the Jacharla-Kodad National Highway in Charakonda, Nagar Kurnool district.

In his post, KTR decried the demolitions, accusing the government of oppressing the poor and disregarding the rights of citizens. He highlighted a distressing incident where an elderly couple was seen pleading with police as their home was demolished, with the woman fainting and being taken to the hospital. He criticized the government for the lack of prior notice and described the actions as "a rule of revenge,"

questioning if this was the kind of public administration the government intended to uphold.

The BRS has consistently opposed demolitions in Hyderabad and surrounding areas, including the Musi revival project and other ongoing demolitions, even in Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's district. However, Congress sources remind that a similar survey and compensation for land acquisition were carried out during the BRS government's tenure in Charakonda in 2023. The issue has sparked criticism between the ruling and opposition parties.



BC Caste Groups Protest Telangana's Caste Census Report

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

BC caste groups in Telangana expressed strong opposition to the state government's caste census report, tearing up the document and discarding it in protest. The protest, organized by the BC Welfare Association at the Tourism Plaza Hotel in Begumpet, saw leaders vocally criticizing the report, calling it "bogus" and accusing the government of errors in the survey. The leaders argued that the caste census conducted by an "upper caste government" is a disservice to BC communities.

Former BRS Minister Srinivas Goud, BC Association President Jajula Srinivas Goud, ex-IAS officer Chiranjeevulu, and leaders from various political parties attended the meeting. The protest escalated further when Congress MLC Teenmar Mallanna called for the report to be burned, labeling it a "tragedy



of mistakes."

The controversy over the caste census report intensified on Tuesday during a heated debate in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. Congress members, including CM Revanth Reddy, questioned the absence of a comprehensive family survey during the BRS government's tenure, while BRS leader KTR criticized the Congress for not presenting the report in the House.

AIMIM leader Akbaruddin demanded the government present the full caste census report in the House. Revanth Reddy clarified that privacy concerns prevented the release of certain survey details, but he confirmed that the data revealed high populations of BCs and Muslims. He also stated that if 42 percent BC reservations were not feasible, his party would offer 42 percent BC tickets.

MLCs Question Validity of Telangana's Caste Census

- Debate intensifies over caste census discrepancies.
- Opposition calls for action on census findings.
- Census figures spark controversy in Telangana Council.
- Concerns raised over BC reservation promises.

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

The ongoing special session of the Telangana Assembly has sparked heated discussions over the caste census and SC classification, with BRS MLC Kavitha and Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Sirikonda Madhusudhanachari raising concerns about the findings of the state's recent caste census. Madhusudhanachari called for a comprehensive discussion on the caste census and requested an opportunity to present his views. He pointed out that no one had access to detailed data from the survey, and criticized the delay in conducting the census. He emphasized that the Congress party had made several promises to the BC communities in their manifesto, which helped them secure power, but the government only moved forward with the caste census after court intervention. Madhusudhanachari also remarked that the people of Telangana had high expectations from the caste census but expressed disappointment with the results. He likened the effort to "digging a mountain and catching a mouse," reflecting the limited outcome despite significant efforts. He reminded the assembly of the festive atmosphere surrounding the pre-



vious family survey conducted under the BRS government, which saw enthusiastic participation, including by Telangana residents abroad. He raised questions about the reported decline in the BC population by 20 lakhs compared to the earlier survey.

MLC Kavitha joined the criticism, questioning the absence of a concrete action plan from the government despite the caste census data being presented. She specifically pointed out that Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy had only read the data aloud without detailing the government's strategy for implementing BC reservations in education, employment, and other sectors. Kavitha also questioned how the population of only OCs appeared to have increased in the latest caste census, challenging the validity of the findings and calling for clarity on the government's next steps.

Caste Census Is Key for Weaker Sections: Minister Ponnam

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized the importance of the caste census, calling it a long-awaited aspiration of the weaker sections of society.

Speaking in the Telangana Assembly, he pointed out that the last caste census was conducted in 1931, making this current census a historic step after a long gap. Prabhakar acknowledged that justice has not been fully served to the weaker sections in the past and stressed that the caste census is part of the promises made during the elections.

Prabhakar urged the Assembly to support the caste census, irrespective of political affiliations, and called for constructive suggestions to improve it. He rejected false calculations and asserted that the day marked a significant milestone for the weaker sections. The Minister further requested that a clear road map be drawn up to ensure that justice is done through the caste census without discrimination.



BJP MLA Payal Shankar Questions Caste Census Calculations

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

BJP MLA Payal Shankar raised concerns over the government's caste census survey, alleging discrepancies in the population figures and accusing the state government of underreporting the BC population. Speaking during a special session of the Telangana Assembly, Shankar questioned the accuracy of the census data presented, particularly the reported decline of the BC population. He highlighted that according to government sources, Telangana's total population is calculated to be 4.33 crore, yet the caste census report claims a population of just 3.34 crore, implying a 90 lakh discrepancy. Shankar criticized the government for potentially manipulating the census to misrepresent the BC population and accused political parties of exploiting the BC community only during election periods. He also expressed suspicion that the government might use legal barriers, such as the Supreme Court verdict and Parliament laws, as an excuse to avoid fulfilling promises made to the BC community. Furthermore, Shankar called for the government to clarify the methodology behind the census and urged that the BC community should not be deceived for political gains. He suggested that Panchayat elections should be postponed if necessary to ensure fair representation of the BC population.



Caste Census Report Official, Says Konda Surekha

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Minister Konda Surekha clarified in the Legislative Council that the Caste Census Survey Report tabled in the Assembly today is the official data, rejecting claims of any leaks. She stressed that the figures being circulated outside were incorrect and that the real information was presented in the House.

Opposition leader G. Madhusudhanachari had questioned the disparity between the current caste census and the previous comprehensive family survey, which showed a reduction of 20 lakh in population numbers. Responding to this, Surekha emphasized that the government has only provided the official figures in the Assembly, not anywhere else. Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka also intervened, pointing out that the comprehen-



sive family survey was not disclosed to the public and questioning how unscientific comparisons could be made with the caste census data.

Meanwhile, BRS sources have criticized Minister Surekha's remarks, highlighting that numerous households, including those of key leaders like CM KCR and his family, were left out of the survey. This controversy has further fueled debates over the transparency and reliability of the caste census process in Telangana.

Caste Census Survey Should Be Presented in the House: Owaisi

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

During the special session convened for discussions on the Caste Census Survey in Telangana, AIMIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi demanded that the government introduce the report in the House. Owaisi questioned why the Caste Census report provided by the Public Commission was not presented for debate in the Assembly, recalling that the Comprehensive Family Survey was also not brought to the House. He emphasized that mere announcements were ineffective without proper discussion and transparency.

Minister Sridhar Babu responded, assuring that the caste census survey will be introduced in the House. He clarified that certain personal details in the survey report were not disclosed to the public, as they relate to private information shared by individuals with trust in the government. He explained that the report consists of four volumes, with three covering the process and details of the survey. However, the fourth volume contains personal information, which the government has not made public. CM Revanth Reddy echoed this, stating that while personal data is confidential, all other details will be shared with Assembly members.



30% of Survey Not Conducted in Greater Area: Talasani



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav raised concerns in the Telangana Assembly, stating that 30 percent of the caste census survey was not conducted in the Greater Hyderabad area. During a discussion on the caste census, Yadav urged the government to revise the survey format and conduct it again. He pointed out that the survey results indicated a decrease in the BC, ST, and SC populations, which he attributed to the Kamareddy

Declaration.

Yadav highlighted that 57 factors were considered during the survey, but many people did not participate due to various reasons, questioning the necessity of all the factors. He also pointed out that the 2011 census recorded a population of 3.54 crore, but the current survey indicated only a 14 lakh increase in 14 years. He criticized the decision to send the matter to Delhi and demanded the implementation of 42 percent reservations in local bodies as per the Kamareddy Declaration.

Govt Negligence a Curse for 8,000 Retired Employees: Harish Rao



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Former Minister Harish Rao expressed deep concern over the plight of 8,000 retired government employees in Telangana, highlighting their ongoing financial and health struggles. He crit-

icized the Congress government for failing to provide retirement benefits to these employees, with many facing severe hardships.

Rao shared the heartbreaking story of Tagore Narayan Singh, a retired government employee who served for over 30 years but now suffers from complete kidney failure and other serious health issues. Despite holding a government health security card, Narayan Singh has been denied medical services, as the card is no longer valid.

Rao expressed outrage, calling the government's negligence a "curse" for these retired employees. He stressed that this issue is not isolated to Narayan Singh but affects 8,000 retired workers across the state, creating a life-and-death situation for many.

BJP Leader Maheshwar Reddy Demands 45% Reservation for BCs



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

BJP Legislature Party Leader Yelei Maheshwar Reddy criticized the Congress government for its approach to the caste census, accusing them

of using the report for political gains. During the Assembly session, Reddy emphasized that the Congress has shown no genuine commitment to increasing reservations for Backward Classes (BCs).

He called for an increase in BC reservations to 45 percent and questioned the government's delay in fulfilling the 21 promises made in the Kamareddy BC declaration meeting. Reddy expressed frustration over the government's inaction, arguing that BCs have been ignored for years under the guise of the caste census. He also pointed out the lack of BC representation in the cabinet, questioning the sincerity of Congress towards the BC community.



Road Blockades in Colonies Are Illegal: Hydra

- Commissioner warns against illegal roadblocks
- Encroachments to be removed swiftly
- No permits for colony fences
- Public complaints spark crackdown

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05
Hydra Commissioner Ranganath has issued a stern warning against the illegal construction of fences and walls blocking roads in various colony layouts across the city. He stated that such barriers, which obstruct public access, would be demolished without exception. During a public meeting held at the Hydra office in Buddha Bhavan on Monday, several residents lodged complaints about illegal barrier walls restricting access to their colonies. The Commissioner emphasized that permissions would not be granted for constructing fences that hinder movement. He reiterated that not only will

government lands and water bodies be protected, but any encroachments causing inconvenience to the public will also be removed. Recently, authorities demolished a 4 km-long illegal wall built around the Nallamalla-reddy Layout in Narapalli. Following this, numerous residents from other areas came forward with similar grievances. A total of 71 complaints were received during the Prajavani public grievance session. The Commissioner has ordered an investigation into these issues, directing officials to resolve them within one to two weeks. One of the key complaints came from Khaja Meeran Moinuddin of Korremula, Ghatkesar



Mandal, who alleged that Nalla Mallareddy had encroached on their plots. Similarly, R. Chandrasekhar, Chairman of the JAC of Yaprall Caste Associations, urged authorities to protect the Yaprall Nagireddy Chotonkattu Pond in Alwal. In Divyanagar Layout, spread across 200 acres with 2,218 plots, locals alleged that 6.06 acres of government land had been encroached upon by Nalla

Mallareddy in survey number 66. Residents also reported that roads measuring 40, 50, and 25 feet were illegally closed with gates and security personnel preventing entry. Commissioner Ranganath expressed strong displeasure over these encroachments and assured that a thorough investigation into the land-grabbing allegations against Mallareddy would continue.

Mastan Sai's Crimes Exposed

- Police urge victims to come forward
- Over 100 women blackmailed
- Drug case conspiracy uncovered



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05
The Hyderabad police have intensified their investigation into Mastan Sai's alleged crimes, revealing that he may have victimized over a hundred women. Authorities are urging victims to come forward and file complaints. On Monday, Lavanya, an accused in a drug case, visited the Narsingi police station and lodged a complaint against Shekhar Basha. She claimed that Mastan Sai and Shekhar Basha were conspiring to falsely implicate her in a drug case by planting 140 grams of drugs in her house. Lavanya submitted audio evidence to support her claims. Meanwhile, the ongoing investigation into objectionable videos linked to Mastan Sai has uncovered disturbing details. Police have found video footage of over a hundred women and suspect that Mastan Sai used

these videos to blackmail and exploit them. It is alleged that he sexually assaulted women and young girls multiple times after coercing them. The police are preparing to take Mastan Sai into custody again for further interrogation. They have assured that victims should feel safe to come forward and report their grievances. Mastan Sai's criminal activities were first exposed during the case involving actor Raj Tarun. A case was registered against him at the Narsingi police station following Lavanya's complaint, in which she accused him of drugging women and recording explicit videos. Mastan Sai was previously implicated in drug cases in both Hyderabad and Vijayawada. Authorities are now focused on ensuring justice for the victims and preventing further exploitation.

Car Catches Fire on Annojiguda Flyover



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

A car was completely gutted in a fire on the Annojiguda flyover in Pocharam municipality, Medchal district. Fortunately, all four occupants escaped unharmed. The incident occurred when four friends were traveling from Hyderabad's Old City to Komuravelli in Siddipet district to attend the Mallanna Jatara. As they reached the flyover near Pocharam, the car suddenly caught fire. Acting swiftly, the youths parked the vehicle on the side and ran to safety. Within moments, the flames engulfed the entire car, reducing it to ashes. Upon receiving information, the police rushed to the spot and temporarily halted traffic on the flyover. Preliminary investigations suggest that a short circuit may have caused the fire. Officials have registered a case and are conducting further inquiries into the incident.

Missing Woman and Daughters Rescued in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

A woman and her three daughters, who went missing from Talabkatta on February 2, were safely traced and rescued on February 3. Ulfath Naznin had left her home following a domestic dispute with her husband, Mufeed Ibrahim, and was accompanied by her daughters Zaima Shaik, Ayesha Shaik, and Mariya. Naznin's mother, Rahmat Begum, filed a missing persons report after being informed by her daughter about the emotional distress caused by arguments with her husband. Naznin expressed intentions to take her life along with her children, heading towards the Dindi project. The rescue team tracked the family's whereabouts, and Bhavani Nagar police quickly coordinated with local stations and relatives. The missing family was located within an hour at the Amangal bus stand by Naznin's relative, Naseer. The women were rescued and provided counselling before being safely reunited with their family. The incident highlights the importance of timely intervention and support in cases of domestic disputes.



Tragic Accident in Keesara: Man Dies After Pleading for Help

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

A heart-wrenching incident unfolded on Sunday night in Keesara police station limits, where Velpula Mahesh, a man returning home after a trip, lost his life following a car crash. Mahesh's car crashed into a tree on the outskirts of Rampalli Dayara village, just 200 meters from his residence. Mahesh, who had attended an alumni meeting in Valigonda with his wife and children, was on his way home when the tragic accident occurred. He had just informed his wife that he would meet friends before heading back. Witnesses to the accident rushed to the scene and found Mahesh trapped in the car.

He pleaded with the locals for help, repeatedly mentioning that he had two children, but despite their efforts, it took almost three hours to extricate him from the wreckage. Tragically, despite the pleas and attempts to save him, Mahesh succumbed to his injuries. The incident has deeply moved the community, with locals recalling the emotional pleas of a man fighting for his life, leaving behind a grieving family.



Tension at Ministers' Quarters as VRAs Protest for Jobs



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

A tense situation erupted at the Ministers' Quarters as Village Revenue Assistants (VRAs) staged a protest demanding reinstatement. Responding to a call by the VRA Joint Action Committee (JAC), large groups of VRAs from across Telangana gathered to lay siege to the Ministers' Quarters. When police intervened, a scuffle broke out, escalating tensions in the area. Denied access to the Ministers' Quarters, the protesting VRAs sat on the road, causing a major traffic jam. They raised slogans demanding justice and displayed placards urging the government to provide jobs to the descendants of VRAs above 61 years of age, as per Government Orders (GOs) 81 and 85. The protesters criticized the government for delaying job orders, pointing out that out of 20,555 VRAs, 16,758 had been accommodated in various departments, while the remaining 3,797 heirs had been waiting for over 15 months. They alleged that 265 people had died due to mental stress caused by job uncertainty. The VRA JAC has demanded immediate action from the government to issue job orders and support the affected families.

Dil Raju Appears Before IT Officials for Inquiry

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

Noted producer and Film Development Corporation (FDC) Chairman Dil Raju appeared before Income Tax (IT) officials on Tuesday in connection with an ongoing investigation into his business transactions. Last month, IT officials conducted extensive searches at the homes and offices of Dil Raju and his relatives for four days, examining financial records related to film production, distribution, and other business activities. Following the searches, officials issued notices asking him to provide relevant documents. Complying with the summons, Dil Raju appeared at the IT office with details of his business transactions. Reports indicate that IT officials are scrutinizing his film-related earnings, including profits from production, distribution, and exhibition. The inquiry comes at a time when Dil Raju has two films set for release during Sankranti, prompting officials to examine financial collections



in detail. Addressing the media, Dil Raju dismissed speculation surrounding the searches. He stated that IT inspections are routine and not indicative of any wrongdoing. He clarified that in the four-day operation, officials found less than ₹20 lakh in cash at his family members' residences, and all findings were documented. He further revealed that similar searches were conducted in 2008, making this the first such inquiry in 16 years. He assured that IT officials were satisfied with their findings and that his auditors would continue to cooperate with the investigation.

Bomb Threat to Secretariat Sparks Security Alert

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 05

The Telangana Secretariat received a bomb threat, prompting police to take immediate action. The call was traced to Syed Mir Mohammad Ali, a former employee of Langar House. Reports suggest that he had filed a petition regarding a dargah-related issue and resorted to threats after receiving no response from authorities. **No Bomb Found**
The Special Protection Force (SPF) police took Syed Mir Mohammad Ali into custody and interrogated him. During questioning, he argued with police and Secretariat officials. After a thorough inspection, authorities confirmed that there was no bomb, bringing relief to everyone. The Saifabad police are now investigating his motives behind the threat. **Tight Security Measures**
Security at the Telangana Secretariat is currently under the Telangana Special Protection Force (TSPF), with Commandant Devadas serving as Chief Security Officer. A total of 212 personnel are deployed, supported by Hyderabad Commissionerate Police and the Octopus Quick Reaction Team.

Fake Employee Caught

In a separate incident, security personnel apprehended Bhaskar Rao from Khammam, who was using a fake ID card claiming to be a Revenue Department employee. Minority Department Section Officer V. Prashanth and driver Ravi were also identified in the case. SPF Intelligence officers detained both suspects for further investigation.



High-Interest Fraud in Nagar Kurnool



TPN Correspondent
Nagarkurnool, Feb 05

The police have taken a man into custody in Kalwakurti for allegedly defrauding people under the guise of offering high-interest returns. The accused, identified as Muzammil, lured innocent investors with the promise of high returns and later absconded with crores of rupees.

According to officials, Muzammil started his operations in 2020 under the names RC Infra and Tri Collar, using 24 agents to attract investors by offering an interest of ₹50,000 per lakh. From 2020 to 2023, he continued paying high-interest rates to gain trust. However, since August 2023, he has been on the run.

Muzammil reportedly collected ₹90 crore from investors in Kalwakurti and nearby areas, returning only ₹50 crore. The remaining ₹40 crore was allegedly invested in trading. In a video message, Muzammil claimed that he was cheated in trading.

DSP Venkateshwarlu confirmed that a case of fraud has been registered against Muzammil, and he has been taken into custody for further investigation. The authorities have assured strict action against those involved in financial scams.

GHMC Standing Committee Election Notification Released

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

The notification for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Standing Committee election has been released. A total of 15 members will be elected by the corporators.

Currently, 146 corporators are in the GHMC council out of the total 150. Nominations will be accepted from February 10 to 17, and scrutiny will take place on February 18. Candidates will have the opportunity to withdraw their nominations until February 21.

Polling will be conducted at the GHMC head office on February 25, and the results will be announced the same evening after the counting process.

The standing committee election has gained significance due to the changing political dynamics in GHMC. Previously, the BRS and AIMIM shared control over the committee, but with the mayor and deputy mayor now aligned with the Congress, the contest has become more intriguing.



Tension in Charakonda as Officials Prepare to Demolish 29 Houses

TPN Correspondent
Nagarkurnool, Feb 05

Extreme tension prevailed in Charakonda as officials geared up to demolish 29 houses for the construction of a bypass road along the Jacharla-Kodad 167th road. Police forces, along with JCBs, were deployed to carry out the demolition, sparking protests from residents.

A small child protesting was seen being taken away in a police vehicle, adding to the tense atmosphere. Meanwhile, an elderly couple broke down in tears as they watched their house being razed. The elderly woman collapsed due to shock and was immediately rushed to the hospital in a 108 ambulance.

Locals expressed outrage over the demolitions, accusing the government of insensitivity towards their plight. Some residents alleged that the authorities proceeded without proper notice, leaving them homeless. The situation remains tense as protests continue.

Raghunandan Rao Criticizes Telangana Govt in Parliament

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Medak MP Raghunandan Rao criticized the Telangana government during his speech in Parliament on the motion of thanks to the President's address. He questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's stance on the BC caste census, demanding that the Telangana CM post and at least six ministerial positions be allocated to BCs, who form nearly half the state's population. He also pointed out the absence of minority representation in the state cabinet. Comparing it to the Modi government, Raghunandan

Rao highlighted that the Union Cabinet includes 27 OBCs, 8 Dalits, 8 women ministers, and 5 minority ministers. He dismissed reports that Telangana received no benefits from the Centre, emphasizing that ₹20,000 crore was allocated for the RRR project alone.

He credited the Modi government for increasing budgets for farmers' welfare and the employment guarantee scheme, asserting that only PM Modi has truly addressed the concerns of the middle class.



Massive Fire at Hyderabad Chemical Factory, Locals Suffocate



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

A major fire accident broke out at Suguna Chemicals in Cherlapally industrial area on Tuesday, causing panic among locals. The fire led to chemical drum explosions, resulting in thick smoke spreading across the area.

Residents experienced breathing difficulties due to the dense smoke and fled the vicinity for safety. Upon receiving the alert, firefighters and police rushed to the scene and are working to control the blaze.

Authorities have registered a case and launched an investigation to determine the cause of the fire.

Traders Protest at Enumamula Market Over Lack of Basic Facilities

TPN Correspondent
Warangal, Feb 05

Traders at Enumamula Agricultural Market staged a protest on Monday, demanding better basic facilities. The protest was supported by porters, clerks, and workers' associations, who expressed anger over the authorities' negligence.

The protest was triggered by the sudden death of an Aditi trader, which traders believe was due to poor conditions at the market. In response, stalls were shut down for three hours as a mark of protest.

The traders demanded immediate action from the authorities, warning that if their concerns were not addressed, the agitation would intensify. Further details on the incident and the administration's response are awaited.



CM Revanth Announces SC Sub-Caste Classification in Assembly

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 05

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announced the implementation of SC sub-caste classification in the Assembly, marking a historic decision aimed at providing a permanent solution to the long-standing demand. He stated that the state government is committed to implementing the classification as per the Supreme Court verdict.

Revanth Reddy emphasized that the struggle for SC classification has been ongoing for three decades, and the Congress government is determined to resolve it. He expressed personal satisfaction, calling it one of the most fulfilling days of his political career. He credited Dr.



B.R. Ambedkar's Constitution for making this possible, reaffirming the government's commitment to uplifting the last poor person in society.

Meanwhile, TPCC President and MLC Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud, speaking at Gandhi Bhavan, hailed the move

as a Congress-mark victory. He congratulated CM Revanth Reddy and his team for fulfilling a key manifesto promise. He highlighted that the caste census and SC classification were completed in line with Rahul Gandhi's vision.

Goud criticized the BRS leaders,

urging K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), Kavitha, and Harish Rao to explain what they had done for BCs and SCs in the past decade. He asserted that the Congress party has once again proven to be the party of the poor, making bold decisions that will be remembered as great chapters in Telangana's history.

Farmers Protest in Alampur Over Tuber Procurement Limit

TPN Correspondent
Gadwal, Feb 05

Farmers in Alampur Chaurasta staged a protest on Tuesday against the Congress government's restriction on tuber procurement. Led by BRSV District Coordinator Kurva Pallaiah, the farmers expressed frustration over the government's decision to purchase only three quintals per acre, despite the actual yield ranging from 6 to 10 quintals per acre.

Protesting at the agricultural market, the farmers pointed out that the Central government had approved procurement at the minimum support



price due to falling market rates. However, they alleged that the state government's procurement cap of 3 quintals per acre was unfair, particularly for those growing high-yield varieties

like TDR 59, which can produce up to 10 quintals per acre.

Farmers questioned where they should sell the remaining crop and demanded that the district collector intervene by requesting the state government to increase the limit to at least 6 quintals per acre. They also highlighted similar struggles faced by groundnut and chilli farmers.

The protest lasted 40 minutes but was eventually called off when officials failed to respond to their demands.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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).



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.

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.

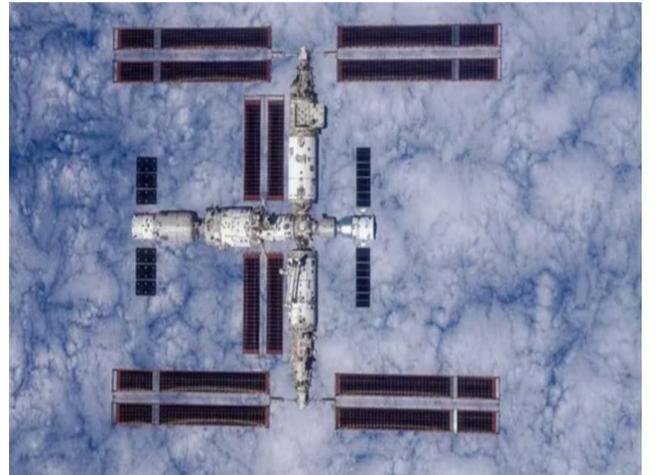
Chinese Astronauts Generate Oxygen and Fuel Through Artificial Photosynthesis in Space

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-

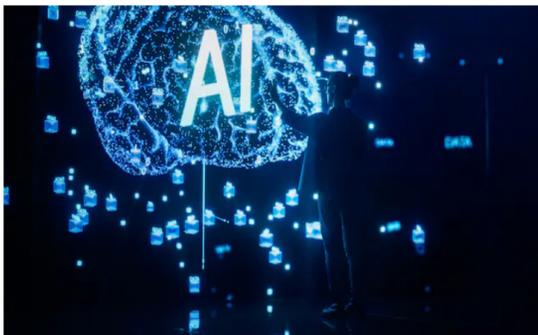


thesis system an energy-efficient alternative for long-duration space missions.

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.

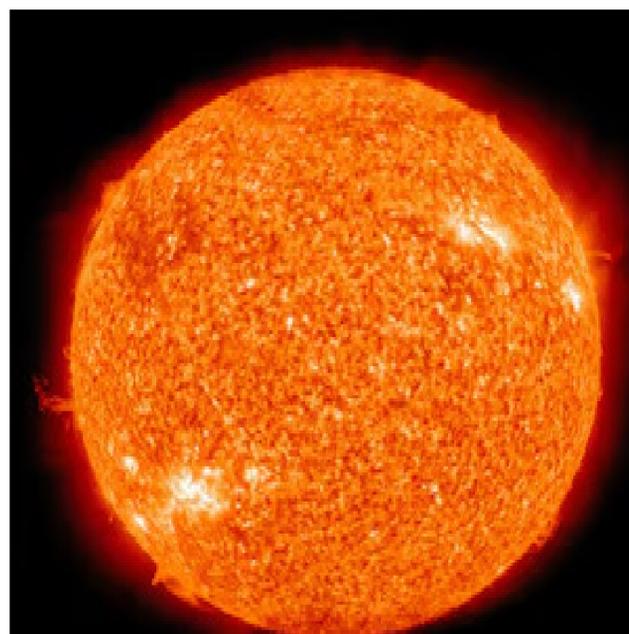
This conversation highlights the growing interest in the role of AI in healthcare, particularly in diagnostic support. While AI can process vast amounts of data and offer valuable insights, many believe it should complement, rather than replace, human expertise. In Shenoy's case, the AI's suggestions 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 AR13664 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)

