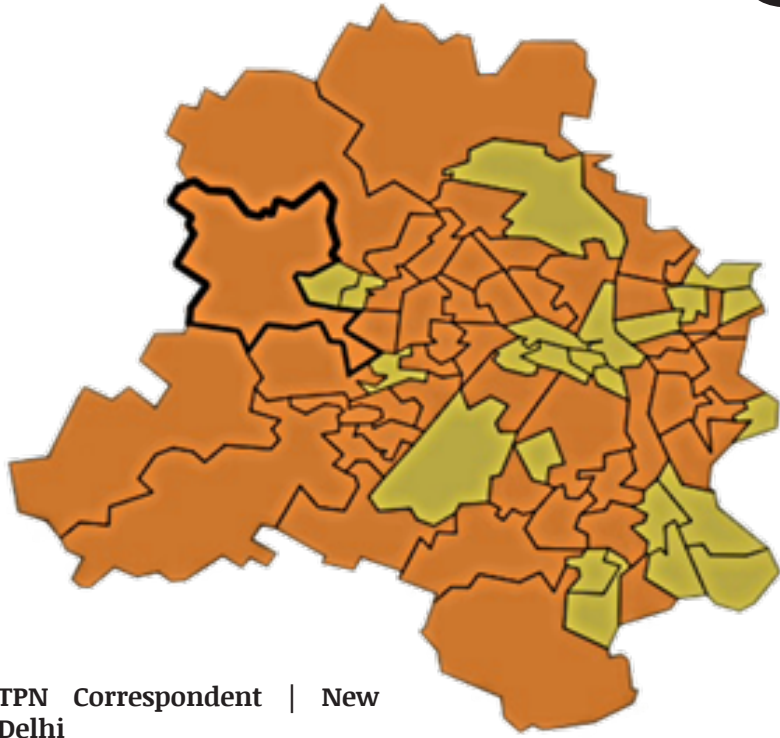


Weather Forecast
HYDERABAD: H 33°C, L 25°C
VIJAYAWADA: H 35°C, L 26°C
TIRUPATHI: H 36°C, L 26°C

Capital Gain for BJP, AAP's Stage Falls



BJP wins Delhi after 27 years.

AAP drops from 62 to 21 seats.

BJP's vote share rises to 45.76%.

Congress gains in vote share but got zero seats.

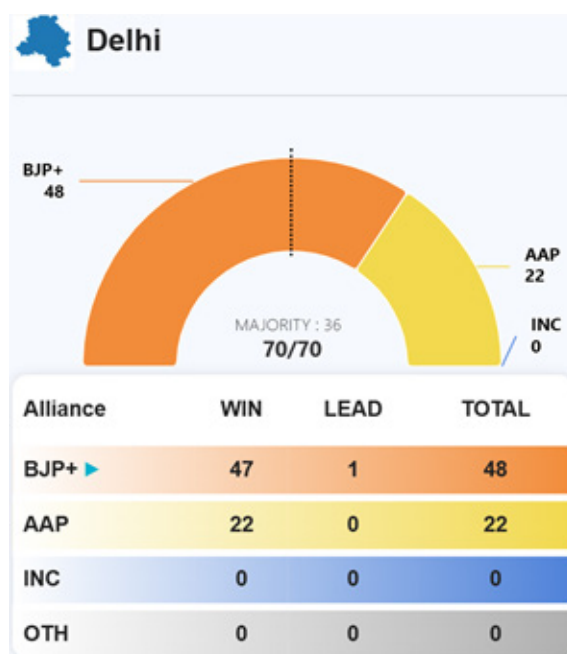
BJP wins Mustafabad as Muslim vote splits.

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

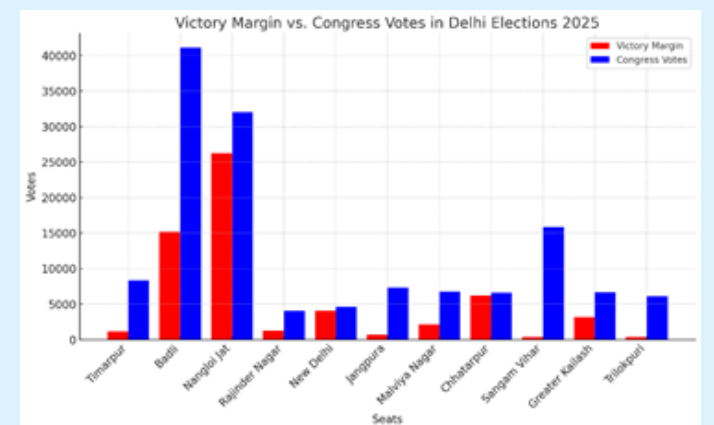
The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has secured a decisive victory in the Delhi Assembly elections, marking its return to power in the national capital after 27 years.

ty had won 62 seats, but this time, a sharp drop of nearly 10 percentage points in vote share led to a major electoral setback. The BJP, on the other hand, made significant gains, adding around 40 seats to its tally from the last election when it had won only eight seats with a 38.51% vote share.

AAP's decline was particularly stark, as the party lost nearly 40 seats compared to the previous election. In 2020, the Arvind Kejriwal-led par-



The election results reflect a significant shift in voter preference, with the BJP gaining over seven percentage points in vote share compared to the 2020 elections.



The Congress, which had been largely sidelined in Delhi politics for the past decade, saw a minor resurgence, increasing its vote share from 4.26% in 2020 to 6.36% in 2025.

BJP to Remove 'Muslim BC' Term: Kishan Reddy

BJP Targets Congress on BC Policies

Promise to Remove 'Muslim BC' Term

Congress Accused of Neglecting Employees

MLC Elections: BJP Aims for Three Seats

Kishan Reddy Calls for BC Movement



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

Telangana BJP president and Union Minister Kishan Reddy strongly criticized the Congress government for failing to implement its promises to employees and the youth.

Congress of discrimination, similar to the previous BRS government, and called for a movement to ensure justice for BCs.

At a BJP review meeting in Hyderabad's Golkonda Hotel on Saturday,

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TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

The BJP's national leadership is keen on making a strong impact in Telangana and is carefully considering who should lead the party in the state.

An internal opinion poll conducted among party workers reportedly shows overwhelming support for Bandi Sanjay. Having served as Telangana BJP president from 2019 to 2023, Bandi Sanjay is credited with energizing the party and expanding its influence beyond Hyderabad to rural areas.

Despite his contributions, Bandi Sanjay was replaced just six months before the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections, with Kishan Reddy taking over. Political circles speculated that BRS leader KCR played a role in this decision, fearing that Sanjay's aggressive style posed a threat to his party.

Now, with the party preparing for the upcoming elections, discussions on the next Telangana BJP president are intensifying. There is growing speculation that the position may go to another BC leader, Etala Rajender. BJP strategists believe that appoint-

BJP Leadership Debate Heats Up

Party Cadre Favors Bandi

Etala Rajender in the Race

Will BJP Struggle Without Bandi?

High Command's Final Decision Soon



Can BJP Thrive in Telangana Without Bandi Sanjay?

ing Rajender could help attract support from the Mudiraj community. However, some party members argue that while Rajender is a capable adminis-

trator, he lacks the aggressive political approach required to challenge both KCR and Congress leader Revanth Reddy.

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Congress at Zero in Delhi - KTR

Revanth's Campaign Backfires Rahul, Revanth Helping BJP? Public Anger Against Congress BRS Ready for a Comeback KTR Backs RS Praveen Kumar



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Bhatti Appeals to Union Finance Minister for Pending Funds

TPN Correspondent
New Delhi, Feb 09

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has urged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to release the funds due to Telangana from Andhra Pradesh under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. He, along with Congress MPs and officials, met Sitharaman at her residence on Safdarjung Road in Delhi on Saturday to discuss the state's financial concerns.



During the meeting, Bhatti submitted letters he had previously written regarding these issues and sought the Centre's support for Telangana's financial requirements. He specifically requested the repayment of ₹4,08,48,54,461 owed to Telangana and appealed for a special relief fund for the state's backward districts under Section 94(2) of the Reorganisation Act.

Additionally, he urged the correction of allocation errors in the release

of funds for centrally sponsored schemes for the financial year 2014-15. He also sought the repayment of ₹208.24 crore as mandated by the Bifurcation Act.

A key issue discussed was the pending amount from Andhra Pradesh Power Finance Corporation to Telangana Power Finance Corporation. Bhatti requested the settlement of dues between the power utilities of both states.

Accompanying him were MPs Mallu Ravi, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Balaram Nayak, Special Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, Resident Commissioner Gaurav Uppal, and other officials.

The appeal highlights Telangana's ongoing struggle to secure its rightful funds, with hopes that the Centre will act swiftly on these financial matters.

Minister Ponnampallam Discusses Caste Census with BC Groups and Intellectuals

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

BC associations and intellectuals met Minister Ponnampallam Prabhakar and Government Advisor K. Kesava Rao to commend the Telangana government for conducting an unprecedented state-wide caste survey. The meeting, held at the Secretariat, aimed to address concerns and gather feedback from community leaders.

Minister Ponnampallam Prabhakar reaffirmed the government's commitment to social justice, stating that the decision for the survey was made in February 2024, with a resolution

passed in the Legislative Assembly. While the survey faced delays due to parliamentary elections, he emphasized that the process was conducted transparently under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He also highlighted the government's allocation of ₹160 crore for the survey, noting its success in rural areas despite challenges in urban centers like Hyderabad.

Following Rahul Gandhi's directives, the Congress-led Telangana government fulfilled its electoral promise of a caste census, aiming for equal political, social, educational, and economic representation. Minister Pra-

bhakar assured BC leaders that their suggestions on reservations, empowerment, and local elections would be conveyed to the Chief Minister for implementation.

Criticizing BJP and BRS for failing to conduct a caste census during their tenures, Prabhakar asserted that his government remains committed to transparency and social justice.

The meeting was attended by MP Suresh Shetkar, MLA Veerla Palli Shankar, BC Commission Chairman Niranjan, and several leaders, professors, and representatives from BC associations.

Chanakya Mukesh: The "Psephologist." Who Deciphers Voter Minds

- Chanakya Strategies accurately predicted BJP's victory in the Delhi elections, despite a tough fight.
- The firm has consistently provided precise political forecasts in AP, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Haryana.
- Founder Mukesh attributes success to continuous observation and in-depth analysis of voter behavior and party strategies.

tions during polling time. We track political movements, party decisions, public reactions, and voter sentiments for five years. Understanding how leaders strategize, the impact of their words and decisions, and the mood of the people over time is crucial. Only with a complete follow-up can we provide an accurate report," he explains.

Challenges in the Age of Media Influence

With the rise of social media and digital campaigns, political narratives are constantly being shaped and reshaped. Parties attempt to sway public perception through media management, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. Mukesh notes that voters often make their decisions well before elections, and last-minute strategies only have an impact in closely contested battles.

Another key factor in election analysis is the ability to distinguish between personal biases and factual data. Mukesh points out that many political leaders view situations through the lens of their expectations rather than reality. This miscalculation often leads to strategic missteps. He recalls an MP who followed Chanakya Strategies' advice in a previous assembly election and emerged victorious, while many others ignored sound analysis at their own peril.

Understanding the Real Political Game

Elections are not just about party campaigns—there is a dual game at play. Politicians strategize on one side, while voters, often unpredictable, play their own game on the other. The role of Psephologists is to decipher these dynamics and identify the real factors influencing election outcomes. More than predicting winners, they also provide insights on potential game-changing strategies for parties.

In a field where accurate political forecasting is rare, Chanakya Mukesh has emerged as a leading expert, bringing pride to the Telugu community. His name is now recognized across India, and his expertise is influencing political decisions nationwide. As he continues his journey of electoral analysis, his work remains crucial in shaping the strategies of parties and leaders, ultimately benefiting the democratic process.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Decoding the Political Landscape Psephologist possess an extraordinary ability to analyze voter behavior, political strategies, and election outcomes. Among them, Chanakya Mukesh stands out as a rare talent, earning a reputation for making highly accurate predictions. His firm, Chanakya Strategies, has repeatedly forecasted election results with remarkable precision, including the recent Delhi elections, where BJP secured victory in a closely fought contest. Unlike many who predicted an overwhelming BJP win, Chanakya Strategies anticipated a tight battle but affirmed BJP's success.

Chanakya Mukesh's predictions have proven accurate across multiple states. He correctly foresaw BJP's alliance win in Maharashtra and Haryana, as well as the fall of the BRS in Telangana. Additionally, he accurately assessed Congress's unexpected rise to power. His keen political insight also allowed him to predict the Karnataka election outcome, where BJP faced a surprising defeat. His track record in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana elections further cements his credibility.

The Science Behind Predictions

Making precise election forecasts is no ordinary feat. Voters today are increasingly cautious—saying one thing on record but often voting differently. Many hesitate to reveal their true preferences, making surveys and exit polls challenging. However, Psephologists like Chanakya Mukesh have developed a refined ability to detect the truth behind responses. In just a few minutes of interaction, they can gauge the real sentiment of voters. Speaking about his success, Chanakya Mukesh attributes it to meticulous research and long-term political observation. "We don't just analyze elec-



1st Page Cont..

Can BJP Thrive in Telangana Without Bandi Sanjay?

On the other hand, Bandi Sanjay remains a popular choice among the party cadre due to his direct, confrontational style. He is known for his fiery speeches and strong attacks on opponents, which many in the BJP believe are necessary to take on Telangana's dominant political forces. However, reports suggest that the high command has already decided on Etala Rajender for the post. Since Bandi Sanjay currently holds a central ministerial position,

it is speculated that he was not considered for the state leadership again. Meanwhile, sources indicate that Etala Rajender has insisted on either the Telangana BJP presidency or a central ministerial role. The BJP high command appears to have chosen the former. The key question now is whether Etala can lead the BJP as aggressively as Bandi Sanjay did. If not, the party may face challenges in maintaining its political momentum in Telangana.

BJP to Remove 'Muslim BC' Term: Kishan Reddy

Kishan Reddy discussed strategies for the upcoming MLC elections with party MLAs, MLCs, MPs, and key leaders. He asserted that BJP would soon form a government in Telangana and Karnataka, highlighting a growing positive atmosphere for the party in South India.

BJP's Stand on Muslim BC Term

Kishan Reddy accused Congress of playing appeasement politics and creating divisions among BCs by categorizing them into Hindu BCs and Muslim BCs. He criticized the Congress' stance on the caste census and claimed that such divisions were unconstitutional. He vowed that if BJP comes to power, the term "Muslim BC" will be removed.

BJP Targets Three MLC Seats
Focusing on the upcoming MLC elections, Kishan Reddy urged party leaders to work towards securing victory in the Medak, Adilabad, Nizamabad, and Karimnagar Graduate MLC elections, as well as the Warangal, Khammam, and Nalgonda Teachers MLC elections. He called on the people to support BJP candidates and criticized the Congress government for failing to provide unemployment benefits, job calendars, PRC, and DA for government employees.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar, BJP National Vice President DK Aruna, and several BJP legislators and candidates.

Congress at Zero in Delhi - KTR

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

BRS leader K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, ridiculing him for Congress' poor performance in the Delhi Assembly elections. Speaking at a meeting with BRS activists in Sirpur Kagaznagar, KTR pointed out that while Revanth Reddy had mocked BRS for securing zero seats in the parliamentary elections, Congress itself had failed to win a single seat in Delhi.

KTR sarcastically credited Revanth Reddy and Rahul Gandhi for strengthening the BJP, claiming that wherever Congress contests alone, it ensures a BJP victory. He accused Revanth Reddy of damaging Congress' prospects in Maharashtra and asserted that his campaign in Delhi resulted in the party's complete downfall.

Criticizing the Congress government, KTR claimed that public dissatisfaction is growing and that Congress leaders face hostility from the people. He even suggested that if Revanth Reddy were in anyone else's place, he might have succumbed to the humiliation he is facing. KTR further alleged that the Congress government lacks credi-

bility and is failing to address the concerns of the people.

On Telangana's representation in Parliament, KTR slammed both Congress and BJP MPs, stating that despite securing eight seats each, they failed to advocate for the state. He criticized them for their silence on the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, claiming that BRS would have fiercely fought for Telangana's interests if they had representation in the Lok Sabha.

KTR also praised RS Praveen Kumar for joining BRS, stating that his vision for Telangana aligns with that of BRS founder K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). He dismissed leaders who switch parties for political gain, asserting that Praveen Kumar's commitment to Bahujan empowerment is genuine.

Reaffirming his support for Sirpur Kagaznagar, KTR recalled his efforts to reopen the region's paper mill, emphasizing his personal connection to the constituency. Concluding his speech, KTR expressed confidence that KCR would return as Chief Minister, likening his temporary setback to the sun hidden behind clouds, destined to shine again.

Harish Rao's Open Letter to CM Revanth Reddy

- Calls for Justice for Displaced Families

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Former Minister Tanniru Harish Rao has written an open letter to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, urging him to fulfill his past promises regarding compensation for displaced families. Rao reminded the CM of his previous hunger strike, during which he criticized the former BRS government for not providing adequate compensation to the displaced. He questioned whether Reddy's protest was a genuine legal fight or merely political rhetoric, stating that his actions as CM would reveal the truth.



Harish Rao also addressed the controversy surrounding the Kaleshwaram project, which the current government has labeled a failure. He pointed out that while the Congress government is now questioning the project's effectiveness, it is simultaneously issuing tenders to transfer 20 TMC of water from the Mallanna Sagar reservoir—an integral part of Kaleshwaram—to Hyderabad. He

urged the government to complete the remaining 10% of the project, as 90% had already been finished under former CM KCR's leadership.

Additionally, he demanded that compensation packages be provided to those who were left out earlier and requested that widows be considered as family members in the compensation process. Harish Rao emphasized that no other government in the country had implemented a better package for displaced people than the previous BRS administration. He urged the Congress government to act fairly and deliver justice to affected families.

BJP Will Rise in Telangana Like in Delhi: Bandi Sanjay

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09
Union Minister Bandi Sanjay has expressed confidence that the BJP will come to power in Telangana, drawing parallels with the recent Delhi Assembly elections. He stated that just as the people of Delhi rejected the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and swept it away with a broom, Telangana will soon witness a similar political shift in favor of the BJP.



ty's success in Delhi to the people's rejection of corruption, scandals, and political parties that engage in unethical activities.

"The people of Delhi made it clear that they do not want corruption, scams, or leaders who end up in jail. The entire intelligentsia supported the BJP," Bandi Sanjay remarked, underscoring the party's growing influence.

Speaking at an event, Bandi Sanjay emphasized that the people of Delhi opted for democratic governance and expected the BJP to take charge. "The saffron flag will soon fly high in Telangana as well," he asserted. The Union Minister also announced that the BJP is set to win three MLC seats in the state. He credited the par-

With the upcoming elections in Telangana, the BJP is strategizing to strengthen its presence and capitalize on anti-incumbency sentiments against the ruling party. Bandi Sanjay's remarks indicate the party's determination to expand its political footprint and position itself as the primary alternative in the state.

Stop Gimmicks, Fulfill Promises: Harish Rao to Revanth

Calls for Apology Over Caste Census Manipulation Slams Congress for False Promises and Deception

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

Former Minister Harish Rao lashed out at the Congress party, stating that it has been left with a "donkey's egg" after failing to secure even a single seat in the Delhi elections. Speaking on the party's repeated electoral setbacks, he blamed Rahul Gandhi and Telangana CM Revanth Reddy for Congress's crushing defeats in Haryana, Maharashtra, and now Delhi.

"Will you get votes by campaigning in other states without implementing promises here?" Harish Rao questioned. He alleged that Congress's caste census was a political gimmick aimed at influencing the Delhi elections, but the people saw through it. He urged the government to admit its mistakes, apologize to the public, and conduct a fresh caste census to ensure justice for all communities.

He further warned Revanth Reddy that unless the Congress government implements its "six guarantees and 420 promises," voters will continue to reject the party across the country. He predicted a similar outcome in the upcoming local body elections.

Your Service Applications Are a New Drama

Harish Rao also criticized the Congress government for allegedly misleading the public with its "Your Service" application initiative. He accused Revanth Reddy of repeatedly deceiving people in the name of applications—first during public administration, then through the caste census, and now with new application schemes.

"Are these just tricks ahead of local body elections? Are applications for governance and Gram Sabhas meaningless?"



he questioned. He claimed that under the BRS government, welfare schemes were implemented without bureaucratic hurdles, whereas Congress was using applications as a means to create confusion and deny benefits to the poor. Harish Rao demanded that instead of wasting time, the Congress government should fulfill its promises and provide ration cards, housing, and welfare schemes as assured. He called on the government to prioritize real governance over election stunts.

MP Vishweshwar Reddy: We Knew AAP Would Lose in Delhi

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

BJP MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy stated that the defeat of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the Delhi Assembly elections was expected. He remarked that not only did AAP lose, but its foundation has collapsed, raising doubts about its future survival.

He accused AAP of straying from its anti-corruption ideals, getting embroiled in multiple scams after coming to power. Reddy also pointed out that AAP, which once accused BJP of corruption, itself became involved

in major scandals. He linked AAP's downfall in Delhi to the liquor scam, in which BRS MLC Kavitha was allegedly involved, stating that similar reasons led to BRS losing power in Telangana.

Reddy criticized Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for promoting an "Aam Aadmi" image while living in luxury. He also took a dig at BRS leader K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), stating that people no longer take his statements seriously. He further alleged that BRS and Congress worked together in the Munugode assembly elections despite claiming to be rivals.



BJP's Victory Gifted by Congress: KTR's Jibe



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) took a jibe at Rahul Gandhi, sarcastically congratulating him for facilitating the BJP's victory in the Delhi elections. In a satirical tweet, KTR remarked that the Congress played the role of "Kattappa" in the AAP's downfall, indirectly helping the BJP secure power in the national capital after 27 years.

ened AAP's prospects.

With the BJP securing a majority by winning 43 seats, KTR intensified his attack, stating that Rahul Gandhi and Telangana CM Revanth Reddy were the "biggest star campaigners" for Narendra Modi. He pointed out that Congress had failed to win a single seat in Delhi, making their campaign a disaster.

'Chalo Kodangal' Call by KTR

Following the Delhi results, KTR called upon BRS supporters to gather in Kodangal, the home turf of CM Revanth Reddy. He urged people to question Revanth Reddy about unfulfilled promises in areas like Lagacharla Thanda, Rotibanda Thanda, and Hakimpeta. He asserted that the people of Kodangal would soon decide whom to support, hinting at an upcoming political showdown in Telangana.

Delhi Results a Lesson for Revanth: Raghunandan Rao

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

BJP MP Raghunandan Rao has strongly criticized Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) over their comments on the Delhi Assembly election results. He stated that the outcome in Delhi serves as a major lesson for Revanth Reddy and expressed confidence that similar results would be seen in the upcoming Telangana local body elections.



Further attacking KTR, Raghunandan Rao challenged him to contest the ongoing MLC elections in 76 Assembly and 12 Parliamentary constituencies. He stated that those who lack the courage to contest should not comment on BJP's electoral strength. He concluded by saying that the less spoken about KTR, the better.

Taking a dig at Rahul Gandhi, Raghunandan Rao remarked that the Congress leader had received a "donkey's egg" in the Delhi elections. He also questioned KTR's involvement in Delhi politics, suggesting that if he admired Congress so much, he should consider merging BRS with it.

Minister Konda Surekha Counters KTR Over Delhi Election Remarks

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

Minister Konda Surekha has hit back at BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) over his remarks on the Delhi Assembly election results. She sarcastically suggested that KTR should congratulate his sister, MLC K. Kavitha, for allegedly playing a key role in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's victory.

KTR had earlier mocked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on social media, claiming that he was the biggest factor behind the BJP's win in Delhi. In response, Surekha expressed surprise at KTR's statement and reminded him that the BJP had won from Karimnagar in both the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections, while his sister Kavitha lost from Nizamabad.



She further countered KTR by referring to the Delhi liquor scam, suggesting that Kavitha's involvement had indirectly benefited the BJP. Surekha also emphasized that Rahul Gandhi had proven through the Lok Sabha elections that no one is above the Constitution.

Criticizing BRS, she pointed out that the party had failed to secure even a single seat in the parliamentary elections and was now hesitant to contest the MLC elections. She advised KTR not to undermine Rahul Gandhi's influence and wished him "better luck next time."

Delhi Election Results a Strong Message to Congress: Errabelli

TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

Former BRS minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao has lashed out at the Congress following its dismal performance in the Delhi Assembly elections, where it failed to secure even a single seat. He stated that the people of Delhi have given a clear rejection to the Congress, signaling the party's decline across the country.



Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

Errabelli claimed that the Congress had deceived people in Telangana and Karnataka, leading to its downfall in recent elections in Haryana, Maharashtra, and now Delhi. He alleged that even Congress President Rahul Gandhi does not trust

Taking a dig at Revanth Reddy, Errabelli said that the Congress government in

Telangana has failed to implement its promises and is merely making false claims. He predicted that the same electoral fate awaits the party in the upcoming local body elections in Telangana.

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) also took a swipe at Congress on social media, sarcastically congratulating Rahul Gandhi for "helping BJP win." His post has since gone viral.

Errabelli concluded by stating that Congress has become synonymous with lies and that people are realizing the truth, which will soon reflect in electoral results across the country.

Komatireddy Slams KTR Over Delhi Election Remarks



TPN Correspondent Hyderabad, Feb 09

Telangana Minister Komatireddy Venkatarreddy strongly criticized BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) over his remarks on the Delhi Assembly election results. KTR had mocked Congress, sarcastically congratulating Rahul Gandhi for allegedly helping the BJP win in Delhi.

said that Congress is a party of fighters and will never accept defeat. "We always rise like Telangana," he asserted. He accused KTR of hypocrisy, pointing out that BRS had gifted eight parliamentary seats to the BJP in the last elections while failing to secure even a single seat for itself.

Komatireddy further stated that if anyone is responsible for the BJP's growth in Telangana, it is undoubtedly the BRS party. He dismissed KTR's statements as baseless and misleading, emphasizing that Congress remains strong despite political setbacks.

The war of words between BRS and Congress continues to heat up, with both parties trading accusations ahead of upcoming political battles in Telangana.

Reacting sharply, Komatireddy

'Creative Sparks' Ignites Young Minds at Sri Gayatri School

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Sri Gayatri e-Techno School in Manikonda hosted a special program, 'Creative Sparks', on Saturday, aiming to foster creativity and agility among primary school students. The event saw enthusiastic participation from both students and their parents, making it a grand success.

As part of the program, students showcased their talents in Mehendi art, Best out of Waste, Poster Making, Flameless Cooking, and Healthy Drinks Preparation. The school management emphasized the importance of instilling awareness about healthy eating habits among children, especially in today's fast-food-driven world.



Sri Gayatri School's administration highlighted that such initiatives go beyond academics, helping students develop skills in various fields. Parents attending the event were delighted to witness their children's enthusiasm and creativity in action. The event was graced by School Chairman Madhusudhan, CEO Sarveswara Rao, Principal Rachna Patel, and other dignitaries, making it a memorable experience for all.

Nikhil Reacts to Hard Disk Controversy

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

The name Mastan Sai has been making waves across Telugu states in recent days, with intense discussions on social media. The controversy escalated after actress Lavanya, ex-girlfriend of actor Raj Tarun, filed a case against him. As part of her complaint, she handed over a hard disk to the police, alleging that it contained around 200 private videos, including nude videos and audio recordings of various girls.



Amidst these allegations, rumors surfaced that young Tollywood actor Nikhil Siddhartha's private videos were also among the files. This led to widespread speculation on social media.

Responding to the controversy, Nikhil firmly denied the allegations, calling them false propaganda. He clarified that the videos being circulated are from a dinner party held after the success of his film Karthikeya 2 and feature only his family members. He criticized those attempting to misrepresent the content and spread misleading information. Nikhil also stated that the police are aware of the truth behind these claims.

The controversy continues to draw attention, with fans and industry insiders awaiting further developments.

Megastar Chiranjeevi Joins PM Modi's Advisory Team

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a significant role to Tollywood's Megastar Chiranjeevi by including him in an advisory board for the upcoming World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES). This move aligns with the central government's vision of making India a global entertainment hub.



PM Modi, who has consistently shown admiration for Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan, has also extended respect to his brother, Chiranjeevi. As part of this initiative, the Prime Minister recently held a video conference with experts from various fields to gather insights for the entertainment summit, where Chiranjeevi was chosen to represent Telugu cinema. Expressing his gratitude, Chiranjeevi thanked PM Modi for the opportunity. The central government is reportedly giving special attention to influential families in the Telugu film industry, including the Mega, Nandamuri, and Akkineni families, strengthening ties with Tollywood's key figures.

With this key position, Chiranjeevi's role in shaping India's entertainment sector is expected to be crucial in the global expansion of the industry.

CM Revanth Reddy Pays Tribute to Former President Zakir Hussain

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

On the birth anniversary of former President of India and Bharat Ratna awardee Dr. Zakir Hussain, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy paid floral tributes to his portrait on Saturday. The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) officially shared details of the tribute.

On this occasion, CM Revanth Reddy praised Dr. Zakir Hussain's contributions as a freedom fighter and educationist, highlighting his efforts in the development of India's education sector. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Kundur Raghuvver, and other dignitaries also participated in the tribute.



Hard Disk Scandal Shakes Tollywood

- * Hard Disk Mystery Deepens
- * Blackmail Angle Exposed

- * Leaks Spark Panic
- * Police Under Question
- * Celebrity Videos Leak

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

A shocking case has emerged from the Narsingi Police Station, which is known for handling high-profile cases involving celebrities. The latest controversy revolves around Ravi Mastan Sai, a software employee from Guntur, who was recently arrested for allegedly blackmailing individuals using explicit videos stored on a hard disk. The case has sent shockwaves through Tollywood, as the hard disk reportedly contains nude videos of over 300 young women, along with private footage of several celebrities.



Leaked Videos Raise Suspicions

A major twist in the case occurred when a private video allegedly involving actor Nikhil surfaced online while Mastan Sai was still in police custody. This has raised serious questions about how the video was leaked and who was responsible. Speculations suggest that someone within the police department may have accessed the hard disk and used it for blackmail. There are also allegations that celebrities are being threatened for

money using the videos stored on the hard disk.

Involvement of Big Boss Fame Shekhar Basha?

Meanwhile, Big Boss fame Shekhar Basha has targeted Lavanya, questioning her credibility. Reports suggest that he has ties to Mastan Sai and may have access to some of the controversial content. Recently, Shekhar Basha released audio recordings related to Lavanya on social media, fueling speculation about his possible involvement in the video leak.

Unanswered Questions

The case continues to take new turns daily. The biggest concerns remain: How many more individuals are affected? Is the hard disk still secure in police custody? Who is responsible for leaking Nikhil's video? With Tollywood celebrities now on edge, all eyes are on the police investigation to uncover the truth behind this growing scandal.

CM Reviews GHMC Projects, Sets Deadline for Miralam Bridge

CM Sets 90-Day Deadline for Miralam Bridge DPR

Hyderabad's Infrastructure Gets a Boost

Revanth Reddy Pushes for Faster Project Execution

Miramalam Bridge to Become a Landmark Zone



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy held a high-level review meeting with Municipal Administration and GHMC officials to assess various infrastructure projects underway in Greater Hyderabad. A key focus of the meeting was the bridge being constructed over Miralam Lake.

The Chief Minister issued clear directives to complete the Detailed Project Report (DPR) within 90 days and ensure the bridge's construction is completed within 30 months. He emphasized that the Miralam Bridge should be developed as a landmark area in Hyderabad, enhancing its surroundings to provide a recreational space for children. Officials presented three

proposals for the 2.425 km bridge, with the CM instructing them to conduct a deeper study to finalize the best option. Additionally, he directed officials to thoroughly examine and assess the new flyovers being planned across Hyderabad.

Revanth Reddy also made key recommendations on road width and urban planning, stressing the need for comprehensive information on the city's evolving infrastructure. He instructed officials to present a detailed report within two days for further action. The meeting underscores the government's commitment to strengthening Hyderabad's infrastructure, ensuring efficient project execution, and transforming key areas into modern urban spaces.

HYDRAA Saves 15 Acres of Tukuguda Lake from Encroachment



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Acting on complaints from locals, the Hyderabad Disaster Response Assets Monitoring and Protection Agency (HYDRAA) demolished illegal boundary walls constructed by encroachers at Suram Cheruvu (Saroni Cheruvu) in Tukuguda municipality, Rangareddy district, on Saturday, February 8.

Encroachers had taken over 15 acres of the 60-acre lake, building boundary walls and creating layouts for sale. Responding swiftly, HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath inspected the site, spoke with residents, and ordered the demolition of unauthorized structures. Authorities reaffirmed their commitment to protecting Hyderabad's water bodies from illegal occupation.

Election Code Halts New Ration Card Applications

- * MLC Election Code Halts Applications
- * Applicants Left Waiting for Ration Cards
- * Mee Seva Centers Witness Rush Before Ban

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

The Telangana government's decision to accept new ration card applications has hit a roadblock due to the Election Commission's (EC) intervention. The state had recently approved the process for accepting fresh applications, particularly pending ones, through Mee Seva Kendras. Additionally, citizens were given the option to add family members to existing ration cards.



However, the EC has ordered an immediate halt to the process, citing the ongoing MLC election code in Telangana. As a result, those eager to apply for ration cards have been left disappointed.

Following the government's green signal, several applicants rushed to Mee Seva Kendras on Friday night

and throughout Saturday. But with the EC's latest directive, the process has come to an abrupt stop. Many believe that since local body elections are expected soon after the MLC elections, the demand for new ration cards will surge even further.

This sudden halt has led to frustration among applicants who had hoped to benefit from the initiative. The state government is expected to resume the application process once the election restrictions are lifted.

Congress Backs Farmers Protesting Pharma City Land Grab

TPN Correspondent
Rangareddy, Feb 09

Congress leaders have extended their support to farmers protesting against the acquisition of their lands for the proposed Pharma City project. Hundreds of farmers from Medipalli, Nanaknagar, Tatiparthi, and Kurmidavillages in Yacharam mandal staged a dharna in front of the District Collector's office on Saturday, demanding justice.

The affected farmers, who are set to lose 2,200 acres of land, have approached the court to prevent forced acquisition. Despite the legal proceedings, District Collector Narayana Reddy issued notices summoning them to the Collectorate. In response, farmers arrived in large numbers on tractors to express their dissent.

Congress leaders, sensing the growing unrest, stood in solidarity with the farmers. Senior Congress figures, including former MPP Racharla Venkateshwarlu, former Vice MPP Srinivas Reddy, and ex-Sarpanch Venkat Reddy, participated in the protest. They echoed the farmers' demands and joined in raising slogans against the local MLA.

Before the previous elections, Congress had assured villagers that private land would not be forcibly tak-



en for Pharma City. Farmers allege that their lands were transferred to government records without their consent and included in the prohibited list. While the government had promised to restore ownership to the farmers, no action was taken.

The protest, which lasted from morning till evening, saw Congress leaders reaffirming their commitment to the farmers' cause, highlighting the unresolved issues surrounding the controversial land acquisition.

CM Revanth for Neglecting Maheshwaram Development

TPN Correspondent
Badangpet, Feb 09

Former Minister and Maheshwaram MLA Sabitha Indra Reddy criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for failing to allocate funds for the development of Maheshwaram. Speaking at the inauguration of a newly established Basti Hospital and Mahila Bhavan at Rajiv Gruha Kalpa under Badangpet Municipal Corporation, she highlighted the initiatives taken under former CM KCR's leadership to improve healthcare. She stated that ten Basti Hospitals and eight Urban Hospitals were set up in the Maheshwaram constituency, along with four super-specialty hospitals in the city, each costing ₹1,200 crores.

Sabitha accused the Congress government of failing to provide a single rupee for development since coming to power. She claimed that while ministers frequently visit Maheshwaram, no funds have been sanctioned, and even salaries of rural staff remain unpaid. She also alleged that pending bills for past development works by sarpanches have not



been cleared.

She criticized the Congress government for obstructing development projects, specifically citing the cancellation of ₹2 crores allocated for pond beautification in Almasguda. She emphasized that plans for a walking track and children's park were halted midway.

Sabitha also questioned CM Revanth Reddy's silence on the demand for national status for the Palamuru-Rangareddy project. She urged the Chief Minister to clarify why he has not pressured the Central government regarding the issue. She asserted that people will no longer believe Congress's false promises.

Farmer Stages Protest Over Delayed Rythu Bandhu Aid



TPN Correspondent
Kollapur, Feb 09

Frustrated by the delay in receiving financial aid under the Rythu Bandhu scheme, a farmer attempted to block National Highway 167 in protest. The incident occurred on Saturday evening at Peddakothapalli mandal center in Nagarkurnool district.

Jagapathi, a farmer from Mushtipalli village, owns 1.5 acres of land and relies solely on agriculture for his livelihood. As Rythu Bandhu funds for the monsoon harvest were delayed, he was forced to take loans from brokers to cultivate his crops. Facing similar difficulties for the Yasangi crop, he repeatedly sought investment assistance but to no avail.

Hoping for relief, Jagapathi visited the Gramin Vikas Bank in Peddakothapalli to check if the promised ₹6,000 per acre had been credited. When officials informed him that neither the Rythu Bandhu funds nor the farmer's guarantee money had been deposited, he became distraught. In protest, he attempted to block the highway, leading to tensions when RTC staff intervened.

The distressed farmer accused the government of betraying farmers by failing to deliver promised funds. His protest highlights growing frustration among farmers over delayed financial aid.

Kavitha Demands Immediate Release Scholarship Funds

TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has strongly criticized the Congress government for allegedly denying foreign education opportunities to poor students by delaying the release of Ambedkar Overseas Scholarship funds. She accused the government of neglecting fee reimbursement and scholarship payments, leaving many students in distress.



On Saturday, Kavitha held a Zoom meeting with around 200 Telangana students studying abroad under the Ambedkar Overseas Education Fund Scheme. During the session, she alleged that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was deliberately weakening a scheme initiated by former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) with the aim of helping economically disadvantaged students pursue education abroad. Kavitha demanded an explanation from the Congress government for the delay in releasing the second tranche of funds. She questioned why funds were being allocated to contractors while students struggled due to unpaid scholarships. She also criticized the government's failure to clear other scholarship arrears and fee reimbursements.

Issuing a warning, Kavitha stated that if the government does not act swiftly, the BRS will escalate the issue in the public domain to pressure authorities into releasing the pending funds.

Warangal Collector Urges Coordination for Tourism Development

TPN Correspondent
Warangal, Feb 09

Warangal Collector Dr. Satya Sharada has emphasized the need for officials to work in coordination for the development of the district's tourism sector. She chaired a review meeting with officials from relevant departments at the BC Hall of the Warangal District Collectorate on Saturday.



Speaking at the meeting, Dr. Sharada highlighted the district's vast potential for tourism and stressed the importance of providing basic infrastructure at tourist spots. She directed officials to formulate special plans for the development of the Ekveera Temple in Mogilicharla village of Geesukonda mandal, including proposals for UNESCO recognition. She also suggested creating a green wall with trees around the temple and relocating 55 scattered sculptures to establish a mini museum or park.

The Collector instructed officials to submit proposals to the central government for fund-

ing tourism projects. She noted that Pakala Lake has been developed into an eco-tourism site with boating, a butterfly park, and colleges, and called for the establishment of a bird park and an archaeological museum. She also directed officials to identify land for a sculpture park and promote homestay tourism in Koyataga village. Additionally,

she stressed the need to raise awareness among students through 500 tourism clubs in schools and colleges.

Warangal Balidia Commissioner Ashwini Tanaji Wakade, Additional Collector G. Sandhyarani, DTO Shivaji, DRO Vijayalakshmi, and other officials attended the meeting.

BRS Urges Chief Secretary to Correct Caste Census

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has accused the Telangana government of using unscientific methods in the recently conducted caste census. A delegation of BRS MPs, MLAs, and MLCs met Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari at the Secretariat on Monday, demanding immediate corrections to what they termed an unfair representation of Backward Classes (BCs).

The BRS leaders alleged that the state government deliberately reduced the number of BCs in the census to manipulate reservations. They submitted a petition urging the government to implement 42% reservation for BCs in local bodies and conduct local body elections at the earliest.

They further accused the Congress government of delaying the caste census for a year to mislead BCs on the issue of reservations. The leaders criticized the Planning Department for conducting a hasty survey on education, employment, economy, politics, and family demographics, allegedly disregarding court judgments.

Comparing the latest figures with the 2011 Census and the 2014 Comprehensive Family Survey, they claimed that the BC population had inexplicably decreased instead of increasing. The BRS delegation urged the government to acknowledge and rectify these discrepancies to ensure justice for BC communities.



Congress Government Cuts Rythu Bandhu for 3.94 Lakh Farmers



TPN Correspondent
Hyderabad, Feb 09

Farmers in Telangana have been hit with a major shock as reports suggest that the Congress government has removed 3,94,232 farmers from the Rythu Bandhu scheme. Social media discussions, particularly from BRS supporters, are claiming that the government has deliberately reduced the beneficiaries.

The Agriculture Department has confirmed the cut, acknowledging that the current government has allocated Rythu Bandhu funds to fewer farmers compared to the previous BRS regime. According to official figures, during the last monsoon season, the BRS government provided Rythu Bandhu assistance of ₹642.57 crore to 22,55,181 farmers covering 12,85,147 acres. However, under CM Revanth Reddy's administration, only ₹610.91 crore has been disbursed to 18,60,949 farmers covering 12,21,820 acres.

The reason behind this reduction remains unclear, and the move has sparked criticism. The issue is expected to become a major point of contention between the ruling Congress and the opposition BRS in the coming days.

Rahul and congress eclipse from Delhi electoral battle, penalty for Hindu bashing

The last emperor of the last Congress empire, Mr. Rahul Gandhi, has faced significant backlash for his criticisms of Hindu beliefs and deities, which have proven to be counterproductive to him and to the congress party's credibility in the minds of many voters.

His comments are disrespectful, have alienated a substantial segment of the electorate that holds these beliefs dear. This situation underscores the importance of sensitivity and respect in political discourse, particularly in a diverse nation like India, where religion plays a pivotal role in the lives of millions.

In view of this backlash, it is essential for Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party to start self introspection and soul searching and reconsider their approach to political communication and engagement with Hindus.

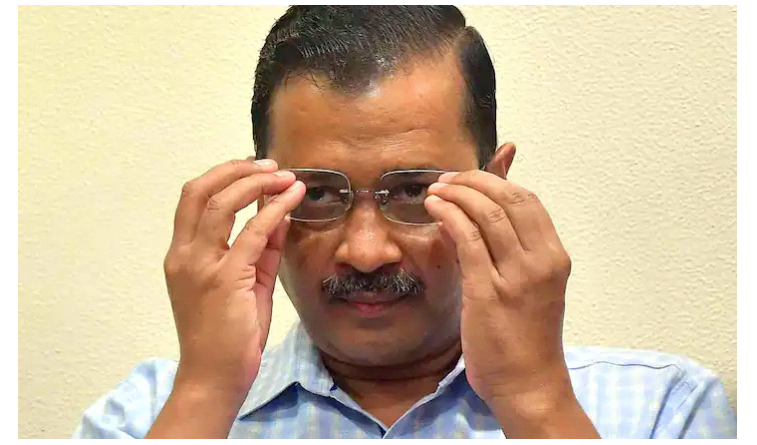
Acknowledging the significance of Hinduism and its followers is not merely a matter of political strategy; it is a fundamental aspect of fostering an inclusive and harmonious society. The Congress party must strive



to create an environment of equality, where all beliefs are respected and valued, and any disparagement of Hinduism or any other religion must be strongly discouraged.

Moreover, Rahul Gandhi and congress eclipse from the current political election landscape, particularly in the context of the Delhi elections, is notably felt. His leadership and presence could have provided a counterbalance to the dominant narratives and strategies employed by rival parties. The lack of his engagement raises questions about the Congress party's ability to connect with voters and present a compelling alternative to the ruling party. As the political dynamics evolve, it is crucial for the Congress party to reassess its strategies, embrace a more inclusive dialogue, and work towards rebuilding trust with the electorate, especially among those who feel marginalized by previous statements and actions.

In conclusion, the path forward for Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party lies in a commitment to respectful engagement with all communities, a willingness to learn from past missteps, and a proactive approach to addressing the concerns of a diverse electorate. Only through such efforts can they hope to regain relevance and support in the competitive political arena of India.



Delhi Elections: Is It Time to Write AAP's Obituary?

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has faced a massive defeat in the Delhi elections, leaving many wondering if it's time to write the party's obituary. While this outcome marks a dramatic shift for the party, it may be too hasty to declare its end. The loss reflects a journey from ambition to downfall for both the AAP and its leader, Arvind Kejriwal. However, it is also a result of self-inflicted wounds, and the responsibility lies with Kejriwal and his party to accept their mistakes.

Kejriwal, who once emerged as a radical reformist promising to change the country's politics, has been gradually transformed by politics itself. Twelve years in power have diminished his moral authority and charisma. His defeat from the New Delhi constituency, once considered his stronghold, is symbolic of the arrogance that often overtakes politicians who think they are bigger than their party.

Several factors contributed to AAP's defeat:

1. Same Old, Same Old: AAP, once known for its moral integrity and promises of change, gradually lost its unique edge. The party, which once stood as an alternative to traditional politics, sacrificed its core values, causing its most loyal supporters to drift away. In essence, AAP's moral capital, which played a key role in its previous successes, was eroded over time.

2. Losing the Moral Edge: Kejriwal's image suffered from corruption allegations, particularly the liquor scam that led to his arrest, along with other leaders like Manish Sisodia. Furthermore, the controversy surrounding his lavish home renovation, dubbed the 'Sheesh Mahal,' damaged his credibility. His attempt at damage control by resigning and moving to more modest accommodation came too late. The middle-class voters, who were once the AAP's core support, became disillusioned.

3. Policy Paralysis: The third term of the AAP government from 2020 to 2025 saw little progress. While the first term saw significant achievements in education, healthcare, and public services, the latter part of Kejriwal's tenure was marked by constant power struggles with the Lieutenant Governor and poor governance. Broken infrastructure and delayed policies alienated the electorate.

4. When Theatrics Don't Pay Off: After a decade in power, anti-incumbency inevitably set in, but the AAP failed to address it effectively. Rather than focusing on governance, Kejriwal indulged in theatrics, focusing more on drama than real solutions. This approach, while gaining attention, failed to win voter trust. **5. Volunteers Were Tired:** In its early years, AAP's selfless volunteer force was its biggest asset. However, over time, volunteers felt ignored, exploited, and disheartened. The lack of a solid organizational structure left AAP reliant on paid workers, which proved insufficient compared to the robust BJP organization.

Can Improved Connectivity Reduce Emotional Distance Between Delhi And Kashmir?

Leo Tolstoy's question, "How can one be well...when one suffers morally?" resonates deeply when considering the relationship between Jammu and Kashmir and the rest of India, particularly Delhi. The emotional and political divide between the two regions has long been complex, and while infrastructure projects aim to close this gap, the emotional disconnect remains significant.

True unity is not achieved solely through physical connections, such as roads or railways. While these advancements offer economic and practical benefits, they cannot heal the deep emotional rift that many Kashmiris feel towards Delhi. The historical trauma, emotional detachment, and a sense of being ignored by the Central government remain unresolved. This sentiment is powerfully echoed in the words of Kashmiris who have suffered: "How can we prioritize development when our emotions are disregarded?" said Wali Mohammad, a resident of Kashmir. His statement underscores how material progress cannot replace the need for emotional recognition and healing.

The relationship between physical connectivity and emotional distance in Kashmir is more nuanced than simply improving infrastructure. Noor-Din, 56, a local Kashmiri, voiced his frustration: "Do you think expanded railways and enhanced road networks can replace our losses?" This highlights the critical issue—emotional dissonance. The emotional scars from years of conflict and alienation cannot be erased by mere projects or policies. Kashmiris feel unheard and disconnected, leading to growing resentment and mistrust.



Furthermore, technology, particularly social media, plays a role in facilitating connections among the youth of Kashmir and India. Despite the ongoing trauma, these platforms allow for dialogue and the breaking of stereotypes. Mohd Furkan, 30, expressed the psychological burden faced by Kashmiris when traveling outside their region: "I often hide my identity out of fear." His experience illustrates how the emotional wounds of the past continue to shape the region's interactions with the rest of India.

Ultimately, the efforts to integrate Kashmir through infrastructure and digital connectivity must go hand in hand with addressing historical grievances and fostering inclusivity. Althusser's theory of ideology suggests that the imposition of government policies cannot foster unity without a deeper understanding of the region's emotional and cultural struggles. Only through genuine empathy, dialogue, and acknowledgment of Kashmir's history can the true distance both physical and emotional be bridged. True unity will only emerge when the hearts of Kashmir and Delhi are connected.

The China-Pakistan Fallout

China's long-touted "all-weather" partnership with Pakistan is now encountering significant hurdles, as the once-promising China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) faces mounting economic, political, and security complications. Initially envisioned as a cornerstone of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), CPEC aimed to create direct access to the Arabian Sea and bolster both countries' strategic ties. However, Pakistan's deteriorating internal situation—including a collapsing economy, political instability, and a rising insurgency—has forced China to rethink its investments in the region.

CPEC's promise of transforming Pakistan's infrastructure and economy has been overshadowed by delays and security risks. Pakistan's political dysfunction and financial mismanagement have severely hindered the project's progress. Beijing's frustration grew after Pakistan's failure to meet its financial and security obligations, leading China to freeze funding in

2022. Pakistan's \$110 billion debt, including substantial commitments to Chinese firms in the energy sector, further complicates the situation.

The security landscape in Pakistan has become an even greater concern. Attacks on Chinese workers and interests in Balochistan, a key region for CPEC, have underscored Pakistan's inability to protect Chinese assets. Despite the establishment of a Special Security Division with 15,000 troops, the insurgency continues to target Chinese nationals. This failure has caused Beijing to reconsider its reliance on Pakistan's security apparatus.

Amid these setbacks, China has focused on securing Gwadar, a vital port city that offers significant geopolitical leverage. The port's proximity to the Persian Gulf, home to a significant portion of the world's oil reserves, makes it critical to China's energy security. Recently, China took control of Gwadar International Airport operations and declared Chinese as the



official language, signaling a stronger foothold in the region. China has also explored expanding its naval presence, with plans to establish a ship repair dock and submarine facility in Ormara.

However, Pakistan remains reluctant

to cede too much control to China, especially regarding security arrangements. Despite Beijing's pressure, Islamabad has resisted forming a joint security force, raising doubts about the long-term sustainability of their partnership.

Compounding the issue, Pakistan has

recently sought to rebuild ties with the United States. After years of strained relations, Islamabad recalibrated its foreign policy in 2022, securing military aid and loans from the US and international financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank. This shift has fueled further frustration in Beijing, which sees Pakistan's pivot to the West as a threat to its strategic interests.

As CPEC falters and China faces mounting security concerns, the future of the China-Pakistan relationship remains uncertain. China's strategic ambitions in the region may force it to deepen its hold over Gwadar and other key assets, but any aggressive moves risk damaging its already fragile relationship with Pakistan. For Islamabad, the challenge is existential: balancing its mounting debt obligations to China with growing domestic unrest and external pressure from the US. The "all-weather" friendship between the two nations is facing its most severe test yet.

PM Modi Hails BJP's Historic Delhi Victory as Win for Development

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers at the party headquarters in New Delhi on Saturday, following the party's significant return to power in the city after a 27-year hiatus. The Prime Minister described the victory as historic and attributed it to the people's strong will for development and change.

Modi began his speech by chanting "Yamuna maayi ki jai," a reference to the river that holds cultural significance for Delhiites. He acknowledged the enthusiastic support from the electorate, expressing gratitude for giving BJP's 'guarantees' a chance to be fulfilled. The Prime Minister emphasized the importance of the 'double engine government'—a reference to BJP-led governments both at the center and in Delhi—which he promised would ensure accelerated development in the capital.

In his address, Modi declared, "Delhi is enthusiastic and relieved. Delhi is relieved to be free of 'Aapda,'" suggesting that the city had rid itself of the challenges and mismanagement faced under the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). He further



hailed the victory as a win for development and noted that the people of Delhi had decisively rejected the previous government's approach.

Modi also took a sharp jibe at AAP, saying, "This is a historic win and not ordinary. The people of Delhi have ousted 'Aapda'... Delhi is free of a decade of 'Aapda.'" He pointed out that the electoral mandate had made it clear that there are no shortcuts in politics and accused AAP of employing 'shortcut politics' that the people

had outright rejected. According to him, the mandate reflected the people's desire for a government that treated Delhi as a resource for progress, rather than a personal asset.

As he concluded his speech, Modi reaffirmed that this victory was not just a political success but a victory for the people of Delhi who had chosen the path of development, ensuring that the city's future would be shaped by governance focused on growth and prosperity.

BJP's Delhi Win Due To "Magic" Of PM Modi's Guarantees: Eknath Shinde

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

As the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) looks poised to form the government in Delhi, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has credited the party's impressive performance in the assembly elections to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. On Saturday, Shinde expressed that the victory is a testament to the guarantees provided by PM Modi and declared that "falsehood" has been defeated.

In a post on X, Shinde, who is also the chief leader of the ruling Shiv Sena in Maharashtra, stated that after securing a win in Maharashtra, voters in Delhi have also placed their trust in the BJP's leadership. He attributed the party's success to PM Modi's promises, saying the results reflect the people's belief in the Prime Minister's vision.

The Deputy CM didn't miss the opportunity to target the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP),



led by Arvind Kejriwal, saying that the obstacles in Delhi's development have now been cleared. Shinde claimed that voters have sent a strong message to the AAP, which had made "false claims" about the Constitution being under threat.



No glitches in SpaDex, we are going step by step: ISRO chief

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V. Narayanan has addressed concerns about potential issues with the space agency's maiden space docking mission, SpaDeX. Speaking on the sidelines of the 15th Biennial Aero India International Seminar on Saturday, Narayanan clarified that there were no glitches in the mission and assured that ISRO is proceeding with a step-by-step approach.

"Right now, it is docked. We are going step by step, studying the data, and planning to conduct several experiments," Narayanan, who is also the Secretary of the Department of Space, stated. His remarks came in response to reports suggesting technical challenges during the mission.

The SpaDeX mission, which saw the successful docking of satellites on January 16, 2025, was hailed as a major achievement for ISRO. The NVS-02 navigation satellite was successfully placed into its intended Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO), marking a milestone for the agency.

However, on February 2, ISRO issued a statement revealing that the planned orbit-raising operations could not be completed due to malfunctioning valves, which hindered the firing of the thrusters. These technical difficulties led to speculation that the docking process may face delays. Despite these reports, Narayanan reassured the public that the space agency was still reviewing the undocking process and that any delays were part of the ongoing assessment.

Akhilesh Yadav Challenges BJP After Milkipur By-Election Win



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav has raised concerns over alleged electoral malpractices following the BJP's victory in the Milkipur by-election in Uttar Pradesh. Yadav accused the BJP of misusing election machinery, claiming that such "fraud" could occur in a single Assembly seat but would not be possible across the entire state in the upcoming 2027 elections.

The Milkipur seat, which had been vacated after the sitting MLA, Awadhesh Prasad of the Samajwadi Party, was elected to Parliament, became a key battleground. The BJP fielded Chandrabhanu Paswan, who emerged victorious in the by-election, defeating the Samajwadi Party's candidate, Ajeet Prasad.

In a post on X, Yadav asserted that the BJP's win was a result of manipulation and alleged that such actions could be carried out in one constituency but would not succeed across the entire state in future elections. He described the BJP's victory as a "lie," claiming that the party would face consequences for their actions in the long term. Yadav further stated that those involved in such fraud would eventually face punishment, and that nature and the law would not spare them.

The Milkipur bypoll became a focal point of attention with both Akhilesh Yadav and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath leading their respective parties' campaigns. Despite the loss, the Samajwadi Party had pushed hard to secure a win, especially with the stakes high in Faizabad, a region with significant political significance, including Ayodhya.

Following the BJP's victory, party MP Ravi Kishan took a dig at Yadav, commenting on the loss, and pointing out the work done by Yogi Adityanath in the region. The Milkipur by-election now remains a key talking point as the battle for the 2027 Uttar Pradesh elections heats up.



Shehbaz Sharif Calls for Pakistan's Victory Over India in ICC Champions Trophy

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has emphasized the importance of Pakistan's upcoming match against arch-rivals India in the ICC Champions Trophy, scheduled for February 23 in Dubai. Speaking at the inauguration of the newly renovated Gaddafi Stadium on Friday night, Sharif stated that while winning the Champions Trophy is a significant achievement, defeating India in the crucial match holds a special place for the nation.

The Prime Minister expressed his confidence in the strength of Pakistan's cricket team, noting their recent success. However, he underscored that the real challenge would be overcoming India. "We have a very good side and they have done well in recent times, but the real task now is to not only win the Champions Trophy but also defeat our arch-rival, India in the upcoming match in Dubai. The entire nation stands behind them," Sharif declared.

The rivalry between Pakistan and India on the cricket field is legendary, with India traditionally holding the upper hand in ICC events. Pakistan's last victory over India in an ICC tournament came during the 2021 T20 World Cup in Dubai, where Pakistan secured a historic win. With India opting not to send their team to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy due to strained relations between the two countries and cricket boards, the February 23 encounter is expected to be highly charged, with both teams looking to assert dominance. Pakistan will enter the Champions Trophy as the defending champions, having won the last edition in 2017 in England. Sharif expressed pride in the opportunity to host the prestigious event in Pakistan after nearly three decades. "It is a big occasion for Pakistan that we are hosting a big ICC event after nearly 29 years," he said, highlighting the significance of the event for the nation.

Aur lado aapas mein: Omar's jibe at Congress and AAP after rout

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, in a pointed social media post, took a jab at the Congress and AAP amid the BJP's strong lead in Delhi's Assembly elections. With early leads indicating a significant win for the BJP, Abdullah shared a GIF that read, "aur lado, jee bhar ke lado, samapt kar do ek durre ko" (fight some more, fight to your heart's content, finish each other off). He captioned the GIF with the message, "aur lado aapas mein" (fight each other some more), which many interpreted as a critique of the infighting between Congress and AAP.

The National Conference leader's post came after the BJP appeared poised to win nearly 50 of Delhi's 70 Assembly seats. The Congress and AAP, despite both parties being part of the larger INDIA alliance at the national level, had chosen to contest the Delhi Assembly elections separately. This decision had led to sharp attacks between the two parties, with both accusing the other of acting as a "B-team" of the BJP.

Omar Abdullah, who had earlier been critical of the INDIA alliance, had questioned its leadership and purpose. He

remarked that the alliance should be wound up if it existed only for the Lok Sabha elections. Referring to the confusion around the leadership and agenda of the INDIA bloc, Abdullah pointed out that no meetings were being held and there was a lack of clarity on the alliance's future.

Abdullah's comments also came at a



time when the Congress faced criticism from its allies following its disappointing performance in Haryana. Despite being expected to perform well in the state, the Congress's decision to not partner with AAP led to a poor showing. The Congress only managed to win 37 seats, falling short of expectations. Abdullah had previously stated that Congress should not take its leadership of the opposition alliance for granted, given the growing dissatisfaction among some of its allies.

Trump Likely to Meet Zelenskiy Next Week Amid Ukraine Conflict

- Talks may focus on security, rare earth assets, and U.S. support
- Seeks discussions on Ukraine's security and rare earth minerals.
- U.S. envoy Keith Kellogg to visit Ukraine for further talks.



TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump indicated on Friday that he would likely meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the coming week to discuss Ukraine's ongoing struggle to defend itself against Russian invaders. During a brief interaction with reporters in the Oval Office, Trump mentioned that the meeting could take place either in person or via video conference, but did not elaborate on the specifics of the format.

Trump was speaking to the press as he welcomed Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba to the

White House. While answering questions about Ukraine, Trump expressed a strong desire to see an end to the conflict, referring to the nearly three-year-long Russian invasion as "a ridiculous war" that he would like to see resolved on a humanitarian basis. He emphasized that the situation had dragged on for far too long, and his ultimate goal was to end the suffering caused by the war.

In addition to discussing the conflict itself, Trump also mentioned that he hoped to talk to Zelenskyy about securing Ukraine's valuable resources, such as rare earth minerals. He suggested that the U.S. might expect something in return for its continued

support of Ukraine in its fight against Russia. Trump noted that he wanted to "equalize" the situation, implying that both sides should come to a fair agreement on security and other matters related to the war.

Trump also reiterated his interest in meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, with whom he said he has always maintained a "good relationship." However, when asked about the possibility of a face-to-face meeting with Zelenskyy, Trump clarified that it would take place in Washington, as he would not be traveling to Ukraine.

As Ukraine continues to seek U.S.

support for its war efforts, Zelenskyy's administration is looking forward to a visit this month from Trump's special envoy for the region, Keith Kellogg. According to Zelenskyy's chief of staff, Andy Yermak, Kellogg's visit will include discussions on the battlefield situation, the safety of Ukrainian civilians, and potential meetings at the Munich Security Conference later this month.

This diplomatic activity underscores the ongoing international focus on Ukraine's struggle against Russian aggression and the complex geopolitical conversations surrounding U.S. involvement in the region.



Federal Judge Blocks Musk's Department from Accessing Treasury Data

TPN Correspondent | Washington

A federal judge has issued a ruling that prevents Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) from accessing sensitive records within the U.S. Treasury Department. The decision, made early on Saturday, came after 19 Democratic attorneys general filed a lawsuit against President Donald Trump's administration.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in New York City, claims that Musk's team was given access to the Treasury Department's central payment system, which handles critical government operations such as tax refunds, social security benefits, and veterans' benefits. This system processes trillions of dollars each year and contains a vast amount of sensitive personal data, including social security numbers, bank account details, and other private financial information of millions of Americans.

US District Judge Paul Engelmayer's decision blocks Musk's team from accessing these records, which have been protected by strict federal privacy laws. The lawsuit argues that the Trump administration violated federal law by allowing DOGE to tap into these systems without appropriate safeguards in place to protect Americans' private information.

Musk's Department of Government Efficiency, also known as DOGE, was established to identify and eliminate what the Trump administration deems wasteful government spending. The department's efforts are part of a broader initiative to reduce the size of the federal government and streamline operations, a focus that has included proposals to shut down agencies like the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which Musk has criticized as inefficient.

Despite the department's focus on cost-cutting, critics have raised concerns about its access to sensitive government data. The lawsuit filed by the attorneys general argues that the Trump administration's actions may not only violate privacy protections but also place the personal information of millions of Americans at risk.

In his ruling, Judge Engelmayer noted that the Treasury Department's data systems must be safeguarded from misuse, especially in instances where the potential for abuse or harm is high. While DOGE has been tasked with eliminating wasteful spending, the judge's decision emphasizes the need to balance efficiency with the protection of citizens' privacy and financial security.

The ruling is a significant step in the ongoing legal battles surrounding the Trump administration's push for government reform, highlighting tensions between reducing federal spending and ensuring adequate safeguards for sensitive personal data.

Meta To Start Layoffs Globally From Next Week

TPN Correspondent | Newyork

Meta Platforms, the parent company of Facebook, is set to carry out company-wide layoffs next week, while simultaneously focusing on expedited hiring for machine learning engineers, according to internal memos shared with Reuters on Friday. The layoffs, which are part of the company's restructuring efforts, will begin on Monday at 5 a.m. local time in most countries, including the U.S.



The memo, written by Meta's Head of People, Janelle Gale, informed employees that notices for job terminations would be issued on Monday. However, employees in Germany, France, Italy, and the Netherlands will be exempt from these cuts due to local labor laws. Employees in other regions, including parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa, will be notified of their status between February 11 and Feb-

ruary 18. Meta had previously announced that it planned to reduce its workforce by about 5%, targeting "the lowest performers" across the company. The layoffs are being referred to internally as "performance terminations." Gale's memo also stated that the company would continue to operate its offices on Monday and would not provide any further updates on the layoffs until after the notifications

have been made. The cuts come as part of Meta's ongoing efforts to streamline operations and refocus its priorities as it looks ahead to 2025. Despite these layoffs, the company is also pushing forward with its hiring initiative, specifically targeting machine learning engineers and other "business-critical" technical roles. This effort will be fast-tracked between February 11 and March 13, according to a sep-

arate memo from Peng Fan, Meta's VP of Engineering for Monetization. Fan's post emphasized the importance of this expedited hiring process in helping the company better align with its long-term goals.

The juxtaposition of layoffs and strategic hiring highlights the company's attempt to balance cost-cutting measures with the need to remain competitive in the rapidly evolving tech landscape. Meta's focus on hiring machine learning engineers reflects its commitment to staying at the forefront of emerging technologies, even as it reduces its overall workforce. While the layoffs may affect employees across various departments, Meta remains focused on its vision for the future, with a particular emphasis on critical engineering roles that are expected to play a major role in the company's growth over the coming years.

Japan and U.S. Agree to Leave Currency Matters to Finance Ministers: Ishiba

TPN Correspondent | Tokyo

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and U.S. President Donald Trump have agreed to leave matters related to foreign exchange rates in the hands of their respective finance ministers, maintaining a collaborative approach to currency policy. Following a meeting between the two leaders on Friday, Ishiba confirmed that discussions regarding currency exchange would continue to be handled by finance experts, as was the case during Trump's first administration.

Ishiba emphasized the importance of close coordination between the Japanese and U.S. finance officials, noting that both countries have consistently worked together on currency matters through their finance ministries. "As was the case during the first Trump administration, we decided to continue close discussions between the Japanese and U.S. finance leaders, who are the experts," Ishiba stated at a press conference following the meeting.

In line with this approach, Japanese Finance Minister Katsunobu Kato and U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent held a



video conference last month, where they agreed to continue cooperating on currency issues. This cooperation aims to ensure stability in the global financial markets and maintain transparency in the management of exchange rates.

Ahead of the summit, some analysts had speculated that President Trump might express concerns about the weakening yen. A weaker yen can push up the value of the dollar, making U.S. exports more expensive and less competitive in international markets. However, Japanese policymakers have been cautious about the potential for Trump to make public statements regarding the yen, fearing that such remarks could cause market volatility and negatively impact Japan's fragile economic recovery.

Trudeau Warns of Trump's Real Desire to Annex Canada Over Critical Minerals

TPN Correspondent | Canada

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has raised concerns over former U.S. President Donald Trump's persistent rhetoric about annexing Canada, warning that it is not merely idle talk but a serious issue tied to the country's vast natural resources, particularly its critical minerals.

Speaking at a business and labor summit in Toronto on Friday, Trudeau emphasized that Trump's focus on Canada is closely linked to the country's rich reserves of essential minerals, which are vital for modern technologies such as electric vehicles, batteries, and renewable energy systems. These minerals have become increasingly sought after as nations strive to secure resources for their technological industries. Trudeau suggested that the Trump administration is acutely aware of Canada's abundance of these minerals and that this could be a driving force behind the former president's repeated remarks about the possibility of making Canada the "51st state."

The prime minister's comments were a direct response to Trump's long-standing statements about the idea of annexing Canada, which Trump has brought up several times over the years. Though these remarks have often been dismissed as hyper-



bole, Trudeau's latest remarks underscore the gravity with which he views the issue. He indicated that the fixation on Canada's resources is not just about the minerals themselves but also about the geopolitical significance they hold for the future of global industries.

Trudeau's warning is a reflection of ongoing concerns in Canada about the increasing pressures on the country's sovereignty and its resources. The country's vast mineral wealth, including critical elements like lithium, cobalt, and nickel, is seen as crucial to the global transition to cleaner energy. The U.S. has long been a key trade partner for Canada, but Trudeau's remarks suggest that the current geopolitical environment is making Canada more vulnerable to potential external pressures, especially from a neighbor with significant political and economic power.

RBI Poised for Potential Rate Cut in April Amid Stable Inflation Trends



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) remains steadfast in its commitment to maintaining long-term price stability and fostering sustainable economic growth. Following a series of successful policy measures, analysts are now predicting the possibility of another interest rate cut as early as April, assuming inflation continues to show favorable trends. This forecast is based on research conducted by the State Bank of India (SBI), which has stated that "April could see the next rate cut again" if the inflationary conditions remain under control.

The RBI's monetary policy has consistently emphasized the importance of balancing economic growth with price stability. Its

data-driven approach and clear communication strategy have helped bolster market confidence while ensuring that regulatory scrutiny remains robust. Analysts have been closely monitoring inflation trends, and the recent positive data has encouraged expectations that further easing could be on the horizon.

A key aspect of the RBI's policy framework is its focus on flexible inflation targeting (FIT). The RBI has reiterated that the FIT approach strikes a balance between strict adherence to rules and the flexibility to make discretionary decisions based on real-time economic data. This allows the central bank to adjust its regulatory measures in response to chang-

ing economic conditions, ensuring that the policy remains both effective and adaptable to evolving circumstances.

The RBI's approach to inflation targeting has garnered praise for its ability to maintain stability in the face of shifting global and domestic challenges. By using a combination of clear guidelines and flexible decision-making, the RBI has been able to navigate periods of economic volatility while still keeping inflation within manageable levels. This policy framework has been a cornerstone of India's monetary strategy, allowing the RBI to respond quickly and effectively to changes in inflationary pressures.



Income tax relief, repo rate cut to boost recovery in consumption: Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman expressed confidence that the combination of income tax relief provided in the Union Budget and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) repo rate cut will boost consumption and drive economic recovery. Addressing the media on Saturday after her post-Budget meeting with the RBI's Central Board of Directors, Sitharaman emphasized that industry is beginning to see signs of consumption recovery in the economy.

Sitharaman pointed out that her post-Budget discussions with business leaders and journalists had given her a positive outlook on the consumption sentiment. According to the inputs received from industry leaders, orders for fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) for the April to June period are already being booked. This, she said, is a clear indication of potential recovery in consumption. Furthermore, she noted that several businesses are reviewing their capacity utilization, a sign that demand is picking up.

The Finance Minister also highlighted that the RBI's recent decision to reduce the repo rate by 25 basis points, from 6.5% to 6.25%, would further align with the positive trends in the economy. This rate cut, the first in about five years, is expected to lower lending rates and reduce equated monthly installments (EMIs), making borrowing cheaper for consumers and businesses alike.

Sitharaman also addressed the significant tax relief announced in the Union Budget for 2025-26, which includes raising the income tax exemption limit to Rs 12 lakh, up from Rs 7 lakh previously. This measure is expected to provide substantial relief to middle-income taxpayers, with an estimated one crore individuals no longer falling under the tax net. The government expects that the savings generated from the tax relief will be reinvested in the economy through consumption, savings, or investments. However, this tax relief will lead to a revenue foregone of about Rs 1 lakh crore in direct taxes and Rs 2,600 crore in indirect taxes.

Macro effects of proposed US tariffs are negative: S&P Global Ratings

A recent report by S&P Global Ratings' economics team has raised concerns about the potential negative impact of tariffs proposed by the Trump administration, warning of slower GDP growth, higher unemployment, and rising inflation. The report, titled "Macro Effects of Proposed U.S. Tariffs Are Negative All-Around," suggests that while the U.S. would experience some adverse effects, the consequences for trading partners would be far more significant.

The Trump administration has quickly moved to implement a 25% tariff on goods imported from Canada and Mexico, along with an additional 10% tariff on imports from China. However, last-minute negotiations have provided a temporary reprieve, granting a one-month delay in the tariffs for both North American trading partners. Despite the temporary pause, the report notes that uncertainty regarding the direction of U.S. policy remains high, with potential long-term impacts on decision-making by firms and households.

S&P Global Ratings highlights that the overall effects of these tariffs are expected to be overwhelmingly negative. While the U.S. economy may experience some immediate challenges, such as higher costs for imported goods and potential trade retaliation, the tariffs are expected to have more pronounced consequences for countries involved in global trade with the U.S. Specifically, the tariffs would reduce global trade



and slow economic growth, potentially leading to rising unemployment in both the U.S. and its trading partners.

The report also notes that the proposed tariffs could result in inflationary pressures, particularly if U.S. consumers face higher prices on a range of imported goods. This would further strain household budgets and reduce purchasing power. Additionally, the stronger U.S. dollar, which could result from these tariff measures, may negatively affect

the international competitiveness of U.S. exports, potentially limiting the benefits of these tariffs for American businesses.

In early February, just two weeks after taking office, President Donald Trump invoked the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to announce sweeping new tariffs. The White House justified the move by citing the threat posed by illegal immigration and the importation of drugs, such as fentanyl, from foreign countries.

Union Bank of India sees lower inflation for FY25 and FY26 than MPC estimates



Union Bank of India (UBI) has forecasted that inflation in FY25 may be lower than the revised forecast of 4.4% set by the Monetary

Policy Committee (MPC), with the bank predicting Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation to track at around 4% in Q4 FY25. For FY26,

UBI projects inflation to be slightly lower than the MPC's estimate of 4.2%, forecasting it at 4.0%. While these projections signal a more favorable inflationary environment, the bank has raised concerns about the risks to India's growth and inflation outlook in the coming years.

The bank highlighted that the MPC had revised its FY25 growth forecast down to 6.4% from an earlier 6.6%. Despite this, the MPC anticipates a recovery to 6.7% growth in FY26. UBI expressed caution regarding the FY25 growth projection, citing downside risks to the forecast. According to the bank, the MPC's growth assumption for the December 2024 quarter, which expects growth to surpass 6.5%, appears overly optimistic as current trends suggest growth is closer to 6%.

UBI further noted that it was still maintaining an FY26 growth estimate of 6.5%, slightly higher than the expected growth of 6% to 6.2% for the current fiscal year. However, the bank remains wary of the MPC's optimism about a 7% growth rate in Q2 FY26, especially in light of the ongoing global economic challenges. The international economic environment, including uncertainties regarding global trade, inflation, and geopolitical tensions, could have an impact on India's growth prospects, the bank cautioned.

New Hampshire man successfully receives Pig kidney in groundbreaking transplant



Tim Andrews, a 66-year-old man from New Hampshire, has become the second person known to live with a genetically-edited pig kidney transplant. On January 25, 2025, surgeons at Massachusetts General Hospital successfully transplanted the pig kidney into Andrews, marking a significant milestone in the field of xenotransplantation. Just a week after the procedure, Andrews was able to leave the hospital, signaling the transplant's early success. Andrews, who had been battling kidney failure for two years, had struggled with dialysis complications and heart is-

issues, which made his survival prospects grim. Although he had been on the kidney transplant list, the wait for a suitable donor could take upwards of seven years. Faced with limited options and a poor prognosis, Andrews volunteered to participate in a pilot study for a highly experimental pig kidney transplant. In preparation for the transplant, Andrews underwent extensive physical therapy to improve his overall health, losing 30 pounds and becoming healthier, which made him a suitable candidate for the procedure. His decision to pursue the experimental transplant has

already proven to be a life-changing one. After the transplant, doctors were thrilled to observe that the pig kidney began functioning immediately, producing urine and carrying out normal kidney functions without signs of rejection. Andrews, who had long struggled with diabetes and the complications of dialysis, is now free from the constant need for dialysis and recovering well. "When I woke up in the recovery room, I was a new man," Andrews said in an interview with The Associated Press. The success of this transplant is a significant achievement in the field of xenotransplantation, which involves transplanting animal organs into humans. Previous attempts with animal organs have had mixed results, with many transplants failing quickly. However, recent advances in gene editing have made animal organs more compatible with human bodies, providing hope for the future of transplants. Andrews' recovery is fueling optimism for patients who, like him, have little chance of receiving a human kidney transplant due to their poor health. This breakthrough is helping to pave the way for more research into animal-to-human transplants, a development that could one day solve the organ shortage crisis and save countless lives.

Milk And Paneer Are Non-Veg? Indian Doctor's Claim Makes Internet Angry



An Indian doctor's recent comments declaring paneer and milk to be non-vegetarian foods have sparked a heated debate online, especially among vegetarians. Dr. Sylvia Karpagam's claim that these dairy products are not vegetarian due to their animal origin has upset many social media users who adhere to vegetarian diets. The controversy began after a photo of a vegetarian thali, shared by another doctor, Sunita Sayammagaru, was posted on X (formerly Twitter). The thali included a variety of items such as unsweetened kheer, paneer, moong dal, and a salad with carrots, cucumber, onions, raw coconut, and walnuts. Sunita had captioned

the image, saying it was a "vegetarian meal" rich in protein, good fats, and fiber. The post quickly gained traction, with over 1.2 million views since its upload on February 4. Dr. Karpagam's response to the post took many by surprise, as she asserted that dairy products like paneer and milk should not be classified as vegetarian. She argued that since these foods come from animals, they do not meet the criteria of vegetarianism, which typically excludes all animal-derived products. Her comments have stirred a storm on social media, with many vegetarians expressing their disapproval. While some agree with her perspective, a majority of users have rejected the idea, emphasizing that dairy is an essential part of vegetarian diets in India. This debate underscores the ongoing divide in how vegetarianism is understood and practiced, with varying interpretations of what qualifies as "vegetarian food."

People in UK Using human ashes in community garden for a bizarre reason



A dedicated team of gardeners in Cornwall, England, is grappling with an unexpected and distressing issue—people scattering human ashes in the flower beds of a riverside spot they have been working to restore. The Friends of Sunny Corner, a volunteer group, has been focused on beautifying a scenic stretch along the River Truro since 2016. However, their efforts have unintentionally turned the area into a popular location for mourners seeking to lay their loved

ones to rest. Paul Caruana, the chairman of the organization, revealed that volunteers have encountered at least 15 incidents of human ashes being scattered without permission. The problem escalated when one volunteer, caught off guard by the wind, inadvertently swallowed a mouthful of ashes while tending to the area. "One volunteer actually got a level of mouthful of ashes because the wind

caught him, and suddenly when you get a mouthful of human ashes, it is quite distressing," Caruana, 71, shared. He emphasized how unsettling the experience was, stating, "It's not funny at all. People say 'well, it's only ashes.' Well, you get a mouthful yourself and tell me if it is a pleasant experience—it is an awful thing to happen."

In an effort to stop the growing problem, Friends of Sunny Corner has issued a public plea for people to respect their wishes and refrain from scattering human ashes across their flower beds. The group highlighted the issue in a recent statement, expressing their frustration upon arriving at the site to find a large area covered in ashes despite previous requests to cease the practice. This troubling situation has left the gardening volunteers disturbed, as they aim to maintain the beauty of the space for the community while respecting those who wish to memorialize their loved ones. The group is now appealing for understanding and cooperation from the public to preserve the sanctity of the site.

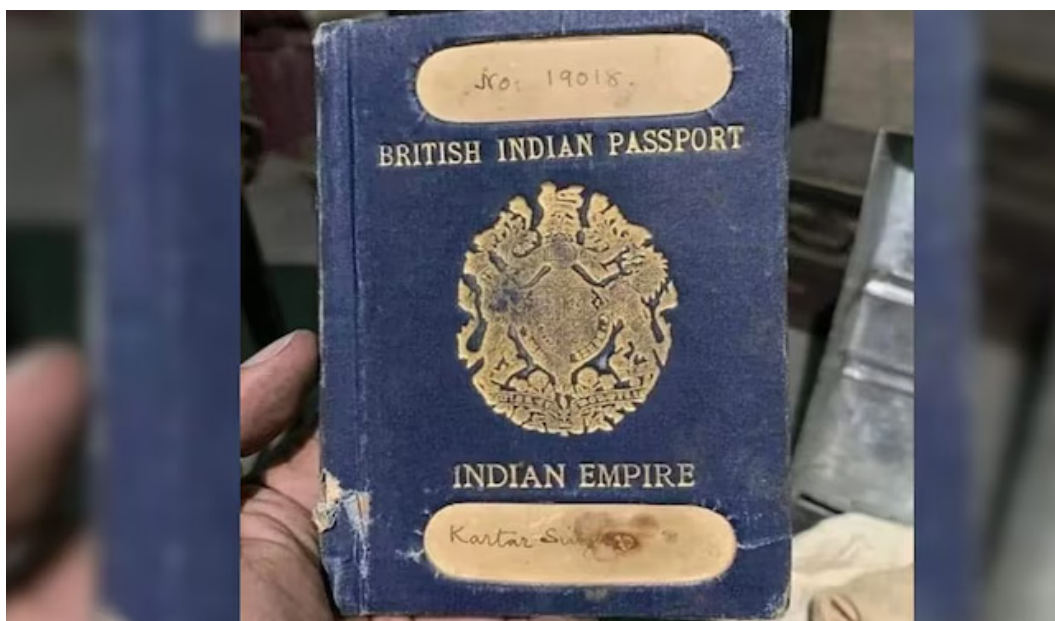
Viral Pic Of 95-Year-Old British Indian Passport Leaves Internet Amazed

A rare, almost 95-year-old British Indian passport has gone viral on social media, leaving the internet in awe. The post, shared by a user on X (formerly Twitter) under the handle features a picture of the old passport belonging to a person named Kartar Singh. The passport, though a little worn, is royal blue in color and prominently displays the monogram of the British monarch.

The vintage passport has captured the attention of thousands as it provides a rare glimpse into the colonial past of India before independence. According to the caption accompanying the post, this passport was discontinued after India gained independence in 1947.

The image has since garnered over 1.3 million views, with many social media users expressing their fascination with the historical document. As users on the internet have begun to share similar artefacts and documents from India's past, this British Indian passport has sparked conversations around history, heritage, and the evolution of the country's identity.

For many, such items serve as tangi-



ble links to a bygone era, offering valuable insight into the period before India gained independence from British rule. Collecting and preserving these pieces of history has become an important way for people to connect with their roots and learn about the experiences of their ancestors. The viral post has reminded

many of how much history is embedded in the objects we may overlook in our day-to-day lives. As social media continues to spotlight such fascinating relics, the post has reignited the trend of sharing historical documents that link present generations to their ancestors' lived experiences.

The AI Arms Race: Who Will Win the Race to Artificial General Intelligence?



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is evolving at an unprecedented pace, opening up new possibilities across industries and everyday life. The release of OpenAI's ChatGPT in late 2022 marked a turning point, sparking what can only be described as an AI arms race. Since then, major tech companies have raced to develop the most advanced AI systems, from sophisticated chatbots to APIs that can revolutionize numerous sectors. The competition has expanded beyond conversational AI, as tech giants like Google, Meta, OpenAI, and billion-dollar-backed startups are now setting their sights on a much larger goal: Artificial General Intelligence (AGI).

AGI refers to AI that can perform intellectual tasks at a human-like level, excelling across a wide variety of activities, much like how human cognition works. While the concept of AGI has generated heated discussions and speculation about its potential, it remains an elusive target. Despite significant advancements, no company has yet crossed the threshold to develop AGI.

This intense race, fueled by vast investments and cutting-edge research, raises several important questions: How close are we to AGI? What does the timeline look like for its development? And, perhaps most importantly, who will ultimately "win" this race?

While many companies are investing heavily in AGI, the reality is that this journey is filled with challenges. Developing an AI that mimics human-level intelligence requires breakthroughs in multiple areas, including reasoning, problem-solving, creativity, and learning adaptability. Each player in the field—whether it's an established tech giant or a nimble startup—brings a unique approach and expertise to the table.

At this stage, it's unclear which company or research lab will be the first to successfully develop AGI. But the race is on, and the stakes couldn't be higher. As AI continues to advance, the developments in this race will shape the future of technology and human interaction in ways we can only begin to imagine.

Virat Kohli Declared Fit for 2nd ODI Against England, Confirms Batting Coach Sitanshu Kotak



Team India received a massive boost ahead of the second ODI against England as Virat Kohli has been declared fit to play at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack on Sunday. The veteran batter had missed the first ODI in Nagpur due to a sore right knee, but batting coach Sitanshu Kotak confirmed that Kohli has returned to full fitness and attended practice sessions. "Virat Kohli is fit to play. He has come for practice and it is good to go," Kotak told mediapersons on Saturday. Who Will Make Way for Kohli?

With Kohli set to return, the biggest selection dilemma for captain Rohit Sharma and coach Gautam Gambhir is who to drop between Shreyas Iyer and Yashasvi Jaiswal.

- Shreyas Iyer, who replaced Kohli in the first ODI, impressed with a 36-ball 59, making it difficult to leave him out.
- Yashasvi Jaiswal, who opened the innings with Shubman Gill, had an underwhelming performance, which could see Gill reuniting with Rohit at the top, while Kohli slots in at No. 3.

Kohli Eyes Major Milestone
Kohli will be eager to regain form, especially after a low-scoring Ranji Trophy outing and struggles in Australia. The 36-year-old is just 94 runs away from joining the elite 14,000-run club in ODIs, a milestone only achieved by Sachin Tendulkar (18,426) and Kumar Sangakkara (14,234). With India leading 1-0 in the three-match series, Kohli's return could further strengthen the batting lineup as the hosts aim to seal the series in Cuttack.

Indian Athletes Rally Behind PM Narendra Modi's Call to Combat Obesity



Indian athletes and fitness influencers have come together to support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to fight obesity, made during the 38th National Games opening ceremony in Dehradun. Hockey legend PR Sreejesh emphasized the importance of dietary awareness, stating, "Eating well is the first step towards a healthier, happier life. Let's make Fit Food India a lifestyle, inspired by PM Modi ji's commitment to fitness." Table tennis star Manika Batra also promoted mindful eating, urging people to make nutritious choices a habit. "The food we eat shapes our health. Let's commit to Fit Food India and contribute to PM Modi ji's mission for a fitter India," she posted on X.

MMA champion Sangram Singh reinforced the urgency of prioritizing health. In a video message, he said, "At the end of life, wealth and luxuries won't matter—only our body will carry us forward. Let's stay fit and take the country ahead." The Fit India Sundays on Cycle initiative at Major Dhyanchand Stadium saw Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya lead a 250-member group of doctors and nutritionists, advancing the PM's call to action. With strong backing from athletes and fitness influencers, India's fight against rising obesity rates is gaining momentum across the nation.

Sanjay Bangar Advises Rohit Sharma to Revisit Old Success Amid Lean Patch

Former India batting coach Sanjay Bangar has urged Rohit Sharma to simplify his approach and avoid excessive technical analysis as he struggles with a prolonged dip in form. Bangar believes that rather than overcomplicating his batting or indulging in rigorous practice, Rohit should reflect on his past performances to regain his rhythm. Speaking on Star Sports, Bangar emphasized the importance of self-assessment, advising the India captain to watch old videos of his most successful innings and recall the habits and routines that worked for him in the past. "A phase has come in his career where he hasn't scored runs. Sometimes practicing too much isn't beneficial. He can probably spend a little time alone and watch the phase where he enjoyed a lot of success," Bangar said. Rohit's struggles continue. Rohit's struggles were evident once again in the first ODI against England in Nagpur, where he was dismissed for just two runs. This follows a disappointing Test season, where he managed only 164 runs in eight innings at an average of 10.93. With the Champions Trophy just weeks away, concerns over Rohit's form have grown, as India will need their skipper to fire in crucial matches. The second ODI



against England in Cuttack presents another opportunity for Rohit to break free from this lean patch and regain confidence ahead of the marquee tournament.

D Gukesh Begins Freestyle Chess Grand Slam with Mixed Results

- World Champion D Gukesh started his campaign at the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam with three draws and one loss, showing signs of adaptation to the new format.
- The Freestyle Chess format, introduced by Magnus Carlsen and German entrepreneur Jan Henric Buettner, is an evolved version of Fischer Random Chess (or Chess 960), where the starting positions of pieces are randomly generated. This format is seen as a challenge to FIDE, the world's governing chess body, sparking controversy in the chess world.
- Gukesh drew his first game against Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan, but suffered a loss to Alireza Firouzja of France in the second round. He then secured two more draws against Levon Aronian (USA) and Javokhir Sindarov (Uzbekistan).
- With five rounds remaining, Gukesh must finish in the top eight out of ten participants to qualify for the next stage.
- Meanwhile, Magnus Carlsen also struggled, scoring two points from four games (two wins, two losses), while Fabiano Caruana and



Sindarov lead with 3.5 points each.

- Amid the ongoing dispute between FIDE and Freestyle Chess promoters, the new format boasts a prize fund of \$750,000 per tournament—a rare figure in professional chess. Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand withdrew from the event, possibly due to his role as FIDE Deputy President.

Kevin De Bruyne's Late Strike Saves Manchester City from FA Cup Upset

Manchester City narrowly avoided an FA Cup upset against third-tier Leyton Orient, securing a 2-1 victory to progress to the fifth round. Kevin De Bruyne, coming off the bench, scored the winner 11 minutes from time, ensuring Pep Guardiola's side dodged an embarrassing exit. The match saw Leyton Orient take a surprising early lead when Jamie Donley's powerful shot rebounded

off the crossbar and deflected in off City goalkeeper Stefan Ortega. The League One side held onto their 1-0 advantage until the 56th minute, when Rico Lewis' shot deflected off Abdukodir Khusanov for his first-ever goal in a City shirt. With City's struggles continuing, Guardiola turned to his star substitutes, bringing on Phil Foden and De Bruyne in pursuit of a winning goal. The Belgian maestro deliv-

ered in the 79th minute, finishing off Jack Grealish's pass to seal City's place in the next round. Despite the win, City's recent form remains a concern as they prepare for a crucial Champions League clash against Real Madrid at the Etihad on Tuesday. Guardiola's men, currently fourth in the Premier League, will need a significant improvement to maintain their European ambitions.





Critics Choice Awards 2025: Citadel: Honey Bunny Loses to Squid Game

New Delhi: The Critics Choice Awards 2025 proved to be a disappointing night for Indian fans as Varun Dhawan and Samantha Ruth Prabhu's highly anticipated series, Citadel: Honey Bunny, failed to win in the Best Foreign Language Series category. The high-stakes Hindi-language spy action series, created by Raj and DK, lost to the globally popular Korean show Squid Game.

The category featured several strong contenders, including Acapulco (Apple TV+), La Maquina (Hulu), The Law According to Lidia Poet (Netflix), My Brilliant Friend (HBO Max), Pachinko (Apple TV+), and Senna (Netflix). Despite high expectations, Citadel: Honey Bunny couldn't secure a victory. Adding to the disappointment, Payal Kapadia's All We Imagine As Light also lost in the Best Foreign Film category to Emilia Perez.

About Citadel: Honey Bunny

Citadel: Honey Bunny serves as both a prequel and spin-off to Amazon Prime Video's international hit Citadel, which starred Priyanka Chopra. The Hindi-language series focuses on the adventurous lives of Honey and Bunny, the parents of Nadia Sinh (Priyanka's character in the original

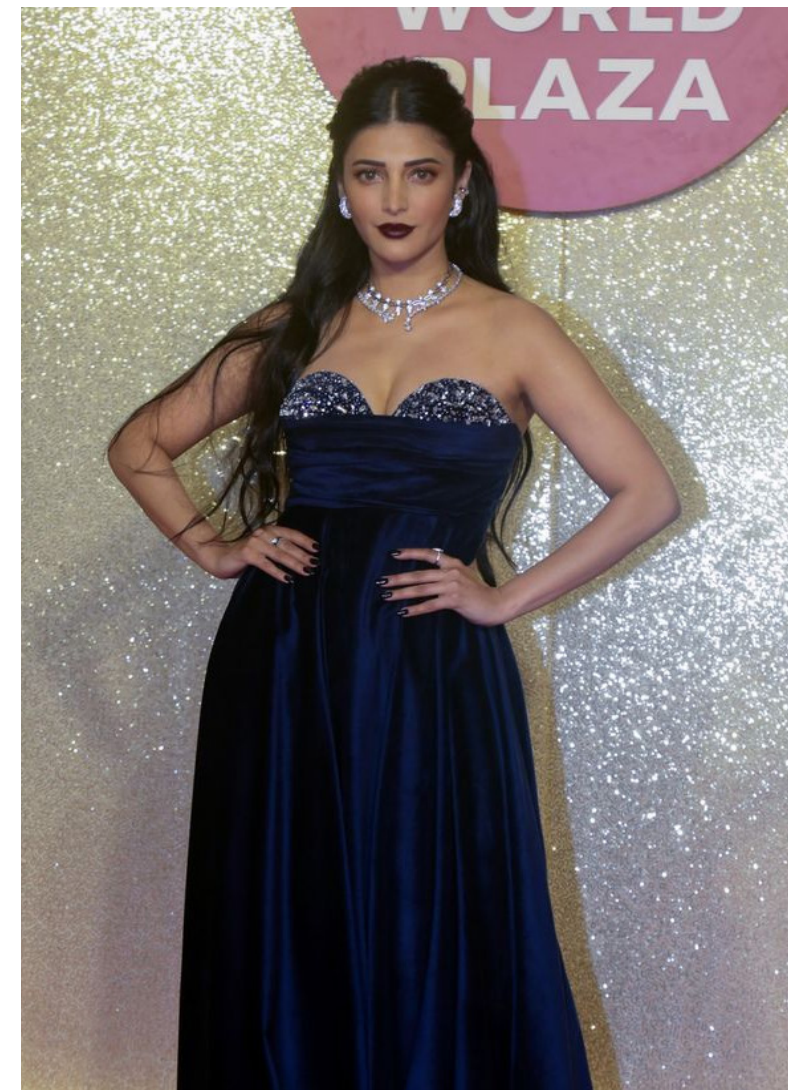


show).

Featuring Varun Dhawan and Samantha Ruth Prabhu in lead roles, the series also stars Kay Kay Menon, Simran, Sikandar Kher, Saqib Saleem, Soham Majumdar, Shivankit Singh Parihar, and Thalaivaasal Vijay.

Premiering on November 6, 2024, on Amazon Prime Video, the show explored the origins of key characters within the Citadel universe. Despite critical appreciation, it failed to clinch an award at the Critics Choice Awards 2025.

Shruti Haasan's The Eye to Open 5th Wench Film Festival in Mumbai



The British psychological thriller The Eye, starring Shruti Haasan, has been selected as the opening film for the 5th Wench Film Festival in Mumbai. The festival, founded by filmmaker Sapna Bhavnani, is India's first horror film festival and will take place from February 27 to March 2, 2025. Directed by Daphne Schmon, The Eye also features Mark Rowley in a pivotal role. The film follows Diana (played by Haasan), who visits an island where her husband Felix drowned and is tempted by a dark choice that could bring him back.

The festival will conclude with the screening of Schirkoa—In Lies We Trust, starring Iranian-French actress Golshifteh Farahani. A Platform for Women and Non-Binary Filmmakers

The 2025 Wench Film Festival will showcase 42 films, including 35 by women filmmakers. The event also features films created by LGBTQ women and non-binary filmmakers, emphasizing inclusivity in the horror genre. The festival will present films in three categories:

- Blood Thirsty (feature films, 60+ minutes)
- Dwarves (films of 10-40 minutes)
- Elves (short films under 10 minutes) The jury includes Chris Orgelt, Harini Laxminarayan, Aruna Raje Patil, and Carolyn Mauricette, who will evaluate films in their respective categories. With The Eye headlining the festival, Shruti Haasan continues to make a global impact in cinema.

Thandel Box Office Collection Day 1: Naga Chaitanya's Film Opens Strong

Thandel, starring Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi, has made a strong impact at the box office on its opening day. The film, which was released on February 7, earned ₹10 crore on its first day, according to Sacnilk.

The Telugu version contributed ₹9.8 crore, with the remaining revenue coming from the Hindi and Tamil markets. Directed by Chandoo Mondeti, Thandel saw an impressive 53.58% occupancy in Telugu, while Hindi and Tamil registered 9.13% and 9.08% occupancy, respectively. Sobhita Dhulipala's Support for Naga Chaitanya

Ahead of the film's release, Sobhita Dhulipala extended her support to Naga Chaitanya by wearing a black hoodie featuring the film's title. Sharing the picture, Chaitanya wrote, "Giving me all the positive vibes I need!"

At a promotional event in



Vizag, Naga Chaitanya expressed his deep connection to the city, sharing, "Vizag is so close to my heart that I fell in love with a Vizag ammayi (girl) and married her. Now, there's a piece of Vizag at my home too. So, brothers, I have a small request... The box office collection of Thandel in Vizag should

be staggering; otherwise, I'll lose my honour at home." Film's Plot and Production Produced by Bunny Vasu, Allu Aravind, and Koppineedi Vidya, Thandel revolves around Raju, a fisherman from Srikakulam, played by Naga Chaitanya, who gets captured by Pakistan forces in international

waters. The film's emotional depth and gripping narrative are further elevated by Devi Sri Prasad's music, adding intensity to the survival drama. With a promising start, the film is expected to continue its strong performance in the coming days.

Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan Attend Screening of Aamir Khan's Son Junaid's Film 'Loveyapa'



Bollywood superstars Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan attended the special screening of "Loveyapa", the upcoming romantic-comedy featuring Junaid Khan, son of Aamir Khan. This marks Junaid's first theatrical release, following his debut in the Netflix film "Maharaj". The film, also starring Khushi Kapoor, is directed by Advait Chandan, known for "Laal Singh Chaddha" and "Secret Superstar". Aamir Khan hosted the special screening at Excel Entertainment's office for his close friends in the industry. Shah Rukh Khan arrived in a blue shirt and den-

im jeans, warmly embracing Aamir and praising his weight loss. He also congratulated Junaid before posing for pictures with the father-son duo. Salman Khan, dressed in a green polo T-shirt and ripped jeans, attended the event with his security team.

The screening also saw the presence of Ayushmann Khurrana and wife Tahira, Imran Khan, and rapper Honey Singh.

"Loveyapa", produced by Phantom Studios and AGS Entertainment, delves into modern-day relationships and is set to hit theaters this Friday.

Lisa Mishra to Perform with Ed Sheeran in Delhi's Biggest International Concert

Singer-actress Lisa Mishra is set to create history as she performs alongside global music icon Ed Sheeran in Delhi on February 15. This highly anticipated event is being touted as the biggest international show ever held in the capital.

Lisa Mishra, known for her chart-topping tracks and acting prowess, is stepping into the global music spotlight with this prestigious collaboration. Fans can also expect an exclusive treat, as she might unveil some of her unreleased music during the concert.

Expressing her excitement, Lisa said, "Performing with Ed Sheeran is nothing short of a dream come true. He has been one of my biggest inspirations, and to share the same stage with him is surreal. This is a defining moment in my career, reinforcing my belief in the power of music and hard work."

This collaboration marks a significant milestone in Li-



sa's career, solidifying her place in the international music scene. With an electrifying atmosphere expected at

the concert, fans are eagerly waiting for this historic musical moment in Delhi.