



Weather Forecast

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

Suspension of MLA Jagadeesh Reddy in Telangana Assembly

- **Suspension:** BRS MLA Jagadeesh Reddy suspended from Telangana Assembly.
- **Cause:** Disruption during proceedings.
- **Action:** Speaker orders his removal.
- **Duration:** Suspension lasts until budget session ends.
- **Political Response:** Sparks controversy and debate.



KTR Calls for Statewide Protests After MLA Suspension

- KTR criticizes Jagadish Reddy's suspension.
- Accuses CM Revanth Reddy of interference.
- Demands video proof of misconduct.
- Calls for state-wide BRS protests.

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Telangana Assembly Speaker has decided to suspend BRS MLA Jagadeesh Reddy following a proposal by Minister Sridhar Babu. The suspension comes amid ongoing budget sessions, and the Speaker has ordered that the suspended member be removed from the House.



The incident unfolded when Jagadeesh Reddy's actions led to a disruption during the proceedings of the Assembly. Minister Sridhar Babu, after raising concerns regarding Reddy's behavior, proposed his suspension, citing that it was necessary to maintain decorum in the House. The Speaker, upon reviewing the situation, agreed with the proposal and decided to suspend the MLA until the completion of the on-

going budget sessions. Jagadeesh Reddy's suspension has become a topic of discussion in the state's political circles, as it reflects the increasing tension and disciplinary actions within the As-

sembly. This move is expected to have significant repercussions, particularly in the context of the current political climate. The Speaker's decision to suspend Reddy is in line with the legislative procedures aimed at ensuring smooth functioning and maintaining order during sessions.

However, it remains to be seen whether the suspension will have any long-term impact on the MLA's political career or the functioning of the Assembly.

As the budget sessions continue, the opposition and other political stakeholders are closely monitoring the developments, and the decision to suspend Jagadeesh Reddy has sparked a broader debate on discipline and conduct within the legislative framework.

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In a dramatic turn of events, BRS working president KTR has strongly criticized the suspension of MLA Jagadish Reddy from the Telangana Assembly. Addressing the media during a protest at the Ambedkar statue near Tank Bund, KTR accused CM Revanth Reddy of orchestrating the suspension while being in Delhi. He claimed that the suspension was carried out under the instructions of Revanth Reddy, >> PAGE 2



5 MLC Seats in Telangana Unopposed

- Five Telangana MLC seats filled unopposed.
- Congress, CPI, and BRS candidates elected.
- Nominations were rejected due to discrepancies.

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In a recent development in Telangana, five MLC (Member of Legislative Council) seats under the MLA quota have been filled unopposed. The Election Commission has officially announced the unopposed election of these candidates and issued them certificates of election. The candidates who have been elected unopposed are Vijayasanti, Dasoju Sravan, Addanki Dayakar, Shankar Nayak, and Satyam. These nominations were filed under the MLA quota and were >> PAGE 2

Tension at Ambedkar Statue: BRS MLAs Arrested Over Suspension of Jagadish Reddy

- BRS MLAs protest Jagadish Reddy's suspension.
- Speaker suspends Reddy after controversial remarks.
- BRS members arrested at Ambedkar statue.
- Police intervene, arrest protesting MLAs.
- Political tension escalates over Assembly incident.



TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Tensions flared at the Ambedkar statue in Hyderabad's Tank Bund area as BRS (Bharat Rashtra Samithi) MLAs staged a protest against the suspension of their colleague, Jagadish Reddy, from the Telangana Legislative Assembly. The protest began after Jagadish Reddy was suspended for making critical remarks against the Speaker. Reddy had stated, "We came to the Assembly because the people elected us, just as you were

made Speaker. This Assembly is not yours alone."

The comments led to a heated exchange, with Congress MLAs demanding an apology from Reddy. However, he refused to apologize, and the Speaker subsequently issued orders to suspend him from the Assembly. Following the suspension, BRS MLAs staged a walkout and gathered at the Ambedkar statue to protest the Speaker's decision.

Police, urging the protestors to disperse, eventually took ac-

tion when the MLAs refused to comply. Several prominent BRS leaders, including Harish Rao, KTR, Jagadish Reddy, Kova Lakshmi, and Sabitha Indra Reddy, were arrested during the protest.

The incident has sparked

significant political debate, with the BRS accusing the Speaker of bias, while the Congress party has supported the Speaker's actions. The situation remains tense as political parties react to the unfolding developments.

Congress Leaders Slams Jagadish Reddy for Insulting Speaker

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In a fiery response to BRS MLA Jagadish Reddy's controversial remarks, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy condemned the disrespect shown towards the Speaker of the Telangana Assembly. He stated that Reddy's sarcastic and disrespectful comments were unprecedented, particularly given the Speaker's position. Uttam emphasized that the Speaker, a Dalit, deserved due respect, and



it was highly inappropriate for Reddy to undermine this authority in such a manner.

Speaking to the media,



Uttam pointed out that the Speaker's role is supreme in the democratic process, and questioning it goes against the dig-



nity of the institution. He also criticized Reddy for making derogatory remarks against a Dalit individual, >> PAGE 2



CM Revanth Reddy Criticizes BJP's Delimitation Move, Joins

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has strongly criticized the BJP-led central government's delimitation process, claiming it would harm southern states. In a recent statement, he alleged that the central government's move is a part of a broader conspiracy to target southern states, with the delimitation causing significant harm to them. CM Revanth Reddy made these comments during his visit to Delhi, after meeting with Tamil Nadu Minister K. Nehru, DMK MP Kanimozhi, and other DMK leaders. During the meeting, Revanth Reddy was invited to attend a Joint Action Committee (JAC) meeting >> PAGE 2



Jagadish Reddy Responds Strongly to Suspension from Telangana Assembly

- ♦ Jagadish Reddy protests suspension from Assembly.
- ♦ Reddy defends his comments on Governor's speech.
- ♦ Compares suspension to KCR's struggles in Telangana movement.
- ♦ Vows to continue raising public issues despite suspension.



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KTR Calls for Statewide Protests After MLA Suspension

describing it as an unjust and one-sided decision. KTR demanded that if Jagadish Reddy was at fault, the Assembly should release video footage to substantiate the claim. He emphasized that if proven wrong, Reddy would express regret. Further expressing his anger, KTR accused the Assembly of misrepresenting Reddy's statements, making it appear as if he had said things he never did.

The protest at the Ambedkar statue followed the official suspension of Jagadish Reddy by Speaker Gaddam Prasada Kumar. The suspension will remain in effect until the conclusion of the ongoing Budget session of the Telangana Assembly.

KTR called on BRS workers to take a stand and announced that the party would organize state-wide protests on Friday to condemn the government's actions and demand justice for Reddy.

The political tension surrounding the incident has raised concerns over the growing rift within Telangana's political landscape, with both sides gearing up for further confrontations.

5 MLC Seats in Telangana Unopposed

approved after the withdrawal of other nominations due to discrepancies in the filing process.

Out of these five, three candidates are from the Congress party, with Vijayasanti, Addanki Dayakar, and Shankar Nayak representing the party. The CPI (Communist Party of India) has one nominee, Satyam, while the BRS (Bharat Rashtra Samithi) has one nominee, Dasoju Sravan.

The Congress party secured four seats based on the strength of its MLAs, with one of them being allotted to its alliance partner, CPI. With no other valid nominations, the five candidates were elected unopposed. This decision marks the smooth election process in the state, with all the seats being filled without any opposition.

The unopposed elections further reflect the current political landscape in Telangana, where the major parties have solidified their positions.

CM Revanth Reddy Criticizes BJP's Delimitation Move, Joins DMK's JAC Meeting

in Chennai on the 22nd of this month to discuss opposition to the central government's policies on delimitation and the three-language policy. The Chief Minister confirmed his attendance, stating that he would be attending with the approval of his party. He mentioned that the discussions in the meeting would focus on countering the conspiracy against southern states and planning strategies for the upcoming 2029 elections.

Revanth Reddy also emphasized the need for a united front from southern states against these harmful policies. He stated that the Telangana government would seek opinions from all political parties within the state and invite BJP leaders to join the cause, stressing that the issue affects the entire region, not just a political party. He also urged Union Minister Kishan Reddy to address the concerns of southern states on delimitation.

Congress Leaders Slams Jagadish Reddy for Insulting Speaker

highlighting the need for strict actions. He reminded that when BRS leaders like Komatireddy Venkata Reddy and Sampath were suspended, similar actions should be taken against Reddy for his behavior. He also called for the Ethics Committee to intervene and recommended necessary actions.

Minister Sithaakka also joined the criticism, accusing the BRS of having no respect for Dalit leaders, pointing to Reddy's direct address of the Speaker as a clear violation of assembly traditions. She claimed that despite losing the elections, BRS members' arrogance and disrespect towards leaders and institutions had not diminished.

The ongoing dispute unfolded during a heated session of the Telangana Assembly, following which the Speaker suspended Jagadish Reddy for the remainder of the budget session. This marked a new level of confrontation between the BRS and Congress parties in the Assembly.

RS Praveen Kumar Criticizes Suspension of Jagadish Reddy

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 14 : BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar strongly criticized the suspension of MLA Jagadish Reddy from the Telangana Assembly. Taking to social media, Praveen Kumar termed the suspension a cowardly action, accusing the Speaker of unjustly punishing Reddy for speaking in a single sentence. He pointed out that Jagadish Reddy had never insulted the Speaker or used foul language like Revanth Reddy. Praveen Kumar emphasized that Reddy did not engage in any unlawful activities or disrespect the Assembly's decorum. Praveen Kumar expressed that the suspension was driven by fear and anxiety over questions about corruption, particularly regard-



ing commissions. He argued that Reddy's comments should have been addressed through discussion or an apology, rather than through a one-sided suspension. He added that the suspension would not deter the BRS from questioning the government or its practices.

Furthermore, he condemned the arrests of BRS members who protested the suspension at the Dr. Ambedkar statue, affirming that the party would continue its fight for justice.

CM Revanth Reddy Holds Key Meeting with Central Minister S. Jai Shankar



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, currently on a visit to Delhi, held an important meeting with the Minister of External Affairs, S. Jai Shankar. The key discussion during the meeting revolved around the upcoming Bharat

Summit, scheduled to be held in Telangana next month. CM Reddy requested Jai Shankar's cooperation for the event and sought political clearance from the Ministry of External Affairs to ensure the successful organization of the summit. He outlined plans for the summit, re-

- Discusses Bharat Summit preparations for April.
- Requests political clearance and international cooperation.
- Urges return of phone tapping case accused from abroad.

vealing that invitations would be sent to representatives from 60 countries.

Reddy also emphasized the preparations underway for the Bharat Summit, which is set to take place in April in Hyderabad. He stressed the importance of this international event for the state and its potential to bring global attention to Telangana.

Another significant issue addressed during the meeting was the phone tapping scandal that has created a nationwide

stir. Several key accused in the case have fled abroad, and CM Reddy urged Jai Shankar to facilitate their return to India.

He sought the Ministry's help in coordinating with the respective foreign governments to ensure the suspects are brought back to face justice in India.

The meeting signifies an active effort by the Telangana government to address critical issues and strengthen international collaboration for state and national interests.

Harish Rao Criticizes Suspension of Jagadish Reddy as Black Day for Telangana

- Calls it a "Black Day" for Telangana.
- Accuses Congress of suppressing opposition rights.
- Highlights BRS's contribution to Dalit empowerment.

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : BRS MLA Harish Rao expressed strong discontent over the suspension of Jagadish Reddy from the Telangana Assembly. During a protest at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue, Harish Rao called it a "Black Day" in Telangana's history, accusing the Congress party of stifling democracy. He criticized the Congress for suppressing the voices of opposition, stating that questioning outside the Assembly leads to cases, and questioning

inside the Assembly results in suspension.

Rao claimed that Jagadish Reddy was suspended for pointing out errors in the Governor's speech and protecting the rights of opposition members. He also alleged that Congress leaders undermined the value of the Dalit Speaker by making derogatory remarks. Recalling the contributions of his party, Rao highlighted that it was the BRS that built the largest Ambedkar statue and named the Secretariat after Ambed-



kar, while accusing Congress of betraying Dalits and disrespecting figures like Droupadi Murmu. Rao also clarified that Jagadish Reddy did not address the Speaker in a disre-

spectful manner but used the word "you," and claimed that the suspension was part of a planned drama orchestrated by CM Revanth Reddy and executed by Minister Sridhar Babu.

Jagadish Reddy Responds Strongly to Suspension from Telangana Assembly

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In a fiery response to BRS MLA Jagadish Reddy's controversial remarks, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy condemned the disrespect shown towards the Speaker of the Telangana Assembly. He stated that Reddy's sarcastic and disrespectful comments were unprecedented, particularly given the Speaker's position. Uttam emphasized that the Speaker, a Dalit, deserved due respect, and it was highly inappropriate for Reddy to undermine this authority in such a manner.



Speaking to the media, Uttam pointed out that the Speaker's role is supreme in the democratic process, and questioning it goes against the dignity of the institution. He also criticized Reddy for making derogatory remarks against a Dal-

it individual, highlighting the need for strict actions. He reminded that when BRS leaders like Komatireddy Venkata Reddy and Sampath were suspended, similar actions should be taken against Reddy for his behavior. He also called for the Ethics Committee to intervene and recommended necessary actions. Minister Sithaakka also joined the criticism, accusing the BRS of having no respect for Dalit leaders, point-

ing to Reddy's direct address of the Speaker as a clear violation of assembly traditions. She claimed that despite losing the elections, BRS members' arrogance and disrespect towards leaders and institutions had not diminished.

The ongoing dispute unfolded during a heated session of the Telangana Assembly, following which the Speaker suspended Jagadish Reddy for the remainder of the budget session. This marked a new level of confrontation between the BRS and Congress parties in the Assembly.

TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud Accuses BRS Leaders of Encroaching Lakes

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In a bold statement, TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud accused BRS leaders of being responsible for encroachments on Hyderabad's lakes. Speaking to the media on Thursday, following the unanimous election of Congress MLAs, Goud stated that 80% of the encroachers on the city's lakes are BRS leaders. He highlighted the importance of the Hydra and Moosi projects, emphasizing that Hyderabad, known as the "City of Rocks and Lakes," has witnessed significant encroachments on its historic water bodies.

Goud explained that the Hydra operation had resulted in the removal of only one poor family's house, which was situated in the lakebed, as part of efforts to reclaim encroached areas. He criticized the BRS leadership for protesting against the operation, as their own party members were the key culprits. He further stated that the encroachments have caused rainwater to flow into homes instead of being absorbed by the lakes, leading to flooding in Hyderabad. The Moosi river cleansing project was carried out to address this, and many individuals voluntarily offered to relocate to ensure its success, Goud added.



He concluded by stating that Hyderabad a safer city, attracting foreign investments. Goud

accused BRS leaders of crying foul only because their illegal constructions were being demolished.

Ministerial Position Beneficial for Party, Says Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Congress MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy made sensational remarks on Thursday during a conversation with the media at the Assembly. He clarified that he had never explicitly stated that he expected a ministerial position. Rajagopal Reddy emphasized his commitment to the party, mentioning how he worked hard to win the Bhongir MP seat, even sacrificing sleep to ensure his victory. He stated that if given a ministerial role, it would be beneficial not just for him, but for the party and the people. He further revealed that he did

not seek the ministerial position for personal gain but believed that those who work hard within the party should be appropriately honored. Reflecting on the Speaker-Jagadish Reddy issue, Rajagopal Reddy remarked that the Speaker's post is a constitutional position, and questioning it was inappropriate. He condemned Jagadish Reddy's behavior, stating that his suspension was due to his excessive and improper comments. Rajagopal Reddy made it clear that while they do not target anyone, they would not let any wrongdoing go unaddressed.

Harish Rao Demands Apology from Uttam Kumar Reddy Over Contradictory Statements

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Former Minister and BRS leader Harish Rao has demanded an unconditional apology from Congress leader Uttam Kumar Reddy for his contradictory statements in the Assembly. Harish Rao pointed out that Uttam, while in opposition, made one set of claims, but upon coming into power, his narrative drastically changed. He criticized Uttam for misleading the Assembly and deviating from the truth.



Harish Rao also shared a video of Uttam's speech in the Assembly, along

with a letter he had written to the Parliamentary Ethics Committee, on Twitter. In the letter, Harish recalled that when he was a member of the Ethics Committee, Uttam had opposed the expulsion of Mahua Moitra from the Lok Sabha. He accused Uttam of hiding the fact that he had issued a dissent note, where he criticized Mahua's expulsion, calling it unjust and unconstitutional. Harish Rao alleged that the action was a result of personal animosity and retaliatory motives, contradicting Uttam's current stance.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Counters BJP Leader Maheshwar Reddy's Remarks

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : In a strong rebuttal to BJP leader Maheshwar Reddy's claims, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar clarified that the state government was not halting any schemes, as alleged. He emphasized that the government was focusing on creating new job opportunities, improving educational standards, and restructuring the financial system to clear existing debts. He added that the Congress party, with its extensive administrative experience, continues to implement both old and new schemes effectively. Ponnam Prabhakar criticized the op-



position for trying to undermine the state's progress by focusing on trivial issues like gold and photographs on ration shop walls. He also pointed out that the BJP's promises of creating two crore jobs annually had not materialized. On the issue of farmer welfare, the Minister highlighted the Telangana government's efforts in waiving off loans for over 23,000 farmers in the Nirmal constituency, amounting to ₹202.55 crores, as a significant achievement. Ponnam invited Maheshwar Reddy to discuss these facts in the Nirmal constituency, showcasing the government's commitment to farmers' welfare.

CPM Demands Reversal of Land Sale Decision

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : CPM State Secretary John Wesley has written a letter to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, urging the Telangana government to reconsider its decision to sell 400 acres of land belonging to the Hyderabad Central University. Wesley emphasized that during the united Andhra Pradesh government's tenure, 2,300 acres of land were allotted for research and educational development under Survey No. 25. However, now the state government is planning to auction this land. The 400 acres, located in the Gachibowli area, were originally allocated for the construction



of a sports academy but were taken back by the government after the company failed to develop it. Wesley pointed out that the government had previously reclaimed these lands through High Court orders, but now it is planning to auction them for an estimated value of Rs. 18,000 crores between March 8 and 15, 2025.

He criticized the move, stating that selling such valuable land, which holds environmental, academic, and cultural significance, to private and corporate interests would harm the university's legacy. Wesley has urged the government to take necessary steps to protect the land and its intended purpose.

Adi Srinivas Calls for Suspension of Jagadish Reddy

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : The Telangana Legislative Assembly witnessed a heated exchange between BRS and Congress leaders during the debate on the Governor's speech. Former Minister Jagadish Reddy criticized the Governor's speech, alleging it contained 360 lies in just 36 minutes. He questioned the Governor's integrity, expressing concern about how much it might have hurt the Governor's feelings. As Jagadish Reddy continued his speech, Congress MLAs made running comments, prompting Reddy to tell them to "close all mouths and



sit down." In response to this, Government Whip Adi Srinivas condemned the incident, stating that Jagadish Reddy should be suspended for his remarks. He expressed disappointment over the lack of respect shown to the Governor, especially calling out the use of singular language in addressing the Speaker. Srinivas stressed that such behavior was unacceptable and violated the decorum of the Assembly. The controversy has added fuel to the ongoing political tension between BRS and Congress in the state.

Talasan Slams CM Revanth Reddy Over Controversial Remarks



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav made strong remarks against Telangana CM Revanth Reddy on Thursday. The controversy erupted during the Assembly's Budget session when both the ruling and opposition parties engaged in a verbal duel over the Governor's speech. The session was adjourned for 15 minutes, and Talasani addressed the media during the break. Talasani criticized CM Revanth Reddy's statement about sending KCR to a morgue, stating, "Have we

ever seen a leader wishing death upon others? KCR served as the Chief Minister of Telangana for 10 years, and such remarks are inappropriate." The comments came after CM Revanth Reddy made controversial remarks, saying that KCR, who is currently in poor health, would soon be sent to the morgue. The verbal sparring between the political leaders has added fuel to the ongoing political tensions in Telangana. Talasani's criticism reflects the growing animosity between the two factions.

Minister Konda Surekha Criticizes BRS Members' Behavior in Legislative Council

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Minister Konda Surekha strongly criticized the BRS members' inappropriate conduct in the Legislative Council, particularly their behavior during question sessions. She expressed her anger over the ruling party members' habit of making running commentary while opposition members were asking questions and receiving answers from the government. Surekha urged the BRS members to follow the decorum, traditions, and rules of the Assembly to maintain order and respect. She questioned the BRS party's eligibility to raise issues related to ration cards, pointing



out that the party had been in power for over ten years without addressing the issue. "Why didn't they provide ration cards when they were in power for so long? They must answer this question," Surekha challenged, emphasizing the need for accountability from the ruling party on issues that directly affect the public.

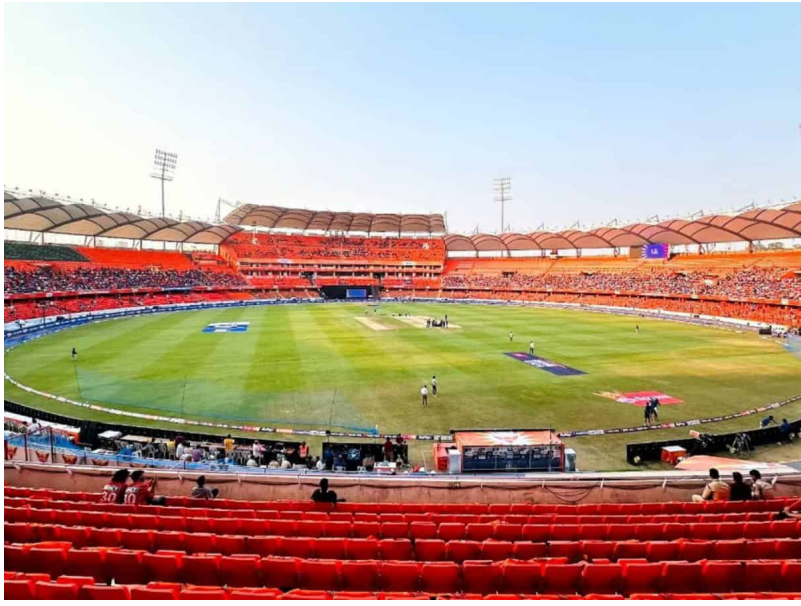
Congress Leaders Sabitha Reddy and Kova Lakshmi Condemn Arrests of Journalists

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Congress MLAs Sabitha Reddy and Kova Lakshmi strongly criticized the actions of the state government, particularly the arrests of journalists. Speaking to the media, they condemned the arrests, calling the actions "unacceptable" and "against press freedom." They highlighted that under Congress rule, questioning the government had become a form of "treason," and journalists were being arrested illegally, instilling fear among the media. Expressing their concerns, they pointed out that the arrest of journalists like Revathi and Tanvi Yadav was deeply troubling. They also recalled past instances when women journalists like Vijaya Reddy and Saritha were attacked in Revanth Reddy's home village of Kondareddy Palli. They criticized the Home Minister Revanth Reddy for being silent on such is-



sues despite his position and for allowing attacks on journalists. Kova Lakshmi further pointed out the deterioration of freedom of the press under the current government, questioning whether this was the "Indiramma Rajyam" they once admired. They also took strong exception to the remarks made by Jagadish Reddy about the Speaker, and condemned the behavior of Congress leaders, particularly in their avoidance of discussing the six guarantees promised by the Congress. Both leaders reiterated their support for women journalists and expressed their displeasure with the current state of governance in Telangana.

IPL 2025: Uppal Stadium Receives Rs 5 Crore Upgrade for Enhanced Facilities



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : The Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Uppal, Hyderabad, is all set for the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 season, with significant renovations underway to enhance the fan experience. The Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) has invested Rs 5 crore in upgrad-

ing the stadium's infrastructure. HCA President Jagan Mohan Rao Arishnapally stated that the funds are being used for various improvements, including minor repairs, wash-room upgrades, and deep cleaning in certain areas. These renovations are expected to be completed by March 20, just in time for the season

opener. In an interview with Siasat.com, Rao clarified that the stadium will be inspected on March 15, and any remaining work will be finished ahead of the first IPL match on March 23, where Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) will take on the Rajasthan Royals.

The Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium has a seating capacity of 37,000, but for IPL 2025, 35,000 tickets will be available for each match. Of these, 27,000 tickets will be sold to the public, while 8,000 tickets will be allocated as complimentary. These complimentary tickets are managed by SRH, as they control the distribution of such tickets for IPL events.

The upgrades at the stadium aim to ensure a seamless experience for fans attending the nine IPL matches hosted in Hyderabad this season, making it a memorable venue for cricket enthusiasts.

HYDRAA Chief Inspects Encroached Government Lands in Hyderabad

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Following multiple complaints during the Prajavani programme, AV Ranganath, the commissioner of the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (HYDRAA), conducted an inspection of encroached government lands across Hyderabad on March 13. His inspection started with the government lands in Lothkunta, Tirumalagiri Village, and Alwal Mandal, where private individuals have encroached on land originally designated as state property.

Ranganath directed officials to prevent any further construction on these lands, which span over 100 acres in the Cantonment area. He also visited the Lingam Lake canal, near Bubba Khan Lake in Dundigal Village, where locals expressed concerns over floodwaters be-



ing diverted through the Alugu and Tumula canals, causing flooding due to construction in the area.

Ranganath urged both residents and real estate developers to reach a resolution in accordance with court orders. This visit is part of ongoing efforts by HYDRAA to address encroachments and protect public lands. Additionally, Ranganath has been focused on lake rejuvenation and environmental conservation projects across Hyderabad, aiming to improve water bodies and manage urban flooding.

University of Hyderabad Students Protest Auction of 400-Acre Gachibowli Land



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : Students at the University of Hyderabad (UoH) staged a protest on March 13 against the Telangana government's decision to auction 400 acres of land in Gachibowli. The protestors accused the government of misgovernance and land theft, voicing concerns about the sale of valuable green land that plays a significant role in cooling the area during the hot summer months.

The land, which belongs to the university, is located in one of Hyderabad's rapidly growing IT and residential hubs. The Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) has been tasked with developing a master plan for the site. The government aims to generate over Rs 20,000 crore from the auction, which is expected to be one of the largest land sales under the Congress-led administration.

Activists, residents, and university students have raised alarms over the potential environmental impact of the auction. The land was originally allocated to the University of Hyderabad in 1974 for academic and research purposes, but the state government reclaimed it after IMG Academies failed to honor its obligations. The Telangana High Court recently allowed the auction, despite opposition citing the land's original intent.

MANUU Job Mela Rescheduled to April 20

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : The Teacher Job Mela at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), initially scheduled for March 16, has been rescheduled to April 20. The event aims to connect qualified teaching aspirants with reputed schools, colleges, and institutions. MANUU students (both regular and distance modes) and other eligible candidates can register via a Google form. Edu-

cational institutions with faculty vacancies are invited to participate by paying a registration fee of Rs 5,000 before April 18. Dr. Mohd Yousuf Khan, Director of Training and Placement, stated that the job fair will provide institutions with qualified teachers and human resources. A good number of reputed schools and institutions are expected to participate in this event.



Tragedy Strikes in Mehidi Patnam: 4-Year-Old Boy Dies in Lift Accident

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : A heartbreaking incident occurred in Mehidi Patnam, where a 4-year-old boy, Surrender, tragically lost his life after getting trapped in a lift. This incident comes just days after a similar lift-related tragedy in Nampally. Within a span of 15 days, another young life has been claimed by a faulty lift. Surrender, a resident of Santosh Nagar in Asif Nagar Police Station limits, was playing near the lift in the Mujtaba Apartment where his family lived. His father, Shyam Bahadur Nepal, had moved to the city seven months ago for work and

was employed as a security guard. Three months ago, he joined as a watchman at Mujtaba Apartment and had brought his wife and children to live with him. While playing, Surrender got too close to the lift doors and was caught between the doors as the lift moved upward. The lift started moving before the doors could completely close, trapping the young boy and leading to his tragic death. This incident has raised concerns about lift safety and the need for stricter regulations to prevent such avoidable accidents.

Factory Toil, Ramzan Fast: Women Workers' Struggles with a Glimpse of Relief

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 :

Women factory workers in Hyderabad's industrial suburbs face harsh conditions, especially during Ramzan. Afsana Begum, Ghousia Begum, and other women work in plastic, oil, and biscuit factories, often enduring long hours with little respite. Many of them are single mothers, divorcees, or widows, balancing work and family responsibilities. Despite the hardships, they continue working to support their families. Their workdays are long, from 8 am to 6 pm, and during Ramzan, it's shortened to 5 pm. They man-

age to observe fasting but struggle with basic needs, with limited earnings of around Rs. 300 per day. They rarely take breaks, with Sundays being their only day off. Even then, they can't afford outings or family gatherings.

Amid their struggles, the Millat Fund has provided some relief. Volunteers distributed ration kits including rice, dal, and oil, to 25 women, with plans to assist 100 women in need. For many, this is the first time they've received such aid during Ramzan. The Millat Fund's efforts help provide some dignity and support to these hard-working women.

5-Day Traffic Restrictions in Kukatpally on Lulu Mall-Nexus Mall Route



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 :

The Cyberabad police have issued a traffic advisory for commuters traveling between Lulu Mall and Nexus Mall Flyover due to ongoing road uplifting and carpeting work. The project, aimed at raising the road level to align with the mall's entry level, spans a stretch of 110 meters in length and 7.5 meters in width.

The works, overseen by GHMC officials within the KPHB Police Station jurisdiction, will begin on March 14 and last for five days. The scheduled work hours will be from 11:00 pm to 5:00 am to minimize disruption during peak hours.

Traffic Diversions: Commuters traveling from JNTU X Road to Nexus Mall will be diverted at Lotus Hospital. They will take a left turn, proceed straight, and then take a right turn at Nallapochamma Temple Road, followed by another right and a left towards the Nexus Mall main road.

The Cyberabad traffic police urge commuters to follow the designated diversion routes to ensure smooth traffic flow during this period. They have requested the cooperation of the public to minimize congestion and facilitate seamless vehicular movement while the road work is underway.

Violence Over Chairs in Old City Leads to Death



TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : A tragic incident unfolded in the Old City's Hafeezbaba Nagar C-Block when a disagreement

over placing chairs outside shops turned deadly. Zakir Khan (62), a grocery store owner, confronted the nearby pan shop owner about the chairs placed in front of his store, leading to a heated argument. The situation escalated when the pan shop owners physically attacked Zakir, causing him to collapse on the spot. Zakir was immediately rushed to the hospital but was declared dead due to the injuries

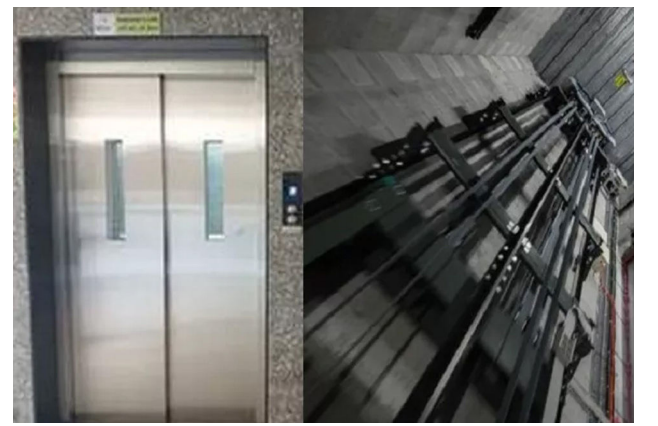
sustained during the attack. The incident has left the local community in shock and raised concerns over rising violence over trivial matters. Police have launched an investigation into the matter, and action is being sought against the individuals responsible for Zakir's death. Locals are demanding justice, urging authorities to take strict action against the perpetrators of this brutal attack.

BRS MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy Receives Police Notice Again

TPN , Correspondent Hyderabad , Mar 14 : BRS MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy has been issued another police notice in connection with the illegal cockfighting and casino case at his farmhouse in Moinabad. Previously, Reddy had responded to the notices through his lawyer, but this time, the police have summoned him personally to appear before them. The police served the notice at

his residence in the Apurja Orchids of the Hi-Tech City. The notice requires him to appear in person for questioning at the Moinabad police station tomorrow. The move has raised further questions about his involvement in the ongoing investigation. It remains to be seen how Pochampally Srinivas Reddy will respond to the latest development. The case has attracted significant attention,

and many are awaiting his next steps.





MLA Koushik Reddy's Shocking Remarks on CM Revanth Reddy

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : BRS MLA Koushik Reddy made sensational comments against Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president Revanth Reddy, stating that the "curse" of the people would bring about Revanth's downfall. Speaking to the media near the Assembly, Reddy accused Revanth Reddy of misleading people by promising six guarantees and subsequently betraying their trust.

He suggested that the "curse" of the people would result in Revanth Reddy facing consequences, even mocking

him by referring to him as the "dog" that would suffer for the people's grievances.

Koushik Reddy criticized Revanth Reddy for fooling the people of Telangana, questioning how he could make such promises and then fail to deliver.

He further claimed that the guarantees were nothing but a ploy to gain votes, and now, the people's frustration would lead to Revanth facing severe backlash. His remarks have sparked a wave of controversy, with many expressing concerns over the derogatory language used against the opposition leader.



Raja Singh Calls for Removal of Senior Leaders from BJP

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : BJP's Goshamahala MLA Raja Singh made shocking comments about his own party, calling for the removal of senior leaders from the BJP to strengthen its position in Telangana. In a video message released on Thursday, Raja Singh stated that for Hindus to feel safe in Telangana, BJP must come to power. He further emphasized that to achieve this, the party must immediately remove the old leaders who, according to him, are a hindrance to the party's

progress.

Raja Singh urged the BJP high command to take action on this matter. He also claimed that certain BJP leaders were secretly meeting with the opposition parties' leadership, insinuating internal sabotage. He suggested that if these senior leaders were retired, the BJP in Telangana would see better days ahead. Singh's comments have sparked controversy within the party and raised questions about its internal dynamics and leadership strategies in the state.

XXX Soap Company CEO Manikkavel Arunachalam Passes Away

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Prominent businessman and CEO of the renowned 'XXX' soap company, Manikkavel Arunachalam, has passed away. He had been suffering from illness for the past few days and breathed his last at his residence in Arandalpet, Guntur, on Thursday.



earning a special place in the Telugu-speaking states.

Funeral services for Arunachalam are scheduled for Friday morning. The details surrounding his death are still awaited. His passing marks the end of an era for the company, which has been a household name in many regions.

Engineering College Fees Set to Rise Significantly in Telangana

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Engineering students in Telangana are set to face a significant hike in college fees from the academic year 2025-26. Reports indicate that the fee for a CBIT (Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology) course will be fixed at Rs 2.23 lakh per year, a substantial increase. Other prominent colleges, including VNR and MGIT, are also expected to set tuition fees around Rs 2 lakh.

The Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC) has been reviewing the fee structure over the past month, engaging with college

managements and representatives. The committee examined audit reports submitted by colleges over the last three years and determined the new fee structure for the upcoming three-year block period. While most college managements have agreed to the proposed fees, some institutions have seen a larger fee increase, while a few others witnessed only marginal hikes.

In the past, some reputed colleges had lower fee hikes due to technical reasons, but this time they will see a larger increase. The Telangana government is expected to issue an official government order (GO)



soon after a final review. Students and parents are anxious about the financial burden this hike may impose.

Shocking Incident at Bhadrachalam Temple: Talambralu Contaminated with Bugs

TPN, Correspondent
Badrachalam, Mar 14 : A shocking incident has occurred at the Bhadrachalam Ramulori temple, where talambralu (sacred rice offered to Lord Rama) were found to be contaminated with bugs and being sold in packets. This revelation has caused outrage among devotees and temple-goers. The talambralu, worth lakhs of rupees, were reportedly discarded after the issue was exposed, highlighting the negligence of the temple authorities.



Despite generating significant income through temple offerings, the state government appears to have neglected the temple's maintenance and the quality of services provided to the devotees. Devotees have expressed frustration over the lack of attention given to the temple's sanctity and the welfare of the pilgrims. Many are questioning the government's commitment to improving facilities for religious devotees while prioritizing temple revenue for other purposes.

Sunny Yadav to be Arrested Soon for Promoting Betting Apps: DSP Ravi

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : Telangana government is intensifying its crackdown on those promoting betting apps. Following the arrest of a YouTuber and fisherman Nani in Andhra Pradesh for similar charges, another YouTuber and influencer, Sunny Yadav, has recently come under investigation. The Telangana police, after reviewing Sunny Yadav's profile, discovered multiple videos promoting betting apps on his account.

Suryapet District DSP Ravi confirmed that a case had been filed against Sunny Yadav under the New Kalp PS for promoting illegal betting apps. The police are conducting a thorough investigation into the matter, and DSP Ravi assured that Yadav would be arrested soon.

This case highlights the state's commitment to curbing the promotion of illegal betting activities and taking action against influencers involved in spreading such content. Sun-



ny Yadav's arrest is expected to send a strong message to others engaging in similar illegal promotions.

TGSPDCL Strengthens Medchal Power Infrastructure Ahead of Summer Demand

TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : In preparation for the rising electricity demand this summer, the Telangana Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) has reinforced its power infrastructure in the Medchal zone. On March 13, CMD Musharraf Faruqi reviewed the summer action plan across the Habsiguda, Medchal, and Sangareddy circles.

With a 25-30 percent annual increase in electricity demand in areas like Medchal, Bowrampet, Ameenpur, Bachupal-



ly, and KPHB, last summer saw supply issues. To address this,

TGSPDCL has undertaken a significant power distribution

upgrade. The plan includes the installation of 62 new power transformers, 1,081 distribution transformers, 243 new 11 kV feeders, and 37 new 33 kV feeders. Additionally, 15 new 33/11 kV substations are being constructed.

During his visit, CMD Faruqi inaugurated several key installations, including a 12.5 MVA transformer at the Sai Nagar substation in Habsiguda, a 33 kV Pragathi Nagar feeder at Bowrampet, and transformers at Shamshiguda and Osman Sagar substations.

TGPSC Clarifies Group 1 Evaluation Process, Denies Bias in Results

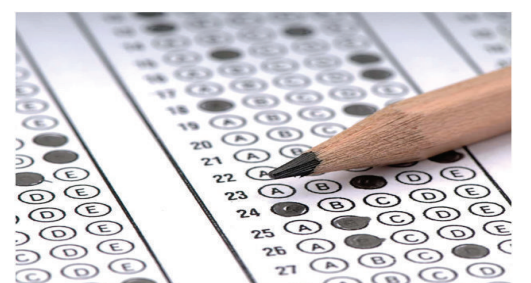
TPN, Correspondent
Hyderabad, Mar 14 : The Telangana State Public Service Commission (TGPSC) issued an official clarification on March 13 regarding the evaluation process for the Group 1 Mains exam, following concerns and misinformation circulating on social media. TGPSC stressed that the evaluation was conducted with transparency and fairness. The Group 1 Mains

exam, held from October 21 to October 27, 2024, was evaluated in two phases between November 1, 2024, and January 31, 2025. Measures included the removal of candidate details from answer scripts before evaluation and a double-check process by separate evaluators.

The commission also employed a panel of senior professors from reputed universities, many with experience in

UPSC evaluations. Final marks were cross-verified and uploaded after scrutiny, ensuring no bias.

To counter misinformation, TGPSC released statistical data: 20,161 candidates appeared for the exam, with 12,323 choosing English, 7,829 Telugu, and 9 Urdu. The commission also clarified delays in releas-



ing provisional marks due to the Model Code of Conduct for MLC elections.



Trump's Economic Recession Strategy: A Risky Gamble for the US



As the US faces the looming threat of a recession, global markets are left wondering whether this potential downturn is part of President Donald Trump's broader economic strategy, or if it's a dangerous gamble. With the US contributing a quarter of the world's GDP, the consequences of a recession there are felt worldwide, making it a crucial issue for both domestic and global economies. Economists from Harvard University and Moody's have pegged the likelihood of a US recession at 35%, driven by government spending cuts, growing uncertainties, and the planned tariffs on trading partners like China, Canada, Mexico, and the European Union. While Trump refuses to predict a recession, he suggests that it may be a necessary "price" to pay for his ambitious goals, including bringing wealth back to America. This approach, dubbed "Trumpcession," may be seen by some as part of a long-term transformation to restore America's

greatness. However, it has already led to significant financial losses for prominent figures like Tesla's Elon Musk, whose wealth has been significantly eroded due to mounting recession fears. Similarly, the wealth of other tech giants like Jeff Bezos and Mark Zuckerberg has also been impacted. Despite these concerns, the US economy had been performing well before the implementation of Trump's trade policies. The country was experiencing relatively low inflation and strong growth, but his tariffs have caused fears of inflation rising, as import duties may increase consumer prices. Additionally, the federal debt has reached a concerning \$1.833 trillion in 2024, exacerbating worries about the nation's fiscal health. Yet, when considering the broader context, the US economy has continued to grow, with a GDP increase from \$5 trillion in 1990 to \$29 trillion by 2024. The country's share of global GDP has decreased from 40%

in 1960 to 24% today, but it remains a major player in the global market. Trump's "Make America Great Again" (MAGA) quest focuses on reviving manufacturing jobs, but with services now comprising nearly 80% of US employment, this seems increasingly unrealistic. Technological advances, such as robotics, have further reduced the need for large-scale manufacturing employment. Trump's goal of pruning the federal deficit and strengthening the US dollar could, however, lead to positive outcomes—if the trade policies pay off. The real question, however, is whether Trump's economic policies are pushing the US toward a recession that may ultimately do more harm than good. With geopolitical tensions and trade wars adding to the uncertainty, the US path forward may rely on how the average American feels the pinch, and whether Trump's economic gambles yield results or lead to long-term economic pain.



Ukraine Accepts US-Brokered Ceasefire: A Crucial Test for Peace

Ukraine's acceptance of a 30-day ceasefire deal brokered by the United States marks a pivotal moment in the ongoing war with Russia. While the ceasefire offers a temporary reprieve from the devastating conflict, questions remain regarding its true potential to lead to a sustainable peace or if it is merely a strategic maneuver. The US's decision to resume military aid and intelligence-sharing with Ukraine following the ceasefire agreement highlights the fragile nature of this truce. Washington's involvement in the conflict has often been tied to its own geopolitical interests, as seen in the revival of a rare earth minerals deal between the US and Ukraine. This raises concerns about whether the ceasefire is truly aimed at de-escalation or is merely a tool to secure economic and strategic gains for the US. Russia's response remains a critical factor. President Vladimir Putin has yet to

commit to the ceasefire, and previous ceasefire attempts have been short-lived. Should Moscow refuse to comply, the conflict could continue unabated, making this ceasefire agreement ineffective. Furthermore, the absence of concrete security guarantees for Ukraine suggests that Kyiv may not have secured the long-term assurances it had hoped for. The success of the ceasefire will depend on whether it leads to meaningful negotiations or if it simply serves as a pause before renewed hostilities. While Ukrainian President Zelenskyy has signaled a willingness to pursue peace, the onus now falls on Russia and the US to ensure that this ceasefire is not used as a temporary break before further escalation. For Ukraine, this truce offers an opportunity to recalibrate its strategy, but for the world, it poses a test of whether diplomacy can still bring stability in an era of prolonged conflicts.

Review Needed for Stringent Provisions in Immigration Bill 2025

The recently introduced Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025, in the Lok Sabha has sparked concerns over its stringent provisions that could significantly alter the entry, exit, and stay of foreign nationals in India. While the bill is aimed at modernizing and consolidating immigration laws, some of which date back to the colonial era, its broad and forceful measures have drawn criticism from the Opposition and raised questions about its potential impact on India's global reputation.

The bill grants the Union Government extensive powers to bar foreign nationals from entering or staying in India on grounds related to national security, sovereignty, and integrity. While such measures are necessary for safeguarding the country, critics argue that the bill's wide scope could violate fundamental rights and constitutional provisions. One of the most controversial aspects of the bill is the provision that allows authorities to arrest foreign nationals entering India without valid documents without the need for a warrant. The law permits arrests based on "reasonable suspicion" of lacking valid papers, which may lead to arbitrary actions against foreigners. Additionally, the bill removes the flexibility for foreign nationals to self-register during their stay in India, instead requiring them to



approach registration officers promptly upon arrival. This places an added burden on visitors and could deter tourism. Furthermore, the bill imposes significant reporting obligations on medical and educational institutions that host foreign nationals. These institutions

would be required to inform authorities about their foreign guests, which might create operational hurdles and discourage foreign students and professionals from engaging with Indian institutions.

One of the most contentious provisions is

the clause that prohibits foreigners from associating with "persons of a specified description." This could lead to politically motivated surveillance, potentially undermining the democratic principles of freedom of association and expression. The provision contradicts India's global aspirations, especially its position as a promoter of international cooperation and the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family).

While national security remains a paramount concern, the bill's provisions have the potential to alienate foreign visitors, tourists, and professionals. The stringent requirements could also put off potential refugees, making it harder for them to navigate India's already complex immigration system. Given India's growing role on the world stage, it is crucial that the government reconsiders some of these provisions to strike a balance between security and the nation's broader diplomatic and economic objectives. A law that is too restrictive might tarnish India's image as an open and welcoming country, ultimately limiting its engagement with the global community. The government should review this bill carefully, ensuring that it does not hinder India's long-term goals of promoting international collaboration and fostering a robust, inclusive environment for foreign nationals.



India ready to share experience of bridging Gender divide Through digital public infrastructure: Union Minister Annapurna Devi

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

India has expressed its readiness to share its experiences with the world on how digital public infrastructure can help bridge the gender digital divide. At the 69th session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held at the U.N. headquarters on March 12, 2025, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Annapurna Devi, highlighted the country's progress in advancing women-led development and digital financial inclusion.

"India is moving ahead with women-led development, where women are active participants from conceptualization to monitoring of measures that shape the nation's development trajectory," Minister Devi said during her address at a roundtable organized by India's Permanent Mission to the U.N. and U.N. Women. The event, titled 'Digital & Financial Inclusion for Women's Empowerment' and 'Financing for Women Empowerment — Criticality of Core Resources', served as a platform for sharing insights and experiences from member states, particularly from the Global South.

Minister Devi emphasized India's commitment to leveraging digital public infrastructure to reduce the gender digital divide. She noted the importance of resources in realizing the vision of women-led development and shared India's successful implementation of the Unified Payment Interface (UPI). UPI has revolutionized financial transactions by digitalizing the payment system while maintaining full data protection. With 87.35 million transactions growing by 147% in volume, UPI has allowed women, regardless of gender, economic status, or geography, to increasingly take ownership of digital payments.

The minister also stressed the importance of ensuring the safe and responsible use of technology, emphasizing the need for regulatory frameworks that balance digital inclusion with data protection. "Digital public infrastructure should be a bridge, not a barrier," Devi said, underscoring the importance of a secure digital environment for women's dignity and active participation in nation-building.

As the 69th session of CSW continues through March 21, Minister Devi leads India's delegation, furthering the country's commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment globally.

PM Modi, Mauritius PM Inaugurate Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute

PM Modi Announces Mahasagar vision with Mauritius for maritime security, trade

- India-Mauritius elevate ties to "Enhanced Strategic Partnership"
- Modi unveils "MAHASAGAR" vision for Global South cooperation
- ₹487 crore rupee-credit for Mauritius' water pipeline project

TPN Correspondent | Port Louis

India and Mauritius have elevated their relationship to an "Enhanced Strategic Partnership," signing eight agreements to boost cooperation in various sectors such as maritime security, defense, trade, and local currency use. The move is part of India's broader vision to support the Global South, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his two-day visit to the island nation, where he also attended the national day celebrations as the chief guest.

Modi announced India's new vision for the Global South, named "MAHASAGAR" (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions), aimed at fostering development, security, and cooperation, particularly in the Indian Ocean region. This initiative follows India's previous "SAGAR" (Security and Growth for All in the Region) policy, emphasizing the importance of maritime security and shared economic prosperity in the region, especially amid China's growing influence.

During talks with Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Modi reiterated India's commitment to support Mauritius in securing its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and enhancing defense and maritime capabilities. The two countries agreed to increase joint maritime surveillance and hydrographic surveys and to strengthen defense cooperation, marking maritime security as a crucial component of their strategic partnership.



A significant development was the introduction of the first-ever Indian rupee-denominated line of credit, valued at Rs 487 crore, aimed at replacing water pipelines in Mauritius. This agreement highlights India's continued assistance in Mauritius' socio-economic development, which also includes funding community development projects and supporting infrastructure like the new Parliament building.

The leaders also committed to deepening cooperation on countering money laundering, promoting MSMEs, and facilitating trade using national currencies. Additionally, both sides expressed

their dedication to maintaining a free, open, and secure Indian Ocean, underlining their shared interests in countering maritime challenges and safeguarding regional stability.

Modi also announced new projects, such as the modernization of water pipelines, the launch of 20 community development initiatives, and the construction of infrastructure like the "Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation." These efforts are designed to strengthen the ties between India and Mauritius in various sectors, including defense, education, health, and space.

Tamil Nadu's first Economic Survey indicates State likely to maintain 8%+ growth rate

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Tamil Nadu's first Economic Survey for 2024-25 predicts the state will maintain a robust growth rate of over 8% in the coming year, continuing its strong economic trajectory. The survey highlights that the state's economic resilience has been driven by inclusive policies, with Tamil Nadu achieving growth rates above 8% since 2021-22. This growth is part of India's broader economic performance, with the country recording 7.61% growth in 2022-23 and 9.19% in 2023-24.

Tamil Nadu's per capita income has also consistently outpaced the national average, reaching ₹2.78 lakh in 2022-23, 1.64 times the national average of ₹1.69 lakh. The state ranks fourth in per capita income in India. The survey, compiled by the State Planning Commission, Finance Department, and other agencies, provides in-depth analysis of agriculture, industry, services, inflation, employment, and social sector indicators. It also suggests measures to overcome short-term challenges and ensure long-term sustainable growth.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin received the Economic Survey on March 13, 2025. The survey also highlights challenges posed by the Union government's policies, including fiscal caps, NEET, and NEP 2020, which have limited Tamil Nadu's growth potential. Executive Vice Chairman of the State Planning Commission, J. Jeyaranjan, pointed out the state's success in navigating the pandemic and natural disasters while achieving high growth.

ISRO SpaDex successfully completes undocking, sets stage for Chandrayaan-4

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully accomplished the de-docking of the SpaDex satellites on Thursday, marking a significant milestone in the country's space exploration ambitions. This achievement clears the path for future high-profile missions, including the development of India's own space station, the Chandrayaan 4 lunar mission, and the Gaganyaan human space-flight program.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh took to social media to announce the successful de-docking of the SpaDex satellites, expressing his congratulations to the ISRO team. "SpaDex satellites accomplished the unbelievable de-docking. This paves the way for smooth conduct of ambitious future missions including the Bharatiya Antriksha Station, Chandrayaan 4 & Gaganyaan," Singh wrote on X (formerly Twitter). He also acknowledged the continuous support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which has been instrumental in maintaining high spirits and pushing the nation's space exploration forward.

The SpaDex mission, which was launched on December 30 last year, successfully deployed two satellites—SDX01 and SDX02—into orbit.



These satellites were tasked with demonstrating the challenging docking experiment in space. After several attempts, ISRO achieved a successful docking of the two satellites on January 16, making it a landmark achievement in India's space program.

The successful de-docking of the SpaDex satellites is expected to play a crucial role in enabling more complex space missions in the future. The technology demonstrated by this mission is fundamental to projects like the Bharatiya Antriksha Station, which aims to position India among the global leaders in space exploration, and the Chandrayaan 4 mission, which will further India's lunar exploration ambitions.

This success further strengthens ISRO's reputation as a rising space power and underscores its ability to take on ambitious space exploration projects in the years to come.

India's Tejas Aircraft Successfully Test Fires Astra Missile

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India's indigenously developed Tejas light combat aircraft successfully test-fired the home-grown Astra air-to-air missile on Wednesday. The test was conducted off the coast of Chandipur in Odisha, as confirmed by the Ministry of Defence. The missile successfully hit its flying target, showcasing the advanced capabilities of both the aircraft and the missile system.

According to the defence ministry, all subsystems involved in the test performed flawlessly, meeting the mission parameters and objectives. The Astra missile, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is designed to engage aerial targets at ranges exceeding 100 kilometers. Its advanced guidance and navigation systems ensure high precision, making it capable of striking targets with remarkable accuracy.



The successful test is considered a crucial achievement for India's defence capabilities, as the Astra missile is already in service with the

Indian Air Force. The successful launch of the missile is seen as a significant milestone for the induction of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) in its MKIA variant. The MKIA variant is an

upgraded version of the Tejas aircraft, equipped with enhanced capabilities and features, further cementing the aircraft's role in modernizing India's air combat fleet.

The Astra missile's successful test-firing also highlights the growing self-reliance of India's defence industry, with DRDO continuing to develop advanced weapons systems for the Indian Armed Forces. With the missile's induction into the Indian Air Force, India has taken a substantial step towards bolstering its air defense capabilities, ensuring a higher level of preparedness and strategic advantage.

The development and successful deployment of the Astra missile, paired with the Tejas LCA, will strengthen India's defence infrastructure and contribute to its long-term military objectives, ensuring it remains competitive in the global defense landscape.

I Can Do Things : Donald Trump Warns Vladimir Putin Ahead Of Russia Talks

Warns Russia of 'devastating' sanctions if it rejects Ukraine ceasefire

- US envoy Steve Witkoff heads to Moscow for ceasefire negotiations
- Zelensky supports truce but doubts Russia's commitment to peace

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump issued a stern warning to Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday, threatening "devastating" sanctions if Russia refuses to agree to a ceasefire in the ongoing Ukraine war. Trump's remarks came after a meeting with Irish Prime Minister Micheal Martin at the White House. He also revealed that US negotiators are en route to Moscow to discuss a potential ceasefire agreement, following Ukraine's commitment to a 30-day truce.

Trump told reporters, "We could do things very bad for Russia. It would be devastating for Russia. But I don't want to do that because I want to see peace, and we're getting close to maybe getting something done." He emphasized the importance of achieving a ceasefire, stating that it would be a significant step toward ending the three-year conflict, which he referred to as a "horrible bloodbath."

The White House confirmed that Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff, would be traveling to Moscow later this week to continue negotiations. Trump added, "People are going to Russia right now as we speak," expressing hope that Russia would agree to a ceasefire, which he believed could be pivotal in bringing an end to the war.



Trump's comments came just two weeks after his tense exchange with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at the White House, where the two leaders clashed over the US's approach to the war. Following that confrontation, Trump halted military aid and intelligence sharing with Ukraine but resumed assistance after Kyiv agreed to the truce proposal on Tuesday.

Ukrainian President Zelensky, who attended talks in Saudi Arabia with US officials on Tuesday, expressed support for the ceasefire

proposal but stressed that it was crucial for the US to persuade Russia to accept the terms. "Ukraine welcomes this proposal, we consider it positive, we are ready to take such a step," he stated. However, he added that Ukrainians had little faith that Russia would abide by a ceasefire, noting that "none of us trust the Russians."

Zelensky further emphasized that the future of the ceasefire hinges on Russia's willingness to stop the violence. "Everything depends on whether Russia wants a ceasefire and silence, or it wants to continue killing people," he said.



"Responsible": Ex-Philippines President Surrendered To World Court Custody

Rodrigo Duterte Faces ICC Custody Over War on Drugs Charges

TPN Correspondent | Rotterdam

Former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has been taken into custody by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to face charges of crimes against humanity related to his controversial war on drugs. The ICC, headquartered in The Hague, believes there is substantial evidence to charge Duterte with murder as an indirect co-perpetrator during the anti-drug campaign, which rights groups say led to the deaths of tens of thousands.

In a video shared on social media as he landed in Rotterdam, Duterte accepted responsibility for the violence during his presidency. "I am the one who led our law enforcement and military. I said that I will protect you and I will be responsible for all of this," Duterte said. He maintained that he had always been clear about his role in the campaign, which he oversaw while in office. Duterte, aged 79, becomes the first former Asian head of state to face charges before the ICC.

Supporters gathered outside the ICC detention center, chanting "Bring him back" and waving Philippine flags as Duterte's vehicle entered the facility. Some criticized the court's actions, claiming that there had been no due process. "This is kidnapping," said Duds Quibin, a caregiver.

Despite these objections, many victims' families welcomed the arrest. Gilbert Andres, a lawyer for drug war victims, expressed relief, calling the arrest a significant step toward justice. "It means that no one is above the law," he said.

The case is a major test for international criminal justice, with ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan emphasizing that the arrest sends a strong message that international law holds weight. While critics, including China, have warned against politicization of the case, the ICC remains firm in pursuing accountability for the thousands of victims of Duterte's brutal drug war.

Duterte's actions as mayor of Davao, including alleged involvement in the "Davao Death Squad," also form part of the charges. The Philippines had withdrawn from the ICC in 2019, but the tribunal asserts jurisdiction over events prior to that withdrawal.

NASA and SpaceX Postpone Crew-10 Mission Due to Hydraulic System Issue

TPN Correspondent | Washington

NASA and SpaceX have postponed the launch of the Crew-10 mission to the International Space Station (ISS), originally scheduled for March 13, 2025. The mission, which was set to return astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore, was delayed due to a hydraulic system issue with a ground support clamp arm for the Falcon 9 rocket at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.



With less than an hour to go before liftoff, the teams made the decision to scrub the launch. According to NASA and SpaceX, the issue was identified as a hydraulic malfunction in the system that supports the rocket during pre-launch operations at Launch Complex 39A. Due to this issue, the mission could not proceed as planned.

NASA officials have now set a new launch window for no earlier than 7:03 pm EDT (4:33 am IST) on Friday, March 14. The decision to delay the launch also came after forecasts predicted high winds and precipitation along the flight path for the Dragon spacecraft. Mission managers convened to review the situation and determined it was best to delay the launch for safety reasons.

Astronauts Anne McClain and Nichole Ayers from NASA, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) astronaut Takuya Onishi, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Kirill Peskov had already safely exited the Crew Dragon spacecraft, which remains secure on the launch pad.

The Crew-10 mission, which would have replaced the stranded astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore at the ISS, is critical for maintaining crew rotations at the space station. The spacecraft was also scheduled to bring Williams and Wilmore back to Earth, if conditions permitted, by March 19.

NASA has emphasized that this delay will help ensure the safety and success of the mission, and the teams will continue monitoring the situation to determine the best time to proceed with the launch.

Canada Warns Countries At G7: "Nobody Is Safe" From Donald Trump's Policies

Canada Gears Up for G7 Talks Amid Escalating U.S. Trade Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Canada

As Canada prepares to host the G7 foreign ministers' meeting, Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly is set to address critical issues, including the intensifying trade dispute with the United States. Joly plans to raise concerns over U.S. tariffs and threats to Canada's sovereignty, warning her European and British counterparts that, "If the U.S. can do this to us, their closest friend, then nobody is safe."



Although the official G7 agenda focuses on global issues such as Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, and Venezuela, Joly intends to highlight the ongoing U.S. trade policies that have negatively impacted Canada. She aims to rally support from her allies, urging them to take collective action against the U.S. approach, which she argues could set a dangerous precedent. "Canada is the canary in the coal mine," Joly has stated, positioning Canada as a vulnerable test case for U.S. actions against close allies.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio downplayed Trump's annexation comments, framing them as part of a broader economic argument. Rubio suggested that, from Trump's perspective, Canada becoming the 51st state could simplify border and security issues, especially concerning the fentanyl crisis.

Relations between Canada and the U.S. have hit a low point, with Trump's musings about annexing Canada fueling skepticism and concerns about sovereignty. As Canada prepares for a new prime minister, Mark Carney, the trade dispute remains a key issue. Carney has described the situation as an "economic and sovereign crisis" and vowed to resist U.S. efforts to dominate the region.

In his farewell speech, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau reminded Canadians that "Democracy is not a given. Freedom is not a given. Even Canada is not a given."

The trade war escalated under President Donald Trump, who imposed 25 percent tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum. In retaliation, Canada imposed counter-tariffs on about \$20 billion worth of American goods. At the heart of the dispute are concerns over Canada's sovereignty, especially after repeated U.S. remarks that have been interpreted as threats of annexation. Joly has strongly rejected these remarks, emphasizing that Canada will not surrender its independence.

"Hostages Used As Human Shields": Pakistan Train Siege Ends After 30 Hours

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

The Pakistani Army successfully ended a 30-hour operation on Wednesday to rescue passengers held hostage by a rebel group in Balochistan, confirming the deaths of 21 civilians and four security personnel. The rescue operation targeted the Jaffar Express, a train with 440 passengers that was hijacked by members of the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) after it was derailed near Gudalar and Piru Kunri, roughly 160 kilometers from Quetta, on Tuesday.



In a statement, the Army confirmed that all 33 rebels, including suicide bombers, were killed during the operation. The BLA had previously claimed to have killed 50 passengers and held 214 hostages, mainly security personnel. The Army, however, emphasized that its forces acted with extreme caution, as the rebels used passengers as human shields, slowing the operation's progress. Army spokesperson Lt Gen Ahmad Sharif said that snipers targeted the suicide bombers first, followed by a careful clearance of each train compartment, ensuring that no passengers were harmed during the operation.

The BLA, the most powerful insurgent group in Balochistan, had threatened to execute hostages unless the Pakistani government met its demands, which included the release of Baloch political prisoners. The group has been fighting for greater autonomy in the resource-rich but impoverished Balochistan region, which borders Iran and Afghanistan.

According to Pakistan's Ministry of Defence, intelligence reports revealed that the attack was orchestrated by terrorist leaders based in Afghanistan, who were in direct contact with the insurgents throughout the hijacking. Pakistan has urged the Afghan government to take responsibility for preventing its territory from being used for terrorism against Pakistan.

A video released by the BLA showed rebels bombing the railway track and storming the train. Passengers who escaped described walking for hours through mountainous terrain to reach safety, with one survivor, Muhammad Bilal, recalling the terrifying ordeal.

India Announces \$1 Billion Fund For Creators' Economy Ahead Of WAVES Summit

The Centre has announced a USD 1 billion fund aimed at boosting India's emerging creators' economy, coinciding with the announcement of the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to be held in Mumbai from May 1 to 4. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis hosted envoys from over 100 countries on Thursday, inviting them to participate in the summit's Roundtable, which will be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



WAVES is being positioned as a groundbreaking convergence platform for the global media and entertainment sector, akin to the World Economic Forum in Davos. Fadnavis highlighted Mumbai's status as India's entertainment capital and emphasized its potential to become the permanent venue for WAVES, similar to how Davos hosts the World Economic Forum or Cannes hosts the renowned film festival.

Jaishankar addressed the importance of global economic and political rebalancing, emphasizing that true globalization lies in embracing the diversity of cultures and people worldwide. Vaishnaw detailed the creation of the USD 1 billion fund to support creators utilizing cutting-edge technology, helping them access capital, enhance their skills, improve production quality, and expand into global markets.

In addition to the fund, Vaishnaw announced the es-

establishment of the Indian Institute of Creative Technology in Mumbai, with land already allocated in Film City at Goregaon. Sanjay Jaju, Secretary of Information and Broadcasting, explained that the WAVES summit would include a Global Media Dialogue, plenary sessions, and panel discussions led by industry leaders. The WAVES Bazaar will showcase content and facilitate business opportunities through buyer-seller meetings.

The "Creatosphere" at WAVES will provide a platform for young creators to connect, learn, and collaborate through masterclasses, workshops, and networking events. Vaishnaw also noted the success of the "Create in India Challenge," which received over 25 lakh submissions, with 80,000 advancing to the next stage. The challenge culminates with 1,000 finalists participating in various events during the summit.

The initiative aims to bring together creativity, technology, and entertainment to create unique content, while also offering a space for international collaboration in the industry.

India's GDP Growth Expected to Exceed 6.5% in 2025-26, Moody's Forecasts

India's GDP growth is projected to exceed 6.5% in the fiscal year 2025-26, driven by increased government capital expenditure, a rise in consumption fueled by tax cuts, and the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) interest rate cuts, according to a recent report by Moody's.



Moody's expects India's economic growth to accelerate following a brief slowdown in mid-2024, with the nation maintaining one of the fastest growth rates among large global economies. The report forecasts that real GDP growth will rise to 6.5% in 2025-26, up from an expected 6.3% in 2024-25.

The boost in growth is anticipated to come from multiple factors, including government initiatives such as enhanced capital expenditure and tax relief for middle-income groups. The reduction in income taxes is expected to spur consumption, while the RBI's accommodative monetary policy, including interest rate cuts, will provide further support for growth.

Moody's also expects India's inflation rate to moderate to 4.5% in fiscal 2025-26, down from 4.8% the previous year. This decline in inflation would provide enough space for continued soft monetary policies, facilitating lower interest rates, increased liquidity in the banking system, and encouraging loans to both consumers and businesses.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra recently announced a 25 basis points rate cut,

bringing the key policy rate to 6.25%. However, Moody's suggests that further rate cuts will be modest as the RBI maintains a cautious approach, considering global uncertainties, particularly regarding US trade policies and the strengthening of the US dollar against emerging market currencies.

The banking sector outlook remains stable, although some stress is expected in areas such as unsecured retail loans, microfinance, and small business loans. Despite this, banks' profitability is anticipated to remain adequate due to modest declines in net interest margins. Moody's also projects a slowdown in system-wide loan growth, with an expected growth rate of 11-13% in 2025-26, down from an average of 17% between March 2022 and March 2024.

Overall, Moody's report paints a positive picture for India's economy, forecasting strong growth ahead despite challenges in the global and domestic markets.

India needs to grow 8% for progress, core sector must invest: SBI chairman



India must achieve a growth rate of 8% to ensure long-term progress, according to Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest bank with a deposit base of ₹52.29 lakh crore. Setty emphasized that while the current growth rate of around 6% may seem concerning, it should not be a cause for alarm.

In an exclusive interview with The Indian Express, Setty explained that while the nation requires 8% growth for sustained development, the present slowdown could merely be a temporary blip. He pointed out that India's long-term economic outlook remains positive despite the short-term challenges. "The slowdown we're talking about might just be a brief phase. The long-term story of India remains intact," he stated.

To achieve this 8% growth, Setty highlighted two essential factors: consumption and private capital expenditure. He underscored that private investment, particularly from the private sector, plays a crucial role in driving economic activity and job creation, which in turn supports higher consumption. According to Setty, bolstering private capital expenditure is crucial for sustaining economic momentum and ensuring the country's progress.

Setty's comments come at a time when India is navigating the complexities of a global slowdown, rising inflation, and uncertain external factors. However, he remains optimistic about India's ability to overcome these challenges and return to a higher growth trajectory.

India's economic future, according to Setty, hinges on addressing key structural factors, including bolstering private investments, enhancing domestic consumption, and encouraging further reforms. With these measures, the country can continue on its path toward achieving a higher growth rate and securing its position as a major global economic player.

Retail Inflation Eases to Seven-Month Low, Food Inflation Declines Sharply in February

Retail inflation in India eased to a seven-month low of 3.61% in February, down from 4.26% in January, driven primarily by a significant drop in food inflation, according to provisional data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on Wednesday.

Food inflation, which is tracked by the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), fell to 3.7% in February, the lowest level since May 2023, when it was recorded at 3.19%. This marked a sharp decline from the previous month, reflecting a broad-based reduction in the prices of essential food items.

Among the food items that saw significant price drops were ginger, tomatoes, and garlic. These items recorded the lowest year-on-year inflation rates of -35.81%, -28.51%, and -20.32%, respectively. Overall,



vegetable prices registered a decline of -1.07%, contributing to the easing of food inflation.

The decline in food prices was largely attributed to the seasonal drop in the prices of vegetables and other perishables. These changes played a key role in moderating the overall inflation figures, providing some relief to consumers who have been

grappling with higher living costs in recent months.

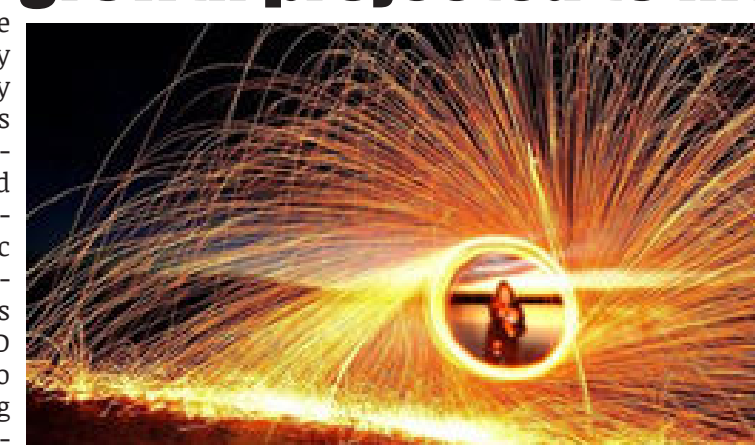
The reduction in food inflation was a major factor behind the overall easing of retail inflation, which was impacted by other goods and services showing stable or modest price increases. Experts believe that the lower inflation figures provide some breathing space for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which has been closely monitoring inflation trends to assess the appropriate monetary policy stance.

With food inflation moderating and retail inflation easing, there is optimism that the inflationary pressures that have affected Indian households in recent months may be starting to subside. However, analysts caution that continued monitoring of global commodity prices and domestic agricultural conditions will be crucial in sustaining this trend.

India to become world's third-largest economy by 2028, GDP growth projected to hit \$5.7 trillion

India is projected to become the world's third-largest economy by 2028, according to a report by Morgan Stanley. The country's growth will be fueled by its rising consumer market, increased global output share, and improvements in macroeconomic stability, infrastructure, and policy. The report predicts that India's economy, currently valued at USD 3.5 trillion in 2023, will expand to USD 4.7 trillion by 2026, making it the fourth-largest economy behind the US, China, and Germany. By 2028, India is expected to surpass Germany with a projected GDP of USD 5.7 trillion.

Morgan Stanley's analysis notes that India's rise has been swift. From ranking as the 12th largest economy in 1990, India fell to 13th in 2000, before climbing to 9th place in 2020 and 5th in 2023. India's share in the global GDP is projected to grow from 3.5% in 2023 to 4.5% by 2029.



The report outlines three growth scenarios for India's economy. In the "Bear" scenario, India's GDP could reach USD 6.6 trillion by 2035, while the "Base" scenario forecasts USD 8.8 trillion, and the "Bull" scenario projects an economy of USD 10.3 trillion. Correspondingly, India's GDP per capita is expected to rise from USD 2,514 in 2025 to USD 4,247 in the Bear scenario, USD 5,683 in the Base scenario, and USD 6,706 in the Bull scenario by 2035.

The driving forces behind India's growth, according to Morgan Stanley, include robust population growth, a functioning democracy, sound policy stability, better infrastructure, a rising entrepreneurial class, and improving social outcomes. The country is expected to become the most sought-after consumer market globally, undergo an energy transition, and see a rise in credit-to-GDP, with manufacturing potentially gaining a larger share of its GDP.

In the short term, Morgan Stanley has indicated a recovery in India's growth, with GDP growth expected at 6.3% for the current fiscal year and 6.5% in the next. Growth is anticipated to recover after a slowdown in the second half of 2024, supported by fiscal and monetary policy measures and a recovery in service exports. Additionally, consumption recovery is expected to become more widespread, driven by tax cuts that will stimulate urban demand while supporting rural consumption.

World Kidney Day 2025: Early Detection Key to Preventing Kidney Disease

World Kidney Day 2025 focuses on the critical need for early detection in maintaining kidney health, with this year's theme: "Are Your Kidneys OK? Detect Early, Protect Kidney Health." The global campaign aims to raise awareness about the rising prevalence of kidney disease and the importance of timely intervention, as millions of people worldwide are unaware of their kidney-related health issues.

Kidney diseases often develop silently, showing no noticeable symptoms until significant damage has occurred. This makes early detection crucial. Health professionals emphasize regular screening, particularly for individuals with risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, or a family history of kidney disease. Simple tests like urine tests and blood work can identify early signs of kidney problems, allowing for prompt action before more severe complications develop.

The World Kidney Day campaign calls on governments, healthcare providers, and individuals to take proactive measures to protect kidney health. Kidney diseases remain one of the leading causes of death globally, but with increased awareness, early screening, and lifestyle changes, their impact can be significantly reduced.

Dr. Himanshu Shekhar, Medical Director of SCI International Hospital, advises that maintaining a healthy weight is crucial for kidney health. "Carrying extra weight forces the kidneys to work harder, which can lead to damage over time. Obesity increases the risk of developing diabetes and high blood pressure, two leading causes of chronic kidney disease (CKD)," said Dr. Shekhar.

He further highlighted the importance of addressing obesity as a risk factor for CKD. "Even without diabetes or high blood pressure, obesity can increase the risk of CKD and speed up its progression. Obesity is also linked to a higher prevalence of urinary albumin excretion, nephrolithiasis, and the development of end-stage kidney disease (ESKD)," he added.

The message of World Kidney Day is clear: early detection and proactive care are essential to preserving kidney health and preventing long-term damage. It is important for individuals, especially those at risk, to undergo regular screenings and adopt healthy lifestyle habits to safeguard their kidneys.



Holi Under The Blood Moon: Total Lunar Eclipse to Occur on March 14, 2025



A rare celestial event, the total lunar eclipse, also known as the Blood Moon, will take place on March 14, 2025, coinciding with India's colorful Holi celebrations. This unique astronomical occurrence will unfold during the afternoon, with the total phase beginning at 11:57 AM IST, reaching its peak at 12:29 PM, and concluding by 01:01 PM IST, offering a rare blend of cultural and natural wonders.

A lunar eclipse occurs when the Earth is positioned directly between the Sun and the Moon, casting its shadow onto the Moon's surface. In a total lunar eclipse, the Earth's darkest shadow, the umbra, completely covers the Moon. This phenomenon will lead to the Moon taking on a reddish-orange hue, which is why such eclipses are often called "blood moons." The reddish tint results from sunlight scattering through the Earth's atmosphere—blue and violet wavelengths are blocked, while longer wavelengths like red and orange

make their way to the Moon.

NASA explains that the degree of redness can vary depending on the presence of clouds or dust particles in the atmosphere, which scatter light further. Therefore, a clearer sky would result in a brighter red hue.

The event is expected to last about an hour, with the total eclipse visible to skywatchers across different time zones. For those in the U.S., totality will occur at 2:26 AM EDT, and 11:26 PM PDT on the night of March 13. While the total phase is brief, the Moon will also experience a partial eclipse before and after totality, giving viewers an extended window to observe the phenomenon.

As this rare event aligns with Holi, it is expected to add a touch of celestial magic to the festive spirit in India. Skywatchers and festival-goers alike will be treated to the simultaneous spectacle of a colorful celebration on Earth and a captivating cosmic display overhead.

Iran Beach Turns Bright Red After Mysterious "Blood Rain"

A stunning and surreal natural phenomenon recently occurred on Rainbow Island, located in the Strait of Hormuz, in Iran, leaving people both amazed and intrigued. The event, described by many as "blood rain," saw the beach glowing a brilliant red after a downpour. Videos of the remarkable scene quickly went viral, captivating viewers worldwide.

A tour guide shared a video on Instagram showing rainwater washing red soil from the island's land onto the beach, turning the water into a vivid scarlet hue as it mixed with the sea. The caption on the video, roughly translated from Persian, described the heavy rain at the famous Red Beach of Hormoz and highlighted the amazement of tourists witnessing the event.

Social media reactions flooded in, with many expressing awe at the rare spectacle. One user commented, "I wish I was there under the rain of Hormoz and the beautiful soil colored with love," while another wrote, "This scene is really wonderful and special."

This "blood red" phenomenon is not entirely new. Rainbow Island's beach is well-known for its naturally red soil, which is rich in iron oxide and other minerals. The volcanic soil combined with the heavy tides creates the striking red coloration, giving the appearance that the sea has been drenched in red paint.

Far from causing concern, the "blood rain" beach has become a year-round attraction for tourists. The island's stunning natural beauty and the unique red shoreline draw travelers from across the globe, eager to witness the striking visual effect firsthand.



Indian Entrepreneur Meets Uber Driver With \$15 Million Net Worth, Stuns the Internet



Vineeth K, the founder of Deals Dhama, recently shared an unexpected encounter that stunned the internet. In a post on X, Vineeth recounted his experience meeting an Uber driver in the United States who had an astonishing net worth of \$15 million. The driver, a retired senior executive, turned out to be a former C-suite leader at a prominent oil company in the Middle East. Despite his wealth, the man continued to drive for Uber, citing a desire to stay engaged and avoid boredom.

According to Vineeth, the Uber driver owns two properties in the U.S. valued at \$1.5 million and an additional real estate worth 3.5 million euros in Bulgaria. His three children have also achieved success: one works as a lawyer in London, while the other two are professional football players in a European team. The driver, who is based in the U.S., still works because his wife is employed, and

he enjoys keeping himself busy. Vineeth's post, which has garnered over 80,000 views, sparked a wave of reactions on social media. Many were fascinated by the story, while others questioned the openness of sharing such personal financial details with a stranger. One user commented, "That's mind-boggling — for someone who now drives an Uber! Kudos — maybe there is a lesson in there."

Some people also shared their own similar experiences. One user recalled meeting a Punjabi Uber driver with a \$10 million portfolio, while another shared a story of a wealthy individual in Riyadh driving a Porsche as part of his recreational Uber work.

While some were in awe of the driver's financial success, others reflected on how the experience may offer a lesson in humility and the value of staying active, regardless of wealth.

"Triggering My Misogyny": Man Claims Workplace Favors Women, Sparks Debate

A Reddit post titled "I feel like my workplace is triggering my misogyny" has sparked a lively debate about gender biases in the workplace. The user, a 24-year-old male, expressed his frustration after noticing what he perceived as preferential treatment for female employees at his company. In the post, he shared several instances that led him to believe women receive advantages over men, including better mentorship, fewer consequences for mistakes, and preferential treatment during promotions.

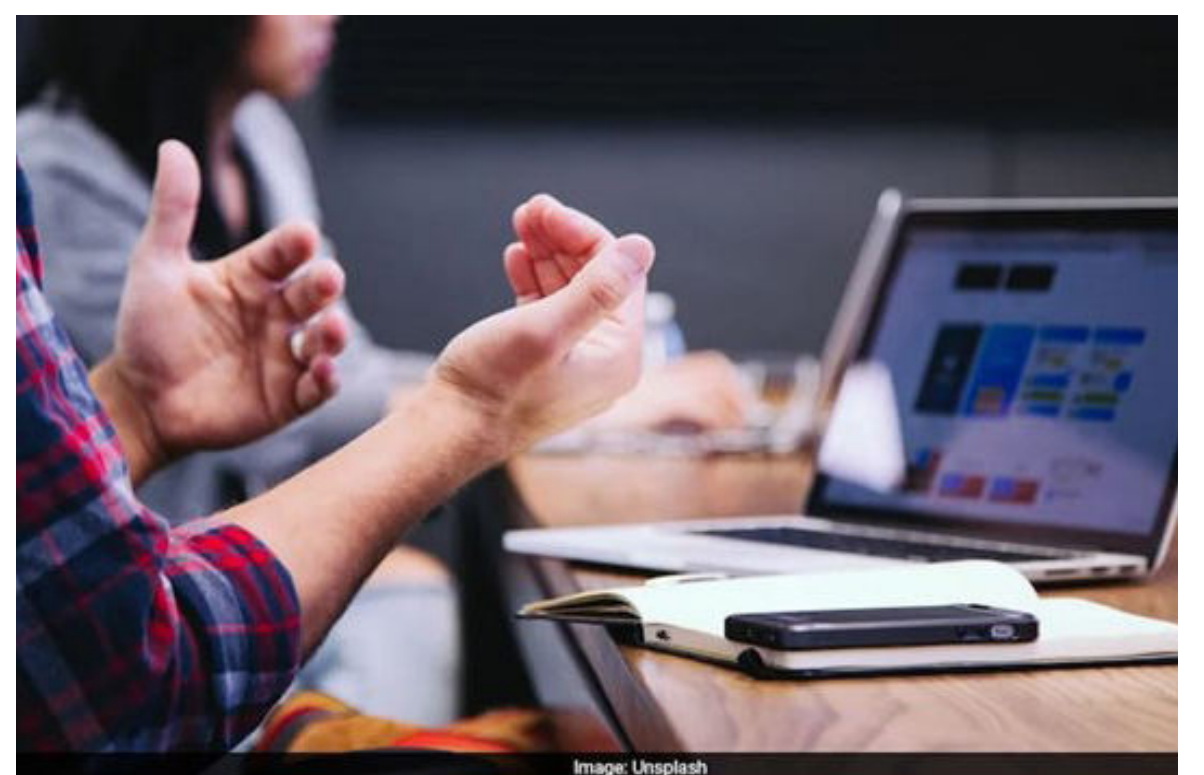
The Reddit user mentioned that women seem to get away with making mistakes that would have serious repercussions for their male colleagues, and that women are generally given more support and guidance from senior staff, while men are expected to figure things out on their own. He also pointed out the unequal workload distribution, claiming that women adhere to standard 9-to-5 hours while men are expected to work much longer hours without extra pay.

Despite expressing his concerns, the user clarified that he does not harbor any hatred toward women and is not blaming them for the unequal treat-

ment. He noted that some female colleagues have also acknowledged the workplace bias. However, he was disheartened by the notion that women with less experience or skills may be promoted simply because of their appearance.

The post quickly garnered attention, with many Redditors offering their perspectives. Some supported the idea that the real issue lies in workplace culture and management rather than the women themselves. One user wrote, "You should hate your workplace, not the women. Hate your bosses who are exploiting men. Not the women. It's as simple as that." Another comment emphasized that while it's important to recognize unfair treatment, the real problem is a result of patriarchal structures that still influence workplace dynamics.

Some users also reassured the poster that he could still identify as a feminist, noting that feminism is about equality for all genders, not just the upliftment of women. "What you're facing here is STILL the consequence of patriarchy!" one commenter advised, encouraging him to address the issue with the management rather than blaming women for the systemic bias.



Wayne Rooney Calls for Major Overhaul at Manchester United, Says 10-15 Players Should Leave



Wayne Rooney has criticized Manchester United's current squad, describing them as "lost" and "scared" on the pitch. Speaking on the Stick to Football podcast, the club's record goalscorer stated that United's poor form, sitting 14th in the Premier League, requires significant changes. Rooney believes that "10 to 15 players need to leave the club," citing a lack of responsibility and mental toughness among the squad. He singled out Bruno Fernandes

and Kobbie Mainoo as the few players worth keeping. Despite the recent appointment of Ruben Amorim as manager, the club has continued to struggle, winning just five of 17 league games under his tenure. Rooney expressed disappointment at United's performances, stating it "hurts" to watch, especially with his children in the club's academy. He urged the team to show more character and fight on the pitch.

Max Verstappen Opens Up on 2025 F1 Title Race, Says Red Bull May Not Be the Fastest



As the 2025 Formula 1 season kicks off at the Australian Grand Prix, reigning champion Max Verstappen has admitted that Red Bull may not be the fastest team heading into the season. Despite starting 2024 in dominant fashion, Red Bull's grip weakened in the latter part

of the season, with McLaren and Ferrari making significant strides. Verstappen acknowledged, "I know that we are not the quickest at the moment," but stressed that it's a long season with much to change. Meanwhile, McLaren's Lando Norris downplayed suggestions that Mc-

Laren is now the team to beat. He emphasized that while the team had a strong pre-season, they are not superior and expect a tough battle with all competitors. Both Verstappen and Norris remain cautious about their team's true standing ahead of the racing season.

Malvika Bansod's All England Championship Run Ends After Loss to Akane Yamaguchi



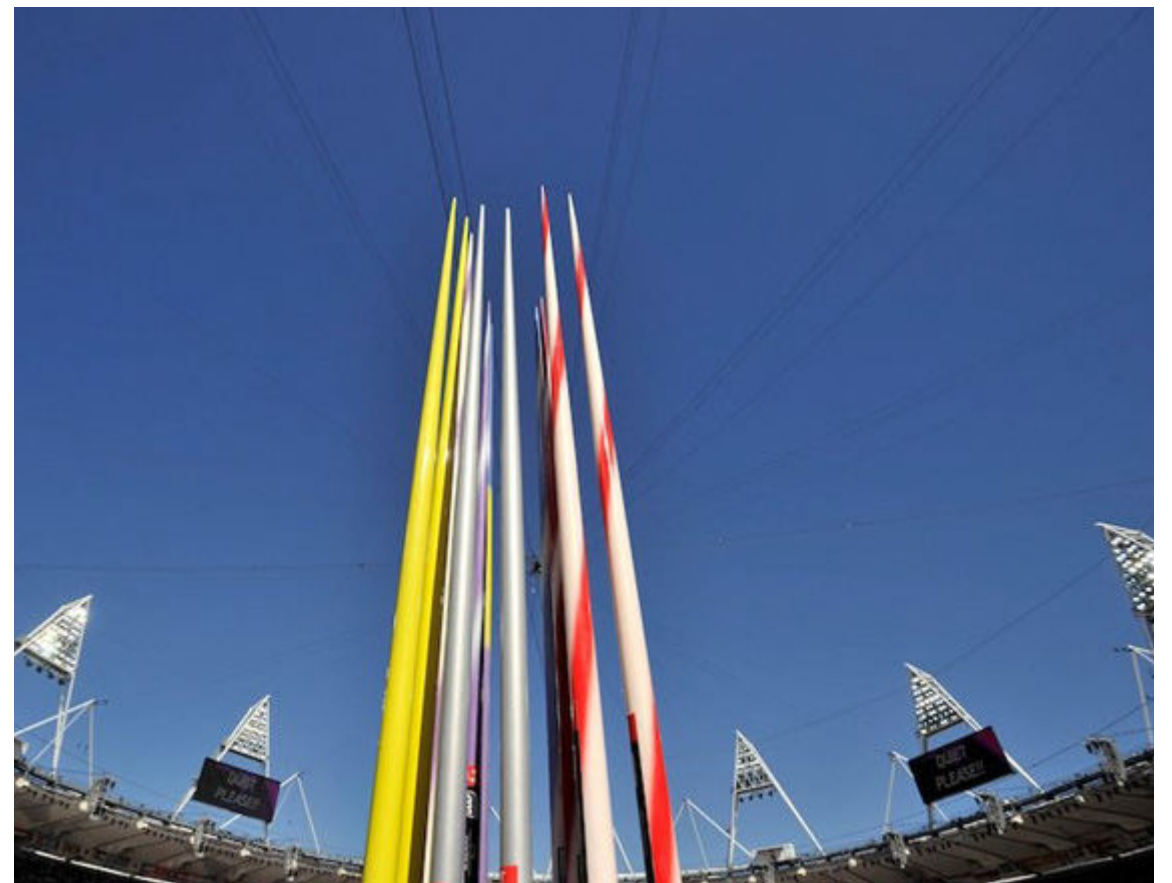
India's women's singles campaign at the All England Championships came to a close as Malvika Bansod lost in straight games to Japan's two-time world champion Akane Yamaguchi in the pre-quarterfinals. Yamaguchi, ranked world No. 3, dominated the match, winning 21-16, 21-13 in just 33 minutes. This extended her head-to-head lead over Bansod to 4-0. Bansod struggled with errors, hitting

wide and into the net, while Yamaguchi capitalized on her opponent's mistakes. Despite briefly leveling scores at 5-5 and 8-8 in the second game, Bansod could not sustain her momentum, as Yamaguchi surged ahead after the interval, sealing the match with a powerful smash. Earlier in the tournament, PV Sindhu was also knocked out of the women's singles event.

Rinku Hooda Shines as India Dominates Day 2 of World Para Athletics Grand Prix

India delivered an exceptional performance on the second day of the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2025, with Rinku Hooda leading the charge in the men's javelin F46 category. Hooda clinched gold with a throw of 60.26 meters, maintaining his golden streak after recent successes at the National Para Athletics Championships and the Asian Para Games. India further showcased its dominance, sweeping the podium in the men's

javelin F12, F37, F42, F43 combined category, with Pushpendra Singh securing gold. Other notable performances included Ritender's gold in the F40/F41 javelin, Atul Kaushik's victory in the discus throw, and Svetlana Mironova's gold in women's shot put. India continued its success across various events, including gold medals from Dilip Mahadu Gavit in the 400m and Mikhail Kuskus in the 400m T35/T36.



Vinesh Phogat Opposes WFI's Affiliation Restoration by Sports Ministry



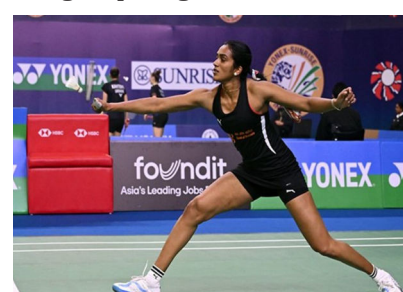
Olympian wrestler and Congress MLA, Vinesh Phogat, strongly opposed the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports' decision to lift the suspension of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and restore its affiliation. The suspension, which was imposed

after elections in the WFI, was lifted following a Delhi High Court order. Vinesh, who has been vocal against WFI's leadership, expressed concerns over the federation being handed to "goons and criminals," urging the media to highlight this issue more forcefully.

India Drawn with Indonesia, Denmark, and England in Sudirman Cup 2025

India has been placed in Group D alongside Indonesia, Denmark, and England for the BWF Sudirman Cup Finals 2025, which will take place in Xiamen, China from April 27 to May 4. The Sudirman Cup is a prestigious international mixed-team badminton competition held every two years. The draws were announced on Thursday as per Olympics.com. A total of 16 teams will participate in this year's edition, with each tie consisting of five matches: men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles. The defending cham-

pions and hosts, China, are the top seeds in Group A, while Indonesia, South Korea, and Japan are seeded second, third, and fourth, respectively. India's best performances came in 2011 and 2017, reaching the quarterfinals. In the last edition, India was eliminated in the group stage.



Indian Athletes Shine at Special Olympics World Winter Games with 9 Medals

Indian athletes have continued their impressive performances at the Special Olympics World Winter Games Turin 2025, bringing home a total of nine medals after the second day of competition. On Wednesday, India secured two gold, two silver, and one bronze medal across snowboarding and alpine skiing events. In snowboarding, Bharti (division F25) clinched a gold in the Novice Slalom Final, while Harshita Thakur (division F26) earned a bronze in the same event. This marks Bharti's second gold. In alpine skiing, Nirmala Devi (division F06) won gold, Radha Devi (division F01) took silver, and Abhishek Kumar (division M02) secured silver in the Novice Giant



Slalom Final. India's head coach, Anoop Kumar Sharma, praised the athletes' determination and hard work. The Special Olympics features over 1,500 athletes from 102 countries, with India competing in six disciplines.



Ranbir Kapoor Confirms Brahmastra 2 is Happening



Ranbir Kapoor has confirmed that Brahmastra 2 is definitely in the works. During a media interaction, Kapoor revealed that Ayan Mukerji, who is currently busy with War 2, will begin pre-production for the second installment once the project is completed. He assured fans that exciting announcements about Brahmastra 2 would be made soon. The first part of the ambitious film, Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva, was released in 2022, and its success helped launch Kapoor and Alia Bhatt's real-life love story. Ayan Mukerji had previously announced the release dates for the next two parts, with Brahmastra 2 slated for December 2026 and Brahmastra 3 in 2027.

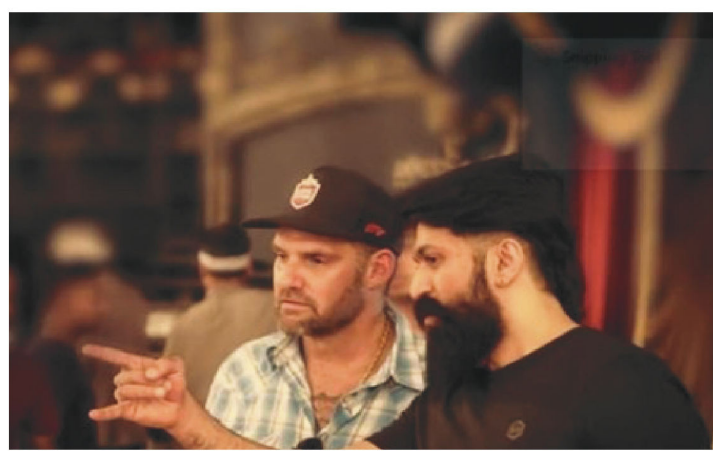
Title: Amitabh Bachchan Confirms Hosting Kaun Banega Crorepati 17: "This Bond Remains Unbroken Forever"



Amitabh Bachchan has confirmed he will return as the host for Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC) Season 17, ending rumors about his exit. In a heartfelt video released on March 12, Big B bid an emotional farewell to viewers, expressing deep gratitude for the connection built over the years. Reflecting on his journey, he shared, "My hope is that this bond remains unbroken forever." The 82-year-old icon also emphasized the show's positive impact, stating that if their efforts had even a small effect on someone's life, the journey had been successful. Bachchan concluded, promising to return for the next season, inspiring viewers to believe in their dreams. On the professional front, he was last seen in Vettaian alongside Rajinikanth.

Hollywood Action Director JJ Perry Calls 'Toxic' a "Banger," Yash's Reaction Goes Viral

Hollywood action director JJ Perry has hailed the upcoming action thriller Toxic as a "banger," and actor Yash's reaction to the compliment has gone viral. Perry, known for his high-octane action choreography, shared a photo with Yash on Instagram, expressing his pride in the film and the collaboration. Yash responded with excitement, saying, "My friend, working with you was straight up, raw power." Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-ups, directed by Geetu Mohandas, is a milestone in Indian cinema, being the first major Indian production filmed in both English and Kannada. The film will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam. Produced by Yash and Venkat K. Narayana, Toxic aims to appeal to global audiences, transcending cultural and linguistic barriers.



Kiran Abbavaram Pledges to Support Struggling Artists and Give Opportunities to New Talent

Actor Kiran Abbavaram has made a significant announcement about his commitment to supporting struggling artists in the film industry. Speaking at the pre-release event of his upcoming film Dil Ruba, Kiran shared his personal journey and the challenges faced by aspiring artists. Reflecting on his early days in the industry, he revealed how he started with 50 hopefuls and now only a few remain due to limited opportunities. Kiran promised to provide financial support to ten struggling artists each year and help them find opportunities in the industry. He also pledged to give new talent a chance in his films by encouraging producers to cast fresh faces. Despite being a relatively new actor, Kiran expressed hope that his actions would inspire others and create a path for future talent.

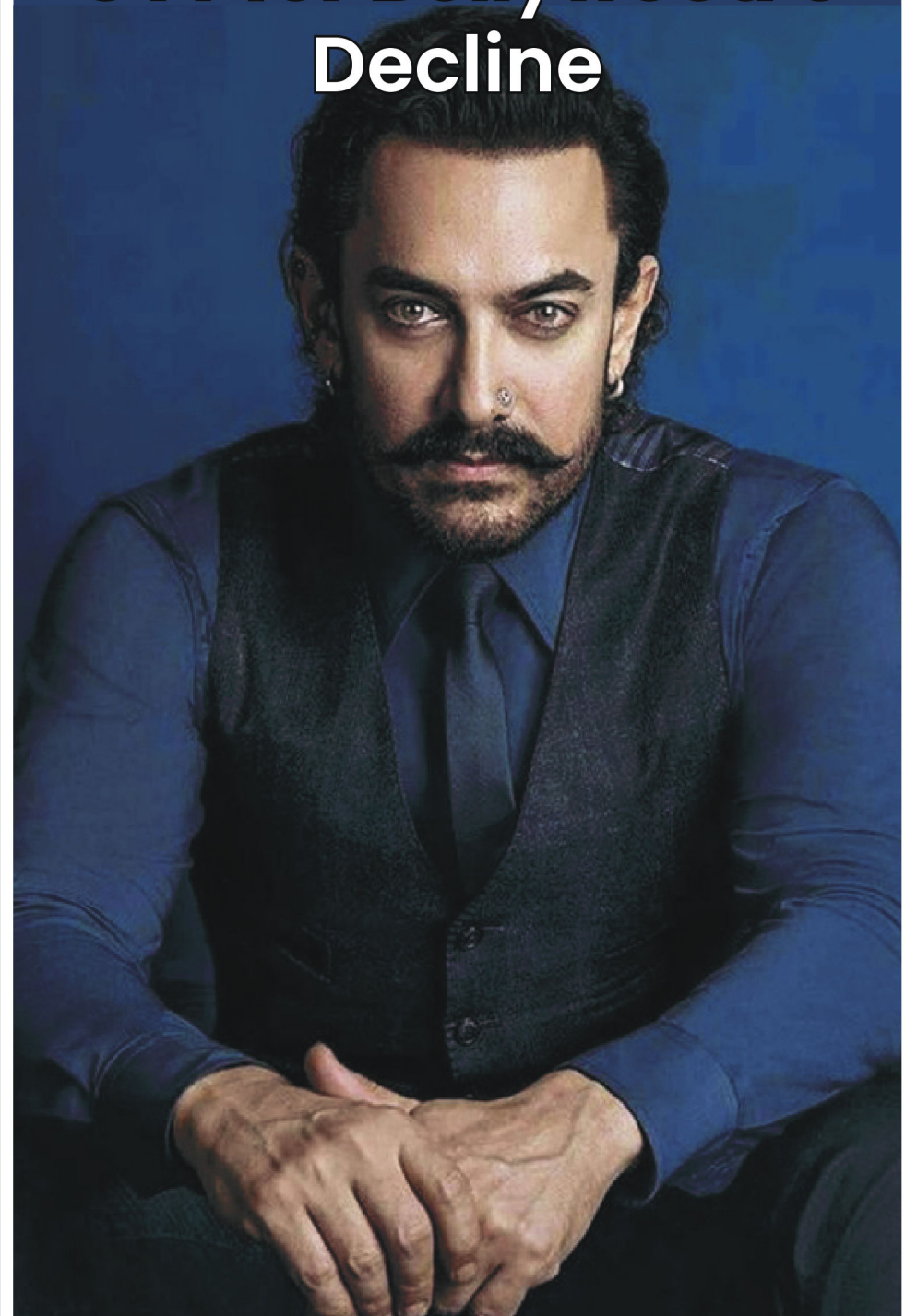


Alia Bhatt Confirms Cannes Debut: "Looking Forward to It"

Alia Bhatt is all set to make her debut at the 78th Cannes Film Festival this year. In a press interaction ahead of her 32nd birthday, Alia confirmed her participation, expressing excitement with a simple, "I am looking forward to it." The festival will take place from May 13-24, 2025. Alia, who has already made a mark at the Met Gala and Paris Fashion Week, will join the ranks of Cannes veterans like Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Deepika Padukone. Her appearance follows a successful year in global fashion, having presented for L'Oreal Paris at Paris Fashion Week. Alia also celebrated her upcoming birthday with husband Ranbir Kapoor at the press meet, where they shared a sweet moment cutting her cake.



Aamir Khan Blames OTT for Bollywood's Decline



Bollywood star Aamir Khan has shared his thoughts on why the industry is facing a decline. He believes that the rise of OTT platforms is the main reason for Bollywood's struggle, as audiences now prefer watching films at home rather than in theaters. Aamir pointed out that before the advent of OTTs, viewers would flock to theaters to watch movies, but with OTT subscriptions available, people

now watch films from the comfort of their homes. He also noted the significant rise of South Indian cinema, with regional films gaining massive popularity, while Bollywood films struggle at the box office. Aamir emphasized that the focus should not be on whether a film is from the North or South, but rather on reviving theater culture and encouraging people to watch films in theaters.