



Weather Forecast

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

KTR Fires at Revanth Reddy Over Secret Meetings with BJP Leaders

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) launched a scathing attack on Telangana Congress President Revanth Reddy over his alleged secret meetings with BJP leaders. KTR questioned the integrity of these meetings and termed it a matter of shame for a leader of Revanth's stature. He accused Revanth of secretly meeting BJP leaders, despite being in the Congress party, and shared sensational reports about the meetings through his official social media platform.



KTR criticized Revanth for engaging in covert meetings with BJP leaders while pretending to fight them in public. He called this behavior deceitful, describing it as a "neech sanskriti" (low culture) of politics. KTR expressed his disbelief at Revanth's actions, saying that, as the Chief Minister of Telangana, Revanth should be conducting official meetings, not these hidden, secretive ones. He questioned the intentions behind these meetings, alleging that they were part of some clandestine political deals. KTR further stated that Telangana had never witnessed such unscrupulous political tactics in its history.

In his statement, KTR remarked that Revanth, despite the ongoing crises in the state, including farmer suicides and deteriorating conditions in gurukuls

KTR attacks Revanth over secret meetings.

Alleged meetings with BJP leaders exposed.

KTR criticizes deceptive political tactics.

Revanth's actions seen as irresponsible.

Telangana citizens reject backroom politics.

(traditional schools), seemed to have the time for these secretive meetings. He emphasized that it was highly irresponsible for a Chief Minister to focus on such covert political dealings while ignoring the urgent issues facing the people of Telangana. KTR suggested that Revanth's actions were motivated by his weakening position as Chief Minister, implying that he was desperate to secure a deal with the BJP to retain power. KTR concluded by asserting that the people of Telangana would not tolerate such "dirty politics." He firmly stated that Telangana's citizens would not allow any such backroom dealings between the two Delhi-based parties. He urged the people to reject these political games and uphold the integrity of their state.

Vijayashanthi targets KCR; Cabinet entry for Ramulamma: Is this Congress High Command's strategy?

Vijayashanthi targets KCR's family influence.

Ramulamma may join Cabinet soon.

Congress plans major political strategy.

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : Congress High Command is reportedly focusing on offering Vijayashanthi the Home Minister position. This strategic move aims to counter KCR's family dominance. There are indications that Congress might be planning to bring in Ramulamma, a leader with a strong movement background, into the Cabinet to challenge KCR's family influence. Vijayashanthi, elected unanimously as an MLC, is now being speculated as a future minister. Congress High Command seems to have decided to assign the crucial Home Ministry to Ramulamma, hoping her strong credentials will provide a robust challenge to KCR's dominance. Recently, after her MLC election, Vijayashanthi made sharp criticisms of KCR's family, further fueling these speculations.



The ongoing discussions in Congress circles suggest that the High Command is keen to make strategic moves to strengthen its position. Vijayashanthi's name was included in the final list of MLC candidates, a surprising decision that has sparked discussions about her potential Cabinet role. Congress seems to be focusing on leaders with a strong political background to counter the growing influence of KCR's family.

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Suspicious Death in Nizamabad Lockup: Gulf Agent Sampath Dies in Custody



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : Tension erupted in Nizamabad district following the suspicious death of Gulf agent Sampath while in police custody. Sampath, who was arrested in connection with a fake visa case, reportedly died under mysterious circumstances while being transferred to a remand prison. His relatives have alleged that police brutality was the cause of his death, claiming that he succumbed to injuries after being beaten by the officers.

Sampath, who ran the Sri Ram Manpower Consultancy in Jagtial, had been accused of deceiving several youth with false promises of sending them to Dubai for work. Following complaints, he was arrested by the police and remanded for two days by the court. However, as he was being transported to the remand prison, Sampath reportedly fell seriously ill and was rushed to the Nizamabad Government Hospital. Despite receiving medical treatment, he was declared dead shortly thereafter. This incident led to protests outside the hospital, with Sampath's relatives demanding accountability from the police. Nizamabad ACP Raja Venkata Reddy responded by stating that Sampath collapsed in the hospital and that medical professionals witnessed the incident. An inquiry is underway to investigate the cause of death, and a team of three doctors will conduct the post-mortem examination. A case has also been registered, and further investigation is in progress. The death of Sampath has raised serious questions regarding police conduct, leading to widespread unrest in the region.

Telangana Increases Age Limit for Cochlear Surgery

Telangana increases cochlear surgery age limit.

Age limit raised to five years.

Health Minister approves key rule change.

More hospitals to offer surgeries.

Private ENT hospitals eligible for surgery.



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : In a significant move, the Telangana government has revised the rules for cochlear implant surgery under the Arogya Sri health scheme. The age limit for children eligible for the surgery has been increased from three years to five years. This decision was revealed by the CEO of the Arogya Sri Trust, Karnan, and is aimed at addressing hearing issues, which are becoming more prevalent among children due to changing lifestyles. Previously, the Arogya Sri scheme allowed cochlear implant surgeries only for children up to three years old. However, due to the increasing number of young children suffering from hearing difficulties,

the government has decided to extend the age limit to five years, providing relief to more children in need of this critical surgery. Cochlear implant surgeries are expensive, with costs ranging from Rs. 6 to 12 lakhs in private hospitals. In contrast, under the Arogya Sri scheme, the surgery is offered at a significantly reduced cost. Until now, only a few government hospitals, such as Koti ENT, Gandhi Hospital, and MGM Hospital in Warangal, performed these surgeries, with a total of only 132 surgeries conducted since 2022. The government is also exploring the possibility of expanding the availability of these surgeries.

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BRS MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy Interrogated by Police Over Farmhouse Raid

Pochampally interrogated over farmhouse raid.

Police seized mobile phones, betting materials.

MLC denies involvement, calls case political.

Lease documents provided during investigation.



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : BRS MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy visited the Moyinabad Police Station on Friday for an extensive interrogation related to a raid conducted at a farmhouse in the Toll Katt village on February 11. Police had earlier carried out an SOT (Special Operations Team) raid at the farmhouse, leading to the arrest of 64 individuals involved in cock-fighting and illegal betting activities. The authorities also seized 64 mobile phones, betting materials, and 46 knives used in the illegal activities. During the investigation, Pochampally was questioned for about four and a half hours. He clarified that the farmhouse, which was being used for unlawful activities, had been leased out by him. He provided the police with the lease documents, though the documents raised certain doubts. The police had issued a notice for him

to appear again for further questioning, which led to his visit to the station. The MLC maintained that the charges were politically motivated. He explained that the farmhouse's operations were managed by his son-in-law, Ramesh Reddy, and that the lease had been provided to him. He also claimed to have handed over all related documents to the authorities. Pochampally further clarified that he was not involved in any illegal activities but only answered questions related to the case as requested by the police. Locals have reportedly mentioned that such activities are frequently held at the farmhouse in Toll Katt village. However, Pochampally denied knowledge of any such events and insisted that the police would provide further details regarding the case. He emphasized that the

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Revanth Seeks Support for International Events in Hyderabad from Jaishankar

- Revanth seeks support for international events.
- Events include Miss World, Global Summit.
- Telangana's strengths in gaming, VFX highlighted.
- Jaishankar assures diplomatic, logistical assistance.
- "Telangana Rising" promoted in global programs.



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy met with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi to discuss the central government's support for several international events scheduled to take place in Hyderabad. The events include the prestigious Miss World contest, the Global Deep Tech Summit, the Bharat Summit, and India Joy, which will focus on Telangana's strengths in industries such as animation, gaming, and visual effects (VFX).

In his meeting with Jaishankar, Reddy requested diplomatic and logistical assistance to ensure the smooth execution of these events. He also urged Jaishankar to promote the concept of "Telangana Rising" during India's international programs, emphasizing the state's rapid growth and potential over the next 25 years. The Chief Minister high-

lighted that these events would play a significant role in promoting Telangana's global presence, particularly in the entertainment and technology sectors. Jaishankar responded positively, assuring his full support for these initiatives. He acknowledged Telangana as one of the country's rapidly developing states and expressed his commitment to assisting the state in achieving its growth and development objectives, aligning with the national vision of a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047. The meeting was also attended by former External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid and several Congress MPs, further indicating the collaborative efforts to advance Telangana's global standing. The Telangana government is hopeful that these events will significantly boost the state's international profile and contribute to its overall development.

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Telangana Government to Issue BPL, APL Ration Cards: Minister Uttam

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : The Telangana government is planning to introduce two categories of ration cards: Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL). This announcement was made by Minister for Civil Supplies and Irrigation, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, during an informal discussion with journalists on March 13. Under the new initiative, BPL cards will be issued to families below the poverty line, while APL cards will be allocated to those above it. The state government is considering a tricolor design for the BPL cards and a green color for the APL cards. This classification aims to make the identification of beneficiaries more streamlined.



Currently, the process of selecting a com-

pany to manufacture these ration cards is in progress, with tenders being called. The Telangana government expects to start issuing the new ration cards by April. The state has approximately 2.8 crore ration card beneficiaries, and the plan is to issue smart cards to both new applicants and existing cardholders. The move follows a history of updates in the state's ration card system, with previous changes including the replacement of pink cards with green cards and white cards with tricolor ones. This development is expected to enhance the efficiency of the public distribution system and improve the targeting of welfare programs for those in need.

TGPSC Announces Group 3 Results: Here's How to Check

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : The Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) has announced the results for the Group 3 examination on its official website on Friday, March 14, 2025. The examination, conducted on November 17 and 18, 2024, was held in three shifts—two on November 17 and one on November 18—across 1401 centers in 33 districts of Telangana. The Group 3 recruitment aims to fill 1363 vacancies in various state government departments. Candidates can obtain their memorandum of marks one month after the publication of the selection list. The memorandum will be available on the TGPSC website for three months, and candidates can access it upon payment of Rs 200 via IPO/DD in favor of the TGPSC Secretary, Hyderabad. This announcement comes after TGPSC released the results for Group 2 on March 11, 2025. The Group 2 exam, held in December 2024, was also aimed at recruiting candidates for various state government positions.



How to Check TSPSC Group 3 Result 2025:

1. Visit the official TGPSC website.
2. Click on the Group 3 Result 2025 link on the homepage.
3. Enter your login credentials.
4. Click submit to view your result.
5. Download and check your result.
6. Take a printout for future reference.

For more details, candidates are advised to visit the official TGPSC website.

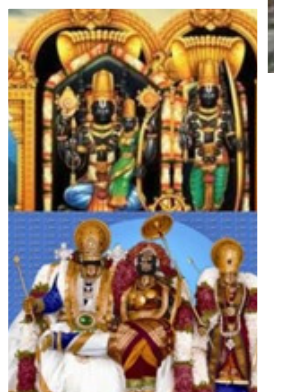
Six-hour delay in Sri Rama Navami festival at Bhadrachalam temple

- Dispute between priests and temple authorities leads to chaos



TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam

A major disruption occurred in the Sri Rama Navami festival at the Bhadrachalam Sri Seetha Ramachandraswamy temple, delaying the ankurarpana (ceremonial seed sowing) by six hours due to a dispute between the priest group and temple authorities. The festival, which was supposed to start on Thursday evening, was postponed until 10 PM amid tensions over the absence of the deputy chief priest. The dispute arose after Deputy Chief Priest Srinivasa Ramamujam was transferred to Parnasala Sri Seetha Ramachandraswamy temple two days ago by Executive Officer (EO) Ramadevi as part of disciplinary action. He was accused of accepting money offered to the Lord by a devotee, which led to his removal. However, the priests refused to conduct the ankurarpana without his presence, arguing that his role was crucial for the rituals. They requested the EO to allow him to perform the festival ceremonies and agreed to his transfer only after the celebrations. Despite hours of discussions, there was no immediate resolution, causing frustration among devotees who had gathered to witness the sacred event. Eventually, at 10 PM, EO Ramadevi met the priests and criticized their stance, stating that bringing back an official facing disciplinary action would damage the temple's reputation. However, as the deadlock continued, the EO was forced to call back the deputy chief priest, after which the ankurarpana ceremony finally took place. The incident has sparked a heated debate over the conduct of the priests, with many questioning their decision to halt a major religious event over an internal dispute. This controversy comes soon after another embarrassment for the temple authorities, as worms were found in the rice prepared for devotees during previous Sri Rama Navami celebrations.



Search for Trapped Workers in Telangana Tunnel Continues

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 15 : The search operation to rescue seven workers trapped inside the partially collapsed SLBC tunnel in Nagarkurnool, Telangana, has entered its 21st day. Teams from various agencies, including the Army, NDRF, SDRF, Singareni Collieries, and a robotics company, are working tirelessly to locate the trapped individuals. The incident occurred on February 22 when a portion of the SLBC tunnel collapsed, trapping eight workers inside. While the body of one worker, Gurpreet Singh, a TBM operator, was recovered on March 9 and handed over to his family in Punjab, the remaining seven workers, including Manoj Kumar (Uttar Pradesh), Sunny Singh (Jammu & Kashmir), Gurpreet Singh (Punjab), and Sandeep Sahu, Jegta Xess, and Anuj Sahu (all from Jharkhand), are still missing. Rescue teams have been conducting round-the-clock operations, including de-watering

the tunnel and using advanced technologies like robotics to access difficult-to-reach areas. The robotics company has deployed robots that can navigate dangerous zones with greater efficiency than humans, allowing the rescue teams to continue their efforts in areas previously inaccessible.



As the search operation continues, officials remain hopeful that the remaining workers will be found. The operation has involved meticulous planning, with rescue workers continuing to push forward despite the difficult conditions inside the tunnel. The families of the missing workers await updates as the operation progresses.

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Vijayashanthi targets KCR; Cabinet entry for Ramulamma: Is this Congress High Command's strategy?

The upcoming Cabinet expansion, likely in the next two weeks, could offer clarity on whether Vijayashanthi will be elevated or if the

Congress will fill other key positions. The situation remains fluid, with much anticipation around the final decisions.

Telangana Increases Age Limit for Cochlear Surgery

to more government hospitals, which would provide more access to the treatment. In the past, private ENT hospitals were not included under the Arogya Sri scheme due to concerns over potential misuse of funds. However, the government is considering including pri-

vate hospitals in the scheme, provided strict supervision is maintained to ensure transparency. This initiative will offer better access to cochlear implant surgeries and ensure that more children benefit from this life-changing procedure.

BRS MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy Interrogated by Police Over Farmhouse Raid

inquiry was focused only on the lease documents he had submitted and assured full cooperation with the investigation.

In addition to the charges related to gaming, a case under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, was also filed against Pochampally.

The land of Telangana gave me a new life

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan, speaking at the Jayaketanam Sabha, reflected on the deep connection between his party and Telangana. He emphasized that while Telangana is the birthplace of the Jana Sena, Andhra Pradesh has become its

burial ground. He praised Telangana as a land rich in heritage and culture, referring to it as the "harp of a million gems."

Recalling a past incident, Pawan Kalyan attributed his survival after an electric shock to the blessings of Kondagattu Anjaneya Swamy, the love of his Telangana brothers, and the goodwill of his supporters.

He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the land of Telangana for giving him a new life.

He also paid tribute to the people of Telangana, particularly the Jana Sainiks and the brave women of the state. "My heartfelt greetings to the one who tied my leg with a rope and asked, 'How are you, sister?' When I see him, he greets me

affectionately with the same words. My heartfelt greetings to the Telangana Jana Sainiks and the courageous women who hail from the land of our ancestors. I will never forget the fighting spirit of our brave women," he said.

Pawan Kalyan further praised the resilience and strength of the women in his



party, calling them the "unwavering rays of the Sun God" and "the laser beams that strike down injustice." He reiterated his deep gratitude, stating, "I am indebted to you all. The Jana Sena was born on the sacred soil of Telangana."

Jagadish Reddy's remarks against Speaker are unacceptable: Ponnam Prabhakar



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar strongly condemned BRS MLA Jagadish Reddy's remarks directed at the Speaker, stating that it was inappropriate to say, "The House is not yours alone." He expressed anger over BRS leaders deliberately staging protests despite knowing the decorum expected in the Assembly.

Speaking to the media, Ponnam Prabhakar criticized Jagadish Reddy for making comments that undermine the dignity of the Speaker in the

Legislative Assembly. He found it absurd that the BRS leaders were holding protests against the Speaker's decision, arguing that those who have acted against democratic values in the past are now engaging in dharnas. He further remarked that if the BRS high command acknowledges Jagadish Reddy's mistake and takes corrective action, then organizing protests makes no sense. He urged people to take note of the behavior of BRS leaders, implying that their actions contradict their claims of upholding democratic principles.

BJP lacks recognition for Eleti Maheshwar Reddy that Congress gave



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Congress MP from Bhongir, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, criticized the BJP, stating that the recognition given by the Congress to BJP Legislature Party leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy is absent in the BJP. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan, he accused the BJP of running a dishonest government at the Center.

He questioned Eleti Maheshwar Reddy's stance, stating that if the Congress government is struggling to govern, it is not appropriate for him to demand a public verdict in the Assembly. He remarked that Maheshwar Reddy has been criticizing the Congress government for the past 14 months only to gain recognition within the BJP.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy challenged the BJP, which has been in power for 11 years, to present its achievements and fulfillments of promises made to the people. He asserted that Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi should first be held accountable for his dishonest governance. Referring to Modi's promise of creating two crore jobs annually, he pointed out that Telangana's share should have been 80 lakh jobs and demanded an explanation for its non-fulfillment.

He further alleged that while massive bank loans were waived for corporate giants, only ₹15 lakh was promised to be deposited in the accounts of the poor, which never materialized. Additionally, he accused BJP leader Kishan Reddy of obstructing central funds meant for Telangana.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy also highlighted concerns over the upcoming constituency reorganization, warning that seats in the southern states, including Telangana, could decrease.

He urged Kishan Reddy to attend the southern states' meeting on the 22nd of this month and represent Telangana's interests.

Autonomous hydraulic robot deployed to speed up SLBC tunnel rescue

TPN Correspondent | Nagarkurnool

An 'autonomous hydraulic powered robot' equipped with advanced machinery has been deployed to expedite the search operation for seven individuals still trapped inside the collapsed SLBC tunnel in Nagarkurnool.

The specialized equipment includes a 30 HP capacity liquid ring vacuum pump and a vacuum tank machine, which are aiding in the rapid removal of soil and debris inside the tunnel, an official statement said. Instead of manual digging, the hydraulic-powered robot is being utilized to clear soil efficiently, with the ability to shift approximately 620 cubic meters of muck per hour using a conveyor belt. Author-



ities believe that employing the latest technology will enhance the efficiency of the rescue operation.

State Special Chief Secretary

state-run miner Singareni Collieries, and a Hyderabad-based robotics company are actively involved in the mission.

The body of Gurpreet Singh, a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) operator, was recovered on March 9 and handed over to his family in Punjab.

The remaining seven trapped individuals include Manoj Kumar (Uttar Pradesh), Sunny Singh (Jammu & Kashmir), Gurpreet Singh (Punjab), and Sandeep Sahu, Jegta Xess, and Anuj Sahu, all from Jharkhand.

The tunnel collapse occurred on February 22, trapping eight engineers and laborers. Rescue teams are continuing their efforts, with authorities hoping the latest deployment will accelerate the mission.

Jagadish Reddy's arrogance remains unchecked - Congress leader Patel Ramesh Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Tourism Development Corporation Chairman and Congress leader Patel Ramesh Reddy lashed out at BRS MLA Jagadish Reddy, stating that his arrogance has not diminished despite losing power. He accused Jagadish Reddy of making insulting remarks toward the Speaker and found it strange that he claimed to be unfairly suspended from the Assembly.

Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Patel Ramesh Reddy challenged Jagadish Reddy to resign as an MLA if he had the courage and face a by-election, asserting that he would not even secure his deposit this time. He stated that



if Reddy truly believed he was treated unjustly, he should allow the people to decide in a fresh mandate.

He further warned that BRS leaders cannot make reckless

statements in the Assembly and expect to go unchallenged. Emphasizing that no one would defend Jagadish Reddy's remarks against the Speaker, he stressed that the govern-

ment should act responsibly and focus on addressing public concerns.

Patel Ramesh Reddy also questioned Jagadish Reddy's sudden rise in wealth, alleging that he once traveled on a scooter wearing rubber slippers but has now amassed thousands of crores. He accused the BRS leader of acting like a dictator during his tenure as a minister and looting public money. He pointed out that BRS lost 11 out of 12 seats in the united Nalgonda district, with Jagadish Reddy being the only exception. Concluding his remarks, Patel Ramesh Reddy condemned Jagadish Reddy's behavior and demanded that he be suspended from the Assembly for the entire term.

Raghunandan Rao warns TTD over rejection of Telangana representatives'

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Medak MP and BJP leader Raghunandan Rao has strongly warned that if the recommendation letters of Telangana public representatives—including MLAs, MPs, and MLCs—are not accepted, all of them will visit Tirumala to settle the matter with the TTD. He demanded that the Andhra Pradesh government and TTD governing council implement their previous announcement regarding providing darshan on the recommendation of Telangana representatives.

Speaking to the media after having VIP break darshan in Tirumala on Friday, Raghunandan Rao insisted that dev-

otees visiting during summer vacations on these recommendation letters must be allowed darshan. If not, he warned, Telangana public representatives will take up the issue directly with TTD authorities.

He reminded that the TTD board, under BR Naidu's leadership, had assured that recommendation letters from Telangana representatives would be accepted from February 1. However, he expressed disappointment that while 294 MLAs were allowed in the united Andhra Pradesh, now the privilege is restricted only to AP MLAs. He demanded an end to discrimination and urged Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to intervene and resolve the issue.



STF Seizes Cannabis-Laced Holi Treats in Hyderabad



TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 : In a shocking revelation, the Telangana State Excise Enforcement Special Task Force (STF) uncovered the illegal use of cannabis during Holi celebrations in the city. The authorities raided the area of Lower Dhoolpet, particularly in Malchipura, where cannabis was being used in Kulfi ice creams, Burfi sweets, and silver-coated balls as part of Holi festivities.

The STF team, led by Anji

Reddy, seized 100 cannabis-infused Kulfi ice creams, 72 cannabis-laced Burfi sweets, and cannabis balls. The Kulfi ice cream vendor, Satyanarayana Singh, was identified as the main supplier, mixing cannabis into the ice creams and selling them during the festival. Authorities confirmed that Satyanarayana was running this illegal operation and have filed a case against him.

The STF raid revealed how drug vendors were now resort-

ing to innovative methods to evade detection, turning popular festival treats into vehicles for cannabis distribution. Traditionally, Dhoolpet's Holi was known for its connection to drug use, but this new tactic of selling cannabis-laced food items has raised concerns.

The STF's efforts were praised by Excise Enforcement Director V.V. Kamalasan Reddy, who commended the team for their swift action in curbing this illegal activity.

Telangana Reacts Strongly to Suspension of Jagadeesh Reddy

TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 : The suspension of former minister and Suryapet BRS MLA Jagadeesh Reddy has sparked widespread anger across Telangana. BRS leaders and party workers are expressing strong opposition, claiming that suspending an elected representative from the Assembly is an attempt to silence dissenting voices.

Jagadeesh Reddy had raised critical questions regarding the state government's handling of issues faced by the public, farmers, and various communities. His statements in the Assembly, challenging the government over these concerns, led to his suspension.

In response, BRS workers, under the leadership of Work- ing President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), have organized protests,



roadblocks, and effigy burnings across the state to demand the immediate revocation of his suspension.

The party's leadership is rallying against what they see as an unjustified action aimed at suppressing the opposition's voice in the legislative assembly. They argue that Jagadeesh Reddy was only speaking out

on behalf of the people and their struggles.

This move by the BRS is seen as an assertion of the party's influence, with hopes to secure a reversal of the suspension and bring back their representative to the Assembly. The issue continues to fuel tensions within the party and the state's political landscape.

Hydra Victims Thank Harish Rao for Support



TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 : Former Minister Harish Rao's residence witnessed a heartwarming visit from residents of Haider Shakhote Dream Home Colony, who expressed their gratitude

for his support during their times of distress. The group of Hydra victims, who had faced demolition of their homes recently, reached Harish Rao's house during the Holi festival to extend their heartfelt wish-

es. The residents, many of whom had suffered emotional trauma due to the demolitions, recalled how Harish Rao had stood by them when they were at their lowest. They shared

how, five months ago, they had visited Telangana Bhavan to voice their grievances, and Harish Rao had listened to their concerns attentively. The former minister not only understood their plight but also visited their colony personally, intervening to stop further demolition activities and strongly opposing the actions of the Congress government at the time.

The victims, who had feared losing their homes, expressed deep gratitude for Harish Rao's support, saying that his timely intervention had brought them hope during a period of intense struggle. They made it clear that his help would never be forgotten, and they would always be thankful for his unwavering assistance in their time of need.

Akbaruddin Owaisi Urges Telangana Govt to Extend Budget Session

TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 :

AIMIM floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi has called on the Telangana government and the assembly speaker to extend the ongoing budget session, citing concerns over the limited time allocated for deliberations on the state's financial matters. He expressed his disappointment regarding the government's decision to allocate only four to five days for discussions on the state budget, which amounts to Rs 3 lakh crore.

Owaisi emphasized that in states like Uttar Pradesh, legislative sessions can extend up to 100 days, covering monsoon, winter, and budget sessions. He pointed out that during the united Andhra Pradesh administration, budget discussions lasted as long as 45 days, allowing ample time for a thorough examination of fiscal matters.

The AIMIM leader criticized the current approach, noting that Telangana's assembly has allocated a disproportionately short period to discuss such an important and large budget. He



expressed concerns that this undermines the quality of debate and decision-making.

In addition, Owaisi raised concerns over the recent suspension of BRS MLA G Jagadeesh Reddy, who was penalized for allegedly making disrespectful remarks against the speaker. He argued that such a suspension decision should have involved consultations with all floor leaders to ensure fairness and transparency.

Furthermore, Owaisi took issue with the handling of assembly proceedings, citing an example where the session was adjourned for 15 minutes but resumed after a delay of four hours, disrupting the flow and efficiency of legislative discussions.

Bandi Sanjay Urges Safety, Unity on Holi

TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 : On the occasion of Holi, Union Minister Bandi Sanjay celebrated the festival with his supporters at the district office in Karimnagar, where party workers and followers participated in the vibrant celebrations by applying colors and spreading joy.

While extending his best wishes to the people of the state and Hindu community, Bandi Sanjay emphasized the importance of unity during the festival. He spoke about the celebrations being held across the nation, where people are



enjoying Holi in a festive atmosphere. The Minister urged the people of Telangana, particu-

larly the Hindu community, to come together, despite any challenges, and maintain sol-

idarity.

In his message, Bandi Sanjay also cautioned the public against engaging in dangerous practices during the festival. He advised people to avoid any reckless behavior involving the five elements - air, water, fire, etc. He specifically warned against venturing into lakes and rivers for bathing, urging everyone to be careful to prevent accidents and loss of life.

Sanjay appealed to people to celebrate Holi responsibly, embracing togetherness while ensuring safety during the celebrations.

Big Alert for Telangana Students: Exam Schedule Announced



TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 :

Telangana students have received an important alert as the exam schedule for all government, private, and aided schools has been released. The annual exams for students from classes 1 to 9 will begin on April 9 and conclude on April 17, according to the state's education department. Following the exams, the answer sheets will be evaluated, and the results will be announced on April 23. A Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) will be organized, and progress cards will be distributed to students afterward.

Additionally, schools across the state will start operating on a half-day schedule from tomorrow. School hours will be from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. However, for schools where the 10th-grade exams are being held, the schedule will be adjusted to run from 1:30 PM onwards.

This schedule will affect all students in Telangana, and they are advised to prepare accordingly. The announcement serves as a reminder for students and parents to stay updated and plan their schedules efficiently for the upcoming exams.

Malla Reddy's Mass Dance at Holi Celebrations Goes Viral



TPN, Correspondent Hyderabad, Mar 15 : Former Minister and Medchal MLA Malla Reddy once again became the center of attention

on social media after his mass dance during Holi celebrations. The politician, known for his lively and engaging personality, has consistently attracted

public attention through his actions, and this latest event was no exception.

On the occasion of Holi, Malla Reddy hosted a vibrant celebration at his residence in Boyinapalli, Hyderabad. He was joined by his family members and party leaders, including his son-in-law and MLA Rajasekhara Reddy. The highlight of the celebration was Malla Reddy's energetic mass dance, which left everyone at the gathering in high spirits.

In a video that quickly went viral, Malla Reddy can be seen performing dance steps to the

rhythm of the festival's celebratory mood, bringing immense joy to those around him. Speaking to the media, the MLA extended his warm Holi wishes to the people of the nation and expressed his happiness in celebrating the festival with his loved ones in Boyinapalli, which he considers his family's home.

The video, showcasing Malla Reddy's charismatic moves and infectious enthusiasm, has gained significant attention on social media, making it the latest viral moment during this year's Holi celebrations.



Holi celebrations at Minister Seethakka's residence

TPN Correspondent, Telangana

Minister Seethakka celebrated Holi with enthusiasm at her residence, joining in the festival of colors along with her security personnel, office staff, and residence staff. The celebrations were marked by a vibrant display of colors, sym-

bolizing joy and unity. On this occasion, Seethakka extended Holi greetings to the people of the state, wishing for happiness, prosperity, and communal harmony. She emphasized the spirit of togetherness and festivity that Holi represents, urging people to celebrate responsibly and spread positivity.

HC Denies Gali Janardhan Reddy's Plea for Release of Seized Assets

TPN Correspondent, Telangana

In a significant ruling, Justice K. Lakshman of the Telangana High Court has dismissed a petition filed by former Karnataka minister Gali Janardhan Reddy, his daughter Brahmani, and son Kireeti, seeking the release of assets seized by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) during a raid at Reddy's Ballari residence in 2011. The assets in question include 53 kilograms of gold, nearly Rs 3 crore in cash, and bonds worth Rs 5 crore from the Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd, which were purchased in the names of his minor children in 2006 and matured in 2012.

The Reddy family had argued that these assets were not proceeds of crime and requested their release. However, the court refused to entertain the plea, emphasizing that assets could not be released before the trial's conclusion. The court highlighted that the trial court must first determine the accused's guilt before any such request can be addressed.

Janardhan Reddy, who has



been implicated in the illegal mining case related to his Obulapuram Mining Company, had cited the necessity of the gold for his daughter's marriage and raised concerns about the deterioration of the gold if left in CBI custody. Despite these reasons, the court ruled that such requests were premature, and advised the petitioners to make similar requests before the trial court after the final verdict. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has already seized assets worth Rs 885 crore, including shares in Brahmani's company, in connection with the illegal mining case. Both the ED and the Income Tax Department claim that these assets are linked to proceeds of crime from illegal mining activities carried out by Janardhan Reddy.

Vikarabad Bus Accident: 90 Injured in RTC Bus Overturn

TPN Correspondent, Telangana

A major bus accident occurred in Vikarabad district near Malkapur, on the outskirts of Parigi. An RTC bus, while attempting to stop on the side of the road to issue tickets, lost control after the mud on the roadside gave way. As a result, the bus overturned, causing panic among passengers.

The bus was carrying over 90 passengers at the time of the incident. More than 30 passengers sustained minor injuries, while two others are in critical condition. The injured

were immediately rushed to the Parigi Government Hospital for treatment.

The incident took place on the route from Parigi to Shadnagar. According to passengers, the driver's negligence is believed to be the cause of the accident. The bus was reportedly traveling at a normal speed before the mishap occurred.

Authorities have initiated an investigation into the incident, and further details are awaited. The community and emergency services have been praised for their swift response to the situation.



Holi Celebration in Hunsa: Villagers Play Despite Restrictions

TPN Correspondent, Telangana

In Hunsa village, located in the Salur mandal of Nizamabad district, a unique and traditional Holi celebration has once again sparked attention. Unlike the typical Holi festivities involving colors, villagers participate in a distinct game a custom followed for over 124 years. On Holi, villagers form two groups and engage in fierce, unrestrained fist-fighting in the village square, a custom they strongly believe brings prosperity and protects the community from bad luck.

This year, despite the Telangana government's restric-



tions on the game, which it deems dangerous, the villagers refused to abandon their tradition. The local police had issued warnings, emphasizing that any violations of the rules

would result in legal action. However, the villagers, undeterred by these restrictions, went ahead with the event after performing rituals at the village temple, ensuring the

game continued as part of their cultural identity.

The game involves heavy punches, with no distinctions made for age or gender. Some players sustain injuries, but they apply ashes from the Holi fire to heal the wounds, believing it nullifies the pain. The game typically lasts about 30 minutes, after which the villagers embrace each other and celebrate the festival. Despite the government's objections, people continue to travel from neighboring states like Maharashtra and Karnataka to witness this unique event, making it a significant cultural attraction for Hunsa.

Rs 22.86L GST Notice Shocks Telangana Daily-Wage Worker

TPN Correspondent, Telangana

J. Venkateswarlu, a daily-wage worker from Bhadradi Kothagudem district in Telangana, was stunned when he received a notice demanding Rs 22.86 lakh as pending GST payments for transactions linked to a granite business in 2022. The notice, issued by the commercial tax department in Vijayawada, named a business

registered as Bhagyalakshmi Enterprises, allegedly operating under his name.

Venkateswarlu, who had no involvement in any granite business, was bewildered after visiting the listed address in Vijayawada, only to find no office there. He informed officials that he had applied for a PAN card just six months ago, making it impossible for him to have been part of any busi-

ness in 2022 when the alleged transactions took place.

Officials suspect that his Aadhaar card may have been misused by someone to fraudulently obtain a PAN card and register a business in his name. Venkateswarlu, now burdened with an unexpected financial demand, has been desperately trying to convince authorities that he had no connection to the granite business,



facing significant challenges in resolving the issue.

Cyber Scam in Myanmar: 8 Arrested for Trafficking 24 Telangana Residents



TPN Correspondent, Telangana

The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) has arrested eight individuals involved in trafficking 24 Telangana residents who were trapped in a cyber scam operation in Myanmar. These 24 individuals were among hundreds of Indians lured by fake job offers and trafficked into cybercrime hubs along the Myanmar-Thailand border.

India successfully repatriated 549 citizens in a coordinated effort, with two military aircraft bringing them back. Among the repatriated, 24 were from Telangana, who returned to Hyderabad via Delhi on March 11 and 12. The Telangana police then launched an investigation into the trafficking network behind the scam.

TGCSB Director Shikha Goel confirmed that nine cases were registered at various Cyber

Crime Police Stations across the state. As the investigation unfolded, 15 agents and mediators were identified, with eight arrested so far. However, several suspects remain on the run, including five individuals who are currently abroad. Efforts to track them down are ongoing, with authorities determined to take the necessary action against the perpetrators.

The cyber scam victims were promised lucrative overseas job opportunities, but once they arrived, they found themselves trapped in illegal activities and exploitation. The Telangana police have issued a public advisory urging people to be cautious when accepting overseas job offers, especially those that promise high salaries with minimal qualifications. These scams often target vulnerable individuals seeking better opportunities abroad, and authorities have warned about the increasing prevalence of such fraudulent schemes.

Adivasi Farmers in Telangana Suffer Due to Low-Yield Maize Seeds



TPN Correspondent, Telangana

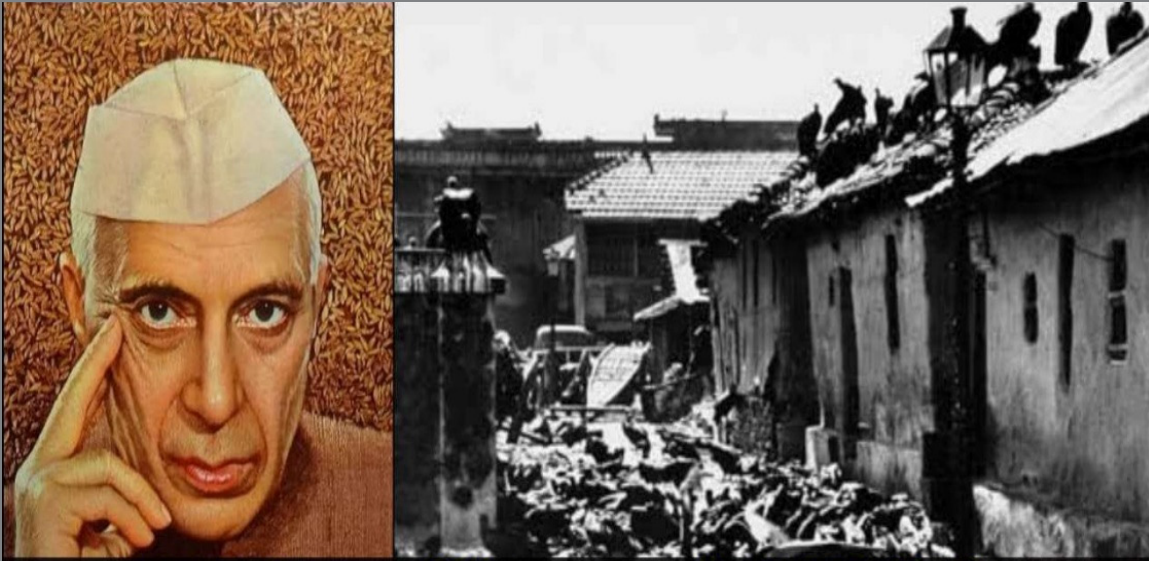
Adivasi maize farmers in Mulugu district, Telangana, are facing heavy losses after the maize seeds provided by seed companies yielded poorly. The seeds, supplied by Bayer, Syngenta, and Hitex, resulted in very low crop yields, affecting hundreds of acres in Vajedu and Venkatapuram mandals. Telangana Seeds Development Corporation chairman Anvesh Reddy, along with scientists

and farmer leaders, visited the affected areas on March 13 to assess the damage.

The maize seeds provided by these companies were expected to produce healthy crops, but the farmers' harvests were severely impacted. Many farmers and farm workers who consumed the maize produce also suffered health issues, as the pesticides used in the crops had adverse effects on their well-being. Anvesh Reddy stated that the poor-quality seeds and

harmful pesticides have caused significant financial losses to the farmers, along with health concerns for those consuming the maize. The affected farmers are now struggling with both economic setbacks and health complications. This situation highlights the serious consequences of using substandard seeds and chemicals in farming, with long-lasting effects on both livelihoods and health in the Adivasi communities of Telangana.

Nehru's Obsession with Hindus



"PM Nehru could have saved 18,000 Hindus, but he didn't."

The Indian National Congress's stance on Hinduism has long been a topic of debate, with the party's approach influenced by the views of its first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru's limited understanding of Hinduism and his tendency to conflate the religion with the ideologies of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a Hindu nationalist organization, shaped the Congress party's approach. This misrepresentation of Hinduism not only painted it in a negative light but also led to a lack of appreciation for the diversity and pluralism inherent within the religion.

In his pursuit of secularism and liberalism, Nehru sought to project an image of a progressive India that catered to minorities. In doing so, he often marginalized the Hindu community, positioning it as a political scapegoat to secure minority votes. This created an environment where Hindu identity was frequently viewed with suspicion, leaving the community feeling alienated and disillusioned with Congress. Nehru's personal detachment from Hindu rituals

and practices only served to reinforce this divide, symbolizing a broader disconnect between Congress leadership and the religious sentiments of a significant portion of the Indian population.

Nehru's secularism was aimed at consolidating power, but it unintentionally fostered an anti-Hindu sentiment within the Congress party. This sentiment has persisted over time, influencing the party's policies and rhetoric in ways that further strained its relationship with the Hindu community. The legacy of this approach continues to affect the Congress party's stance on Hinduism today, contributing to a complex and often tense dynamic between the two.

Nehru's vision for a secular India, while important in maintaining harmony within a multi-religious society, also overshadowed the need for a strong understanding of citizenship and the responsibilities that come with it. Many developed nations have centered their political identities around citizenship, emphasizing both rights and responsibilities, alongside the

rule of law. In contrast, Nehru's Congress focused primarily on secularism to unite India's diverse population, at times neglecting the importance of a more comprehensive discourse on citizenship.

This early prioritization of secularism has had lasting implications for India's social and political landscape. The neglect of a more robust understanding of citizenship has contributed to challenges in social justice, equality, and individual rights. Moving forward, India's democracy must strike a balance between secularism, citizenship, and the rule of law, ensuring that all individuals are recognized as equal citizens, with full access to rights, protections, and responsibilities.



Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

The Superpower Must Recognize Its Own Interests

- Higher tariffs hurt Indian manufacturing.
- Trump and Modi's ties don't guarantee benefits for India.
- U.S. needs India against China, but India shouldn't blindly follow.
- India must balance ties with both U.S. and China.



The global economy is now on edge due to the aggressive trade policies of the United States, particularly under the leadership of former President Donald Trump. Trump's retaliatory tariffs, which have already impacted neighboring countries, are now set to affect India as well. The United States has historically maintained a complex relationship with China, and Trump has consistently viewed it with a strategic focus. However, what must be emphasized here is the broader impact of these trade wars, particularly on India. Noted political and economic analyst D. Paparao shared his insights on this issue in an exclusive conversation with POINT.

The Reality of Trump's Tariff Policies

Trump has taken a unilateral approach to global trade, imposing tariffs across the board. However, Indian policymakers seem to be miscalculating the implications, treating Trump's moves as a strategic alignment rather than an economic challenge. Instead of countering these measures effectively, they appear to be yielding to American demands. The ideological parallels between the Republican Party and India's ruling BJP have led to a perception of mutual support, but in reality, the U.S. remains guided by its own interests.

America's Need for India in the China Equation

The United States recognizes that countering China's rising influence necessitates a strong partnership with India. However, India's blind adherence to American policies, largely shaped by the ruling party's ideological stance, could prove costly. If the U.S. successfully curbs China's economic dominance, there is no guarantee

that India will not become the next target of American trade restrictions. Trump prioritizes American interests, and India should not assume that the tariff war with China will automatically benefit its economy.

The Impact on India's Economy

The recent tariffs announced by Trump will have significant repercussions for India's pharmaceutical sector. The U.S. has long benefited from affordable Indian generic drugs, which have helped reduce healthcare costs for American citizens. However, Trump's decision to impose additional tariffs on pharmaceutical imports will be a major setback for India. At the same time, India's willingness to reduce import tariffs on American goods, including motorcycles, raises concerns about the Modi government's economic strategy. Moreover, Trump's push for India to increase imports of American defense equipment and fossil fuels, even when cheaper alternatives exist in Russia and the Middle East, could further strain India's economy. While the goal of increasing U.S.-India bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030 is ambitious, the terms seem skewed in America's favor. The fact that the U.S. dictates what India should purchase while remaining non-committal about its own imports from India is a reflection of America's hegemonic approach.

Modi Government's Economic Policy Failures

The BJP-led central government has struggled in several key areas over the past decade, from the hasty implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) to the flawed demonetization policy, mishandling of the COVID-19 crisis, rising

inflation, and unemployment. The much-publicized 'Make in India' initiative has not yielded the expected results.

Economic experts, including Ajay Srivastava of the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), argue that India should not surrender to Trump's economic pressure. Srivastava believes that India's response should be as firm as that of China, Canada, and the European Union, rather than making unnecessary concessions. The Modi government's decision to lower tariffs on American imports while failing to negotiate better terms for Indian exports has drawn widespread criticism.

The Consequences of a Trade War

China has been able to counter American trade restrictions effectively, but India's economy is more vulnerable. If Trump's tariffs come into effect, the cost of Indian-manufactured smartphones and other goods exported to the U.S. will rise, reducing demand. This could lead to major multinational companies, including Apple, scaling back their investments in India. Tariffs on aluminum and steel will further burden India's industrial sector, worsening the economic impact. India must adopt a balanced foreign policy that allows it to maintain constructive relationships with both the U.S. and China. Instead of blindly aligning with American interests, India must assert its own economic priorities and negotiate trade agreements that serve its long-term growth. The current approach risks making India a casualty of global trade wars rather than a beneficiary.



D PAPAARAO
Political and Economic analyst

Holi of Strategic Affairs: The Colorful Chaos of Global Diplomacy

It's Holi time, and the world of international relations is about to get a splash of unpredictability. Picture a festival where geopolitics meets the vibrant chaos of color—leaders and countries, like Holi revellers, find themselves drenched in the mess of shifting alliances, tariffs, and negotiations. Let's dive into this wild, colorful take on the serious world of global strategy.

India, the grandmaster of strategic fence-sitting, is everywhere and nowhere at once. Whether it's balancing its relations with the US or trying to mediate global conflicts, India finds itself

in the midst of a Holi-like storm. The US, led by the tariff king Donald Trump, has left India tangled in a web of strategic debates, with arguments about Trump's tariffs and India's role as a mediator often falling on deaf ears. While India claims to be a global peace broker, others, like the UAE and Saudi Arabia, have managed to outshine it in the mediation game, leaving India still clutching the idea of Vishwaguru while others take the lead.

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, Donald Trump is keeping the world entertained with his meme-wor-

thy antics. His obsession with real estate—whether it's grabbing Greenland or Gaza—has become a signature move in his strategic playbook. And then there's his hair, which has dethroned Boris Johnson as the symbol of global hair di-



plomacy. Trump's approach is all about bending the line between treaties and deals with his weapon of choice: the Executive Order.

On the European front, French President Macron has managed to cling to

relevance, even as Europe struggles with economic crises and strategic setbacks. His claim to fame now? Being the so-called savior of Europe, with nuclear weapons as his primary bargaining chip. But let's not ask him about the practical use of those nukes, especially when the absence of US support in Ukraine leaves Europe's strategy looking shaky.

Brussels is busy regulating everything, from energy to defense, while Hungary's Viktor Orbán keeps stirring the pot, securing Covid funds and stirring Euroscepticism. Meanwhile, in the

Caucasus, Russia's defense strategy is proving masterful—arming both sides in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict while weakening its own military alliances.

As we continue this Holi-themed journey through global politics, the world is clearly in a state of chaotic color, where strategy is as unpredictable as the splash of powder on the streets. Between land grabs, memes, and shifting alliances, diplomacy has never been more colorful—or messier. So, enjoy the ride but remember to pack some color-safe diplomacy—it's going to get wild!

"Festival Of Joy Will Infuse Enthusiasm, Deepen Colours Of Unity": PM Modi On Holi



- PM Modi, President Murmu extend Holi greetings
- Festivities across India with music, dance, and colorful celebrations
- Security measures in place to ensure peaceful celebrations

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

As India celebrates the joyous festival of Holi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Droupadi Murmu, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh have extended heartfelt greetings to the nation, wishing everyone a festive season filled with unity, joy, and prosperity.

Prime Minister Modi posted his Holi wishes on social media, expressing that the festival, full of color and happiness, would bring new energy and enthusiasm to people's lives while strengthening unity across the country. He wished for harmony and joy in the lives of all citizens.

President Murmu, also greet-

ing the nation, emphasized that Holi symbolizes love, unity, and harmony, reflecting India's rich cultural heritage. She called on people to pledge to fill every child's life with the colors of progress and happiness, marking a commitment to a prosperous future.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh added his warm wishes for a safe and happy Holi, praying for the good health and happiness of the public. He emphasized that the festival represents joy and renewal, and hoped that it would bring peace and safety to all.

In Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath marked the occasion by applying gulaal (colored powder) to calves

and cows at the Gorakhnath temple, spreading the festive spirit.

As people across the country come together to celebrate, vibrant scenes fill the streets with music, dance, and the application of gulaal. In Sambhal, the celebrations are particularly lively, as people of all ages join in the merrymaking, marking Holi with a spirit of unity. Paramilitary forces conducted a flag march to ensure security, with police also stationed to maintain order during Jumma Namaz and the Holi festivities.

In Aligarh, the colorful celebrations continue with people exchanging colors, accompanied by traditional folk songs and dances, creating a festive atmosphere. The celebration reflects not just cultural richness but the spirit of togetherness, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil.

Holi began with Choti Holi on Thursday, with festivities continuing across the country, marking the arrival of spring and spreading joy to every corner of India.

Jaishankar meets fishermen from Tamil Nadu

Promises 'full support in consular cases'



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with a delegation of fishermen from Tamil Nadu on Thursday, March 13, 2025, to discuss the ongoing concerns surrounding the treatment of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan authorities. This meeting holds significant weight as it follows India's strong protests against recent incidents involving the Sri Lankan Navy.

On January 28, 2025, India lodged a formal protest after the Sri Lankan Navy opened fire on 13 Indian fishermen near Delft Island. Two of the fishermen sustained serious injuries and were admitted to Jaffna Teaching Hospital. Three others were also injured but were later released after receiving medical treatment.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) sent officials from the Indian Consulate in Jaffna to visit the injured fishermen and assure them and their families of full assistance.

In response to the shooting incident, India summoned the Sri Lankan Acting High Commissioner in New Delhi and lodged a "strong protest." The Indian government emphasized the need for humane treatment of fishermen, stressing that the use of force was unacceptable under any circumstances. The MEA also urged both governments to adhere to existing understandings in managing these issues.

The situation escalated when, on February 9, 2025, Sri Lanka arrested 14 more Indian fishermen from Ramanathapuram and seized two of their boats.

This raised the total number of Indian fishermen arrested within two weeks to at least 50, according to reports. The rising tensions prompted further diplomatic engagement.

Jaishankar's meeting with the Tamil Nadu fishermen's delegation, led by Annamalai K, aimed to explore a sustainable solution to these ongoing issues. Jaishankar highlighted that the fishermen's livelihood concerns would be central to the Indian government's approach. He also assured the delegation that the High Commission would continue to offer full support in consular matters.

The meeting underscores the need for continued dialogue between India and Sri Lanka, with the livelihood and safety of fishermen at the forefront.

India denies Pakistan's 'baseless' allegations of India's involvement in acts of terrorism

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Pakistan has accused India of being involved in a recent terrorist attack on the Jaffar Express, a passenger train traveling through the country's Balochistan region. In a strongly worded statement, Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesperson, Shafqat Ali Khan, claimed that India played a role in the attack, citing evidence of communication between the terrorists and their handlers in Afghanistan. He alleged that this cross-border coordination involved Indian involvement in the attack.

Khan's remarks pointed to India's alleged role in fueling terrorism within Pakistan, further accusing India of complicity in the broader regional unrest. "India has been involved in terrorism in Pakistan. In the particular attack on Jaffar Express, the terrorists had been in contact with their handlers and ringleaders in Afghanistan," Khan said in a statement.

In response, India strongly



rejected these accusations. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal dismissed the claims as "baseless," stating, "The whole world knows where the epicenter of global terrorism lies. Pakistan should look inwards instead of pointing fingers and shifting the blame for its own internal problems and failures onto others."

The tragic attack on the Jaffar Express took place in Balochistan, Pakistan, where militants hijacked the train, killing 21 passengers and four paramilitary soldiers. The assault was claimed by the Baloch Liberation Army, a banned insurgent group that has been

responsible for numerous violent attacks in the region.

The attack occurred when insurgents blew up a section of the railway track, causing the train to halt partially inside a tunnel. The Pakistani military later launched an operation that resulted in the death of all 33 insurgents involved in the attack, with no further fatalities among the passengers.

The Jaffar Express was en route from Quetta, the capital of Balochistan, to the northern city of Peshawar when the attack occurred, highlighting ongoing security challenges in the volatile region.

TVK chief Vijay slams Tamil Nadu budget as 'politically motivated' and 'vote-driven'



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In response to the Tamil Nadu budget for 2025-26, actor-turned-politician Vijay has sharply criticized the government's proposals, describing them as superficial and ineffective in addressing the state's economic and social challenges. While the budget introduced nine new schemes, including financial assistance for children in orphanages, a 15-day special agricultural train, and subsidies for women entrepreneurs, Vijay dismissed these measures as politically motivated and insufficient.

Vijay pointed out that the government's promises of creating a favorable investment climate lacked clarity and substance. He argued that instead of offering concrete policies to guarantee the welfare of the people, the budget merely presented surface-level schemes. "There is no stability in the economic environment. The government's promises of investment opportunities do not translate into tangible benefits for the public," he said.

He also criticized the government's failure to

address the rising cost of living, particularly the inflation of essential goods. "No concrete steps have been taken to control price rises. The budget does not outline a clear strategy for managing the increasing cost of daily necessities," Vijay noted. Furthermore, the budget's vague assurances regarding job creation through trade associations raised concerns over its effectiveness, he added.

Vijay expressed disappointment that the budget did not prioritize farmers' welfare. While subsidies were announced for farmers, he argued that the core issues affecting agricultural production were overlooked. He emphasized the need for a comprehensive agricultural policy to protect farmers' livelihoods and ensure food security for the state.

The focus on infrastructure development, according to Vijay, seemed to benefit large corporations and urban areas rather than rural communities. He also highlighted the lack of social security measures for vulnerable sections of society, leaving them without adequate support.

Kerala CM Vijayan Joins Karnataka, Telangana & AP CMs

In Supporting Stalin's Delimitation Meeting

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has expressed his solidarity with the conference organized by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK supremo, M K Stalin, to oppose the "unilateral parliamentary constituency delimitation attempt" by the BJP-led central government. Vijayan, a seasoned Marxist leader, made his support known in a statement titled "Constituency Delimitation: Unity Against the Unilateral Move," after Tamil Nadu IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan and MP Dr. Tamizhachi Thangapandian met him to personally extend an invitation for the event, scheduled for March 22 in Chennai.

In his statement, Vijayan condemned the central government's move to redefine Lok Sabha constituencies without consulting democratic and federal principles. "As the central government rushes to redefine Lok Sabha constituencies, disregarding the values of democracy and federalism, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has invited the Kerala Chief Minister to an all-party solidarity conference in Chennai. The Chief Minister expressed his solidarity with the conference, which is scheduled to be held on the 22nd of this month, and with the stance taken on the issue," the statement read.

While the statement expressed strong support, it did not confirm whether Vijayan would personally attend the conference. The Tamil Nadu representatives, during their visit to Kerala, also presented Stalin's autobiography as a gesture of goodwill to Vijayan.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah had earlier assured the southern states that the delimitation would not result in them losing "even a single seat." Despite this assurance, Stalin has convened the conference to discuss the proposed delimitation, which has raised concerns about the possible political and demographic implications for the southern states.



Putin thanks Modi, Trump for 'noble mission' to resolve Ukraine conflict



TPN Correspondent
| Washington

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed gratitude on March 13, 2025, towards global leaders, including U.S. President Donald Trump and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for their dedication to ending the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Speaking publicly for the first time about Ukraine's ceasefire proposal, Putin confirmed Russia's willingness to engage in discussions but emphasized the need to clarify the terms of any potential ceasefire.

Putin's remarks come after Washington and Kyiv endorsed a 30-day temporary truce following high-level talks between their representatives in Saudi Arabia. While Putin expressed support for stopping hostilities, he made it clear that Russia was focused on

achieving long-term peace and addressing the root causes of the crisis.

In his statement, Putin acknowledged the global efforts to resolve the conflict, praising leaders such as Chinese President Xi Jinping, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva for their involvement. "We all have enough issues to deal with. But many heads of state are spending significant time dealing with this issue. We are thankful to all of them for their noble mission to stop hostilities and the loss of human lives," Putin said.

Putin reiterated Russia's stance, saying that while Moscow agrees to a ceasefire, the pause in fighting must lead to permanent peace and a resolution of the underlying causes of the conflict. He emphasized that short-term pauses were

not sufficient.

Prime Minister Modi, who has been in regular communication with both Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky since the war began, has also spoken about India's stance on the conflict. During a meeting with President Trump at the White House last month, Modi reaffirmed India's position, stating, "India is not neutral; India is siding with peace." He reiterated support for President Trump's efforts to bring an end to the war, emphasizing that "this is not the era of war."

The ongoing international dialogue highlights the growing global commitment to resolving the conflict, with leaders from around the world contributing their voices to bring about a ceasefire and lasting peace.

- Russia open to truce but seeks long-term peace resolution
- Modi reaffirms India's stance: 'India is siding with peace'

"Wants To Continue War": Zelensky On Putin's "Manipulative" Ceasefire Remark



TPN Correspondent
| Kyiv, Ukraine

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky condemned Russian President Vladimir Putin's response to the proposed 30-day ceasefire as "very manipulative" and accused him of attempting to derail peace efforts. In his nightly address on Thursday, Zelensky responded to Putin's comments on the ceasefire proposal, calling them "predictable" and aimed at prolonging the war.

Putin, in his first public statement on the ceasefire idea, expressed support for the proposal but raised "serious questions" about its implementation. The ceasefire was proposed by the United States and backed by Ukraine, but Putin's comments suggested a number of hurdles that could prevent it from moving forward.

"We do not set conditions that complicate anything. Russia does that," Zelensky countered, accusing Putin of using preconditions to block progress. He added that Russia's response had been designed to delay any resolution, stating that "the only one who will drag things out, the only one who will

be unconstructive, is Russia."

Zelensky went further, claiming that Putin was "actually preparing a refusal" while avoiding a direct confrontation with U.S. President Donald Trump. He accused Putin of framing the ceasefire in such a way that it would make any meaningful peace impossible. According to Zelensky, Putin's tactics were aimed at ensuring that the war would continue for as long as possible.

In his public comments, Putin raised concerns about Ukraine potentially using the ceasefire to its military advantage. He also questioned how a ceasefire could be effectively monitored across the long front line of the conflict, which spans thousands of kilometers.

However, Zelensky rejected these concerns, emphasizing that the United States and Europe had the capabilities to monitor and verify the ceasefire. He also stressed the importance of preparing a detailed plan for long-term security and a real, reliable peace during the ceasefire period, with the aim of putting an end to the war.

Hamas agrees to release U.S.-Israeli hostage and the bodies of four other dual nationals

TPN Correspondent
| JERUSALEM

Hamas confirmed on Friday, March 14, 2025, that it has accepted a proposal from mediators to release one living American-Israeli hostage, Edan Alexander, and the bodies of four dual-national hostages who died while in captivity. The announcement comes amid ongoing ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas in Qatar, aimed at extending the fragile truce.

While Hamas did not specify when the release would occur, and the involved parties did not immediately confirm the details, the agreement marks a significant development in the ongoing negotiations. Alexander, who was 19 when he was taken captive during the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023, remains a key figure in the hostage discussions.

The United States, under the Trump administration's hostage envoy Steve Witkoff, has been pushing for an extension of the truce and for prisoner exchanges, which could facilitate the return of more hostages. However, Hamas has made it clear that it will only release the hostages in exchange for a lasting ceasefire agreement, further complicating the situation.

In a separate statement, Hamas official Husam Badran reaffirmed the group's commitment to fully implementing the ceasefire agreement and warned

that any Israeli deviation from the terms would cause the negotiations to collapse. The ceasefire, which has paused the deadliest conflict between Israel and Hamas, led to the return of 25 hostages and the remains of eight others in exchange for the release of nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners.

The first phase of the ceasefire allowed for Israeli forces to withdraw to buffer zones, enabling hundreds of thousands of displaced Palestinians to return to northern Gaza. However, tensions remain high, with Israel pressing Hamas to release half of the remaining hostages in exchange for an extension of the truce.

Hamas is seeking to begin negotiations on the more difficult second phase of the ceasefire, which would include the release of all remaining hostages and the withdrawal of Israeli forces, ultimately aiming for a lasting peace.



Japanese PM Apologizes Over Gift Scandal Amid Growing Political Uncertainty



TPN Correspondent | Tokyo

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba issued a public apology on March 14, 2025, after gifting certificates worth 100,000 yen (\$673) to 15 lawmakers from his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). The move, which he claimed was a personal gesture of appreciation for their election efforts, has sparked widespread criticism and could further damage his administration's already low approval

ratings.

Mr. Ishiba, who came under scrutiny after news outlets revealed the gifts, admitted the action caused distrust and anger, acknowledging that it hurt his political standing. Speaking in parliament, Ishiba explained that he used his own money to give the certificates to the lawmakers ahead of a dinner on March 3. He denied any political motive, asserting that the gifts were not illegal, but the incident has drawn harsh reactions, even from coalition partners. Opposition parties have called for his resignation, adding pressure to an already tense political situation.

This controversy comes at a particularly sensitive time as Japan's ruling coalition grapples with a tight budget

deadline. The government has been forced to amend the proposed fiscal year budget for 2025, making concessions to opposition parties to secure passage before the March 31 deadline. Analysts warn that failing to pass the budget could delay government spending plans and hurt Japan's economy, which is already facing challenges due to global trade tensions, particularly with the U.S. under President Donald Trump's policies.

The scandal has also intensified the pressure on Ishiba's leadership ahead of Japan's upper house election in July. Recent polling revealed that Ishiba's approval rating has fallen to 36%, down from 44% in February. If public trust continues to erode, the ruling coalition could risk losing its slim majority in the upper house.

Saudi Crown Prince Supports 'All Initiatives' To End Russia-Ukraine War

TPN Correspondent | Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, assured Russian President Vladimir Putin of the kingdom's support for "all initiatives" aimed at ending the ongoing war in Ukraine. This message came following recent talks in Jeddah, where a proposal for a 30-day ceasefire was discussed.

In a phone call with Putin, Crown Prince Mohammed reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's commitment to facilitating

dialogue and supporting efforts to find a political resolution to the conflict. The kingdom's stance reflects its desire to play a pivotal role in peace efforts, as it continues to engage in diplomatic discussions surrounding the war.

The ceasefire proposal emerged from talks held in Jeddah on Tuesday, where US and Ukrainian officials engaged in discussions regarding a temporary halt to hostilities. However, on Thursday, Putin expressed skepticism about the 30-day ceasefire

plan, citing "serious questions" about the proposal's feasibility. Despite this, the talks in Saudi Arabia highlighted the kingdom's active involvement in efforts to mediate a peaceful solution.



Additionally, the United States, as part of its renewed engagement with Ukraine, agreed to resume military intelligence sharing, which had been paused after a diplomatic fallout involving Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky and former President Donald Trump. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, speaking in Jeddah after the talks, indicated that the next move now rests with Russia.

In a follow-up Kremlin statement, Putin acknowledged the importance of resolving the Ukrainian crisis and

expressed Russia's readiness to contribute to improving Russian-American relations. The Saudi kingdom also hosted a previous round of talks in which Rubio and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met to discuss potential pathways to ending the three-year conflict.

As diplomatic efforts continue, Saudi Arabia remains a key player in facilitating dialogue and supporting initiatives aimed at bringing an end to the war in Ukraine.

India's Industrial Output Growth Reaches 5% in January 2025



India's industrial output growth surged to 5% in January 2025, up from 3.2% in December 2024, driven primarily by a strong performance in manufacturing, according to data released by the National Statistics Office on Wednesday. This growth is also an improvement from January 2024, when the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) posted a growth of 4.2%.

The manufacturing sector, which holds a dominant weight of 77.66% in the IIP, expanded by 5.5% in January 2025, compared to 3.6% growth in January 2024. This marks a significant acceleration from December 2024, where manufacturing growth stood at 3.4%. The cumulative growth in manufacturing output for the April-January period of the current fiscal

year stood at 4.2%, aligning with the overall IIP expansion.

The positive uptick was led by strong growth in primary goods and consumer durables. Primary goods output grew by 5.5% in January, compared to 3.8% in December, driven by mining and petroleum products. Intermediate goods also saw a solid increase, rising by 5.23%.

However, output in consumer non-durables showed a decline, contracting by 0.2% in January after a steep drop of 7.5% in December. Despite this, the moderation in the contraction indicates a slight improvement. "The rise in consumer durables signals improving consumer confidence and economic resilience," noted

Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Adviser at the State Bank of India.

Growth in fast-moving consumer goods, particularly food products, was higher, likely driven by easing food inflation and stronger rural demand, said Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist at Crisil. Meanwhile, capital goods output growth moderated to 7.8% in January from 10.4% in the previous month, and infrastructure and construction goods output growth also saw a slight decline to 7% from 7.4%.

While the overall IIP growth exceeded expectations, the sectoral growth data highlighted some challenges, particularly in government capital spending.

PepsiCo in advanced talks to acquire soda brand Poppi in \$1.5 billion deal

PepsiCo Inc. is in advanced discussions to acquire the healthier soda brand Poppi in a deal valued at over \$1.5 billion, according to sources familiar with the matter. The transaction is expected to be announced as early as next week, although final deliberations are still ongoing.

The beverage giant had initially planned to introduce its own functional soda brand, Soulboost, but abandoned the initiative due to weak market indicators. Instead, it has turned to acquisitions, with Poppi emerging as a strong contender in the rapidly growing functional soda category.

Functional sodas, known for their digestive health benefits, have seen a significant rise in consumer demand. These beverages often contain prebiotics, probiotics, and added fiber, distinguishing them from traditional sodas. According to Loan Heilner, merchandising director at FreshDirect, sales of functional beverages have surged over 60% year-over-year, with brands like Olipop and Poppi driving growth, while conventional sodas have seen only slight increases.

Poppi, founded in Austin by Allison and Stephen Ellsworth, gained widespread recognition after securing an investment from Cavu Venture Partners' Rohan Oza on the television show Shark Tank in



2018. The brand has since attracted endorsements from celebrities like Nicole Scherzinger and Ellie Goulding.

PepsiCo has been actively expanding its portfolio of health-focused brands. In October, it announced the acquisition of Siete Foods for \$1.2 billion, followed by a deal in November to take full ownership of Sabra Dipping Co. and PepsiCo-Strauss Fresh Dips & Spreads International GmbH.

"There's a higher level of awareness in general of American consumers towards health and wellness," PepsiCo CEO Ramon Laguarta stated during a February investor call.

With this latest potential acquisition, PepsiCo aims to strengthen its presence in the growing functional beverage sector, competing with rivals like Coca-Cola, which recently launched its own prebiotic soda, Simply Pop.

RBI likely to cut rates next month amid easing inflation: HSBC

Following a dip in retail inflation to 3.6% in February, March's inflation figures are also trending below the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 4% target, prompting expectations of another rate cut in the upcoming April policy review, according to an HSBC Research report. The RBI, which has already initiated a rate-cutting cycle, is likely



to implement a 25 basis points reduction in its April monetary policy meeting, bringing the repo rate down to 6%, the report suggests.

The March quarter inflation is currently trending lower than the RBI's forecast for the quarter. While favorable conditions such as good winter crop sowing have been observed, the weather over the coming weeks—especially during the wheat crop's grain-filling stage—will be crucial to determining future inflationary pressures.

Deflation in food prices continued for the second consecutive month in February, decreasing by 1.0% month-on-month. This was primarily driven by falling prices in vegetables, pulses, and eggs, fish, and meat. However, prices of cereals, sugar, and fruits showed an upward trend. Core inflation, which excludes food and fuel, rose across all definitions due to a sharp in-

crease in gold prices during February. Despite this, core inflation, excluding gold, remained below the 4% mark on an annual basis and at its long-term average on a sequential basis.

Additionally, the report highlights that the rupee has depreciated by 4% against the U.S. dollar since October, potentially adding 30 basis points to inflation due to exchange rate sensitivities. However, a favorable oil price outlook, with HSBC forecasting Brent crude at USD 73 per barrel for 2025, alongside excess Chinese capacity, is expected to contain core inflation.

HSBC has forecasted India's GDP growth at 6.5% for FY26, bolstered by rising rural demand post-harvest, a potential boost from a middle-class tax cut, and continued monetary policy easing. However, weaker goods exports, impacted by global uncertainties and U.S. tariff threats, could temper growth.

Former L&T Finance CEO Sanjay Garyali appointed CEO of Fusion Finance

Fusion Finance has appointed Sanjay Garyali as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective March 17, 2025. The announcement was made in an exchange filing on Friday, March 14. Garyali will be taking over from Devesh Sachdev, the current CEO.

With over 28 years of experience in the financial sector, Garyali brings extensive expertise in retail financial markets. Prior to this, he served as the CEO of L&T Financial Services, where he managed a ₹40,000 crore portfolio, covering segments such as consumer loans, two-wheeler finance, and mortgages. His role involved shaping policies, building infrastructure, and



optimizing cost structures to drive profitability.

Before joining L&T Finance, Garyali held several key positions at Kotak Mahindra Bank, where he worked for over 15

years. His last role at Kotak was as the Business Head of Housing Finance and Emerging Markets. Garyali's appointment comes at a challenging time for Fusion Finance, which reported a net loss of ₹1,060 crore for the nine months ending December 2024, a significant drop from the previous year's profits. Turning around the microfinance lender's financial performance will be one of his key responsibilities. Following the announcement, Fusion Finance shares closed 3.33% lower at ₹141 on Thursday, compared to the previous close of ₹145.85. The Indian stock markets were closed on Friday due to the Holi holiday.

Tata Sons to invest ₹1,432 crore in Tata Projects' rights issue, listing plans on the horizon

Tata Sons, the holding company of Tata Group, is set to invest ₹1,432 crore in Tata Projects' ₹2,500 crore rights issue. The investment aims to strengthen the company's financial position and could pave the way for Tata Projects' potential listing on domestic stock exchanges.

According to reports, the board of directors of Tata Projects, a key engineering and construction arm of the conglomerate, approved the rights issue on March 13. Tata Sons' investment will come from the dividend earnings it receives from Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

TCS recently announced a special dividend of ₹66 per share and an interim dividend of ₹10 per share for the October-December quarter, with Tata Sons set to receive



₹24,931 crore from the payout.

Founded in 1979, Tata Projects specializes in engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) activities. Tata Sons holds a 57% stake in the company, with the remaining shares owned by other Tata Group entities, including Tata Power and Tata Chemicals.

A Crisil report projects Tata Projects to generate a cash flow of ₹300-400 crore in FY25, with a cash balance exceeding ₹600 crore as of June 30, 2024. The company's fund-based bank limit utilization stood at 64%, leaving approximately ₹1,000 crore in unutilized credit.

Additionally, Tata Projects is constructing a semiconductor assembly and testing plant for US-based Micron Technology in Sanand, Ahmedabad, which is expected to become the largest back-end semiconductor unit once completed.

India Shines in Asia's 50 Best Restaurants 2025 Extended List



As anticipation builds for the release of Asia's 50 Best Restaurants 2025 list, the extended ranking (51-100) has already generated significant buzz. This year, seven Indian restaurants have earned their place, highlighting India's expanding influence in the fine dining scene across Asia.

Among the new entrants is Naar, located in Kasauli, which made its debut with a unique offering of hyper-local Himachali flavors.

This addition signals a growing appreciation for regional, indigenous cuisines on the prestigious list. Meanwhile, Dum Pukht in Delhi, a long-standing favorite, continues to shine with its royal Awadhi cuisine, further solidifying its place in the culinary world.

Bengaluru's Farmlore earned a notable spot on the list and also received the coveted "One To Watch" award. This recognition highlights Farmlore's innovative approach

to the farm-to-table concept, celebrating fresh, locally sourced ingredients while offering an unforgettable dining experience. The farm-to-table movement has gained significant traction, and Farmlore's inclusion underscores the importance of sustainability and innovation in modern dining.

Also making an impressive return is The Table in Mumbai, which re-entered the list, reaffirming its enduring appeal. Known for its exceptional cuisine and commitment to quality, The Table continues to captivate food enthusiasts and experts alike, making it a staple in India's fine dining landscape.

With these seven restaurants, India not only demonstrates the richness of its culinary heritage but also its growing influence in shaping the future of Asia's dining scene. As the final ranking is awaited, the inclusion of these iconic and innovative establishments signals the country's significant role in the global fine dining conversation.

Bengaluru Auto-Driver Offers Professional Table Tennis Coaching, Viral, Obviously



In Bengaluru, the heart of India's tech industry, a remarkable story of resilience and determination has been making waves. Gurumurthy N, a middle-aged man, has been balancing two very different professions—working as an auto-rickshaw driver while also pursuing his passion for table tennis as a professional coach. His inspiring journey was shared by Gayatri Gopakumar on LinkedIn, where she highlighted his unwavering commitment and versatility.

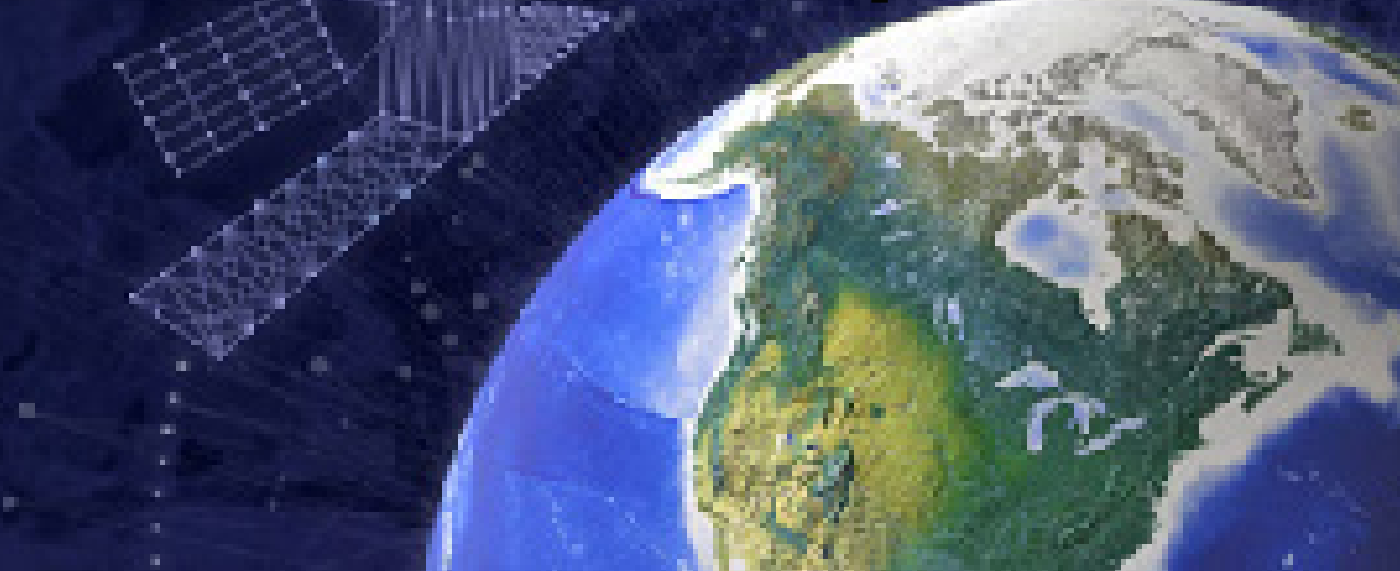
In her post, Gayatri recounted meeting Gurumurthy on a Wednesday morning. What stood out to her the most was his professionalism, patience, and the respect he showed, which left a lasting impression. She went on to explain that Gurumurthy had previously been a full-

time coach for Karnataka's state table tennis team until the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted his career. With his coaching job no longer available, he adapted by becoming an auto-rickshaw driver to make ends meet.

Gayatri's caption emphasized the importance of resilience and adaptability, noting that Gurumurthy's story proves that a person's job does not define their potential or passion. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, Gurumurthy continues to pursue his love for table tennis while working hard to support himself and his family. "This chance meeting reminded me that we can wear multiple caps with excellence," Gayatri wrote, praising Gurumurthy's ability to juggle two demanding roles with such grace and dedication.

Gurumurthy's story serves as a powerful reminder that no matter the obstacles, with hard work and determination, one can continue to chase their dreams. His ability to seamlessly balance his roles as both an auto-rickshaw driver and a table tennis coach is a testament to the power of resilience in the face of adversity.

Alien Signals? New Discovery Reveals True Source Of Mysterious Radio Waves From Space



For the past decade, Earth has been receiving strange and regular radio signals from deep space, initially sparking speculation that they might be the work of extraterrestrial intelligence. However, a groundbreaking discovery has revealed that these enigmatic signals are not from aliens but from a rare binary star system located over 1,600 light-years away.

The signals, which reach Earth every 125 minutes, have been traced to a unique pair of stars in the Saptarishi constellation, also known as Ursa Major. This binary system consists of a red dwarf star and a white dwarf star orbiting each other. Scientists now believe that the interaction between the magnetic fields of these two stars generates the radio waves, creating a regular, clock-like pulse that scientists have been observing.

Dr. Iris de Ruiter, a researcher at the University of Sydney, made the key discovery in 2024 while analyzing data from the Low Frequency Array (LOFAR) radio telescope in the Netherlands. While studying data from 2015, Dr. de Ruiter detected a signal and later uncovered

more signals originating from the same region. Unlike the fast radio bursts (FRBs) that last only milliseconds, these signals are longer-lasting, with lower intensity and energy levels.

The regularity of these signals intrigued scientists, prompting them to examine the binary system more closely using a large optical telescope. This led to the identification of the faint white dwarf star, which had previously been undetectable with standard telescopes. White dwarfs are the remnants of stars that have exhausted their nuclear fuel, leaving behind only their ultra-dense, hot cores.

The interaction of the magnetic fields between the red dwarf and white dwarf stars is responsible for producing these long-duration radio signals, which travel across space for over 1,600 years before reaching Earth. This discovery provides new insights into how binary star systems can generate periodic radio waves and opens the door for further research into similar cosmic phenomena.

Viral Video Of 'Blood Rain' In Iran Stuns Locals, Scientists



A bizarre and unsettling phenomenon recently unfolded on the shores of Iran, leaving both locals and scientists stunned. After a heavy rainstorm, the waters along a beach in the country turned an eerie shade of red, creating a surreal spectacle that captured global attention. This rare and mysterious occurrence sparked widespread curiosity and speculation.

The transformation of the beach into a vibrant crimson scene fascinated onlookers while simultaneously unsettling them. Some interpreted the sight as an ominous omen, fearing it could signal a catastrophe, while others marveled at the unusual and haunting beauty of the moment. While such events are incredibly rare, this one seemed almost otherworldly to those who witnessed it firsthand.

The striking visual quickly went viral,

with social media users around the world sharing a video that showcased waves of deep red water rolling along the shore. The clip fueled speculation, with many commenting on the "blood rain" phenomenon. As the video spread across



various platforms, some questioned the cause of the event, pondering whether it was linked to natural occurrences or something more mysterious.

Experts believe the phenomenon could be linked to a "red tide," a type of harmful algal bloom where microorganisms called dinoflagellates release pigments that turn the water red. Red tides can occur in oceans and seas, usually as a result of changing environmental conditions, and although they can be visually stunning, they can also pose risks to marine life and the ecosystem.

Although rare, such events have occurred in various parts of the world, though this particular instance along Iran's coast caught the attention of many due to its vivid intensity. As scientists continue to study the phenomenon, locals remain captivated and wary, wondering what the cause of this strange occurrence might be.

Urban Company Faces Backlash Over "Insta Maids" Ad Campaign

Urban Company recently launched a quick 15-minute maid booking service, "Insta Maids," in Mumbai, offering household services such as utensil cleaning, mopping, and cooking preparation. Priced at Rs 49 per hour, the service was advertised with a scenario showing a woman receiving a text from "Sunita maid," notifying her that she wouldn't be coming to work. The ad quickly gained attention on social media, but not for the reasons Urban Company hoped.

The backlash was swift, with many users on platforms like X (formerly Twitter) calling the advertisement derogatory. Critics argued that the term "maid" was outdated, gendered, and demeaning. One user pointed out that the word was "classist" and out

of touch with contemporary sensitivities. Another expressed concern about the potential exploitation of illegal immigrants, claiming the new service could encourage the hiring of undocumented workers from neighboring countries.

The controversy prompted a deeper debate around the use of the term "maid." Some users defended the word, asserting that as long as it is used respectfully, there's nothing wrong with it. They argued that being a maid is simply a job, and all workers deserve respect regardless of their role. Others, however, believed the term was steeped in classism and should be replaced with more neutral terms like "domestic worker."

Urban Company responded to the criticism

by acknowledging the feedback and slightly adjusting their messaging. In a follow-up post, the company rebranded the service as "Insta Help" while maintaining the same offering. They also highlighted the benefits for service partners, including free health insurance and a guaranteed monthly income of Rs 20,000 for those working 132 hours a month.

Urban Company's pivot to quick commerce and its 15-minute maid service comes ahead of its anticipated IPO, positioning itself to compete with players like Snapbbit, a startup offering on-demand household chores since 2024. However, the backlash highlights the ongoing challenge of navigating class and gender sensitivities in modern advertising.



Tino Best Reflects on Memorable Moments in IML 2025



In a recent interview, Tino Best, West Indies Masters fast bowler, shared his most cherished moments from the International Masters League 2025. Although he's only played two matches, Best expressed joy in witnessing legendary performances, including Sachin Tendulkar's vintage cover drive, Jacques Kallis's backfoot punch, and Shane Watson's century. Best admired the passionate Indian fans, who continue to support

cricket fervently. He also shared how younger cricketers approach him, amazed by his fast bowling even at nearly 44. Best praised India's love for the game, calling it a humbling experience to inspire the next generation. The West Indies Masters will face Sri Lanka Masters in the second semi-final on March 14, with the winner meeting India Masters in the final on March 16.

Yuva All Stars Championship: Palani Tuskers and Yuva Paltan Secure Thrilling Wins



Day 7 of the Yuva All Stars Championship saw thrilling victories as Sonipat Spartans, Chandigarh Chargers, Palani Tuskers, and Yuva Paltan triumphed in their respective encounters at the Vandana Kataria Indoor Stadium. Sonipat Spartans defeated Kurukshetra Warriors 51-38, dominating the game with multiple All Outs, while Harsh Kumar's

18 raid points led the charge. Chandigarh Chargers stunned Yuva Mumbai with a 32-17 win, with Sunny's seven tackle points playing a crucial role. Palani Tuskers bounced back from previous setbacks, defeating Junior Steelers 34-27, thanks to a Super Raid by Kesavan Raja, who scored nine points. The final match saw Yuva Paltan edge past Warriorz K.C. in

a nail-biting contest. After a thrilling second half, Ashish Padale's 12 raid points helped Yuva Paltan clinch a 33-29 victory, with a dramatic final tackle from Nithesh Ramaiah securing the win. These results added more excitement to the Yuva All Stars Championship as teams jostled for position in their respective pools.

India Dominates ODI Deaf Series, Clinches 3-0 Victory Against Australia



India triumphed in the ODI Deaf Series, hosted by the Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA) at Karnail Singh Stadium, New

Delhi, defeating Australia 3-0. The series, held from March 10-12, 2025, followed India's recent victory in the T20 Tri-Series against South Africa and Australia. The Indian deaf cricket team, led by captain Virender Singh, demonstrated exceptional skill and resilience, sealing the series with commanding performances in all three matches. The thrilling encounters were a testament to the players' determination and passion, leaving spectators captivated.

IDCA President Sumit Jain praised the players' energy and highlighted the growing interest in deaf cricket worldwide. CEO Roma Balwani also celebrated the Indian team's outstanding performances, acknowledging the IDCA's commitment to fostering talent in the hearing-impaired cricket community. The series concluded with gratitude extended to all partners and dignitaries for their support in promoting the sport.

PR Sreejesh Calls for Grassroots Investment at RCB Sports Summit



At the ongoing RCB Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit in Bengaluru, hockey legend PR Sreejesh emphasized the importance of grass-

roots investment and talent identification to build a stronger Olympic future for India. The double Olympic medalist spoke about the need to pre-

pare young athletes for the pressures of global competition, highlighting how exposure and mental training are key to success at the Olympics. Sreejesh also noted the growing belief among young athletes, inspired by India's success on the world stage. While acknowledging India's national depth, he stressed the need to invest in grassroots and talent identification, particularly in the 12-14 age group, to build for the 2036 Olympics. Additionally, he called for a shift towards a broader sports culture, focusing on both medals and the well-being of young athletes. The summit continues to bring together key global figures to discuss India's sporting future.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant Make History with Back-to-Back ISL Shields



Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) made history by becoming the first team to successfully defend the Indian Super League (ISL) Shield, clinching back-to-back titles. After winning their maiden ISL Shield under Antonio Habas in the

2023-24 season, the Mariners delivered a dominant campaign this season, securing the league title with two games to spare. Despite an early setback in the Durand Cup, MBSG bounced back, showcasing their strength in the league with command-

ing victories. Under Jose Molina's leadership, the team displayed resilience, winning crucial matches, including dramatic late victories against Kerala Blasters FC and Bengaluru FC. Their journey culminated in a thrilling 1-0 win over Odisha FC, with Dimitri Petratos scoring the Shield-winning goal. The Mariners' unbeaten home record played a significant role, finishing the league with 11 wins and a draw from 12 home matches. MBSG's remarkable defensive strength, highlighted by goalkeeper Vishal Kaith's record 14 clean sheets, sealed their place in ISL history, marking their back-to-back League Shield triumphs.

Cricketers Celebrate Holi with Joyful Festivities Across IPL Camps



Indian cricketers and IPL franchises embraced the spirit of Holi on March 8, 2025, sharing vibrant moments of celebra-

tion with fans. Cricket legends like Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag posted festive wishes, while IPL camps were alive

with colour. Sachin, playing in the International Masters League, was seen having fun with teammates like Yu-

vraj Singh and Yousuf Pathan, spraying water guns and applying colours. Sehwag shared a colourful photo with fans, wishing them joy and laughter on the occasion. IPL teams also celebrated, with Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) enjoying a festive break from their pre-season preparations. Players like Ajinkya Rahane, Rinku Singh, and Venkatesh Iyer smeared each other with colours, while Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) captain Rishabh Pant and coach Justin Langer joined the joy. Gujarat Titans' Ashish Nehra and Rajasthan Royals' Rahul Dravid were also part of the colourful celebrations. Holi brought a sense of unity and joy, with fans and players alike marking the festival of colours across various IPL camps.



Chiranjeevi Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award in the UK

Honouring
Padma Vibhushan Awardee
Dr. Chiranjeevi Konidela
At UK Parliament,
House of Commons, London
Date: 19 March 2025 from 6:00PM

HOST:
Navendu Mishra
Labour MP for Stockport
In the presence of
Esteemed Members of UK Parliament

BRIDGE India
To Present
"Lifetime Achievement Award for
Excellence in Public Service through
Cultural Leadership"
to Dr. Chiranjeevi Konidela.

Megastar Chiranjeevi has been bestowed with a prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by the UK Parliament for his exceptional contributions to the film industry and society. The award will be presented to him on March 19th in the House of Commons. This recognition celebrates his decades-long service to cinema, public welfare, and philanthropy. The Bridge India organization, known for recognizing achievements in public policy and societal impact, will honor Chiranjeevi with the award. The event will also be attended by members of the UK's Labour Party, including Navendu Mishra. This honor follows his Padma Vibhushan in 2024 and a Guinness World Record for his dancing skills. It marks yet another global milestone in his illustrious career, adding to his growing list of accolades.

'Dil Rooba' Movie Review: A Missed Opportunity for Kiran Abbavaram



Kiran Abbavaram's latest film Dil Rooba fails to captivate audiences despite high expectations. The movie, a triangle love story, centers around Siddhu (Kiran Abbavaram), his breakup with childhood love Maggie (Kathy Davidson), and his new relationship with Anjali (Ruksar Thilhan). While the premise holds promise, the narrative lacks emotional depth, and the pace feels slow. Key scenes fall flat, leaving viewers

disconnected. Despite some interesting moments in the first half, the second half drags, with forced dialogues and a weak villain character. Kiran Abbavaram's performance is energetic, but the film's lack of fresh elements and engaging comedy hold it back. With a weak storyline and missed opportunities for entertainment, Dil Rooba fails to live up to expectations, leaving audiences disappointed.

'Hari Hara Veera Mallu' New Release Date Announced: Now Set for May 9



The makers of Hari Hara Veera Mallu have announced a new release date for the film, starring Pawan Kalyan in the lead role. The movie, initially set to release on March 28, will now hit theaters on May 9. To mark the occasion of Holi, the makers released a new poster featuring Pawan Kalyan and actress Nidhi Agerwal riding horses. The poster also conveys Holi wishes to the fans and audience. Directed by Krish Jagarlamudi and Jyothi Krishna, the film is set in the 17th century and will be released in two parts. The movie features music by Oscar-winning composer M.M. Keeravani. Alongside Pawan Kalyan and Nidhi Agerwal, the film stars Bobby Deol, Nargis Fakhri, Nora Fatehi, and Sunil in pivotal roles. Produced by Mega Surya Productions under the banner of A. Dayakar Rao.

'Court' Movie Review: A Thought-Provoking Legal Drama on Love and Justice



Court, directed by Ram Jagadeesh, presents a compelling narrative that revolves around love, emotions, and the complexities of the law. Set in 2013 Visakhapatnam, the story follows the struggles of Jabili (Sridevi), a teenage girl in love with Chandu (Harsh Roshan), a poor boy. When their love affair leads to legal trouble, her uncle Mangapathi uses his power to file a case under the POCSO Act, igniting a legal battle. As the story unfolds, the film

sheds light on the impact of societal values, caste, and money on personal relationships and justice. With strong performances from Harsh Roshan, Sridevi, Priyadarshi, and Sai Kumar, Court is a well-crafted film with a powerful message. The director excels in keeping the screenplay tight and engaging. The film's exploration of the legal system and its impact on youth is both insightful and timely.
Rating: 3/5

Supritha Apologizes for Promoting Betting Apps, Urges Fans to Stay Away



Supritha, daughter of actress Surekha Vani, recently apologized for promoting betting apps on social media. The actress, known for her appearance on Bigg Boss Season 7 and for hosting the talk show Peelings with Supritha, addressed her fans on Holi, wishing them well and requesting forgiveness. In light of recent police actions against individuals promoting betting apps, Supritha admitted that she had unknowingly or knowingly endorsed these apps. She assured that she would no longer participate in such promotions and urged her fans to avoid them as well. She also appealed to everyone to delete any betting apps they may have and not follow them on social media, emphasizing the importance of staying away from such platforms.

Veteran Actor-Director Deb Mukherjee Passes Away at 83

Veteran actor and filmmaker Deb Mukherjee, known for his roles in classic films of the 1960s and 1970s, passed away on Friday morning due to prolonged illness at his Mumbai residence. He was 83. Mukherjee's notable film credits include Tu Hi Meri Zindagi, Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikander, and Kaminey. He also directed and produced the 1983 movie Karate, starring Mithun Chakrabarty. A key figure in the Samarth

Mukherjee family, Deb Mukherjee was the father of filmmaker Ayan Mukerji and father-in-law of director Ashutosh Gowariker. He was part of a prominent Bollywood lineage, with close ties to actors Kajol, Rani Mukerji, and Jaya Bachchan. His last rites were performed at the Pawan Hans Crematorium in Juhu, Mumbai, with numerous family members and industry figures attending to pay their respects.

