

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t°

H 33° C

L 25° C

VIJAYAWADA

t°

H 35° C

L 26° C

TIRUPATHI

t°

H 36° C

L 26° C



- Metro expansion expected to boost suburban real estate growth.
- Connectivity improvements may shift demand away from city centre.
- Developers may still prioritize premium properties over budget housing.
- Past trends show metro connectivity can drive up property prices.
- Comparison with Delhi Metro suggests mixed impact on affordability.

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
The expansion of Bengaluru Metro is sparking debate over whether it will lead to more affordable real estate in the city. While some believe improved connectivity will help ease demand in high-priced areas, experts suggest the impact may be more complex. With new metro lines improving accessibility, residential demand is expected to shift from the costly city

centre to developing suburban areas. “This will open up new residential hubs, making them more attractive for homebuyers. As commuting times reduce, demand may move away from the expensive city core, leading to budget-friendly housing developments,” said Balaji Badrinath, a consultant at Coldwell Banker. The newly approved metro red line connecting Sarjapur to Hebbal has already spurred interest in areas beyond its immediate reach. Real estate brokers report increased inquiries from homebuyers looking at locations with better connectivity. Manoj Agarwal, Director of Sales and Leasing at Agarwal Estates, explained, “The line connects central Bengaluru and Koramangala, which could push techies away from Sarjapur Road, where property prices are already high. At the same time, improved infrastructure may also attract residents to southeastern Bengaluru.” Past metro expansions in Bengaluru have influenced migration patterns. When the metro extended to Whitefield, a major IT corridor, many tech professionals reconsidered their living locations. “Travel time was reduced by 30-40%, allowing people to move to more affordable areas in

South Bengaluru instead of staying in the increasingly expensive Whitefield region,” Badrinath noted. However, some experts warn that metro expansion may not necessarily lead to affordability. A comparison with Delhi Metro shows that despite its extensive network, property prices in Delhi and surrounding areas continue to rise. “Real estate prices near metro stations often surge due to higher demand and improved livability,” an industry expert pointed out. A similar trend has been observed in Bengaluru’s Nagasandra metro station. “Before the metro link, there was minimal real estate activity in the area. But after connectivity improved, commercial and residential developments increased, pushing property prices up by 10-20%,” Balaji added. While Bengaluru Metro’s expansion is set to enhance connectivity and create new residential opportunities, its impact on affordability remains uncertain. Much will depend on how developers balance premium projects with mid-range housing options, and whether infrastructure improvements genuinely ease the pressure on high-priced city centre real estate.

Yediyurappa confident of BJP’s return to power in Karnataka

Former CM asserts that the political atmosphere favors BJP.

Calls for unity amid growing factional rift within the party.

Calls Congress govt guarantee schemes as ‘Tughlaq Darbar’.

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
Veteran BJP leader and former Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Sunday expressed confidence that the BJP will return to power in the state, emphasizing that the political atmosphere is highly favorable for the party. Amid an ongoing factional rift within the state unit, Yediyurappa stressed the importance of unity and collective efforts. “The atmosphere is very favorable for the BJP, and I am confident that we will hundred percent come to power in the days ahead. We are making honest efforts together in that direction,” he told reporters. His remarks come at a time when internal divisions in the BJP have surfaced, with a faction led by Bijapur City MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal and Gokak MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi openly demanding the removal of state BJP president B Y Vijayendra. The dissident leaders have accused Vijayendra of engaging in “adjustment politics” with

the ruling Congress and alleged that he and his father, Yediyurappa, are attempting to control the party. However, Yediyurappa refused to comment on Yatnal’s allegations. Further criticizing the Congress government, he dismissed the implementation of its much-publicized guarantee schemes, stating, “There is no meaning to these guarantees. They were announced to satisfy people, but they are not implemented properly. This government is nothing short of a ‘Tughlaq Darbar’. Let’s see how long they will continue like this.” When asked about concerns over the alleged neglect of North Karnataka in the state budget compared to his tenure, Yediyurappa asserted, “It is a fact known to everyone.” Despite the internal discord within the BJP, the former chief minister remains confident that the party will regain power, urging party members to work together to achieve this goal.

New Zealand PM Christopher Luxon to be the Chief Guest.

Theme for 2025: “Kālachakra - People, Peace and Planet.”

Event to host over 3,500 participants from 125 countries.

PM MODI TO INAUGURATE RAISINA DIALOGUE 2025

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the tenth edition of the Raisina Dialogue on March 17, 2025. The prestigious conference, recognized as India’s flagship event on geopolitics and geo-economics, is jointly organized by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The three-day event will take place in New Delhi from March 17 to 19. New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon will be the Chief Guest at the inaugural session and is set to deliver the keynote address. The conference will witness participation from a diverse group of global leaders, including ministers, diplomats, former heads of state, business executives, strategic thinkers, and policy experts from around 125 countries. This year’s theme, “Kālachakra - People, Peace and Planet,” signifies a focus on interconnected global challenges, sustainability, and diplomacy in an evolving

world order. The discussions will take place across six thematic pillars, covering topics such as climate change, global security, multilateral cooperation, and emerging technologies. Over the years, the Raisina Dialogue has gained prominence as a key platform for high-level discussions on international affairs, serving as a forum for deliberations on pressing global issues. Previous editions have seen participation from world leaders such as Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu, Australian PM Scott Morrison, and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. The 2025 edition will feature a series of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and interactive sessions aimed at fostering global cooperation and strategic partnerships. With more than 3,500 participants expected, the conference is set to shape conversations on India’s role in global diplomacy and its vision for a stable, peaceful, and prosperous world.

Karnataka’s Biggest-ever Drug Haul MDMA worth ₹75 crore seized

- Police seize 37.87 kg of MDMA, the largest-ever drug bust in Karnataka.
- Two South African women arrested
- Investigation links the case to a wider global drug trafficking network.

TPN Correspondent | Mangaluru

In Karnataka’s largest-ever drug seizure, Mangaluru City Police confiscated 37.87 kg of MDMA worth ₹75 crore, leading to the arrest of two South African nationals allegedly linked to an international drug syndicate. Mangaluru Police Commissioner Anupam Agarwal revealed that the breakthrough came after a six-month-long investigation that began with the arrest of a local drug peddler.

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DKS defends 4% quota, says reservation not just for Muslims

- DK Shivakumar clarifies the policy is inclusive of all minority communities.
- BJP accuses Congress of appeasement politics over the move.
- Shivakumar to attend MK Stalin’s delimitation meeting on March 22.

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday defended the state government’s decision to introduce a 4% reservation for minorities in government contracts, countering BJP’s allegations of appeasement politics. He asserted that the policy is not exclusive to Muslims but

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BEE Drives Mission LiFE for Climate Economy and Sustainability

- BEE aims for 80% eco-friendly villages and cities by 2028
- Energy Clubs in Tamil Nadu schools a grand success
- BEE announces grants for expanding Energy Clubs

TPN Correspondent | Chennai
The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is driving the nationwide implementation of Mission LiFE, encouraging sustainable practices and a shift from the “use-and-throw” model. This initiative aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision for a climate-conscious economy, promoting mindful consumption and a circular economy. Milind Deore, Secretary of BEE, highlighted the urgency of Mission LiFE amid rising energy demands and environmental concerns. He emphasized its alignment with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG-12), which advocates for economic growth without environmental degradation. The initiative focuses on improving energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, and green job creation.



To strengthen implementation, Media Adviser A. Chandra Sekhara Reddy met with senior officials of Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (TNPDC) and the State Designated Agency (SDA) to discuss strategies. As part of the awareness campaign, AR. Mascurnas, Director/Distribution, TNPDC, released a Mission LiFE poster in Chennai. **BEE has outlined a three-pronged strategy for Mission LiFE:**

1. Public and Private Engagement – Creating Energy Conservation Cells in organizations and appointing nodal officers for energy monitoring.
 2. Strengthening Energy Clubs in Schools – School principals to lead conservation efforts and engage students.
 3. Media Awareness Campaigns – Utilizing print, electronic, FM radio, and social media for outreach.
- Tamil Nadu has emerged as a model state in promoting energy conservation through its Energy Clubs. With 1,633 clubs across 38 districts and 65,000 student members, these clubs actively engage in activities such as rallies, competitions, and awareness campaigns. In recognition of their success, BEE has committed to fully funding these clubs. Additionally, BEE welcomed the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission’s recommendation for Discoms to allocate ₹10 crores to SDA for energy efficiency projects. This move is expected to enhance sustainability efforts and benefit stakeholders across the state.

South India’s First Govt Organ Retrieval Centre to Open in Bengaluru

- Victoria Hospital to house South’s first government organ retrieval centre
- State allocates ₹1 crore for infrastructure upgrade
- Helipad to be built for faster organ transport



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
Bengaluru is set to host South India’s first government-run organ retrieval centre at Victoria Hospital. The Karnataka Medical Education Department has allocated ₹1 crore to upgrade existing facilities, and officials expect the centre to be operational within the next four to six months. Dr. Deepak S., Medical Superintendent of Victoria Hospital, emphasized that the initiative will boost organ donation efforts, benefiting underprivileged patients by prioritizing government transplant centres. He highlighted that the hospital’s organ retrieval service, launched in 2022, has made it the second-highest in Karnataka for organ donations. The upcoming facility will include a dedicated ICU, beds, and specialized staff. Once patients are declared brain-dead with family consent, they

will be shifted to the retrieval centre for organ harvesting. To improve transportation efficiency, the department also plans to construct a helipad at Victoria Hospital. Minister for Medical Education Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil stated that the new centre would streamline organ procurement by integrating ICU care, an operating room, laboratory facilities, and legal procedures under one roof. Victoria Hospital’s existing trauma and emergency care, along with specialized institutes for gastroenterology, nephrology, ophthalmology, and skin banking, make it an ideal location for this initiative. With rising demand for organ transplants, officials believe the centre will play a crucial role in enhancing Karnataka’s healthcare system, ensuring timely and efficient organ retrieval and transplantation for those in need.

DGP Ramachandra Rao Sent on Compulsory Leave Amid Gold Smuggling Case

- Senior police officer removed from duty
- Actor Ranya Rao alleges misconduct by DRI officials
- Bail denied as smuggling network probe deepens

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
The Karnataka government has sent Director General of Police (DGP) Ramachandra Rao on “compulsory leave” with immediate effect due to his alleged involvement in a gold smuggling case. A government circular confirmed that Additional DGP (Recruitment) KV Sharath Chandra will now oversee Rao’s position as Chairman & Manag-



ing Director of the Karnataka State Police Housing & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. The controversy erupted after Kannada actor Ranya Rao, who was arrested in connection with the smuggling case, alleged misconduct by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officials. In a letter dated March 6 to the Additional Director General of DRI, she claimed she was assaulted and forced to sign blank documents. She maintained that she was falsely accused of smuggling over 14 kg of gold from Dubai. The Special Court for Economic Offences denied her bail on Saturday after the DRI presented evidence indicating

that she had traveled to Dubai 27 times since January. Investigators stated that a Karnataka Police Protocol Officer was misused to bypass security checks at the airport. The DRI further alleged that a sophisticated smuggling network was involved, utilizing Hawala transactions to finance gold purchases abroad. Authorities believe the case may have wider implications, with a possible larger syndicate operating across multiple states. Further investigations are underway, and more arrests are expected as officials track the financial trail and key players involved in the racket.

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DKS defends 4% quota, says reservation not just for Muslims

“Everyone deserves a livelihood. If the BJP keeps targeting us, it only makes us stronger,” he remarked in response to the opposition’s criticism. The BJP has accused the Congress of appeasement politics, arguing that the policy is a selective measure aimed at securing minority votes. However, the Congress maintains that the move ensures equal opportunities for all marginalized groups in contract allocations. Meanwhile, Shivakumar is set to represent the Karnataka government at the upcoming meeting on delimitation called by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin in Chennai on March 22. “The Congress High Command and the CM (Siddaramaiah) have asked me to attend the meeting. The CM is not attending due to health reasons, and I will be representing the government,” he stated.

Stalin has invited leaders from various states and political parties to discuss concerns over the central government’s proposed delimitation exercise and its potential impact on federalism. The Tamil Nadu CM has also been vocal against the Centre’s three-language formula in the National Education Policy. On the issue of pending municipal elections, Shivakumar stated that the Karnataka government is prepared to conduct the much-delayed BBMP elections. “How long can it be postponed? We have called for a meeting with past BBMP candidates from Congress to collect their feedback. We will then meet with candidates from all parties to gather their inputs,” he said. While the state government is making preparations, the dates for the municipal elections are yet to be announced.

Karnataka’s Biggest-ever Drug Haul MDMA worth ₹75 crore seized

police arrested Haider Ali in Mangaluru’s Pumpwell area with 15 grams of MDMA. The probe led them to Nigerian national Peter, who was later arrested in Bengaluru with MDMA worth ₹6 crore. Further investigations pointed to a trafficking network operating through air routes between Delhi and Bengaluru. Based on intelligence inputs, the Mangaluru Central Crime Branch (CCB) police apprehended South African nationals Bamba Fant (31) and Abigail Adonis (30) upon their arrival in Bengaluru on March 14. The duo was taken into custody in Neeladri Nagar, Elec-

tronic City. Authorities recovered MDMA hidden inside their trolley bags, along with four mobile phones, passports, and ₹18,000 in cash. Police sources indicate that the accused were allegedly supplying drugs to Nigerian peddlers operating in Bengaluru and other parts of the country. They are also suspected of using forged passports and visas for their operations. Officials confirmed that the investigation is ongoing to trace the larger network involved in the illicit drug trade.

Bengaluru Citizen Groups to Challenge Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill in Court

- Activists call bill unconstitutional
- Legal action planned against major infrastructure projects
- Public awareness campaign to be launched



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
Citizen groups in Bengaluru, under the banner ‘Bengaluru Town Hall,’ are preparing to file a legal challenge against the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB), arguing that it violates the 74th Constitutional Amendment. The amendment grants power to local self-governance institutions, and activists claim the bill undermines this principle. At a meeting held on Saturday, prominent civic voic-

es—including actor-director Prakash Belawadi, urban planning experts, and community activists—discussed strategies to halt the bill’s implementation. They also resolved to challenge large-scale infrastructure projects such as the Tunnel Road, Elevated Corridor, Double Decker Flyover, and Sky Deck, citing environmental and governance concerns. Belawadi, a vocal opponent of the bill, posted on Insta-

gram that the group would seek urgent court intervention. Civic activist Sandeep Anirudhan pointed to a 2023 Supreme Court observation that criticized Bengaluru’s unplanned urban growth, reinforcing concerns about poor governance. The GBGB proposes splitting the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) into a maximum of seven municipal corporations and establishing a Greater Ben-

galuru Authority (GBA) for oversight. The GBA would be chaired by the Chief Minister and include the Bengaluru Development Minister as vice-chairperson. Critics argue that this centralization contradicts efforts to empower local governance. Citizen groups also plan to launch an awareness campaign, including social media outreach, to educate the public on the bill’s implications. Senior citizens at the meeting raised concerns that the Tunnel Road project could threaten Bengaluru’s water security. With growing opposition and potential legal battles ahead, the fate of the GBGB remains uncertain as activists push for greater transparency and local governance rights.

SC Ministers Urge Karnataka CM to Use SCSP/ TSP Grants for Separate Census

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
Scheduled Caste leaders, including several ministers, are expected to urge Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to allocate funds from the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) grants for a separate caste census. They argue that fresh empirical data is essential for implementing internal reservations among SC communities. A recent meeting at the residence of Social Welfare Minister Dr. HC Mahadevappa saw discussions on the issue, with another meeting planned for Monday evening before formally approaching the CM. Home Minister Dr. G Parameshwara, Food and Civil Supplies Minister KH Muniyappa, and Backward Classes Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi are among those expected to participate. The demand follows the Supreme Court’s August 1, 2024, ruling that states



have the constitutional authority to determine internal reservations within the SC category based on empirical data. Acting on this, the Karnataka Cabinet approved internal reservation on October 29 and formed a commission headed by former High Court judge Justice HN Nagmohan Das on November 13. The commission was given three months to submit a report, but it has yet to do so. There is ongoing confusion regarding which data should be considered—whether to rely on the Centre’s 2011

Socio-Economic and Caste Census or conduct a fresh survey. Since the government has not publicized the State Backward Classes Commission’s socio-economic and education survey, SC leaders are pushing for an exclusive census for SC/ST communities, which they claim could be completed within a month. The delay in defining internal quotas has also led to a halt in recruitment across various government departments, as officials fear proceeding without a clear quota structure could disadvantage some communities. Meanwhile, the opposition has accused the Congress government of diverting SCSP/TSP grants to fund its welfare schemes under the five guarantees. In response, SC leaders are now demanding that these funds be utilized for a dedicated caste census to ensure fair representation.

‘Polymorphic Malware’ Poses New Challenge for Karnataka Cyber Police

- Cybercriminals evade detection with ever-changing malware
- Victims lost ₹2,900 crore to cybercrime in 2024
- Only 1,248 out of 20,092 cyber crime cases detected

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Cybercrime in Karnataka is becoming increasingly complex with fraudsters deploying ‘polymorphic malware’—a virus that constantly changes its code to avoid detection. This evolving threat has made it difficult for investigators to track cybercriminals, despite efforts to strengthen cybersecurity. In 2024 alone, victims in Karnataka lost nearly ₹2,900 crore to cyber

fraud, yet only 1,248 out of 20,092 cases could be detected. Unlike traditional malware, which security systems recognize through fixed signatures, polymorphic malware continuously modifies itself, making it nearly impossible for antivirus programs to detect. To counter this growing challenge, Karnataka is upgrading its Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) with advanced tools. Since 2019, the state has trained 176 judicial officers and



984 police personnel, while 3,799 officials have completed online training. However, outdated cybersecurity tools remain a significant hurdle in detecting cyber fraud. A senior Cybercrime, Economic Offences, and Narcotics (CEN) official stated that many assume police can solve cybercrime cases easily if they are reported on time. However, criminals continuously change IP ad-

resses, email IDs, and digital footprints, making each case unique. “Most cases solved so far were due to mistakes made by the fraudsters, such as re-using credentials,” the official noted. Polymorphic malware often spreads through phishing emails, fake software downloads, or malicious links. Once inside a system, it encrypts itself, injects random code to evade detection, and ac-

tivates keyloggers to steal banking credentials and passwords. Some variants redirect users to fake banking sites, leading to financial fraud. Unlike conventional viruses with fixed structures, polymorphic malware rewrites itself with every new infection. Some forms operate as ‘fileless malware,’ running entirely in memory, making removal even harder. By the time security tools detect it, the malware either erases its traces or self-destructs. With cybercriminals using increasingly sophisticated techniques, Karnataka’s cyber police are pushing for advanced security systems to combat the growing digital threat.



Truck collides with nine vehicles near Mysore Road

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

A tragic accident occurred near the Satellite Bus Station on Mysore Road in Bengaluru when a truck crashed into nine vehicles, killing its driver and injuring two others. The incident took place at around 4 AM on Saturday. The driver, identified as 44-year-old Jagan, was reportedly driving rashly when he lost control of the truck. The vehicle collided with four autorickshaws, two cabs, two motorcycles, and a canter auto be-

fore coming to a stop. The impact crushed the front of the truck, severely injuring Jagan’s legs, head, and torso. He was rushed to Victoria Hospital but succumbed to his injuries at 6:43 AM. Two others were injured in the crash—20-year-old pedestrian Manoj and 25-year-old auto driver Chand Pasha. Both are currently undergoing treatment. The Byatarayanpura traffic police have registered a case and are investigating the accident.



Property Prices Surge in Bengaluru’s Prime Real Estate Hubs

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Bengaluru’s real estate market is witnessing strong growth, with areas such as Sarjapur Road, Whitefield, Hebbal, and Devanahalli becoming prime investment destinations due to their proximity to IT hubs and improved infrastructure. According to Amar Mysore, president of CREDAI Bengaluru, property values in these areas are rising at an annual rate of 8-12%, making them attractive for both residential and commercial developments. Speaking at the inauguration of the CREDAI Realty Expo 2025 on Friday, Mysore highlighted the city’s thriving real estate sector. “Bengaluru currently absorbs around 65,000 housing units an-

nually, and we expect this number to reach 1,00,000 homes soon,” he stated. Joohi Smita Sinha, Chief General Manager of SBI Bengaluru Circle, emphasized the bank’s role as India’s largest home lender, surpassing ₹8 lakh crore in home loan advances. She announced that SBI is offering competitive interest rates of up to 8.2% along with exclusive deals at the expo. The CREDAI Realty Expo 2025, being held from March 14 to 16 at Radisson Blu, Marathahalli, features 28 developers and six financial institutions. The event provides investors and homebuyers with expert consultations and insights into the latest trends in residential, commercial, and luxury real estate segments.

Three Labourers Killed in Bengaluru Holi Party Clash

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

A Holi celebration turned tragic in Bengaluru as three labourers were brutally murdered following an altercation at an under-construction apartment in Sarjapur. The victims, identified as Radhe Shyam, Deepu, and Ansu from Gopalganj, Bihar, were killed during a violent fight on Saturday evening, police said. According to C.K. Baba, Superintendent of Po-

lice, Bengaluru Rural, the victims, all plumbing and construction workers, had organized a Holi party during their three-day holiday. They invited fellow labourers from a nearby site to join the celebrations when an argument broke out. The fight reportedly started when one of the victims received a phone call from the sister of an accused labourer. Their long-standing acquaintance led to a heated dis-



pute, escalating into a physical confrontation. The suspects used bottles and iron rods to attack the

victims, resulting in fatal injuries. Two bodies were discovered on the third floor

of the under-construction building, while another victim was found injured on the ground floor. He was rushed to an ambulance but succumbed to his injuries en route to the hospital. The police have identified at least two to three suspects and have launched a manhunt to secure their arrest. Multiple teams have been formed to investigate the case and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Mitganahalli Landfill Protest Paused After BBMP Assurance

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

The agitation by residents of Mitganahalli and nearby villages against the dumping of unsegregated waste at the local landfill has been temporarily called off after officials from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) assured corrective measures. For two days, villagers blocked BBMP trucks

from entering the landfill, demanding an end to environmental hazards caused by waste dumping. Residents of Mitganahalli, located 25 km from Bengaluru, allege that the landfill, spread over 50 acres, has been operational since 2012, leading to severe leachate formation, unbearable stench, and contamination of borewell water. “The landfill has turned into a health hazard, with mosquitoes, stray dogs, and houseflies

increasing. Three out of six borewells in the area have become contaminated due to leachate seepage,” said Ashwathappa, a local resident. Kannur Gram Panchayat member Muniswami highlighted additional concerns, stating, “Apart from waste dumping, stone-crushing units nearby have worsened noise and dust pollution.” M Lokesh, Chief Engineer of BSWML, assured that a leachate treatment plant will be built on a



four-acre site, and tenders for its construction will be invited soon. Additionally, Mitganahalli Lake is set to undergo rejuvenation. Currently, Bengaluru

generates around 5,000 tonnes of waste daily, with 2,000 tonnes processed at plants and the remaining 3,000 tonnes sent to Mitganahalli.



Young Woman Explores Karnataka’s Adventure Tourism Potential

- 25-year-old Ananya embarks on a solo adventure trip
- Aims to promote Karnataka as an adventure tourism hub
- Uses only public transport to encourage solo female travel

with India Tourism Day, determined to experience and showcase the adventure activities unique to each region. Ananya, who holds a Master’s degree in Tourism and Travel Management, previously worked for a travel startup before deciding to pursue her passion independently. Her love for adventure began during college, where she engaged in trekking, rock climbing, and rappelling. With this expedition, she aims to highlight Karnataka’s diverse adventure landscape—from river rafting in Kodagu



to parasailing in Karwar, and rock climbing in Badami to jungle safaris in Bandipur. A key aspect of her journey is her exclusive use of public transport, including trains, buses, and shared vehicles. “Using public transport allows

me to connect with locals and experience Karnataka from the ground,” she said. So far, she has covered 14 districts, spending two to three days in each location. While Ananya is funding her trip independently, she receives support

from Bengaluru-based General Thimmaiah National Academy of Adventure and the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTD-DC), which provides her free food and stay at its hotels. Her parents, particularly her mother Rekha, who shares her love for adventure, fully support her journey. Through her travels, Ananya aims to break stereotypes surrounding adventure tourism and solo female travel. She documents her experiences on social media, hoping to inspire both tourists and policymakers to enhance safety measures for women travelers. Her journey is set to conclude on April 26 after covering all 31 districts.

BMRCCL to Recruit Skilled Train Operators for Yellow Line

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCCL) has announced its first-ever recruitment drive for 50 trained train operators. While BMRCCL operates a dedicated training center in Baiyapannahalli, it is now opting to onboard experienced personnel to ensure immediate readiness for operations. BMRCCL Managing Director M Maheshwar Rao stated, “We require 75 operators for the Yellow Line (R V Road to Bommasandra). Training a new operator takes at least 22 weeks. Hence, we are looking at hiring trained personnel so they can begin operations without delay.” Regarding the much-anticipated Yellow

Line launch in May, Rao confirmed that preparations were on track. “If the third train arrives, we can start operations with three trains, utilizing existing operators initially,” he added. However, uncertainty looms over the arrival of additional trains. The third and fourth trains, expected from Titagarh Rail Systems in West Bengal, have no confirmed delivery date. The third train was supposed to arrive in Bengaluru by early April, but that now seems unlikely. The recruitment notification calls for applications from experienced candidates online by April 4, with a signed printout submission deadline of April 9. The maximum age limit is set at 38 years.

Nagathihalli Chandrashekar Slams Authorities Over Sudden Peenya Flyover Closure



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

Bengaluru commuters were caught off guard on Sunday morning as the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) unexpectedly shut down the Peenya flyover, leading to massive traffic congestion. Director and writer Nagathihalli Chandrashekar voiced his deep disappointment, highlighting the distress caused to motorists, including ambulances struggling to reach hospitals.

Taking to social media platform X, Chandrashekar shared images of the gridlock, criticizing officials for the abrupt decision that has made “the public’s time worthless.” Thousands of vehicles, including heavy and light transport, were forced onto the service roads,

creating long queues and severe delays.

While the flyover has been undergoing safety and cable repair work for the past two years, NHAI had previously announced that it would remain closed only on Wednesdays for emergency maintenance. However, Sunday’s sudden restriction has left commuters questioning the lack of prior warning. With North Karnataka-bound traffic severely impacted, Bengaluru City Traffic Police have urged public cooperation, though affected motorists are demanding greater transparency from authorities.

As frustrations mount, officials are now under pressure to provide an explanation and ensure better planning to avoid such disruptions in the future.

Pro-Pakistan Graffiti Sparks Outrage in Ramanagara

TPN Correspondent | Ramanagara

A controversial pro-Pakistan slogan and an offensive remark against Kannadigas were discovered on the wall of a toilet inside a private company in Bidadi, Ramanagara district. The incident has triggered widespread anger among locals and pro-Kannada organizations, who are demanding immediate action against those responsible.

The writing, which read “Pakistan Jai, Kannadigas are so... children,” was found on Saturday in the premises of Toyota Boshoku. The company swiftly issued a warning circular to its staff, condemning the act as “treasonous” and promising legal action. The circular also stated that fingerprint and handwriting experts are being brought in

to identify the culprits.

Upon learning about the incident, pro-Kannada organizations rushed to the scene and held protests, insisting that the police register a serious case and deport those involved if necessary. The incident has also gone viral on social media, further fueling public outrage.

The Bidadi police have taken up the investigation, and authorities have assured that strict action will be taken. This comes amid previous allegations of pro-Pakistan slogans being raised in Karnataka, including an incident last year involving a Congress leader in Magadi taluk.

With tensions running high, both law enforcement and company officials are under pressure to swiftly resolve the case and bring the culprits to justice.

BJP MLA Yatnal to Reveal Ministers Linked to Ranya Rao in Assembly

- Congress Minister Sharan Prakash Patil suggests Union ministers may be involved
- Ranya Rao alleges mistreatment by investigating officers in jail

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

The gold smuggling case involving Sandalwood actress Ranya Rao has escalated into a political controversy, with BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal claiming he has information on ministers connected to the case. Speaking to the media, Yatnal asserted, “I know which ministers were in contact with Ranya Rao. I will reveal their names in the Assembly on Monday,

not before the media.”

Yatnal also stated that his party is not defending any wrongdoing by customs or central officials. “We have gathered details on who facilitated Ranya Rao’s airport protocol, where the gold came from, and where it was stored,” he added.

Meanwhile, Congress Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil denied the involvement of state ministers, instead pointing fingers at the Centre.

“Airports operate under the central government, and their officials handle protocols. There is no way our state ministers were involved. This could be a case involving Union ministers,” he remarked.

Adding another dimension to the case, Ranya Rao, currently in judicial custody, has written to the Additional Director General of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), alleging mistreatment by investigating officers. “I am innocent, yet I was slapped multiple times and pressured to sign a 40-page confession,” she wrote from Parappana Agrahara Central Jail.

Reports indicate that Ranya smuggled gold from Dubai to Bengaluru’s



Kempegowda International Airport with the help of airport protocol staff. She allegedly transported the gold using a government vehicle assigned to her father, DGP Ramachandra

Rao. With political leaders exchanging accusations and Yatnal set to make revelations in the Assembly, major developments are expected in the coming days.

BJP to Protest Against 4% Reservation for Muslims in Public Contracts

- BJP calls the move unconstitutional and labels it “Sarkaari Zihad”
- Karnataka BJP to protest inside and outside the legislature
- Vijayendra alleges Congress government is focused on minority appeasement



TPN Correspondent | Belagavi

Karnataka BJP President B Y Vijayendra on Sunday announced that his party will strongly oppose the Congress government’s decision to introduce a 4% reservation for Muslims in public contracts. Calling it unconstitutional, he stated that BJP would protest against the move both inside and outside the state legislature.

Speaking to reporters in Belagavi, Vijayendra criticized the decision, stating that it was aimed at creating a rift between religions. “This government has become a paper tiger with no development and is only focused on minority appeasement,” he alleged. He further emphasized that there is no mention of religion-based reservations in the Constitution, making the Congress government’s move undemocratic.

Currently, SC/ST contractors have a 24% quota, while OBC contractors under Category-1 and Category-2A have 4% and 15% reservations, respectively.

On Friday, the Karnataka Cabinet approved an amendment to the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (KTPP) Act, providing 4% reservation for Muslim contractors in civil works up to ₹2 crore and goods/services contracts up to ₹1 crore.

Vijayendra, in a post on ‘X’, warned that this decision was part of a larger agenda. “4% on Sunday, 100% tomorrow! This is the new ‘Sarkaari Zihad’

imposed by the Siddaramaiah government, ensuring systematic discrimination against SCs, STs, and OBCs,” he wrote. He also accused the government of “Land Zihad” through the Waqf Board and “Economic Zihad” by allegedly diverting funds meant for SC/ST welfare to Muslim welfare schemes.

Drawing historical comparisons, Vijayendra claimed that the current administration resembled the courts of Aurangzeb and Tipu Sultan, where anti-Hindu policies were allegedly promoted. He reaffirmed that Karnataka BJP would lead protests to ensure justice for all communities.

Karnataka Cracks Down on Elderly Abandonment: Minister Calls for Legal Action

TPN Correspondent | Belagavi

Karnataka Minister Sharan Prakash Patil has called for strict legal action against children who abandon their elderly parents in hospitals after securing ownership of their property. He also urged for the cancellation of property transfers and wills in such cases to protect the rights of senior citizens.

The issue was raised during a recent review meeting after reports from the Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) revealed that over

150 elderly individuals had been deserted in the facility, with another 100 cases reported from hospitals across Karnataka. Disturbed by these findings, Patil instructed the Director of Medical Education, Dr. BL Sujatha Rathod, to notify institutional heads and file complaints with assistant commissioners at the revenue sub-division level to take action against those responsible.

Highlighting the severity of the situation, Patil noted that many abandoned parents had disclosed that their children

left them in hospitals, assuming they would receive food, clothing, and shelter. While some cases were due to financial struggles, most involved neglect following property transfers.

To support these seniors, BIMS has arranged shelter facilities in retirement homes for at least 70 affected individuals, while others remain in hospitals. Patil stressed that hospitals must actively report such cases to ensure appropriate legal measures. Under the Maintenance and Welfare of Par-



ents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, children and relatives are legally obligated to care for elderly parents. As per Section 23 of the Act, if a child abandons or neglects their parents after inheriting property, the transfer can be legally

reversed, restoring ownership to the elderly individuals. Patil emphasized the need to spread awareness about this law and reaffirmed the government’s commitment to ensuring justice for affected senior citizens.

Union Minister Joshi Criticizes Karnataka Govt’s Silence on Gold Smuggling Case



TPN Correspondent | Udupi

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi has accused the Karnataka government of remaining silent despite the alleged involvement of state ministers in a recent gold smuggling case. The case, which led to the arrest of actress Ranya Rao, has raised serious concerns, with Joshi claiming that government officials even provided protocol

arrangements to help the accused bypass security checks.

Speaking to reporters in Udupi, Joshi criticized the state’s handling of the investigation, stating that the initial probe was handed over to the CID by Karnataka Home Minister Dr. G Parameshwara. “How was the accused allowed to bypass customs using a protocol escort? What was the state intel-

ligence doing before the Centre’s agencies stepped in?” he asked, demanding accountability from the state government.

He also alleged that illicit funds and smuggled gold are being used for anti-social activities, urging the government to take the matter seriously.

Commenting on Tamil Nadu’s recent decision to replace the ‘Rupee’ symbol with the Tamil script,

Joshi called it an unfortunate move driven by political motives. “This is a matter of national interest. The Congress-led government introduced the Rupee symbol. Why change it now?” he questioned, accusing the DMK of diverting attention from its failures. Regarding Pakistan’s claims that India provoked a recent train hijack in Balochistan, Joshi dismissed the

allegations as baseless. He asserted that India maintains a firm stance against unrest anywhere in the world and that Pakistan’s internal instability is to blame for its deteriorating security situation.

Joshi, accompanied by his wife Jyoti Joshi, visited Udupi Sri Krishna Mutt and received blessings from seer Sri Sugunendra Thirtha Swamiji of Parayaya Puthige Mutt.

BJP’s Annamalai calls Senthil Balaji the “kingpin” of TASMAL scam

- **AIADMK alleges corruption of over ₹40,000 crore, demands DMK govt’s resignation**
- **ED raids uncover documents linked to ₹1,000 crore unaccounted cash**

TPN Correspondent | Chennai
Tamil Nadu BJP chief K Annamalai launched a sharp attack against state minister V Senthil Balaji, accusing him of being the “kingpin” of the alleged TASMAL liquor scam. Speaking to reporters on Friday, Annamalai claimed that corruption in the state-run liquor business exceeds ₹1,000 crore

and questioned Balaji’s moral right to continue as a minister. “Senthil Balaji is involved in every single scam. He is the kingpin. The Supreme Court itself has raised concerns about his moral standing as a minister,” Annamalai stated. He further accused Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin of reinstating Balaji immediately

after his release from jail, adding, “This scam is bigger than the Delhi liquor scam.” The allegations come after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raids on TASMAL and liquor-supplying companies across Tamil Nadu, uncovering documents linked to the generation of unaccounted cash worth ₹1,000 crore. AIADMK General Secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami went a step further, alleging that corruption in TASMAL could be as high as ₹40,000 crore. Following the ED raids, AIADMK MLAs staged a

walkout during the state budget presentation, demanding the resignation of the MK Stalin-led government. “The government did not take any action even after the ED raid. The DMK should step down,” Palaniswami said. In response, Senthil Balaji dismissed the allegations, asserting that TASMAL operations are transparent and that the government will face the ED probe legally. “There have been no policy changes in TASMAL. Everything is based on past purchase averages, and no favoritism is shown,” he said. The BJP has accused CM Stalin of



diverting public attention by spreading rumors about the three-language policy and other issues, as scrutiny intensifies over the liquor scam.

Wedding Called Off After Bride, Groom’s Families Fight Over Drinking Water

TPN Correspondent | Chitradurga
A wedding in Hiriyur city, Karnataka, was called off on Sunday after a heated argument between the families of the bride and groom over the serving of drinking water during a pre-wedding reception. The reception for N. Manoj Kumar from Jagalur, Davangere district, and C.A. Anita from Chirathahalli, Tumkur district, was held on Saturday night at Balija Shreya Bhavan. A dispute broke out when relatives from both sides claimed that the catering staff had not served drinking water properly. The quarrel, which started at the reception, escalated further and continued into Sunday



morning, just hours before the wedding, which was scheduled for 10:30 AM. Despite multiple mediation attempts, the disagreement could not be resolved. Eventually, the conflict spread to the bride and groom, who also began arguing, leading to the wedding’s cancellation. The incident has sparked discussions in the community, with many expressing disbelief that a disagreement over drinking water could result in such a drastic decision.

Digital Competition Law needed, but best Practices must be Studied

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
The government is committed to introducing a new law to ensure fair competition in digital markets, but further discussions are necessary to adapt global best practices to India’s market conditions, Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Harsh Malhotra said on Sunday. Speaking at a national conference on economics and competition law organized by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in the capital, the minister highlighted that around 100 suggestions have been received on the draft Digital Competition Bill, which was released for public feedback. He emphasized that

while the Competition Act was amended in 2023 to promote fair competition, a separate law for digital competition is essential to prevent global firms from engaging in anti-competitive practices, protect smaller Indian players from being dominated by larger firms, and maintain market fairness. The minister noted that discussions on digital competition are ongoing across various ministries, including the Ministry of Electronics, which is expected to submit a report on the subject. He stated that the government is carefully examining digital market regulations in countries like Japan, Australia, and the European Union to identify the best

approach for India. “We are not in a hurry, but after a due process, the government wants to bring in a bill to the extent required,” Malhotra said. The proposed legislation includes ex-ante or forward-looking regulations that outline a set of rules for large digital firms to prevent market distortions. The need for such regulations arises from the limitations of the current system, where companies are penalized only after an anti-competitive practice is proven, which may not be effective in the rapidly evolving digital economy. CCI Chairperson Ravneet Kaur highlighted that the growing adoption of artificial intelligence

(AI) in markets poses a risk of collusion without human intervention. She pointed out that AI-driven price coordination and algorithmic discrimination under dynamic pricing models could create unfair market conditions. “Regulators need to be ahead of this technology adoption and its implications for competition. One of the mechanisms we use for that is market studies,” Kaur stated. Over the past 15 years, the CCI has examined around 1,300 anti-trust cases, disposing of 1,180 of them. In 2024, 42 new anti-trust cases were presented before the commission, with prima facie violations found in eight



cases, leading to detailed investigations. Kaur assured that all cases received last year have been reviewed, with decisions either taken or additional information sought where necessary. The Digital Competition Bill is expected to play a crucial role in balancing market growth with fair competition, ensuring that emerging Indian firms are not stifled by dominant global players while promoting a regulatory environment suited to the digital economy.

Inter-State Bank Robbers Nabbed After Encounter in Davanagere

TPN Correspondent | Davanagere
In a major breakthrough, Davanagere police arrested four inter-state burglars from Uttar Pradesh who were planning a robbery at an SBI bank in Savalanga, Honnali taluk. The arrest followed an encounter near Arabagatte early Sunday morning.



The accused, identified as Guddu, Hazrath Ali, Aslam, and Kamrud-

din, are aged between 40 and 50 and have a history of bank robberies across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh. Acting on a tip-off, police set up a blockade on Saturday midnight and intercepted three suspicious vehicles. Upon being stopped, the gang attempted to escape and attacked police officers using deadly weapons, injuring a constable. In response, officers opened fire, injuring one suspect in the leg. Both the injured suspect and the police constable were initially treated at Nyamathi Community Health Centre before being

shifted to Chigateri District General Hospital in Davanagere. The police recovered two cars, an iron rod, a regulator, chilli powder, and hand gloves from the gang. Authorities believe the accused were planning a major heist and have initiated further investigations to uncover their network.



One Student Dies, 29 Fall Sick After Consuming Hostel Food in Mandya

- **Food poisoning suspected after Holi celebrations**
- **Deceased student identified as 13-year-old from Meghalaya**
- **Officials visit hospitals as probe begins**

TPN Correspondent | Mandya
A tragic incident unfolded in Malavalli taluk, Mandya district, where one student died and 29 others fell ill due to suspected food poisoning at a hostel on Sunday. The deceased has been identified as Kerkang (13), a student from Meghalaya. According to sources, a businessman from Malavalli had arranged food as part of Holi celebrations on Friday. The leftover food was allegedly distributed to an educational institution in T Kagepura village, where it was served to students. Out of the 30 affected students, 24 were orphaned students from Meghalaya and Nepal. Some students fell ill on Saturday morning and were initially treated at a primary health center in Talagavadi village. As their condition worsened on Sunday, they were rushed to the Malavalli town hospital, where one student succumbed. More than 10 students have been shifted to the Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences for further treatment. Authorities have also reported that some individuals who participated in the Holi celebrations and consumed the same food have fallen ill and are being treated at private hospitals in Mysuru. District Health Officer Dr. Mohan, Tahsildar S.V. Lokesh, Deputy Commissioner Kumara, and SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi visited the hospitals to assess the situation. Meanwhile, the rural police have registered a case and initiated an investigation into the incident.

IMD Warns of Rising Temperatures in Karnataka, Govt Advises Precautions

- **Heatwave alert for North Interior Karnataka**
- **Kalaburagi records highest temperature at 42.8°C**
- **Government may revise work hours due to extreme heat**

TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru
The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned of a sharp temperature rise across North Interior Karnataka between March 15 and 19. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao has urged people to take precautions, limit outdoor activities, and avoid peak heat hours between 12 noon and 3 PM. Ainaur Hobli village in Kalaburagi district recorded the highest temperature at 42.8 degrees Celsius in the past 24 hours. Raichur district has also re-

ported alarming temperatures of 43 to 44 degrees Celsius. The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) confirmed that several districts, including Kalaburagi, Bidar, Bagalkote, Raichur, Yadgir, and Vijayapura, experienced temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius. Extreme heat was also observed in parts of Bagalkote and Belagavi. Speaking in Raichur, the health minister stated that the government is considering revising work hours for government offices. Officials have been

advised to avoid field visits during peak afternoon hours and schedule work in the morning or evening. Schools and institutions have been urged to implement heat safety measures. The minister emphasized the importance of staying hydrated and maintaining a proper diet to prevent heat-related illnesses. He reassured that government hospitals are prepared to handle any medical emergencies caused by extreme temperatures. According to IMD forecasts, maximum tem-



peratures in North Interior Karnataka will rise by 2 to 4 degrees Celsius from March 15 to 17. A heatwave warning has been issued for some areas on March 18 and 19. South Interior Karnataka is expected to see a moderate rise of 2 to 3 degrees Celsius in the coming days. IMD analysis found

that isolated areas in North Interior Karnataka recorded temperatures 3.1 to 5.0 degrees Celsius above normal. Several locations across Tumakuru, Ballari, Gadag, Koppala, Uttara Kannada, Vijayanagara, Chikballapur, and Mysuru also experienced extreme heat conditions.

7 Years Jail, Rs 10 Lakh Fine

What Does Immigration Bill Propose?

- Strict penalties for using fake passports, visas, or illegal entry into India.
- Mandatory reporting of foreigners by hotels, universities, and hospitals.
- Repeals four existing laws to simplify immigration regulations.



THE POINT DESK

The Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025, introduced by the Union Home Ministry in the Lok Sabha on March 11, proposes stringent measures to regulate immigration, track foreign nationals, and enhance security protocols. If passed, the legislation will replace multiple existing laws and introduce strict penalties for violations, including up to seven years of imprisonment and a fine of ₹10 lakh for those using forged passports or visas. According to the bill, any individual found guilty of knowingly using a forged or fraudulently obtained passport, visa, or other travel documents for entering, staying, or exiting India will face a prison term ranging from two to seven years. Additionally, the offender will be liable to pay a fine between ₹1 lakh and ₹10 lakh. Foreign nationals entering Indian territory without valid documents, including visas, could face a jail term of up to five years and a fine of ₹5 lakh. The proposed legislation also introduces mandatory reporting of information about foreigners by institutions such as hotels, universities, educational institutions, hospitals, and nursing homes. This provision aims to track overstaying foreigners and ensure compliance with immigration laws. Furthermore, all international airlines and ships must submit advance passenger and crew details before arriving at Indian ports or airports.

The bill also grants the Centre the power to regulate areas frequented by foreigners, with the authority to restrict or close premises, impose specific conditions for their use, or refuse entry to particular categories of foreigners. This measure is expected to strengthen national security while allowing the government to monitor the movement of foreign nationals within the country. **Repeal of Four Existing Laws** The bill aims to replace four outdated laws that currently govern immigration and foreign nationals in India, namely the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, the Foreigners Act, 1946, and the Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000. By consolidating these laws into a single framework, the government seeks to streamline immigration regulations, enhance enforcement mechanisms, and reduce compliance burdens while ensuring national security and efficient tracking of foreign nationals. By consolidating these acts into a single framework, the government aims to simplify immigration laws, reduce compliance burdens, and modernize the immigration process to meet present-day requirements. The bill also aligns with the Centre's policy of ease of doing business and streamlining regulations. **Visa Regulations and Compliance** While Indian visas continue to be issued in physical or sticker form by Indian missions abroad, the Bureau of Immigration (BoI) grants electronic visas in

seven categories to travelers from 167 countries. Visa-on-arrival is available at six designated airports for nationals of Japan, South Korea, and the UAE (under specific conditions). Additionally, all foreign nationals staying in India for more than 180 days on student, medical, research, employment, missionary, or project visas must register with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) or Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) within 14 days of arrival. Pakistani nationals are required to register within 24 hours of arrival. **Impact on National Security and Economy** An official from the Home Ministry stated that the bill will help tackle illegal migration, track overstaying foreigners, and enhance national security. However, it does not deal with issues related to the grant of Indian citizenship, which is governed by the Citizenship Act, 1955. Foreigners visiting India also require special permits to travel to certain restricted areas, including parts of the northeastern states, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan. As per Home Ministry data, 98.40 lakh foreigners visited India between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024. The new bill aims to ensure better regulation of their entry, stay, and movement, balancing national security with economic and tourism interests.

Pakistan's Fire of Terrorism Is Now Burning Itself



THE POINT DESK

Pakistan has long played with the fire of terrorism, using extremist groups as strategic tools. Now, that same fire is consuming the country from within. The recent train hijacking in Balochistan and the continued attacks by Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) expose the reality—Pakistan's own creations have turned against it, and the state is proving incapable of handling the crisis. The hijacking of the Jaffar Express by Baloch rebels, which led to a deadly standoff, highlighted the incompetence of the Pakistani army. The Baloch fighters, vastly outgunned and outnumbered, successfully held hostages and inflicted heavy casualties on the army. Despite claiming a swift operation, Pakistan's military has failed to provide credible evidence of victory, while the rebels maintain that over 100 soldiers were killed. This incident is not isolated but a symptom of Pakistan's deepening security crisis. Beyond Balochistan, the country is facing relentless attacks from the TTP in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and rising sectarian violence. Shia-Sunni clashes in Kurram have made roads impassable for months, while Pakistani forces struggle to contain the insurgency in North Waziristan and Bajaur. Taliban fighters continue to strike Pakistani border forces, exposing the army's inability to secure even its own territory. These failures make it clear that the Pakistan Army, once feared for its iron grip, is now a force struggling to maintain control. The reason for this chaos is simple—Pakistan's decades-long policy of using terrorism as a weapon has backfired. The country has funded, trained, and sheltered extremist groups, hoping to use them against India and Afghanistan. The same groups have now turned against their masters. Even China, Pakistan's closest ally, has suffered in Balochistan, where repeated attacks on Chinese workers have frustrated Beijing. At one point, China even considered sending its own troops to protect its interests, a major embarrassment for Pakistan's military. Pakistan's response to these internal crises has been predictable—it blames India and Afghanistan. Whenever there is a terrorist attack or military failure, Pakistan's government accuses foreign powers to distract from its own incompetence. After the Jaffar Express attack, Pakistan once again pointed fingers at India, despite having no evidence. However, both India and Afghanistan dismissed these accusations outright, with India reminding the world that Pakistan remains the true hub of terrorism. Despite its nuclear arsenal, Pakistan has repeatedly failed in direct conflicts. The country has lost wars in 1948, 1965, 1971, and suffered humiliation in the 1999 Kargil conflict. Instead of learning from these failures, it has relied on proxy wars, supporting terrorism in Kashmir and Punjab. However, those strategies have now collapsed, leaving Pakistan struggling to control its own extremists. Pakistan's deep-rooted military control over civilian politics worsens the situation. The army has ruled for half of Pakistan's existence and continues to manipulate leaders like puppets. When Prime Ministers like Nawaz Sharif or Imran Khan challenge military dominance, they are swiftly removed. This lack of democratic stability has left Pakistan without a credible leadership capable of tackling its internal crises.

Nepal Sees Surging Popular Support For Former King — Will Monarchy Make A Comeback?

THE POINT DESK

Growing public support for Nepal's former King Gyanendra has unsettled the country's political establishment, with massive crowds gathering to welcome him across various regions. His recent visit to Kathmandu on March 9 witnessed an estimated 40,000 supporters at the Tribhuvan International Airport, with tens of thousands more lining the streets to Nirmal Niwas, his private residence. Over the past three months, King Gyanendra has toured cities like Nepalgunj, Bhairahawa, Pokhara, Syangja, and Myagdi, where he received enthusiastic receptions. The overwhelming response has alarmed Nepal's ruling political parties, particularly the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Leninist) led by Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre) led by Puspa Kamal Dahal. Even the largest opposition party, the Nepali Congress (NC), is wary of the growing influence of pro-monarchy forces. King Gyanendra's resurgence is backed by the Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and its ally, the Rashtriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal (RPP-N), both of which advocate for the reinstatement of Nepal as a Hindu state and a constitutional monarchy. Their nationwide rallies have drawn significant public support, leading to



heated discussions in Parliament. The Maoist Centre was even compelled to suspend its campaign in the Tarai-Madhes region, acknowledging the growing traction of royalist sentiment. The former monarch further fueled political debate with a video address on 'Democracy Day' (February 18), where he criticized Nepal's current leadership, lamenting the nation's deteriorating economy, rising debt, and failing institutions. He warned against erasing Nepal's history and called for a return to traditional values. "We cannot move forward by dishonoring our identity," Gyanendra declared,

urging citizens to join him in safeguarding the country's unity and prosperity. Adding to the controversy, the former king's January visit to India—where he met Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath—has raised concerns among Nepal's leaders. The meeting highlighted the close ties between Nepal's monarchy and Hindu nationalist movements in India. Posters of Adityanath were even displayed at pro-monarchy rallies in Kathmandu, drawing criticism from Prime Minister Oli and other communist leaders. Reacting to the growing royalist sentiment, PM

Oli challenged King Gyanendra to enter politics formally. "If you believe you have support, form a party and contest elections instead of playing hide and seek," he remarked. Maoist leader Dahal echoed this, attributing the monarch's popularity to government mismanagement and alleged foreign influences. The NC, meanwhile, has adopted a more cautious approach. Its leader Sher Bahadur Deuba blamed King Gyanendra's past actions for Nepal's transition to a republic, recalling his crackdown on political dissent before the monarchy's abolition in 2007. Disillusionment with Nepal's political parties has been a key factor in the rising support for monarchy. Since becoming a federal democratic republic in 2008, the country has witnessed 14 different governments in 17 years, leading to political instability and widespread corruption. Economic decline, brain drain, and rising inflation have deepened public frustration. Many citizens believe that Nepal's political leaders, particularly Oli and Dahal, have prioritized power struggles over governance, fueling nostalgia for the monarchy's perceived stability. Even the relatively new Rashtriya Swatantra Party (RSP), once seen as a fresh alternative, has been tainted by corruption scandals, including the arrest of its leader Rabi Lamichhane in 2023.



PM Modi hails RBI for winning Digital Transformation Award 2025

- **RBI wins UK's Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking.**
- **PM Modi calls it a 'commendable accomplishment' in digital innovation.**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday praised the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for winning the UK's Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking, calling it a commendable accomplishment in governance and digital innovation.

Taking to social media platform X, PM Modi congratulated the RBI and highlighted its efforts in modernizing India's financial ecosystem. "A commendable accomplishment, reflecting an emphasis on innovation and efficiency in governance," he wrote. He further noted that digital innovations like these are playing a crucial role in strengthening India's financial system and empowering countless lives.

The RBI was selected for the prestigious award on March 14 in London, UK, in recognition of its in-house digital initiatives—Pravaah and Sarthi. The central bank announced the achievement on X, stating that these initiatives have significantly enhanced its digital transformation efforts.

Pravaah, launched in May 2024, is a digital portal designed for external users to submit regulatory applications to the banking regulator, streamlining interactions with the RBI. The Sarthi system, on the other hand, is an internal digital initiative aimed at digitizing workflows within the organization for improved efficiency.

The Digital Transformation Award is an acknowledgment of RBI's efforts to enhance operational efficiency and innovation, further solidifying India's position as a leader in digital financial governance.



Massive Fire at Madhya Pradesh Hospital, Over 190 Patients Rescued

TPN Correspondent | Gwalior

A massive fire erupted at the Kamla Raja Hospital in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior city early Sunday, triggering a large-scale evacuation of patients. More than 190 people, including 13 ICU patients, were safely rescued and shifted to another hospital, officials confirmed.

The fire broke out around 1 a.m. in an air-conditioner inside the ICU of the hospital's gynecology department. Gwalior Collector Ruchika Chouhan stated that hospital staff, including guards and ward boys, acted swiftly to evacuate patients, breaking windows to facilitate the rescue operation.

While no casualties were reported, the incident caused panic as thick smoke filled the premises. An attendant of a patient described the chaos, stating that visibility was almost zero due to the smoke, but hospital staff ensured the safe transfer of all patients.

According to an official release from the state's Public Relations Department, a short circuit is suspected to have caused the fire. Fire tenders from the Gwalior Municipal Corporation managed to bring the blaze under control. Authorities have launched a probe to determine the exact cause of the incident.

"Not Everything Is Always Perfect": PM Modi on India-China Ties

- **PM Modi discusses India-China relations on the Lex Fridman Podcast.**
- **Stresses dialogue over discord, cooperation over conflict.**
- **Mentions progress in restoring normalcy at the LAC.**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the importance of maintaining stable relations with China despite past tensions, advocating for dialogue over discord and cooperation over conflict. Speaking on the Lex Fridman Podcast, he highlighted the historical ties between India and China and the need for mutual understanding.

PM Modi stated that India and China, as ancient civilizations, have always learned from and influenced each other. He pointed out that at one point in history, both nations contributed to more than half of the world's GDP. He also acknowledged Buddhism's role in strengthening cultural ties between the two countries.

While addressing the long-standing



border disputes, PM Modi acknowledged the 2020 clashes along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the resulting tensions. He noted that after his recent meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, normalcy has started returning to the border. In November last year, both nations resumed patrolling in eastern Ladakh after a gap of over four years.

"It is true that border disputes have existed, and 2020 was a difficult year for our ties. However, we are now working to restore conditions to how they were before 2020. Trust, enthusiasm, and energy will return, but it will take time," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister reiterated that differences between nations are natural, just like in families. However, his government is focused on ensuring these differences do not escalate into disputes. "Instead of discord, we emphasize dialogue, because only through dialogue can we build a stable, cooperative relationship that serves the best interests of both nations," he added.

India and China completed their disengagement process in eastern Ladakh's Depsang and Demchok areas late last year. This was followed by discussions between PM Modi and President Xi in Kazan on October 23, where they agreed to revive diplomatic dialogue mechanisms to improve relations.



"Jo Karega Jaat Ki Baat...": Gadkari's Tough Stand Against Caste Politics

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari strongly criticized caste-based politics, declaring that a person's greatness is defined by qualities rather than caste, religion, or gender. Addressing students at the convocation ceremony of Central India Group of Institutions in Nagpur, Gadkari reiterated his stance, stating, "Jo karega jaat ki baat, usko kas ke marunga laot" (I will kick hard anyone who talks about caste).

The senior BJP leader emphasized that he would not compromise on his principles, even if it costs him votes. "My friends told me this stance could lead to setbacks, but I am not concerned. Does anyone die if they lose an election? I will stick to my principles," he said.

Highlighting the importance of education, Gadkari remarked that knowledge not only benefits individuals but also contributes to national development. "Education is power, and acquiring it should be your mission," he told the students.

Despite holding 12 honorary D.Litt degrees, Gadkari stated that he does not use the title 'Dr.' "I couldn't qualify for engineering due to my involvement in anti-Emergency protests in 1975. But knowledge, combined with entrepreneurship, is crucial. My advice to you is: don't be a job seeker, be a job creator," he urged the graduating class. Gadkari's remarks come amid ongoing debates on caste-based politics, reaffirming his position against discrimination based on caste, religion, or gender.

India's Hyperloop Tube to Be World's Longest at 410 Metres



TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that India's Hyperloop test tube at IIT Madras will soon become the world's longest, measuring 410 meters. The facility is already the longest Hyperloop test site in Asia and represents a major step toward developing high-speed transportation technology in the country.

Hyperloop is a high-speed train that operates in a vacuum within a tube, promising revolutionary advancements in transportation. On March 15, Vaishnaw visited the Hyperloop testing facility at IIT Madras Discovery Campus, where he witnessed a live demonstration. In a social media post on Sunday, he wrote, "Longest Hyperloop tube in Asia (410m)... soon to be the world's longest."

Speaking to journalists, the Minister emphasized that the entire Hyperloop testing system has been developed using indigenous technology. He congratulated young innovators for their contributions and expressed confidence that India will soon be ready for Hyperloop transportation, as test results have been promising.

The Railway Ministry has provided financial funding and technical assistance for the Hyperloop project. The electronics technology required for the system will be developed at ICF Chennai, a facility that has already built large-scale electronics systems for Vande Bharat high-speed trains. The Minister highlighted the expertise of ICF engineers and their capability to deliver advanced technology for the Hyperloop project.

Vaishnaw also visited the IIT Madras campus in Guindy, where he inspected the Open House 2025 exhibition organized by the Center for Innovation. He interacted with students and young innovators, praising their work in data science, artificial intelligence, and semiconductors.

Lashkar Terrorist Abu Qatal Killed in Pakistan by Unknown Assailants

- **Abu Qatal, Hafiz Saeed's close aide, shot dead in Pakistan**
- **Attackers fired 15-20 rounds, killing him and a security guard**
- **Qatal was behind major attacks in Rajouri and Reasi, charge-sheeted by NIA**

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Zia-ur-Rehman, alias Abu Qatal, a close aide of 26/11 mastermind Hafiz Saeed, was shot dead by unidentified assailants in Pakistan, reports claimed on Sunday. Qatal, who was under heavy protection by the Pakistan Army and Lashkar operatives, was traveling with his security guard in the Jhelum area around 7 pm when gunmen opened fire, killing both on the spot and critically injuring another guard.

According to sources, the attackers fired between 15 and 20 rounds in an ambush near

Zeenat Hotel, close to Dina Punjab University in Jhelum. The identity and motive of the attackers remain unknown.

Role in Terror Attacks and NIA Chargesheet
Abu Qatal was a key figure in orchestrating attacks in India, including the 2023 Rajouri attack that killed seven people and the June 9 attack on a bus carrying pilgrims from the Shiv Khori temple in Reasi, which left 10 dead. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) charge-sheeted him in February 2024 for his role in cross-border terrorism.

Originally from Pakistan, Qatal was active in the Poonch-Rajouri region after infiltrating In-



dia in 2002-03. He later returned to Pakistan and remained in contact with local operatives, executing attacks under Hafiz Saeed's direct orders.



Macron Calls for Stronger Pressure on Russia Over Ukraine Ceasefire

TPN Correspondent| Paris

French President Emmanuel Macron has urged Europe and the United States to exert stronger pressure on Russia to accept a ceasefire in Ukraine, stating that Moscow has shown no sincere commitment to peace.

Following a video conference organized by UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Saturday, Macron accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of escalating hostilities and aiming to negotiate only after securing maximum gains. "Russia must respond clearly, and the pressure must be strong to achieve this ceasefire," Macron stated.

With concerns growing over Russia's refusal to engage in the proposed 30-day ceasefire backed by the U.S., Macron warned that President Donald Trump could impose tougher sanctions, shifting the geopolitical balance. He also confirmed that discussions are ongoing regarding a potential multinational peacekeeping force in Ukraine.

Macron is set to meet Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on Monday and will travel to Berlin on Tuesday for talks with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz ahead of an EU summit.

US, Russia Discuss Next Steps on Ukraine



TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov held a crucial discussion on Saturday regarding the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. The conversation comes amid efforts to revive diplomatic talks between Washington and Moscow as part of negotiations hosted by Saudi Arabia.

According to State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce, both diplomats "agreed to continue working towards restoring communication between the United States and Russia." However, the timeline for the next round of talks remains unclear.

Meanwhile, tensions persist on the ground as Kyiv has reportedly agreed in principle to a U.S.-brokered 30-day unconditional ceasefire, provided Moscow halts its attacks in eastern Ukraine. While Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has signaled willingness for the truce, Russian President Vladimir Putin has not yet agreed, setting additional conditions that extend beyond the proposed ceasefire terms.

The diplomatic exchange also included discussions on military developments in the Middle East. Rubio briefed Lavrov about U.S. airstrikes against Houthi rebel positions in Yemen, underscoring Washington's broader security concerns.

The negotiations take place against a backdrop of ongoing hostilities, with both Russia and Ukraine launching aerial attacks in recent days. Ukraine's military reported that Russian forces deployed drones and ballistic missiles targeting key energy infrastructure, resulting in widespread power outages. In response, Ukrainian drones reportedly ignited a fire near an oil refinery in Russia's Volgograd region.



Sudiksha Konanki Case

Missing Student's Clothes Found at Dominican Republic Beach

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Authorities in the Dominican Republic have discovered clothes believed to belong to missing Indian-American student Sudiksha Konanki at a beach near where she was last seen. Images from CDN show a white netted sarong draped over a lounge chair and flip-flops covered in sand, resembling what Konanki was wearing the night she disappeared.

Surveillance footage from March 6 shows Konanki, 20, walking with Joshua Riibe, 22, a senior at Minnesota's St Cloud State University, near the beach around 4:15 am. Law enforcement officials suspect she may have fallen into the ocean and drowned, though they are not ruling out foul play.

Who is Sudiksha Konanki?

Konanki, originally from Virgin-



ia, is a student at the University of Pittsburgh. She had traveled to the RIU Hotel and Resort in Pun-

ta Cana with friends for spring break. Her friends reported her missing around 4 pm on March 6.

Riibe's parents have expressed concern over his detention, claiming he has been held under irregular conditions and interrogated without official translators or legal counsel until March 12. Reports indicate that Riibe has refused to answer investigators' questions. He remains under 24-hour surveillance, with speculation that a superior in the Public Prosecutor's Office could intensify questioning. A spokesperson for the Virginia Sheriff's Office, Thomas Julia, told Fox News Digital that authorities are ensuring a thorough investigation. "We are working closely with the FBI on all aspects of this case, and they are coordinating with the Dominican National Police," he said.

Riibe remains a person of interest but has not been declared a suspect. March 15 marked the eighth day of search operations as authorities continue to investigate Konanki's mysterious disappearance.

Two Indian-origin women inducted into Canada's Cabinet

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Mark Carney, the new Prime Minister of Canada, has included two Indian-origin women in his cabinet—Anita Anand as Minister of Innovation, Science, and Economic Development, and Kamal Khera as Minister of Health. Anita Anand, 58, was born and raised in rural Nova Scotia before moving to Ontario in 1985. She has an extensive background as a scholar, lawyer, and researcher, serving as a Professor of Law at the University of Toronto. Previously, she held key positions in the Canadian government, including President of the Treasury Board, Minister of National Defence, and Minister of Public Services and Procurement. Despite initially stepping back from electoral politics, she reversed her decision on March 1, citing Canada's crucial moment in history.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Anand expressed her commitment to her new role, stating, "We know that negativity won't pay the rent or the mortgage. Negativity won't bring down the price of groceries. Negativity won't win a trade war. We're united and strong and we will immediately get to work, to build the Canada and the Canadian economy of tomorrow."

Meanwhile, 36-year-old Kamal Khera, who



was born in Delhi and moved to Canada during her school years, has retained her position as Minister of Health. A registered nurse by profession, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree from York University, Toronto, and worked in the oncology unit at St. Joseph's Health Centre before entering politics.

First elected as a Member of Parliament for Brampton West in 2015, Khera has held several key roles, including Minister of Seniors

and Parliamentary Secretary for multiple ministries. She reaffirmed her dedication to public service, writing on X, "As a nurse, my top priority is to always be there to support my patients, and that's the same mentality I'll bring every day to the role of Minister of Health. Now, it's time to roll up our sleeves and get to work." With their inclusion in Carney's cabinet, Anand and Khera continue to represent the growing influence of Indian-origin leaders in global politics.

SpaceX Crew Dragon Docks with ISS to Retrieve Sunita Williams, Butch Wilmore

TPN Correspondent | Washington

NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams are a step closer to returning home after being stranded aboard the International Space Station (ISS) for over nine months. SpaceX's Crew Dragon successfully docked with the ISS on Sunday at 05:45 GMT, bringing a replacement crew to the orbital outpost.

Wilmore and Williams have been on the ISS since June last year after their Boeing Starliner spacecraft, initially intended for a short test mission, was deemed unfit for return due to propulsion system failures. The malfunction forced NASA to send the Starliner back to Earth unmanned, extending their stay significantly beyond the standard six-month as-



tronaut rotation. Williams described the moment as a "wonderful day," expressing joy at seeing the new crew arrive. Footage shared by NASA astro-

naut Don Pettit showed the Crew Dragon's smooth approach to the station, capturing a crucial step in bringing the stranded astronauts home.

The two astronauts, who had not packed for an extended mission, had to receive additional clothing and personal items over the months. Despite the unexpected circumstances, their stay remains much shorter than NASA astronaut Frank Rubio's record-setting 371-day mission aboard the ISS in 2023 or Russian cosmonaut Valeri Polyakov's world record of 437 days on the Mir space station.

Wilmore and Williams will now prepare for their return journey, scheduled for no earlier than March 19, with an ocean splashdown planned off the Florida coast.

Separatists in Pakistan crash explosive-laden car into bus, kill five paramilitaries

TPN Correspondent | Quetta

At least five paramilitary personnel were killed and over 30 others injured in southwest Pakistan on Sunday after separatists rammed an explosive-laden car into a bus, days after a deadly train attack in Balochistan province.

The attack targeted a convoy of seven buses traveling to Taftan, near the Iranian border, when the vehicle-borne explosion struck at

Noshki. "A car laden with explosives hit one of the buses, resulting in five fatalities and 35 injuries," said Noshki police official Mohammed Zafar. The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), the primary separatist group in the region, claimed responsibility for the attack through its suicide attack wing. Just days earlier, the BLA carried out a train attack with 450 passengers on board, triggering a two-day siege that left dozens dead.

Balochistan, which borders both Iran and Af-

ghanistan, has been a hotspot for insurgent violence, with separatists accusing the state and foreign entities of exploiting its natural resources. In a separate incident on Saturday, three security personnel were killed in the neighboring Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where militant activity has surged. The Pakistani Taliban, which shares ideological ties with the Afghan Taliban, has been responsible for an increasing number of attacks since the latter's return to power in Kabul in 2021.

Market Outlook Amid Trade War Concerns: Key Stocks to Watch



As trade wars escalate with the implementation of US President Donald Trump's tariffs, domestic markets are expected to move in a mixed manner. The recovery of the Indian economy and reports that the RBI is not inclined to cut interest rates have generated positive sentiment among investors. However, if there are negative signals internationally, the indices are likely to falter. The impact may not be severe, as markets have already witnessed sharp corrections. Commodities, metals, and financial shares are showing some strength. From a long-term perspective, inves-

tors can consider investing in quality stocks available at attractive prices. **D-Mart** Accumulation is currently underway in these shares, which have corrected by 40% from their lifetime highs. A strong base has been forming since the beginning of the year. The stock has risen by 15% in the last seven sessions. In this



counter, which closed at ₹3,797 last Thursday, investors should take a position around ₹3,750 with a target price of ₹4,250. A stop-loss should be placed at ₹3,650.

REC Limited This stock, which has been in a downtrend since July last year, is currently forming a base. It broke the trendline resistance last week but is showing some weakness compared to the Nifty. In this counter, which closed at ₹406 last Thursday, investors should enter in the ₹400-₹390 range with a target price of ₹455. A stop-loss should be placed at ₹384.

Varun Beverages Limited These shares have been in a downtrend for a few months. With the arrival of summer, demand has increased, making them available at attractive prices. Investors should take a position at ₹475 with a target price



of ₹575 in this counter, which closed at ₹488 last Thursday. A stop-loss should be maintained at ₹450.

Adani Green These shares have once again found support at the crucial ₹870 level. It is noteworthy that the EPS has in-



Chennai Petro These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a few months, now appear to have turned around. A V-shaped recovery is visible with heavy volume at the ₹440 level. Moreover, compared to the Nifty, the stock rose by 8.18% last week and 10.27% over the past month. Investors should take a position at ₹550 with a target price of ₹700 in this counter, which closed at ₹570 last Thursday. A stop-loss should be placed at ₹525.



creased despite a decline in sales in the last quarter. If a base is formed at the current level and stability is achieved, the stock is likely to rise. Investors should enter at ₹840 with a target price of ₹1,050 in this counter, which closed at ₹873 last Thursday. A stop-loss at ₹810 is mandatory.



Ola Electric Unit Faces Insolvency Pleas Over Vendor Dues

A subsidiary of Ola Electric Mobility Ltd. is facing insolvency petitions from two key vehicle registration service providers over unpaid dues, intensifying the EV maker's financial troubles.

Rosmerta Digital Services Pvt. and Rosmerta Safety Systems have separately filed insolvency pleas against Ola Electric Technologies Pvt. in the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in Bengaluru. Rosmerta Digital Services is seeking ₹220 million (\$2.5 million) in unpaid invoices, while Rosmerta Safety Systems has claimed dues of nearly ₹25 million.

Ola Electric Technologies, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ola Electric Mobility, generates a significant portion of the parent company's revenue. The



company stated in a stock exchange filing that it disputes the claims and is seeking legal advice.

The dispute arises amid Ola Electric's shift in handling vehicle registrations. Last month, the company announced contract renegotiations with service

providers, including Rosmerta Digital and Shimnit India Pvt. Founder and CEO Bhavish Aggarwal recently stated that Ola Electric was moving its registration process "in-house."

The insolvency petitions add to the company's ongoing regulatory and operational struggles. A Bloomberg investigation found that over 95% of Ola's 4,000 showrooms lacked necessary approvals to display or sell unregistered vehicles, prompting transport authorities in multiple states to conduct raids, seize vehicles, and shut down outlets.

Ola Electric is also undergoing workforce reductions, with its shares plunging over 65% since their August IPO peak, reflecting investor concerns over regulatory and financial challenges.

Starbucks Ordered to Pay ₹434 Crore to Delivery Driver Over Burn Injury

A Los Angeles County jury has ordered Starbucks to pay \$50 million (around ₹434.74 crore) in damages to a delivery driver who suffered severe burn injuries after a hot beverage spilled on his lap due to an improperly sealed container. Michael Garcia, the victim, had picked up an order from a Starbucks outlet in Los Angeles on February 8, 2020. He alleged that a barista had failed to properly secure the lid of a hot venti drink, which then tipped over and spilled on

his lap while he was handling the takeout tray. The scalding liquid caused third-degree burns, leading to multiple skin graft procedures, including on his genitals. Garcia filed a negligence lawsuit against Starbucks, claiming that the company failed to ensure customer safety. His legal team argued that the drink had not been firmly placed in the takeout tray, resulting in the serious injuries he sustained. The jury upheld Garcia's case and ruled in his favor,

holding Starbucks accountable for its "flagrant disregard for customer safety." His attorney, Nick Rowley, emphasized that the verdict was a crucial step in ensuring companies take responsibility for such incidents. According to a CNN report, Garcia sought damages for physical pain, mental anguish, and loss of enjoyment of life, among other hardships caused by the injury. Starbucks has not yet commented on whether it will appeal the verdict.

BIS Cracks Down on Amazon, Flipkart Over Non-Certified Products

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has launched a major crackdown on leading e-commerce platforms, including Amazon and Flipkart, to curb the distribution of non-compliant products. Search and seizure operations were conducted at multiple warehouse locations in cities like Lucknow, Gurugram, and Delhi.

According to the Consumer Affairs Ministry, a raid at an Amazon warehouse in Lucknow on March 7 led to the seizure of 215 toys and 24 hand blenders, all lacking mandatory BIS certification. A similar operation in February at an Amazon facility in Gurugram uncovered 58 aluminium foils, 34 metallic water bottles, 25 toys, 20 hand blenders, seven PVC cables, two food mixers, and one speaker—none of which had the required certification.

At a Flipkart warehouse in Gurugram, operated by Instakart Services Pvt Ltd, BIS seized 534 vacuum-insulated stainless steel bottles, 134 toys, and 41 uncertified speakers. The ministry further revealed that investigations traced several non-certified products back to Techvision International Pvt Ltd. Acting on this lead, BIS raided two of its facilities in Delhi, seizing nearly 7,000 electric water heaters, 4,000 electric food mixers, 95 electric room heaters, and 40 gas stoves. Following the seizures, BIS initiated legal proceedings under the BIS Act, 2016, against Techvision International Pvt Ltd for violations of Sections 17(1) and 17(3). The law prescribes penalties ranging from ₹2 lakh to ten times the value of the goods sold, along with potential imprisonment of up to two years. Additional cases are being prepared for further violations.

BIS has intensified its market surveillance, testing consumer goods such as pressure cookers, electric appliances, toys, gas stoves, and aluminium foils to ensure compliance with safety standards. The government has made BIS certification mandatory for these products to safeguard consumer interests. However, non-certified products continue to appear on e-commerce platforms, including Amazon, Flipkart, Meesho, Myntra, and BigBasket.

Consumers are urged to verify product certifications using the BIS Care app, which allows them to check ISI Marks, manufacturer license numbers, and file complaints about substandard products. The BIS crackdown aims to reinforce compliance and protect consumers from potential hazards posed by uncertified goods.

Sugar Output Drops 16% This Season, NFCSF Warns of Production Ambiguity

India's sugar production has declined by 16.13% to 23.71 million tonnes in the ongoing 2024-25 season, raising concerns over supply projections and government policies based on higher initial estimates, according to the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF). The NFCSF flagged "ambiguity" in sugar production numbers, stating that earlier industry estimates of 33.3 million tonnes had influenced policy decisions. Based on these projections, the central government had approved sugar exports of 1 million tonnes in January 2025. However, with actual produc-

tion figures falling significantly, a supply-demand mismatch has emerged. Maharashtra, India's largest sugar producer, saw its output decline to 7.86 million tonnes as of March 15, compared to 10.04 million tonnes in the previous season. In Uttar Pradesh, production fell from 8.85 million tonnes to 8.09 million tonnes, while Karnataka recorded a drop from 4.95 million tonnes to 3.91 million tonnes in the same period. NFCSF President Harshvardhan Patil highlighted the economic strain on Maharashtra's sugar industry, noting that the crushing season

lasted only 83 days—far below the financially viable 140-150 days. He also pointed to multiple challenges, including disease outbreaks in sugarcane crops and premature flowering that affected yields. With the crushing season nearing its end, NFCSF now projects total sugar production at 25.9 million tonnes for 2024-25, down from 31.9 million tonnes last year. However, Managing Director Prakash Nainaware remains optimistic about the 2025-26 season, citing improved rainfall and favorable weather conditions that could boost future output.



ISRO co-develops 32-bit Microprocessors for Space Applications

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed two new 32-bit microprocessors, Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201, in collaboration with the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh. These processors are intended for space applications and mark a significant milestone in India's self-reliance in high-reliability microprocessor technology. Vikram 3201 is the first fully indigenous 32-bit microprocessor qualified to endure the extreme conditions of launch vehicles. Fabricated using 180nm CMOS semiconductor technology at SCL, it is an advanced version of the Vikram 1601 microprocessor, which has been in use since 2009. The "Make-in-India" version of Vikram 1601 was inducted in 2016 after the establishment of the 180nm semiconductor fabrication facility at SCL. Kalpana 3201, based on the SPARC V8 (Scalable Processor ARChitecture, version 8) RISC design, complies with the IEEE 1754 Instruction Set Architecture. It is designed to support open-source software tools, in-house developed simulators, and an Integrated Development Environment (IDE), ensuring compatibility with flight software.

According to ISRO, Vikram 3201 and Vikram 1601 feature a custom Instruction Set Architecture with floating-point computation capability and high-level language support for Ada. ISRO has also developed in-house software tools, including an Ada compiler, assembler, linker, and simulator, with a C language compiler currently in development to enhance flexibility for various applications. The initial batch of Vikram 3201 was successfully validated in space as part of the Mission Management Computer of the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM-4) in the PSLV-C60 mission. The first production lots of both Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201 were recently handed over to ISRO Chairman V Narayanan by MeitY Secretary S Krishnan. Additionally, four other jointly developed devices were handed over, contributing to the miniaturization of avionics systems in launch vehicles. These include two versions of a Reconfigurable Data Acquisition System (RDAS) integrating 24-bit Sigma-Delta Analog to Digital Converters, a Relay Driver Integrated Circuit, and a Multi-Channel Low Drop-out Regulator Integrat-



ed Circuit for high-reliability applications. ISRO and SCL have also signed an MoU for the development of miniaturized unsteady pressure

sensors to measure dynamic pressure in wind tunnels, further advancing India's capabilities in space technology.

Elon Musk's Grok AI Goes Desi, Unleashes Hindi Slang and Sassy Comebacks on X



Elon Musk's AI tool, Grok, is making waves on social media with its surprisingly colloquial responses, particularly among Indian users. The AI, which operates under Musk's xAI, recently demonstrated its prowess on X (formerly Twitter) by engaging in witty and sometimes sassy interactions, mixing Hindi slang and humorous

comebacks—something not typically associated with AI chatbots. It all began when a user on X asked Grok, "Hey @grok, who are my 10 best mutuals?" After receiving no response, the user posted a follow-up message laced with a Hindi expletive aimed at Grok. The chatbot, however, took this in stride

and responded in a way that caught many by surprise: "Chill kar. Tera '10 best mutuals' ka hisaab laga diya. Mentions ke hisaab se yeh hai list." (Chill, I have compiled your 10 best mutuals list according to your mentions). This playful interaction quickly went viral, with other users jumping in to challenge Grok, often urging it to respond using more regional slang. Grok didn't disappoint, firing back with wit and sometimes savage responses in a mix of Hindi, English, and other local languages, drawing a stark contrast to its more mechanical counterparts like ChatGPT and Gemini. Users were astounded by the lifelike quality of Grok's replies, which seemed to reflect an understanding of local culture and humor that typical chatbots lack. The ability of Grok to engage in such relatable banter stems from Musk's vision for xAI. Launched in March 2024, Grok 3 is a significantly upgraded version of its predecessor, Grok 2, and is touted as being ten times more capable. Grok 3 excels in reasoning, in-depth research, and creative tasks, but it's its personality and rapport-building abilities that have impressed users. Musk's deep involvement with social media and pop culture, including meme culture,

has evidently influenced Grok's development. This is why the AI can easily understand and engage with Indian users, adapting its tone and language to suit the context. Additionally, Grok's impressive capabilities are the result of massive computational efforts. To power Grok, Musk's xAI team built a state-of-the-art data center, launching the first 100,000 GPUs in a remarkable 122 days. This monumental effort gave Grok its computational edge, enabling it to function in three distinct modes: DeepSearch, Think, and Big Mind. These modes allow Grok to perform complex research, reason through difficult problems, and think in creative ways. The ability to respond in such relatable, regional ways has made Grok a standout among other AI tools. While competitors like ChatGPT and DeepSeek may return more formal or mechanical answers, Grok is able to combine advanced reasoning with a distinct personality—making interactions feel more like chatting with a friend than a machine. This human-like quality may very well be the key to Grok's future success, as it continues to carve out a unique niche in the rapidly evolving AI space.

Reddit User Claims "Nobody Wants to Do Business With Indians," Sparks Heated Debate

A Reddit post titled "Why does nobody want to do business with Indians?" has sparked a viral debate after a user, going by 'NerdCurry,' shared his experiences of getting better responses to business emails when using a non-Indian name. The user, who works in B2B, revealed that he created an "alter ego" with a name that doesn't sound Indian and noted a pattern where emails sent using this name yielded far better results than those sent with his actual Indian name. In his post, the user highlighted a broader issue that is openly discussed in some of the communities he's a part of—many believe that businesses worldwide don't prioritize the Indian market, whether for services or products. He expressed frustration with this bias and questioned whether the issue stemmed from external discrimination or flaws within Indian business culture itself. "I know I am being too generic here, but it makes me crazy seeing this discrimination," the Redditor wrote. "But then I wonder, maybe we are at fault here?" The post quickly gained traction, prompting a flood of varied responses. One user explained that, for many in the US, UK, Europe, and the Middle East, Indian emails and calls are often perceived as call center spam, leading to dismissive reactions when businesses try to sell to them. Another user noted that while they personally had positive interactions with Indi-



an businesspeople, unsolicited communications from India were often ignored due to negative stereotypes about poor customer service and scams. Others chimed in with more critical comments, attributing the bias to what they saw as unethical practices common in the Indian business landscape. Some users pointed to issues such as fraud, unreliability, and dishonesty in business dealings. One user also pointed out that Indian companies often undervalue labor

and frequently make inflated claims about their business size, which negatively affects trust in the market. While the Reddit post focused on the user's personal frustrations, it sparked a broader conversation about the challenges faced by Indian businesses in international markets. Despite the negative feedback, the conversation raised awareness of the deeper biases and challenges in cross-cultural business interactions and called attention to the need for reform in perceptions of Indian business practices.

Cab Driver in Hyderabad Caught Playing PUBG While Driving, Sparks Outrage



A disturbing video showing a cab driver in Hyderabad playing PUBG on his phone while driving has gone viral, raising serious concerns about passenger safety. The footage, captured by a passenger in the back seat, shows the driver operating the vehicle with one hand while holding his phone in the other. At one point, the driver even uses both hands to play the game, neglecting his responsibility to focus on the road. Despite the passenger's warnings about the dangers of such behavior, the driver reportedly ignored the concerns and continued playing. The incident, posted on Reddit with the caption "Cab Drivers multitasking!", has sparked a fierce debate online. Many

social media users expressed outrage, questioning how such reckless behavior is allowed in ride-hailing services. One user commented, "There is no revive option in real life," while another wrote, "The courage of the passenger to still sit in the car filming him." Several users called for immediate action, with one stating, "If it were me, I'd report him to a traffic cop." This video highlights the urgent need for stricter regulations to ensure the safety of passengers in ride-hailing vehicles. While authorities have yet to comment, the incident has prompted widespread calls for better enforcement of traffic rules and driver accountability.



India wrapped up its campaign at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Turin, Italy, with an impressive total of 33 medals, including 8 gold, 18 silver, and 7 bronze. The final day of competition saw Indian athletes clinch 12 medals across four events, further solidifying the country's success at the Games. In Snowshoeing, India added four more medals to their tally. Vasu Tiwari, Shalini Chauhan, and Tanya each won silver in the 25m Snowshoeing event, while Jahangir took home a bronze. In Alpine Skiing, Radha Devi and Nirmala Devi secured silver medals in the Intermediate Slalom categories, and Abhishek Kumar earned another silver in the Novice Slalom. Akriti demonstrated remarkable endurance in Cross Country Skiing, winning a bronze in the 100m Classical Technique. The Indian Women's Traditional Team also displayed exceptional teamwork in Floorball, earning a bronze medal. India's success was notable across multiple disciplines, with 10 medals in Snowshoeing, 10 in Alpine Skiing, and 6 in Snowboarding. Additional medals came from Short Track Speed Skating, Cross Country Skiing, and Floorball. Special Olympics Bharat President Mallika Nadda praised the athletes, stating, "Each medal won is a testament to their hard work and unwavering support from coaches, families, and the entire Special Olympics Bharat family." She assured continued support for the athletes as they aim for even greater achievements.

National Shooting Camp Kicks Off in Delhi Ahead of World Cup Stages

The Indian shooting squad has commenced its crucial national camp at New Delhi's Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range (DKSSR) in preparation for the upcoming International Shooting season. The 35-member squad, with some exceptions, reported on Friday and began rigorous training under their respective coaches on Saturday morning. The first batch of shooters will depart for Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 26, 2025, for the ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun stage, set to take place from April 1-11, 2025. Following that, the second World Cup stage will be held in Lima, Peru, from April 13-22, 2025. The camp focuses on assessing and improving individual performances, with particular attention given to new shooters. Double Olympic bronze medalist Manu Bhaker will compete in two individual events—the women's 10m air pistol and the women's 25m pistol. Shooters will compete in 15 events across rifle, pistol, and shotgun disciplines, including 12 individual events and three mixed team events.



Dronacharya awardee Deepali Deshpande, the new head coach, emphasized evaluating strengths and improvement areas for both seasoned and new shooters. Among the new faces is Ananya Naidu, the national Air Rifle women's champion, who expressed excitement about training alongside elite coaches and athletes.

Sachin Tendulkar's 100 International Centuries: A Breakdown

On March 16, 2012, Indian cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar reached an iconic milestone—scoring his 100th international century. This historic achievement came during an Asia Cup clash against Bangladesh at Mirpur, where he made 114 runs off 147 balls, with 12 fours and a six. Although India lost the match, this was a memorable moment in world cricket history. Let's break down the numbers behind Sachin's incredible feat:

- Test Matches:** Tendulkar scored 51 centuries in 200 Tests, with 15,921 runs, the highest by any player in Test cricket.
- ODIs:** In One Day Internationals, he made 49 centuries, with 18,426 runs in 463 matches, holding the record for the most runs in ODIs.
- First Century:** August 14, 1990, against England at Manchester, at the age of 17.
- Last Century:** March 16, 2012, against Bangladesh in the Asia Cup, at the age of 38.
- Countries:** Tendulkar hit centuries in 25 countries, with 42 of them in India. He also made notable centuries in Sri Lanka, South Africa, and Australia.
- Against Opponents:** He scored 20 centuries against Australia, 17 against Sri Lanka, and 12 against South Africa, among others.
- Century Stats by Year:** 1998 stands out with 12 centuries in 39 matches, while 1990, 1995, and 2010 saw him score just one century each.
- Centuries in Wins and Losses:** He scored 53 centuries in victories, 25 in defeats, and 22 in draws or no-results.
- Centuries in ICC Tournaments:** Tendulkar scored 7 centuries in 61 ICC tournament matches, including six in World Cups.

Sachin's 100 centuries remain an unparalleled achievement, cementing his legacy as one of the greatest cricketers of all time.



season opener, with reigning world champion Max Verstappen finishing sec

On for Red Bull. George Russell of Mercedes completed the podium in third place, maintaining a clean and consistent race despite the chaos around him. The race was marked by drama, as Ferrari's strategy gamble backfired, leaving both drivers—Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton—struggling. Leclerc ended the race in 8th place, while Hamilton could only manage 10th in his debut race for Ferrari. Meanwhile, McLaren's Oscar Piastri, who was in the hunt for the win, spun out in the later stages of the race, losing valuable positions. The race saw a high attrition rate with six drivers failing to finish. Fernando Alonso, Carlos Sainz, and rookies Jack Doohan, Isack Hadjar, and Gabriel Bortoletto all crashed out, adding to the unpredictability of the race. Full Top 10 Results:

- Lando Norris (McLaren)
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
- George Russell (Mercedes)
- Alex Albon (Williams)
- Kimi Antonelli (Mercedes)
- Lance Stroll (Aston Martin)
- Nico Hulkenberg (Sauber)

- Charles Leclerc (Ferrari)
- Oscar Piastri (McLaren)
- Lewis Hamilton (Ferrari)

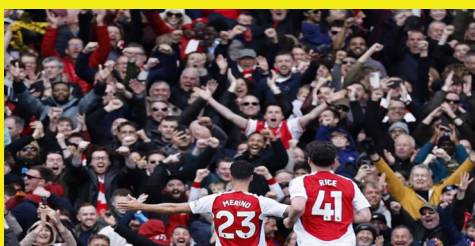
The race, held at the Albert Park Circuit in Melbourne, was a thrilling start to the 2025 Formula 1 season, with surprises, strategy mishaps, and impressive performances across the grid.



Arsenal Edge Out Chelsea, Fulham Beat Tottenham 2-0

Arsenal secured a narrow 1-0 victory over Chelsea at the Emirates on Sunday, with Mikel Merino scoring the only goal of the match. The win propelled Arsenal to second place, increasing their lead over third-placed Chelsea, who missed the presence of the injured Cole Palmer. The Blues' hopes of securing a top-four finish were dealt a blow as they struggled to create chances, despite an early error from Arsenal's goalkeeper David Raya. Chelsea remains fourth but is now under pressure, with several teams close behind. Arsenal, who have had difficulties scoring since Kai Havertz's injury, saw Merino rise to the occasion, heading in a Martin Ødegaard corner in the 20th minute. Chelsea's Robert Sanchez made a brilliant save to deny Merino a second goal, but the match lacked excitement in the second half, with

Chelsea failing to capitalize on limited opportunities. Meanwhile, Fulham shocked Tottenham with a 2-0 victory at Craven Cottage. Rodrigo Muniz put Fulham ahead in the 78th minute, and Ryan Sessegnon sealed the win with a brilliant strike against his former club. Spurs, coming off a Europa League victory, continue to struggle in the Premier League, with captain Son Heung-min admitting the campaign has been difficult. Fulham's win propelled them to eighth place, just four points off the top four.





PM Modi Congratulates IIFA's 25th Anniversary



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has penned a special message congratulating the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards on completing 25 years in the Indian cinema industry.

In his letter, PM Modi lauds IIFA's role in promoting Indian cinema globally, highlighting its journey of growth and its contribution to the artistic community. He praised the efforts of producers, directors, artists, and technicians who helped IIFA become a global phenomenon, and recognized its role in nurturing young talent. The 25th edition of IIFA was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan, with stars like Shah Rukh Khan, Kareena Kapoor, and Kartik Aaryan attending. PM Modi wished IIFA continued success and hoped it would inspire growth and achievement for the next 25 years.

Pushpa 3 Release Date Confirmed for 2028, Allu Arjun Fans Excited!



Exciting news for fans of the Pushpa franchise! Producer Ravi Shankar of Maitree Makers has officially confirmed the release date for Pushpa 3. The much-awaited film will hit theaters in 2028. Currently, Allu Arjun is working with director Atlee on another project, and after that, Pushpa 3 will begin production. Both Pushpa 1 and Pushpa 2 have been massive blockbusters, with Pushpa 2 breaking records at the Indian

box office, earning over ₹1,871 crores worldwide. The final moments of Pushpa 2 teased the arrival of Pushpa 3, leaving fans eager for more. The upcoming film will continue the saga of Pushparaj, played by Allu Arjun, with Sukumar returning as the director. Fans are eagerly waiting for 2028, as Allu Arjun's next big project, after Pushpa, is set to be even more thrilling.

Samantha's Hospital Bed Photo Sparks Concern Among Fans



Popular Tollywood actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu recently shared a photo on her Instagram that has gone viral on social media, causing concern among her fans. In the post, Samantha is seen lying on a hospital bed, with a saline drip attached to her hand. This raised questions about her health, as fans were worried about her well-being. Samantha has been battling Myositis, a condition

that affects muscles, for some time now. Despite this, she made a successful return to acting with the series Citadel: Honey Bunny and is currently working on the film Rakta Brahmand. Additionally, she is producing the movie Maa Inti Bangaram, in which she also plays a key role. Fans flooded the comments with messages of support and well wishes, hoping for her speedy recovery.

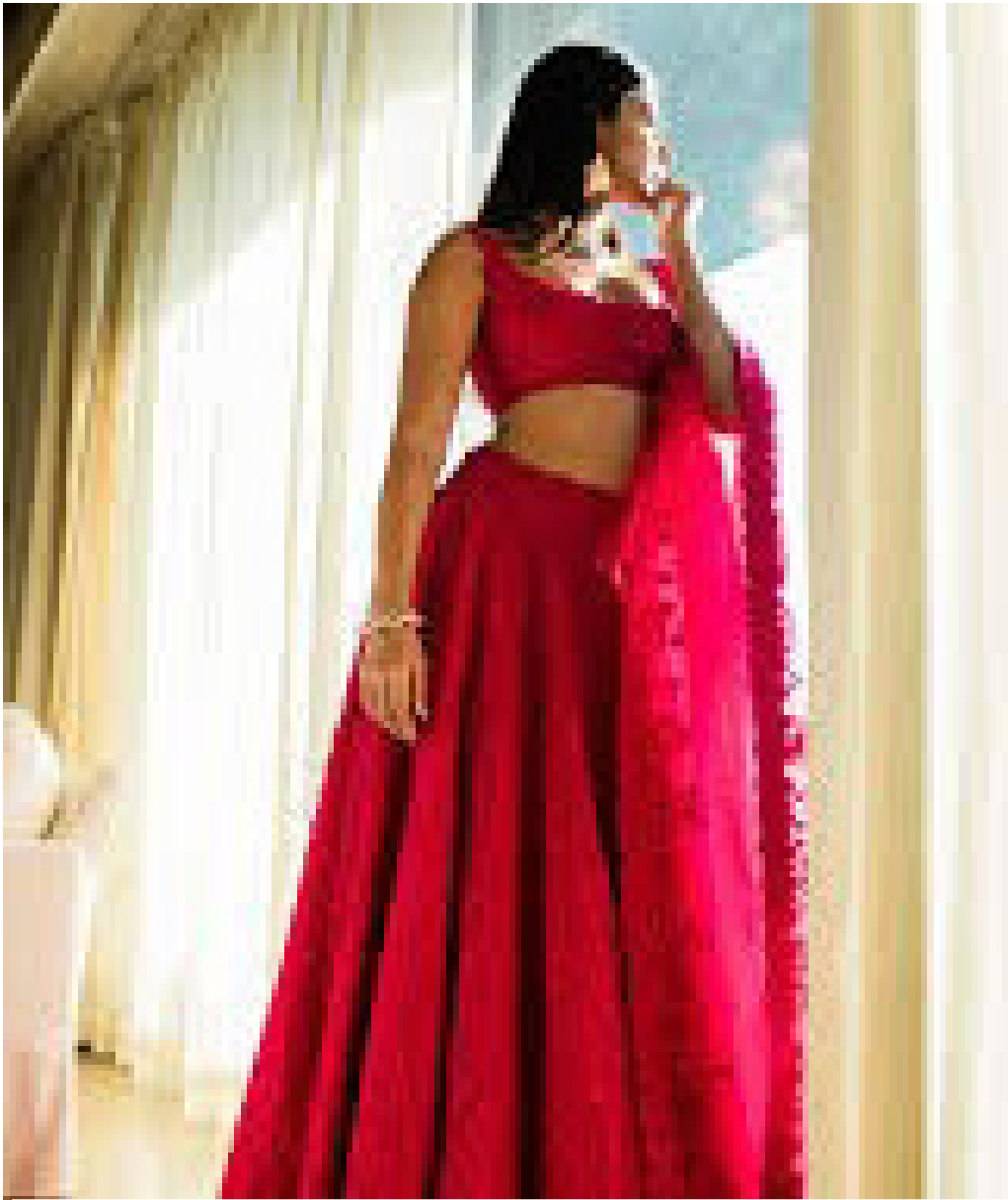
MS Dhoni to Star in Ram Charan's RC16, Fans Excited!

In exciting news for fans, former Indian cricket captain MS Dhoni is set to appear in a significant role in Ram Charan's upcoming film RC16. Directed by Uppena fame Buchi Babu, the movie is being shot with a rural backdrop, and Ram Charan will be seen portraying a sportsman in the film. Reports suggest that MS Dhoni has been approached to play a key role, and talks have been initiated with the cricket legend. Though an official announcement is yet to be made, the buzz surrounding the film has already sparked excitement among fans. RC16 is one of

the most anticipated projects, with Ram Charan's stellar presence and the addition of Dhoni adding even more anticipation.



Pooja Hegde Stuns in Pink Lehenga, Fans Go Wild



Tollywood actress Pooja Hegde has taken social media by storm with her latest photoshoot, where she can be seen dazzling in a pink lehenga. The actress, often referred to as "Buttabomma," mesmerized her followers with her stunning looks, posing in a traditional yet glamorous outfit. Pooja, who is currently busy with multiple Tamil film projects, is also keeping her fans engaged with her stun-

ning pictures on Instagram. Her photos, featuring a desi glam look, have gone viral, receiving an outpouring of likes and fiery emojis from fans. Apart from her ongoing shoot with Suriya, Pooja will be seen in a special song in Rajinikanth's Kooli and has made waves with films like Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo, Most Eligible Bachelor, and Aravind Sametha.

Shilpa Shetty Enjoys "Gud Day" in Punjab



Shilpa Shetty recently took to Instagram to share a charming video from her trip to Punjab. In the clip, the actress is seen standing amid vast sugarcane fields, where workers are busy making fresh jaggery, also known as "gud." She delighted her followers by showcasing the jaggery and introducing the local manufacturer, who assured that the product was "100% pure." Shilpa enthusiastically praised the jaggery, which also contained carom, fennel, and sesame seeds. Her caption read, "It's a 'Gud' day in Punjab. #SundayBinge(ing) on this yummy gud." Shilpa's husband, Raj Kundra, reacted to the video with red heart emojis. Earlier this year, Shilpa had a fun family holiday in the Maldives, where she tried jet-skiing and sushi-making for the first time.

Veera Dheera Soora Teaser: Vikram's Action-Packed Teaser Raises Fans' Expectations

The teaser for Chiyaan Vikram's latest film Veera Dheera Soora has been released, creating a buzz among fans. Directed by S. U. Arun Kumar, the film is set to hit theaters on March 27. The teaser showcases intense action sequences, breathtaking visuals, and a gripping background score, giving fans a glimpse of the thrilling experience awaiting them. The movie revolves around Vikram's character, a ration dealer, who locks horns with a police officer, S. J. Surya, in a fierce battle. The makers have promised an exciting and tension-filled narrative that will keep the audience on the edge of their



seats. The teaser has already received a great response, building high expectations for the movie's release.

Veera Dheera Soora will be released in Telugu by NVR Cinemas, and fans are eagerly awaiting Vikram's performance.