

Nagababu Takes Charge of Pithapuram, Entrusted with Key Responsibilities by Pawan!



- Nagababu appointed as in-charge of Pithapuram
- Will coordinate party affairs and government programs
- Speculation over his cabinet induction grows

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Jana Sena Party chief and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has reportedly assigned key responsibilities for Pithapuram to his brother, Nagababu. Party sources indicate that Nagababu will not only manage government programs but also oversee party activities in the constituency.

Nagababu, who was recently elected as an MLC, has already begun touring Pithapuram. As per Pawan's instructions, he recently felicitated sanitation workers in the constituency. With Pawan engaged in statewide responsibilities as Deputy CM, he is unable to focus entirely on Pithapuram, leading to Nagababu stepping in as the key coordinator for party affairs and developmental activities in the region.

Previously, Nagababu did not hold an official position, which limited his participation in government programs. However, with his recent election to the Legislative Council, he is now eligible to be actively involved in welfare initiatives. Reports suggest that Nagababu will spend four to five days a week in Pithapuram, focusing on strengthening the Jana Sena Party in the constituency ahead of the upcoming local elections. With Nagababu taking an active role in Pithapuram, party supporters believe his leadership will help strengthen Jana Sena's foothold in the region while ensuring efficient implementation of government schemes.

PM Modi: 980 Million People Registered to Vote in 2024 Elections

980 million people registered for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, surpassing North America's population

646 million voters cast their ballots despite extreme heat conditions

Polling booths were set up in remote areas, including Gir Forest for a single voter

India has over 2,500 political parties and 900+ 24/7 news channels

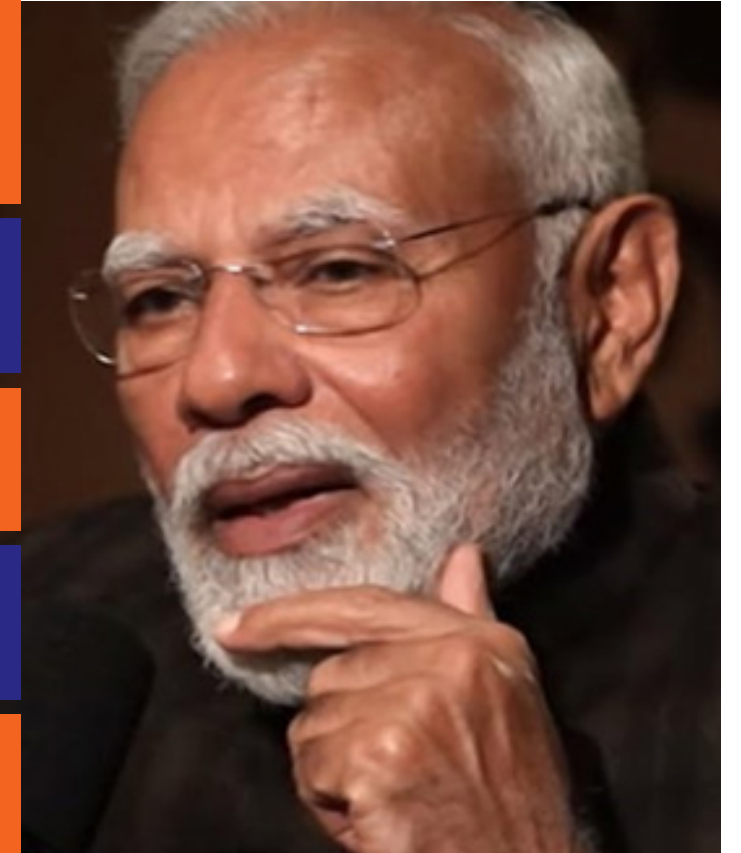
PM Modi on death: "Why fear what is certain? Embrace life instead"

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a conversation with renowned podcaster Lex Fridman on Sunday, highlighted India's massive electoral process, revealing that 980 million people were registered to vote in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. This figure, he pointed out, is larger than the total population of North America and the European Union.

Discussing voter turnout, the Prime Minister said that 646 million people participated in the elections, braving extreme temperatures that soared beyond 40 degrees Celsius in some areas. "This voter base alone is nearly double the population of the United States," he noted, emphasizing the strength of India's democracy.

PM Modi also shed light on the logistical efforts undertaken to ensure voting accessibility. He mentioned that polling stations were set up even in the most remote regions, including a polling booth in Gujarat's Gir Forest for just one voter. Helicopters were deployed to transport



"Why Fear What Is Certain?" PM Modi on Death

When asked if he fears death, PM Modi responded philosophically, stating, "Life itself is a whispered promise of death, and yet life is also destined to flourish." He emphasized that in the balance of life and death, only death is certain, so there is no point in fearing the inevitable. Instead, he urged people to embrace life fully. "You must commit to enriching, refining, and elevating your life so you can live fully and with a purpose before death comes knocking," he said. He stressed that rather than worrying about when death will arrive, people should focus on making a positive impact and living each moment with meaning. PM Modi concluded by advising people to channel their energy into self-growth and contributing to society. "Let go of the fear of death. It will arrive when it is meant to, but until then, live with purpose," he said. His words reflected his philosophical outlook on life and his belief in living with conviction and determination, a message that resonated with many of his listeners.

election officials to challenging terrains, including the high-altitude polling station in Arunachal Pradesh.

Highlighting India's democratic vibrancy, he stated that the country has more than 2,500 registered political parties and over 900 24/7 news channels, in addition to 5,000 daily newspapers. "This vast media landscape plays a crucial role in upholding

democracy," he remarked.

On governance, PM Modi reaffirmed his administration's commitment to ensuring welfare schemes reach every citizen without discrimination. "No one should face bias based on caste, faith, or ideology. Trust is the foundation of my governance model, and we strive to make every citizen feel included," he asserted.

CRDA-HUDCO Agreement Signed for Amaravati Construction

Agreement signed in the presence of CM Naidu

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In a significant step towards the rapid construction of Amaravati, an agreement was signed between the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) and the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) in the presence of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. The agreement, finalized on Sunday, marks a crucial milestone in the development of Andhra Pradesh's capital city. AP Municipal and Urban Development Minister Narayana and HUDCO CMD Sanjay Kulshreshtha were also present at the signing ceremony.

As per the agreement, HUDCO will provide ₹11,000 crore in funding for the construction of Amaravati. This financial assistance is expected to accelerate the long-delayed capital city development, which faced severe setbacks in recent years. The approval for this loan was granted during the HUDCO board meeting held on January 22, following which the official agreement was signed on Sunday. The funds will be utilized for key infrastructure projects, including roads, drainage systems, and essential government buildings in Amaravati.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized that this agreement is a crucial step towards fulfilling the dream of a world-class capital for Andhra Pradesh. He reiterated that Amaravati will be developed with state-of-the-art infrastructure, ensuring economic growth and administrative efficiency. The CM also assured that the government



is committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in utilizing these funds for the city's construction.

The CRDA officials stated that with HUDCO's financial backing, the construction activities will gain momentum in the coming months. The release of funds will be structured in phases to ensure seamless execution of the projects. The government aims to complete critical infrastructure works at the earliest, making Amaravati a model capital for the state.

With this agreement, the Amaravati project has received a much-needed push, instilling confidence among stakeholders, including farmers who contributed their lands for the capital's development. The government is determined to fast-track the construction process and deliver on its promise of building a vibrant and globally recognized capital city.



AP Cabinet Meeting Today, Key Decisions on Amaravati and Investments

- AP Cabinet meeting chaired by CM at 3 PM
- Approval for Rs. 37,072 crore Amaravati works
- Clearance for Rs. 1,21,659 crore investments from 10 institutions

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, is set to convene today at 3 PM at the Secretariat. Several crucial decisions are expected to receive approval during the meeting, with a major focus on Amaravati's development and new investment proposals.

The cabinet is likely to approve the Rs. 37,072 crore tender work sanctioned by the CRDA for the construction of Amaravati. Additionally, the Amaravati Development Corporation will receive approval for Rs. 15,081 crore worth of developmen-

tal works. The meeting will also clear land allotments to various institutions in Amaravati, accelerating the capital's progress. In a significant boost to the state's economy, the cabinet will give the green signal to Rs. 1,21,659 crore worth of investments from 10 different institutions. The meeting will also approve the establishment of MSME parks in 175 constituencies, with initial setups in 26 district centers.

With these approvals, the state government aims to fast-track Amaravati's infrastructure development and attract large-scale investments, reinforcing its commitment to growth and industrialization.

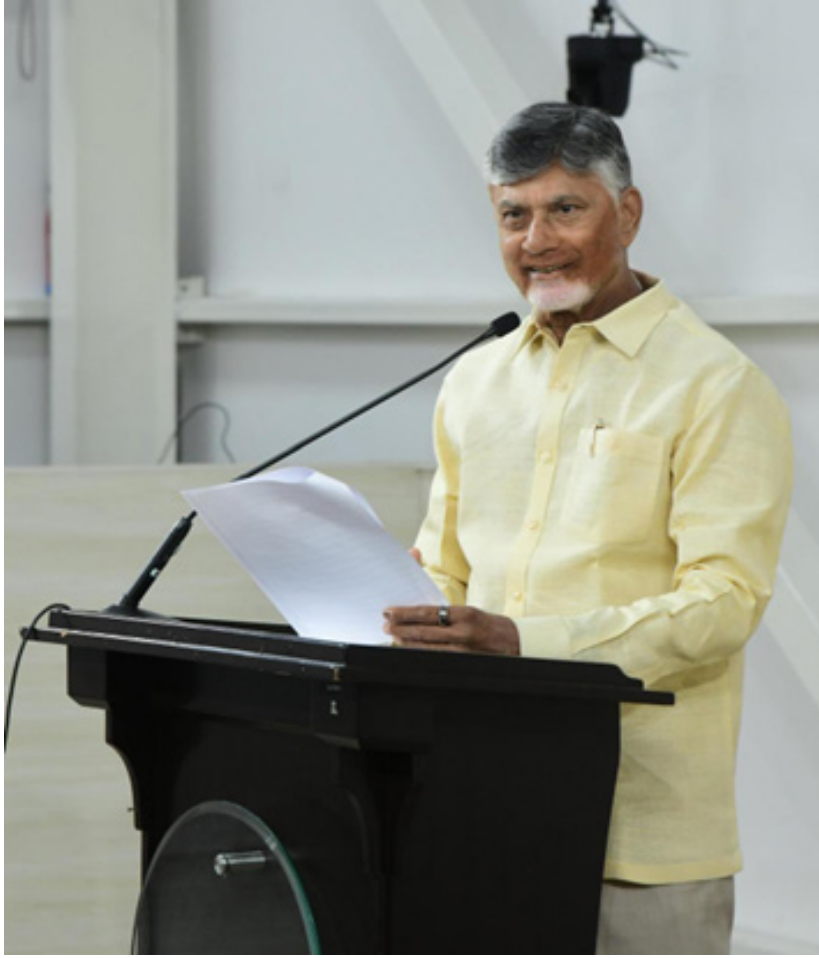
CM Naidu Announces a Grand Tribute to Potti Sriramulu

58-foot statue and memorial park to be set up in Amaravati
Potti Sriramulu Jayanti celebrations to continue for a year

TPN Correspondent |
Andhra Pradesh

On the occasion of Potti Sriramulu Jayanti, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced that a 58-foot statue of the legendary leader will be installed in Amaravati. This statue is intended to honor Sriramulu's 58-day self-immolation, which led to the formation of Andhra state. The announcement was made at the CM's residence in Undavalli, where he paid tributes to Potti Sriramulu. Minister Narayana, Dundi Rakesh, and other officials participated in the program.

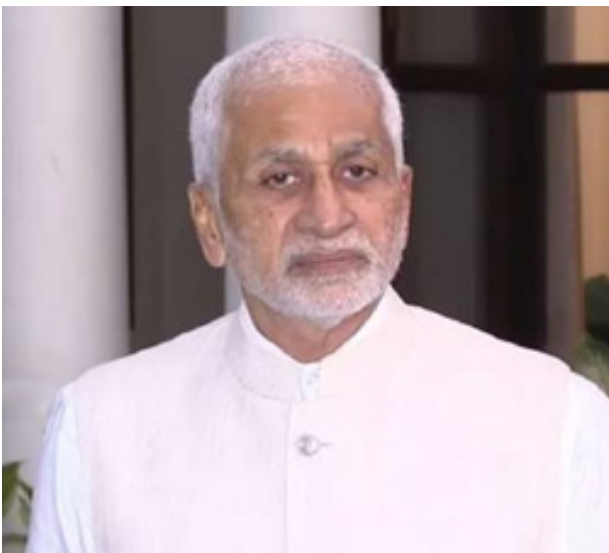
Speaking on the occasion, CM Chandrababu recalled Potti Sriramulu's extraordinary sacrifice, stating that he was a great man who laid down his life for the creation of Andhra Pradesh. To commemorate his contributions, the government has decided to develop a memorial park in Amaravati alongside the statue. Additionally, Chandrababu announced that Potti Sriramulu's hometown in Nellore district will be developed, with a museum dedicated to his life and a modern high school named in his honor. The Chief Minister urged every-



one to uphold Potti Sriramulu's spirit and strive for the progress of Telugu people worldwide. He emphasized that the government is committed to celebrating Potti Sriramulu Jayanti in a grand manner, with year-

long programs extending until March 16 next year. With these initiatives, the state government aims to preserve the legacy of Potti Sriramulu and inspire future generations with his ideals of sacrifice and service.

Vijayasai Reddy's Warning to Jagan, The Coterie Will Not Spare Even the Fort



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Former YSRCP leader Vijayasai Reddy, who recently quit the party citing the dominance of a coterie around Jagan Mohan Reddy, has once again made a sharp remark against the YSRCP chief. On

Saturday, he posted an intriguing tweet, warning that if a leader depends on a coterie, the consequences will be severe, leaving even the stronghold vulnerable.

Vijayasai Reddy drew a historical parallel, stating that in the past, kings who remained confined to their forts were surrounded by select groups that manipulated them. He remarked that such kings, blinded by their inner circles, often failed to gauge the people's real concerns, leading to their downfall. He emphasized that a wise ruler would step out in disguise, interact with the public, expose the coterie, and safeguard the kingdom.

Relating this to contemporary politics, Vijayasai warned that if a leader wants to sustain power, he must engage directly with the people, understand their aspirations, and address their issues. He cautioned that failing to do so would lead to the downfall of both the leader and his fortress. His remarks have sparked intense discussion in political circles, with many interpreting them as a direct criticism of Jagan's leadership style and his over-reliance on a select few.

Severe Heatwave Warning in AP, Precautions Advised

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Disaster Management Organization has issued a severe heatwave warning for Andhra Pradesh, cautioning residents about extreme temperatures across several districts. Managing Director Ronamki Kurmanath stated that on Monday, 8 mandals in Srikakulam, 15 in Vizianagaram, and 12 in Parvathipuram Manyam are likely to experience intense heat.

By Tuesday, heatwave conditions are expected to impact 167 mandals, including Srikakulam (16), Vizianagaram (10), Parvathipuram Manyam (3), Alluri Seetharamaraju (9), Visakhapatnam (2), Anakapalle (16), Kakinada (15), Konaseema (9), East Godavari (19), West Godavari (3), Eluru (13), Krishna (10), NTR (8), Guntur (14), Bapatla (1), and Palnadu (19). Additionally, 25 mandals are expected to experience severe heatwaves, while 89 mandals will see high temperatures.

Authorities have advised residents to take necessary precautions, including using hats, umbrellas, and cotton clothing to prevent sunstroke. Special care should be taken for the elderly, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. People with heart diseases, diabetes, and high blood pressure are advised to avoid direct sun exposure and re-



frain from strenuous physical activity. Disaster Management officials have also emphasized the importance of staying hydrated and preventing hot air from entering the ears. Residents are urged to remain cautious and follow heatwave safety guidelines to avoid health complications.



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:

- **Public and Private Engagement** – Creating Energy Conservation Cells in organizations and appointing nodal officers for energy monitoring.
- **Strengthening Energy Clubs in Schools** – School principals to lead conservation efforts and engage students.
- **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.

CM Naidu, Minister Lokesh Extended Best Wishes to 10th Class Students



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

With the SSC examinations set to begin across Andhra Pradesh on Monday, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Education Minister Nara Lokesh conveyed their best wishes to the students appearing for the exams.

CM Chandrababu took to social media to encourage students, stating that exams are crucial milestones in every student's life. He advised them to focus on their studies, use their time effectively, and believe in themselves, assuring them that success would follow.

Minister Nara Lokesh also extended his wishes, urging students to write their exams with confidence and achieve excellent results. He emphasized the importance of punctuality, advising students to reach their exam centers on time and remain stress-free. Lokesh assured that all necessary facilities have been arranged at the exam centers and urged students to concentrate solely on their exams.

A total of 6,49,884 students will appear for the SSC exams across the state. The Education Department has set up 3,450 exam centers, with exams scheduled from 9:30 AM to 12:45 PM. Authorities have implemented stringent security measures to prevent malpractices, ensuring a fair and smooth examination process.

Sports and Cultural Programs for MLAs and MLCs Announced - GV Anjaneyulu



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Government Chief Whip Anjaneyulu announced that sports and cultural programs will be organized for MLAs and MLCs on the 18th and 19th of this month. Speaking to the media, he emphasized that these activities would help reduce stress and strengthen bonds between members of both ruling and opposition parties. He stated that after the bifurcation of the state, difficult situations arose, and political divisions deepened. He expressed concern that some MLCs have avoided attending the Legislative Council sessions to evade accountability for past mis-

takes. He highlighted that these sports competitions are intended to create a friendly environment among legislators. Anjaneyulu noted that no such initiative was taken in the last five years. Under the coalition government, MLAs and MLCs, regardless of party affiliation, have been invited to participate in 12 different sports competitions. He also criticized the previous government for neglecting tourism development, allowing corruption, and damaging the traditions of the Assembly. He reiterated that this event is not just about sports but also about promoting unity and cooperation among lawmakers.

Bhumana Questions Pawan Kalyan's Silence on Kasinayana Temple Demolition

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

YCP official spokesperson and former TTD chairman Bhumana Karunakar Reddy has strongly condemned the demolition of the Kasinayana temple, calling it an attack on Hinduism. Speaking to the media in Tirupati, he expressed concern over the lack of coordination between Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and Minister Nara Lokesh, which he claims has led to such incidents. Bhumana questioned why Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has not responded to the issue. He pointed out that the demolition was carried out by the Forest Department, which operates under Pawan Kalyan. He also questioned the silence of Pawan Kalyan and Minister Nara Lokesh, which he claims has led to such incidents. Bhumana highlighted the contradictions between Lokesh and Pawan, stating that Lokesh's apology and promise to rebuild the temple indicate internal differences. He accused the ruling coalition of hypocrisy, alleging that the same



people responsible for temple demolitions in the past are now targeting the Kasinayana Kshetra. Expressing concern over the Endowment Minister's statement that the temple was in a Tiger Reserve, Bhumana speculated whether Srisailem Kshetra would also face demolition. He recalled that former CM YS Jagan had written to the Centre to exempt such areas from forest laws. He demanded clarity on whether the demolitions occurred without Pawan Kalyan's knowledge and questioned the BJP's silence on the issue. Bhumana alleged that Hinduism is facing a crisis under the NDA government in the state and accused the ruling alliance of merely blaming the previous YSRCP government instead of protecting temples.

Union Minister Pemmasani Slams YSRCP, Assures Traders on PVK Naidu Market

- YSRCP accused of betraying traders
- Union Minister promises new vegetable market complex
- Traders demand allocation of 375 shops

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

Union Minister Pemmasani Chandrasekhar has strongly criticized the previous YSRCP government, accusing it of deceiving traders with false promises regarding the construction of PVK Naidu Market. Addressing the concerns of traders, he assured them that the government will stand by them and that a new vegetable market complex will be built soon. On Sunday, Pemmasani, accompanied by Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Guntur West MLA Galla Madhavi, inspected PVK Naidu Market. During his visit, he interacted with traders to understand their problems and grievances. The traders informed him that they had been promised a market complex by the previous government but were left disappointed due to inaction. The traders requested the minister to ensure that around 375 shops be allocated to them in the newly proposed mar-

ket complex. They also urged that the two lower floors be designated for their businesses to facilitate smooth operations. Responding to their concerns, Minister Pemmasani assured them that their issues would be taken up with the municipal corporation officials and resolved at the earliest. Reaffirming the TDP-led government's commitment to development, he stated that the new market complex would be constructed without further delay, ensuring that the traders would have a secure and functional space for their businesses.



Gandi Babji inaugurates TDP office at Sadhu Math, Pendurthi

- TDP Constituency Party Office Inaugurated in Pendurthi
- Assures party workers of full support and accessibility
- Party offices to be set up in all mandals of the constituency

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) constituency party office in Pendurthi was inaugurated on Sunday at Sadhu Math, Pendurthi. The ceremony was led by former MLA and Pendurthi constituency in-charge Gandi Babji, who also serves as the Visakhapatnam district president and State Oil Federation Chairman. Addressing the gathering, Gandi Babji emphasized that party workers are the backbone of the TDP and assured them

of his constant availability. "No matter how busy I am, my phone is always open for party workers—even at midnight. Identity cards for new members have been received and will be distributed soon," he stated. He also reiterated that party offices are being rapidly established across all mandals in the constituency.

The event saw the presence of several prominent leaders, including State NTR Vaidya Seva Chairman Seethammaraaju Sudhakar, GVMC Floor Leader and 96th Ward Corporator Peela Srinivasa Rao, Visakha North Constituency TDP In-charge Vellanki Bharat, 93rd Ward Corporator Raparthi Kanna, 94th Ward Corporator Balla Srinivasa Rao, 97th Ward Corporator Senapati Shankar Rao, 79th Ward Corporator Routhu Srinivasa Rao, and 88th Ward Corporator

Mulli Muthyalayudu. Also in attendance were Pendurthi Yuva Nayak Gandivamsideep, Paravada TDP President Veyyapu Chinna, Sabavaram TDP President Midatada Mahalakshmi Naidu, along with several MPTCs, Sarpanchs, Booth In-charges, Cluster In-charges, village party presidents, and a large number of party activists.



YS Sharmila Slams Pawan Kalyan, Calls Jana Sena 'Andhra Mata Sena'

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

AP Congress President YS Sharmila has launched a sharp attack on Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena President Pawan Kalyan. Responding to his remarks at the recent Jana Sena formation meeting, she accused him of abandoning the ideals of revolutionary figures like Che Guevara and Gaddar in favor of RSS ideology. Sharmila criticized Pawan Kalyan for allegedly aligning with the BJP and stated that his words reflect the influence of Modi and Amit Shah. She

claimed that Jana Sena, which was founded as a people's movement, has now been transformed into an "Andhra Mata Sena," pushing a religious agenda instead of focusing on public welfare. She further accused him of dividing Andhra Pradesh along religious lines, arguing that the state has always thrived on religious harmony. Sharmila stated that it is unfortunate that after 11 years of leading the party, Pawan Kalyan has now assumed the role of Deputy Chief Minister and is promoting religious-based politics. Sharmila reminded that Jana Sena was formed with the ideals of free-

dom fighters but is now following the BJP's ideology. She urged Pawan Kalyan to rethink his stance and break away from what she described as the BJP's influence.



Minister Ramanaidu Slams Jagan for AP's Destruction



- Minister inaugurates ₹4 crore development works
- ₹380 crore sanctioned for emergency irrigation projects
- Jagan blamed for setbacks in Amaravati and Polavaram

TPN Correspondent | West Godavari

Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy, accusing him of destroying Andhra

Pradesh. He alleged that Jagan has gone down in history as the world's biggest destroyer, blaming him for the damage caused to the state's key projects. On Sunday, Minister Ramanaidu inaugurated development works worth ₹4 crore in three villages of the Palakollu constituency. Addressing the media, he stated that despite financial constraints, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has sanctioned ₹380 crore for emergency irrigation works, ensuring the state's agricultural needs are met. He highlighted the government's efforts to provide safe drinking water to 95.44 lakh families under the Jala Jeevan Mission, with assistance from the Central Government. Criticizing Jagan's tenure, he pointed out that the previous government had severely damaged the capital project in Amaravati and stalled the Polavaram irrigation project. Minister Ramanaidu reiterated that the current administration is committed to rebuilding the state and ensuring the rapid completion of long-pending projects.

MLA Buchepalli Siva Prasad Criticizes Balineni, Calls Him 'Kamal Haasan'

TPN Correspondent | Prakasam Dist

Darshi MLA and Prakasam district YSRCP president Buchepalli Siva Prasad Reddy has launched a scathing attack on former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy over his switch to the Jana Sena Party. He ridiculed Balineni, calling him "Kamal Haasan," and sarcastically suggested that a film should be made about him. Speaking to party workers, Buchepalli claimed that Balineni's exit had actually resolved the challenges YSRCP faced in Prakasam district,

rather than creating any difficulties. He criticized Balineni as an opportunist who is willing to switch sides for personal gain. He further took aim at former YSRCP MLAs and activists, asserting that the party remains strong despite Balineni's defection. He dismissed concerns about Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituencies (ZPTCs) shifting loyalties, stating that there are no circumstances in which such changes could occur. Buchepalli also made it clear that Balineni's influence in Prakasam district

politics is now insignificant, and he will have no impact on the ZP administration. He reaffirmed YSRCP's dominance in the district and expressed confidence in the party's continued success.



Embezzlement Allegations in Kanchikacherla Women's Mart

Funds misused under the leadership of Women's Mart President Rs. 29.27 lakh collected from 1600 Dwakra groups Mart shut down despite earlier claims of profits

TPN Correspondent | Kanchikacherla
Serious allegations of fund embezzlement have surfaced in Kanchikacherla town regarding the Women's Mart, which was established in 2023 during the previous government's tenure. Reports indicate that six individuals set up the mart primarily for their own benefit, appointing specific officers under the Mart CC and Mart District (DPM) system to oversee operations and generate profits.

The mart was funded by contributions from 1600 Dwakra associations, each of which paid Rs. 2,000, amounting to a total collection of Rs. 29,27,994. Initially, officials claimed that the mart had successfully conducted business worth Rs. 1 crore within six months and was the only profitable mart in the state. However, despite these earlier declarations, the mart has now been shut down due to financial losses. Adding to the controversy, authorities are now stating that goods worth Rs. 2,80,123 have

expired, raising concerns among the local community. Residents are questioning how an establishment that was reportedly profitable is now showing losses. They are also demanding accountability for the funds collected from the Dwakra associations, as no clarity has been provided on how the money was utilized. People of Kanchikacherla mandal are expressing their outrage, suspecting financial mismanagement and a lack of responsibility in handling public funds. With increasing pressure from the community, authorities may need to conduct a thorough investigation into the matter and ensure that those responsible are held accountable.



Minister Narayana Offers Prayers at Kanaka Durga Temple

Received with temple honors and Poornakumbha rituals Vedic scholars extend blessings in the Vedic hall

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Andhra Pradesh Municipal Minister Narayana visited the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam on Indrakiladri on Sunday. Temple priests and officials welcomed him with traditional honors, including Poornakumbha rituals. Devotees present at the temple witnessed the minister's visit as he offered prayers to Goddess Kanaka Durga. After completing the darshan, Minister Narayana participated in special pujas conducted by Vedic scholars. He then proceeded to the temple's Vedic hall, where scholars recited hymns and extended their blessings. Temple authorities provided him with prasadam and briefed him on the ongoing temple activities. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Narayana expressed his devotion to Goddess Durga and emphasized the importance of preserving cultural and religious traditions. He assured that the state government is committed to improving facilities for devotees visiting the temple. He also discussed the developmental works being carried out at the temple and assured neces-



sary support to enhance amenities for pilgrims. Temple officials presented a report detailing the temple's expansion plans and infrastructure improvements. The minister praised the efforts of the temple management in maintaining the sanctity of the premises and ensuring a smooth experience

for devotees. Minister Narayana's visit to the Kanaka Durga Temple was marked by a warm reception from temple authorities, Vedic scholars, and devotees. His presence highlighted the government's continued focus on religious and heritage sites across the state.

Potti Sriramulu's Sacrifice is Priceless - MLA Venigandla Ramu

TPN Correspondent | Gudivada
Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu stated that the sacrifice of Amarjevi Potti Sriramulu for the formation of Andhra Pradesh will forever be remembered by the Telugu people. He emphasized that Sriramulu's dedication and struggle symbolize the determination of the Telugu-speaking community. On Sunday morning, MLA Ramu participated in the birth anniversary celebrations of Potti Sriramulu, organized by the Gudivada Town Vaishya Sangam. Along with Vaishya Sangam elders, he paid tribute to Sriramulu's statue at Vasavi Chowk Center and raised slogans honoring the great leader. Speaking to the media, the MLA highlighted that Sriramulu's hunger strike

and ultimate sacrifice serve as a guiding force for future generations. He urged on Sunday's youth to take inspiration from his unwavering commitment and perseverance. He remarked that as long as the people of Andhra exist, the memory of Potti Sriramulu's selfless fight will remain immortal. The event saw the participation of AP Arya Vysya Corporation Director Gokavaram Sunil, TDP leader Chekur Jagan Mohan Rao, Urban Vysya Sangha President Jawvaji Gangaraju, Arya Vysya Kalyana Mandira President Pokuri Mohan Rao, Secretary Thiruvudhi Sriramulu, and several prominent leaders from the Vysya Sangam and humanitarian organizations.



Commissioner S. V. Rajasekhara Babu Pays Tributes to Potti Sriramulu on Birth Anniversary

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Vijayawada City Police Commissioner Sri S. V. Rajasekhara Babu, IPS, paid floral tributes to the portrait of the immortal Sri Potti Sriramulu on his birth anniversary at the Police Commissioner's Office on Sunday, March 16th.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner highlighted the supreme sacrifice of Potti Sriramulu, who laid down his life for the formation of Andhra Pradesh. He recalled how Sriramulu followed the principles of Mahatma Gandhi, adopting truth and non-violence in his struggle for a separate Telugu-speaking state. His hunger strike for the creation of Andhra Pradesh, with Madras as its capital, ultimately led to his martyrdom. The Commissioner emphasized that his unwavering commitment and self-sacrifice paved the way for the establishment of the Andhra state.

He urged everyone to take inspiration from Sriramulu's spirit and dedication, stating that perseverance and commitment to a cause can lead to great achievements. Several police officials, including CSB officers and staff, participated in the event, paying their respects to the legendary freedom fighter.



Former Minister Karumuri Nageswara Rao Criticizes Govt

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh
Former minister and YSRCP leader Karumuri Nageswara Rao strongly criticized the ruling alliance in a press conference on Sunday. He alleged that the welfare schemes introduced by former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy have been sidelined and that the promises made by the alliance, including the "Super Six" benefits, have not been fulfilled. Karumuri Nageswara Rao accused the government of increasing the role of middlemen in governance, further burdening the

common people. He stated that farmers are struggling due to the lack of proper crop insurance and support, which is breaking their spirits. "The alliance government has undone all the reforms and welfare initiatives brought by YS Jagan. The people are being deceived with false promises while the real issues remain unaddressed," he said. His remarks have intensified political discussions in the state, with YSRCP leaders echoing concerns over the government's alleged failure to deliver on its commitments.

Namrata Shirodkar Inaugurates Mother's Milk Bank in Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Tollywood superstar Mahesh Babu's sister, Namrata Shirodkar, visited Vijayawada on Sunday and inaugurated the Mother's Milk Bank at Andhra Hospitals. The project, funded by Rotary International, aims to support newborns facing challenges due to a lack of breast milk.

Speaking at the event, Namrata highlighted the importance of breast milk for newborns, stating that many infants suffer due to its unavailability. She expressed confidence that this initiative would greatly benefit such babies.

Andhra Hospitals MD, Dr. Ramanamurthy, announced that they are collaborating with the Mahesh Babu Foundation to develop a vaccine for the prevention of cervical cancer in women. He emphasized the hospital's commitment to women's healthcare and preventive medicine. The event was attended by medical professionals, hospital staff, and representatives from Rotary International.



MLC Ram Gopal Reddy's Sensational Allegations Against Jagan and Vempally Officials

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh
MLC Ram Gopal Reddy made strong remarks against former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of neglecting the issues of Pulivendula and failing to highlight incomplete development projects. He stated that Jagan, who has been absent from the Assembly, should resign from his MLA post if he cannot fulfill his responsibilities. Ram Gopal Reddy criticized the poor state of drinking water supply, underground drainage, and road infrastructure in Vempally. He urged that these issues be raised in the Assembly, emphasizing that the current Chief Minister would respond positively if the concerns of Pulivendula were brought to his attention. Speaking further, he alleged large-scale corruption within the Vempally Panchayat administration. He accused former panchayat

officials of irresponsibility, pointing out that Jagan's close relative, Ravi Shankar Reddy, had allegedly misappropriated ₹52 lakh. Additionally, he claimed that recently suspended EO Nagasubba Reddy was involved in a ₹1.88 crore scam. Ram Gopal Reddy revealed that the accused individuals had amassed wealth by diverting tax revenues paid by the people into their personal accounts. He criticized their actions, stating that they had misused government funds and disrupted the system by failing to hold mandatory Gram Panchayat meetings. He further demanded that if any sarpanch or ward member failed to attend three consecutive meetings, their membership should be revoked as per regulations. His statements have sparked political discussions, with calls for accountability and strict action against corruption in the local administration.

Robin Hood Movie Team Visit Durgamma Temple In Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Tollywood actor Nithiin, along with Robin Hood director Venky Kudumula and producer Y Ravi Shankar, visited the Kanaka Durga temple on Indrakiladri on Sunday. The temple officials welcomed them with traditional temple etiquette.

After seeking the blessings of Goddess Durga, the temple priests performed Vedic rituals and offered their prayers for the success of the film. The officials also presented the Durgamma Laddu Prasadam to Nithiin, the director, and the producer.

Speaking on the occasion, Nithiin shared his excitement about the film's release, stating, "I prayed to Goddess Durgamma for the grand success of Robin Hood." He expressed confidence that the film, set to release worldwide on the

28th of this month, will entertain audiences. The visit of the Robin Hood team to the temple has generated buzz among fans and movie lovers, further heightening anticipation for the upcoming film.



MLA Venkataraju Extends Support to Deceased TDP Worker's Family



TPN Correspondent | West Godavari
TDP worker Tadepalli Ramesh's untimely demise in Venkatakrishnapuram village of Gopalapuram constituency on Sunday has left his family in deep grief. Upon learning of the news, local MLA Venkataraju immediately visited the bereaved family to express his condolences and offer support.

During his visit, the MLA assured Ramesh's wife, Pade Mosi, that he would stand by their family in this difficult time. Recognizing the financial burden they now face, he

announced an immediate financial assistance of ₹50,000 to support them. He also promised to extend help for the education and well-being of the deceased worker's two daughters.

The family members expressed their gratitude for the MLA's gesture, while local TDP leaders and supporters also gathered to offer their condolences. The incident has saddened the party cadre, with many recalling Ramesh's contributions and dedication to the party's activities in the region.

Minister Vasamsetty Subhash Conducts a Late-Night Inspection

- Doctors Should Be Available to the Public at All Times
- Emphasizes the need for better medical care in government hospitals
- Stresses the importance of cleanliness and duty-bound doctors

TPN Correspondent | Ramachandrapuram
State Labour Minister Vasamsetty Subhash conducted a surprise inspection of the Ramachandrapuram Area Government Hospital at 11:40 PM on Saturday. He reviewed the medical services provided and interacted with the duty doctors and staff.



Minister Subhash emphasized that doctors in government hospitals should be available at all times to serve the public efficiently. He stressed the importance of maintaining proper sanitation and ensuring that patients receive quality treatment without any inconvenience.

Expressing satisfaction with the presence of duty doctors, the Minister stated that the coalition government is committed to providing better

healthcare. He noted that government hospitals face public criticism in many areas, making such inspections crucial. He further highlighted that many poor people rely on government hospitals for treatment and that it is the doctors' responsibility to provide full and effective care. Minister Subhash urged healthcare professionals to remain vigilant in their duties.

Drunk Man's Shocking Journey Under RTC Bus in Sri Sathya Sai Dist



TPN Correspondent | Sri Sathya Sai Dist

In a bizarre incident in Sri Sathya Sai district, a heavily intoxicated man took an unexpected journey beneath an RTC bus traveling from Kottacheruvu to Hindupur. The man, in an inebriated state, lay down on the spare tire positioned near the rear wheel of the bus, completely unnoticed by passengers and the driver. Shockingly, he traveled nearly 15 kilometers under the moving bus without anyone real-

izing his presence. It was only when motorists following the bus spotted him clinging to the underside that the alarming situation came to light. They immediately alerted the driver, who brought the bus to a halt.

Upon inspection, the RTC driver and passengers were stunned to find the intoxicated man lying on the spare tire, miraculously unharmed. The exhausted driver and other commuters pulled the man out from under the bus, narrowly averting a potential disaster.

The incident has raised concerns about safety and the dangers of intoxication. Fortunately, due to the vigilance of passing motorists, a major tragedy was avoided.

Potti Sriramulu's Sacrifices Are Immortal: Collector Anand

TPN Correspondent | Nellore
On the occasion of Potti Sriramulu Jayanti, Collector Anand stated that the sacrifices of the great leader, who gave his life for the formation of Andhra Pradesh, will remain immortal in history. The celebrations were held in a grand manner on Sunday, where Collector Anand and Commissioner Surya Teja garlanded the statue of Potti Sriramulu at Atmakur bus stand and paid tributes.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector praised Potti Sriramulu as the driving force behind the formation of linguistic states, emphasizing that his struggle laid the foundation for state formation based on language across India. He noted that the unity of states respecting their cultures and traditions since independence is a testament to the impact of Sriramulu's sacrifice. Collector Anand expressed pride in the fact that Potti Sri-

ramulu hailed from their district and called upon everyone to remember his contributions. He highlighted that the late leader's dedication to the state's formation and his role in the freedom struggle continue to be an inspiration. The Collector urged people to work for the district's progress, following the values set by the legendary leader.

The event saw the participation of BC Welfare Officer Venkatalakshmi, several Arya Vaishya leaders, and local residents.



Suspended Animal Husbandry Employees Demand Reinstatement in Srikakulam

TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

A meeting was held at the CITU office on Sunday, where CITU District General Secretary P. Tejeswara Rao, 1962 Employees Association District President I. Lakshminarayana, and General Secretary R. Mohan Rao demanded that the government immediately reinstate the suspended employees of the 1962 animal husbandry vehicles. They emphasized the need for job security and urged the authorities to continue the operations of these vehicles.

Speaking at the meeting, they revealed that there are 18 mobile animal health service vehicles in the district, which were ordered to be suspended from February 15, 2025. The government directed that these vehicles be handed over to the Assistant Director of the Animal Husbandry Department, leading to termination orders for the employees. Each vehicle had a three-member team consisting of a driver, a paravit, and a veterinarian, along with a reliever assigned to every nine vehicles.



The leaders questioned how the dismissed employees would support their families and expressed concerns over the impact on farmers, particularly in Aamdalavalasa, Pathapatnam, Ichchapuram, Palasa, Tekkali, Srikakulam, and Etcherla mandals. They lamented that despite serving with dedication for three years, their sudden termination had left them struggling for livelihood.

In response, State Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Kinjarapu Atchennaaidu assured that necessary steps would be taken to reinstate the employees. The meeting was attended by 1962 Employees Association District Treasurer G. Pavani, leaders P. Swetha, V. Krishna, G. Rohit, U. Jayakrishna, D. Dharma Rao, E. Ravi, B. Narendra, M. Hari, and others.

Vegulla Leelakrishna Unveils Jana Sena Flag Pillar in Edida



TPN Correspondent | Mandapet

A newly erected Jana Sena Party flag pillar was unveiled on Sunday in Edida village, Mandapet mandal, by Mandapet constituency Jana Sena Party in-charge Sri Vegulla Leelakrishna. Marking the occasion of Potti Sriramulu

Jayanti, he first garlanded the statue of the great leader and paid tributes.

Addressing the gathering, Vegulla Leelakrishna expressed gratitude to the village committee members who have been working towards strengthening the Jana Sena Party in Edida. He urged all party workers to continue their collective efforts for the development of the village and assured them of his constant support in any difficulties they may face.

The event saw the participation of Edida village president Ramisetty Raja, district general secretary Sarakula Abbulu, Mandapet mandal president Kunche Durga Prasad, and several Jana Sena and Telugu Desam Party leaders. The leaders reiterated their commitment to the progress of the village and the growth of the party in the region.

Grand Rangadi Rathotsavam Celebrated in Nellore



TPN Correspondent | Nellore

The annual Rangadi Rathotsavam of Sri Talpagiri Ranganatha Swamy was held with great splendor in Ranganayakulapet,

Nellore, on Sunday. The event attracted a large number of devotees from Nellore and neighboring districts, who eagerly gathered to witness the grand chariot procession.

As part of the celebrations, Sri Vedagiri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy's chariot festival was also conducted as per tradition. The Swami was taken in a grand procession on the chariot, blessing the devotees who thronged to catch a glimpse of the divine spectacle. Several devotees organized Annaprashada distribution on a large scale, continuing the tradition of service and devotion.

Telugu Desam Party leaders, including Kotamreddy Giridhar Reddy, MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy's wife Sujitha, and former Mayor Nandi Mandal Bhanusri, attended as chief guests and presented silk robes to the deity. The Kodeti Mahotsava program was also held, with Kondeti Venkateswarlu Reddy and Kondeti Shiva Reddy serving as coordinators in memory of Kondeti Subbareddy.

The grand event was a visual treat for devotees, marking another year of the sacred tradition with devotion and festivity.

6-Year-Old Nithyasree Selected for National-Level Archery Competitions



TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

Mummidhi Nithyasree, a 6-year-old archer from Pithapuram, Kakinada district, has been selected for the 6th National Under-10 Indian Round Girls' Category to be held at Nagarjuna Uni-

versity, Guntur district, from March 22 to 29.

Her selection was based on top scores in archery competitions across Andhra Pradesh, as announced on March 15 by Cherukuri Satyanarayana, General Secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Archery Association. Coach P. Lakshmana Rao highlighted that Nithyasree is the youngest from Pithapuram to qualify in this category.

On this occasion, District Sports Development Officer B. Srinivas Kumar and former Vice President of the Andhra Pradesh Olympic Association K. Padmanabham congratulated Nithyasree, wishing her success in her archery journey.

Tragic Road Accidents in AP, Nurse's Husband Among the Deceased

- Two died in a bike collision on the Lambasingi National Highway
- A couple lost their lives in a separate car accident in Srikakulam
- Police registered cases and initiated investigations

TPN Correspondent | Alluri & Srikakulam Dist

A fatal road accident occurred on the Lambasingi National Highway in Alluri district, where two bikes collided at Gangavaram mandal. Due to reckless speeding, a young biker hit another bike carrying a nurse, her husband, and their son. The husband and the biker died on the spot, while the nurse and her son sustained critical injuries and were rushed to the hospital.

According to police reports, the victim's wife, Hepsika, works as a nurse at Ramavaram Hospital, and the accident happened while her husband was taking her to work. Authorities



have registered a case and started an investigation.

In a separate tragic incident in Srikakulam district, Peddagopu Venkataprasad and his wife Vani, residents of Pathapatnam, lost their lives in a car accident. The couple, along with their son and two others, was returning home after attending a function in Srikakulam when their vehicle was hit by a lorry near Kuridingi village in Saravakota mandal. The couple died on the spot, while the three injured victims were immediately shifted to the hospital by locals. Authorities have registered cases in both incidents and urged commuters to exercise caution while traveling.

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 No-

vember 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 be-

fore 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 peace, 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.

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

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.

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 take-out 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.

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 Nainkaware 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 witty 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 Concludes Special Olympics World Winter Games Campaign with 33 Medals



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 Classi-

cal 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

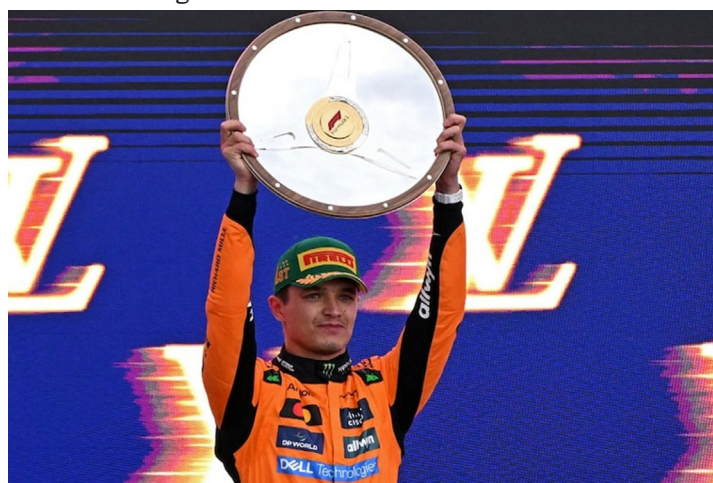
On for Red Bull. George Russell of Mercedes completed the podium in third place, maintaining a clean and consistent race despite the chaos around him. The race was marked by drama, as Ferrari's strategy gamble backfired, leaving both drivers—Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton—struggling. Leclerc ended 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:

1. Lando Norris (McLaren)
2. Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
3. George Russell (Mercedes)
4. Alex Albon (Williams)
5. Kimi Antonelli (Mercedes)
6. Lance Stroll (Aston Martin)
7. Nico Hulkenberg (Sauber)

8. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari)
9. Oscar Piastri (McLaren)
10. Lewis Hamilton (Ferrari)

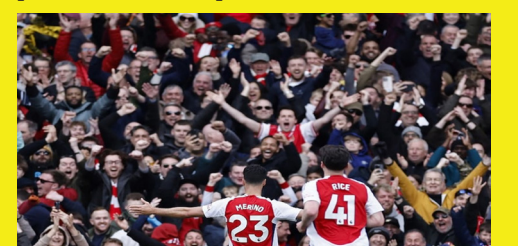
The race, held at the Albert Park Circuit in Melbourne, was a thrilling start to the 2025 Formula 1 season, with surprises, strategy mishaps, and impressive performances across the grid.



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.

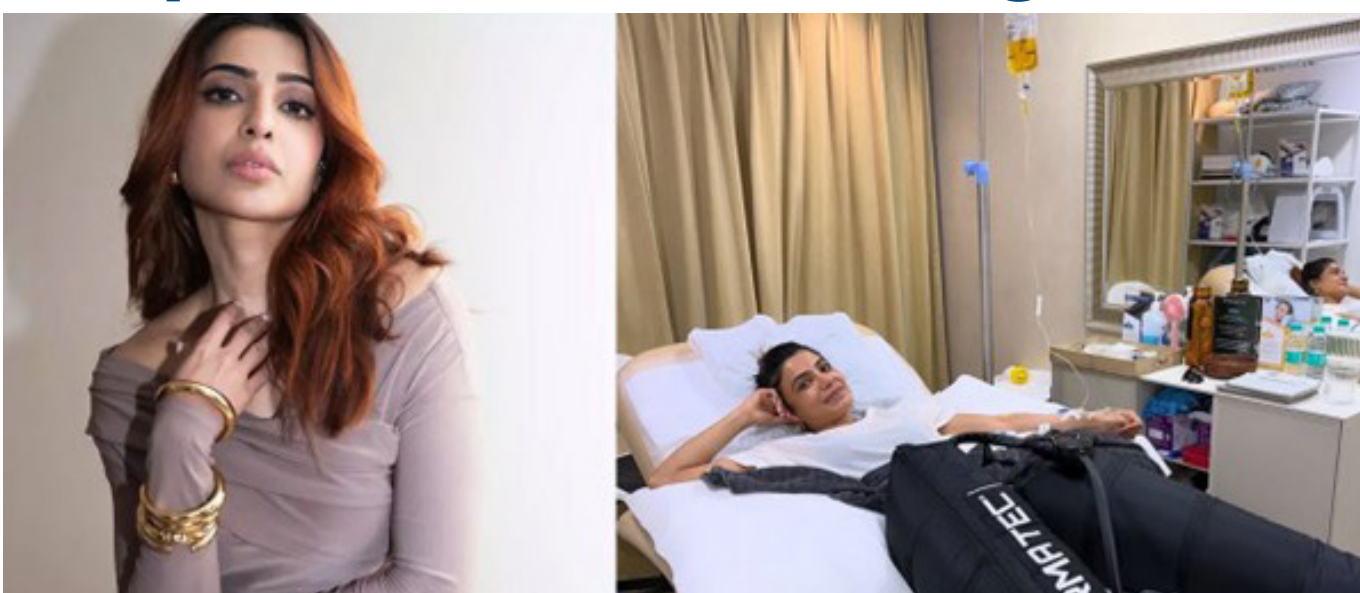
Pushpa 3 Release Date Confirmed for 2028, Allu Arjun Fans Excited!



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 Brahmaand. 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.