

CM Revanth Reddy rejects KCR as the “Father of Telangana”

- ❑ Criticizes KCR for financial mismanagement and corruption.
- ❑ Promises developmental initiatives like free bus services and power subsidies.
- ❑ Challenges former CM KCR to a public debate on Telangana’s projects.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana Congress leader and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has strongly criticized former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), rejecting the claim that he is the “Father of Telangana.” These remarks were made during a public meeting in Shivaniipalle, Station Ghanpur constituency. CM Revanth Reddy questioned KCR’s legacy, saying, “Who is the real father of Telangana?

Does KCR, who lives in luxury, have any resemblance to a true leader who understands the plight of the people? A real father of the region would be among the Dalits and feel the pain of the masses,” Revanth stated. He accused KCR of mismanaging the state’s finances and of engaging in corrupt practices, claiming that the former CM exploited the state’s resources for personal gains. According to Revanth, true

leaders like Konda Laxman Babuji and Prof. Jayashankar are the real “fathers” of Telangana, not KCR.

Further, Revanth emphasized the financial mismanagement during KCR’s tenure, pointing out that the Telangana government under KCR had accumulated a huge debt of Rs 8.29 lakh crore. He also mentioned that KCR had failed to fulfill the promises made to the people, especially concerning the loan waivers for farmers and creating job opportunities.

In his address, CM Revanth highlighted the ongoing developmental initiatives of his government, including the Rs 800 crore project for the development of Station Ghanpur. He also reassured the public about measures like free bus



travel for women, subsidies on electricity, and affordable gas cylinders for the poor. Additionally, Revanth stressed his government’s commitment to solving people’s issues and

questioned the effectiveness of KCR’s governance. Finally, Revanth threw an open challenge to KCR, inviting him to debate the state’s projects and development policies. “Let’s debate

on the projects anytime; I am ready,” he said. Revanth’s comments marked a sharp contrast between the Congress and BRS parties, setting the stage for future political showdowns.



KTR accuses Congress, BJP of plotting to privatize singareni

- KTR warns of threat to workers’ rights.
- BRCS vows to protect Singareni workers.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : In a recent explosive post, Telangana Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) accused the Congress and BJP of conspiring

to privatize the Singareni Collieries, a key public sector entity with a century-long legacy. KTR, a prominent leader of the BRS, claimed that >> [PAGE 2](#)

Harish Rao labels Revanth Reddy as “Boodu Pitha.”

He praises KCR as the “Father of Telangana.”

Harish challenges Revanth’s unfulfilled loan waiver promises.

Rao demands an apology from Revanth to Telangana people.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : In a scathing press conference, Telangana’s BRS leader Harish Rao made explosive remarks against Congress leader Revanth Reddy, calling him the “Boodu Pitha” (Father of Nonsense) while praising Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) as the “Father of Telangana.” Rao strongly criticized Revanth’s actions, accusing him of disrespecting the people and the state of Telangana.

Harish Rao pointed out that Revanth’s statements against

KCR were baseless and called out his contradictory behavior. “If KCR is the Father of Telangana, then Revanth is the father of nonsense,” Harish stated, claiming that Revanth had written the script for a “nonsense movie.” He questioned Revanth’s integrity and values, asking if someone who wished for KCR’s demise could be considered a person of morals and respect.

Further, Harish Rao took a direct jab at Revanth’s promises, particularly the issue of



loan waivers. He asked Revanth when he would fulfill his promises, including the complete loan waiver, challenging him to apologize to the people for not delivering on his assurances. Harish also dared Revanth to visit various towns like Madira, Kodangal, and Siddipet to see if people ac-

cepted his claims. In his final remarks, Harish urged Revanth to apologize to the people of Telangana for his actions and false claims, especially regarding the loan waiver. He ended his press meet by questioning Revanth’s credibility and demanding he take responsibility for his words and actions.

Tatikonda Rajayya Arrested Ahead of CM’s Visit

- BRS leaders placed under house arrest.
- CM Revanth Reddy to inaugurate projects.
- Congress monitors event arrangements in Ghanpur.



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Tension flared in Station Ghanpur constituency on Sunday ahead of the Chief Minister’s scheduled public meeting. BRS former MLA Tatikonda Rajayya announced plans to disrupt the event, prompting

the police to take precautionary measures. As a result, they arrested several BRS leaders and placed Tatikonda Rajayya under house arrest at his residence. Police heavily secured the area around his home.

The local police, in antic-

ipation of any disturbances, arrested BRS leaders in advance and implemented house arrests to ensure the smooth conduct of the public meeting. Meanwhile, Congress leaders, including local MLA Kadiyam Srihari, are also closely monitoring the arrangements for the event, which is expected to attract a large crowd.

The Chief Minister, Revanth Reddy, is set to visit Station Ghanpur on Sunday to inaugurate several development projects worth Rs. 800 crore. These include the foundation stone for a Young India Integrated Residential School worth Rs. 200 crore, a 100-bed hospital in Ghanpur costing Rs. 45.5 crore, and a new degree college valued at Rs. 5.5 crore.

The CM will arrive at the helipad near Shivuniipalli by 1 PM and will visit various stalls organized by women’s groups before addressing the public meeting.

KTR Condemns Ban on Protests at Osmania University

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The Telangana government recently issued orders banning student protests at Osmania University, sparking a strong response from K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), a leader of the BRS. KTR condemned the government’s decision, calling it an assault on democracy. He accused the state government of betraying the promises made during the Congress regime, specifically pointing out that the seventh guarantee, which promised a democratic governance model, was now being violated by stifling student protests.

KTR also questioned the Chief Minister’s commitment to democratic principles, stating that crushing protests with force was a cruel and undemocratic act. He reminded the government of its promise to uphold the right to protest, as outlined in the manifesto, and demanded an explanation for



the current actions.

The BRS leader further expressed concerns over the worsening conditions at Osmania University, citing recent incidents where students found not only pests but also blades in their food, highlighting the government’s negligence. Instead of addressing these issues, KTR lamented that the government seemed focused on suppressing student voices.

He compared the current situation to the emergency days under Indira Gandhi’s rule, urging the government to respect students’ rights to protest. KTR vowed that such authoritarian measures would not be tolerated and warned that the university community would not accept the stifling of student expression and dissent.



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 infra-

structure, and green job creation.

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

BEE has outlined a three-pronged strategy for Mission LiFE:

1. Public and Private Engagement - Creating Energy Conservation Cells in organizations and appointing nodal officers for energy monitoring.
2. Strengthening Energy Clubs in Schools - School prin-

cipals to lead conservation efforts and engage students.

3. Media Awareness Campaigns - Utilizing print, electronic, FM radio, and social media for outreach.

Tamil Nadu has emerged as a model state in promoting energy conservation through its Energy Clubs. With 1,633 clubs across 38 districts and 65,000 student members, these clubs actively engage in activities such as rallies, competitions, and awareness campaigns. In recognition of their success, BEE has committed to fully funding these clubs.

Additionally, BEE welcomed the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission's recommendation for Discoms to allocate ₹10 crores to SDA for energy efficiency projects. This



move is expected to enhance sustainability efforts and benefit stakeholders across the state.

"Revanth's Leadership Drives Telangana's Development" Says Konda Surekha



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana's Minister for Forests, Environment, and

Endowments, Konda Surekha, praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his relentless

commitment to the state's development, despite facing significant financial challenges

left by the previous BRS government. Speaking at a public meeting during CM Revanth Reddy's visit to Station Ghanpur in Warangal district on Sunday, Minister Surekha emphasized that the state is moving forward with development under the leadership of CM Revanth, despite the economic difficulties.

The Minister highlighted the launch of multiple key development initiatives by CM Revanth Reddy, including the foundation stones for new projects worth ₹800 crore in Station Ghanpur. She acknowledged that despite Telangana's financial constraints, CM Revanth has continued working to ensure that development initiatives proceed without any interruptions.

Additionally, the Chief Minister took a significant step in empowering women by handing over RTC buses to women's self-help groups under the Mahila Shakti Scheme. This was followed by the Prajapalana Vijayotsava Sabha, where CM Revanth and his Cabinet colleagues, along with local MLAs and MPs, celebrated the progress.

Minister Surekha criticized the previous BRS administration for neglecting areas like Station Ghanpur and Warangal. However, she highlighted how CM Revanth's government has started focusing on these regions, ensuring they receive the much-needed attention.

Further, she urged the government to develop Warangal as a prime tourism hub, draw-

ing attention to the district's rich cultural history, including the legacy of Rani Rudrama Devi and the Sammakka-Sarakka tribal legends. She also expressed concerns about the lack of cooperation from the Archaeology Department in preserving these historic sites, requesting CM intervention. She praised CM Revanth's efforts in securing the approval for Mamnoon Airport, which will bring more development and employment opportunities to the region. Concluding her speech, Minister Surekha reaffirmed her support for CM Revanth Reddy, stating that his vision for Telangana is clear and the Congress government will continue to work towards building a prosperous future for the state.

"Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme Launched"

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The Telangana government has officially launched the 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam' scheme, aimed at empowering unemployed youth from Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Backward Classes (BC), and minority communities. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will inaugurate the application process tomorrow, marking a significant step towards promoting self-employment among the state's youth.

Under this initiative, the government plans to provide financial assistance of up to ₹3 lakh to each beneficiary, facilitating the establishment of their own businesses. The scheme has a substantial budget allocation of ₹6,000 crore

for the year, with the goal of benefiting approximately five lakh unemployed youth across Telangana.

The application window for the scheme is set from March 15 to April 5, 2025. Following the application period, a thorough selection and verification process will be conducted between April 6 and May 31. The final list of beneficiaries will be

announced on June 2, coinciding with Telangana Formation Day, and sanction letters will be distributed to the selected individuals.

Deputy Chief Minister Malu Bhatti Vikramarka emphasized that the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme is designed to foster economic empowerment by providing financial support and self-employment oppor-

tunities to the youth. He highlighted the government's commitment to ensuring that unemployed individuals have the necessary resources to build their careers and achieve financial stability.

For more detailed information on eligibility criteria, application procedures, and other specifics, interested candidates are advised to visit the official website of the Telangana Back-



ward Classes Welfare Department or contact the nearest district welfare office.

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KTR accuses Congress, BJP of plotting to privatize singareni

the conspiracy to hand over the state-run company to private hands is no longer a mere allegation, but a confirmed reality.

He revealed that two coal blocks have already been privatized, and now, high-level jobs within the company are also being handed over to private players. According to KTR, this poses a grave risk to the welfare of workers and the very existence of the company. He criticized both the central and state governments for weakening Singareni, which has long been a backbone for electricity supply in the country, while also generating significant revenue.

KTR highlighted the importance of Singareni in the Telangana movement, stating that the company had been a vital part of the state's growth. He expressed his displeasure over the government's apparent disregard for workers' rights, calling privatization a "death sentence" for their livelihood. He further promised that under BRS's leadership, the party would rally against privatization, uniting workers to defend their rights.

The post sparked a significant political debate, with KTR urging workers and their unions to prepare for a fierce battle against what he described as an attack on public assets and worker welfare.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, G. Kishan Reddy, emphasized the importance of education for girls and highlighted the critical role of private schools in the modern competitive world.

He was the chief guest at the annual event of the SRK Group of Schools, 'Udaan Utsav-2025', held near Surabhi Balvihara School in Malkajgiri, Hyderabad.

Speaking at the event, Reddy remarked that private school management in the current education system faced numerous challenges but also played a pivotal role in shaping the future of India. "Private schools not only provide employment opportunities but also contribute to the formation of future citizens of the country," he stated. He encour-

Private Schools Face Challenges: Kishan Reddy



aged the school management, including the correspondents, for their dedication in imparting quality education.

He further stressed that in today's world, education

is the foundation for securing a child's future and that parents must prioritize their children's education without compromise. "The future of children depends heavily on their education, and we should ensure that every child has access to quality education," he added.

The event also featured speeches by local leaders, including MLA Mutha Gopal, who urged students to work hard and climb to greater heights in their future. Retired IAS officer Dr. B. Janardhan Reddy also spoke on the

significance of education in improving the current system and ensuring India's place on the world map.

Cultural performances, including traditional dances and songs on India's defense and culture, were also held during the event. The students showcased various performances depicting the importance of education, motherly love, and respect for fathers.

The event was attended by BJP's Mahankali District President Gundagoni Bharat Goud, Corporator Pavani Vinay Kumar, Abbas, Dr. Fani Pawan, and SRK Group of Institutions Principal Sujata along with parents and students.



MLAs List Reaches CM Revanth Reddy, Whip's Efforts Intensify

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The government whips in Telangana have been increasingly focused on ensuring the attendance of MLAs in the Assembly. To achieve this, they have created WhatsApp groups with 10 to 15 MLAs and are sending regular reminders. The whips are urging members to be present in the Assembly at least half an hour before it begins and are calling them individually early in the morning, particularly around 8 AM. This effort comes in response to criticism that the attendance of MLAs has been low during recent sessions. The issue of MLA attendance was



highlighted during a recent CLP (Congress Legislature Party) meeting when Chief Minister Revanth Reddy

expressed his frustration with the whips' performance. The whips are now taking extra measures to counter any opposition criticism, including rushing to the media point right after an Assembly session is adjourned.

Despite these efforts, there have been instances where certain Congress MLAs arrived late to the Assembly, particularly during a session to discuss the Governor's speech. The list of late-arriving members was promptly shared with the Chief Minister by the whips, reflecting growing concerns about attendance management within the party.

Bandi Sanjay Slams Congress Government Over Name Change of Potti Sriramulu University



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar has strongly criticized the Congress government over the recent decision to change the name of the Telugu University, which was previously named after Potti Sriramulu. The Telangana Arya Vaisya Sangh, which expressed its discontent over the name change, condemned the move, arguing that it dishonored the legacy of Potti Sriramulu, a prominent figure in the creation of Andhra Pradesh.

Speaking at an event marking the birth anniversary of Potti Sriramulu, members of the Arya Vaisya Sangh paid their respects at his statue in Karimnagar and later met with Bandi Sanjay. During the meeting, Sanjay emphasized Potti Sriramulu's pivotal role in the freedom struggle and the creation of Andhra Pradesh. He reminded the public that Sriramulu had sacrificed his life through a fast unto death for the creation of the state, making him a great patriot and a key figure in India's independence movement.

Sanjay criticized the Congress party for its historical disrespect towards national heroes like B.R. Ambedkar and Potti Sriramulu. He questioned whether the Congress government, which removed Sriramulu's name, would dare to remove the names of other leaders like N.T. Rama Rao or Kasu Brahmananda Reddy from various landmarks. He concluded by demanding that the Congress government rectify its mistake and reinstate Potti Sriramulu's name at the university, and he called for an apology from Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to the Arya Vaisya community and patriotic citizens.

MP Chama Kiran Kumar Reddy Counters Harish Rao's Criticism

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : BRS leader and former minister Harish Rao received a sharp counter from Bhongir MP Chama Kiran Kumar Reddy on Sunday. Responding to Harish Rao's recent remarks, Kiran Kumar Reddy took to social media and raised pointed questions. He asked, "When you speak, it's considered wisdom, but when others speak, are they demons, Harish Rao? If there were a patent for 'vulgar narratives' in India, it would surely belong to KCR. Over the past ten years, as Chief Minister, KCR has probably written a book full of foul language and insults." Kiran Kumar Reddy further questioned the credibility of Harish Rao, calling his criticism of CM Revanth Reddy as baseless, adding that it resembled the effects of "ghosts and mantras" rather than logical reasoning. He reminded Harish Rao that the public remembers KCR's offensive remarks in the Assembly and urged him to reflect before criticizing others.

The MP also highlighted the welfare measures brought about by CM Revanth Reddy's leadership, such as the creation of thousands of jobs for the youth and loan waiver schemes for farmers. He urged Harish Rao to refrain from constantly challenging others and to consider the benefits the people have gained from the current leadership.



Thatikonda Rajaiah Criticizes CM Revanth Reddy's Visit

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana's first Deputy CM and former MLA, Thatikonda Rajaiah, expressed strong displeasure over Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Congress MLA Kadiyam Srihari's actions. Addressing the media on Sunday, Rajaiah questioned the alliance between these two leaders, given their past remarks against each other. Rajaiah recalled that Revanth Reddy had previously criticized defected MLAs, stating that they would be stoned, and Kadiyam Srihari had threatened to overthrow the government. He raised concerns about what message the two leaders would send by appearing on the same platform now.

Rajaiah demanded that Kadiyam Srihari immediately resign if he truly respects the Supreme Court, emphasizing the need for accountability from the leaders involved. He also hinted at possible public protests, claiming that the people would prevent CM Revanth Reddy's visit to the region. Meanwhile, tensions heightened in the Station Ghanpur constituency as CM Revanth Reddy prepared for his visit. The Chief Minister is scheduled to lay the foundation stones for various development works worth ₹800



crore in the region. However, Rajaiah announced plans to disrupt the event, which led to police arresting BRS leaders from the constituency in advance. Rajaiah's comments reflect the ongoing political friction and the heightened atmosphere surrounding CM Revanth Reddy's visit, which is expected to shape the future dynamics of the region.

MLA Kadiyam Srihari Appreciates CM Revanth Reddy, Criticizes Past Government



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy visited the Station Ghanpur constituency, where he inaugurated development works worth ₹800 crores and distributed RTC buses to self-help groups

under the Mahila Shakti Scheme. The event also featured a public meeting attended by CM Revanth Reddy, Congress MLAs, and MPs.

During the meeting, local MLA Kadiyam Srihari expressed his concerns over the ongoing issues in his constituency, urging the CM to allocate special funds to address them. He pointed out that due to the inefficiency of the previous government, projects that could benefit four constituencies had stalled, and he requested the immediate commencement of these works. Srihari also expressed his strong confidence in CM Revanth Reddy, stating that he believes the CM will allocate the necessary funds for his constituency. Praising the young CM for his energetic approach to politics, Srihari mentioned that Revanth Reddy is playing politics as if he's in a fast-paced game of T20.

Additionally, he lauded the CM for handling the opposition in the recent Assembly session with finesse, likening it to playing a game of kabaddi, and for managing to engage with the people despite the scorching heat. Srihari also thanked the large turnout of people who attended the event.

Maheshwar Reddy Accuses BRS and Congress of Political "Match Fixing"

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : BJP leader Aleti Maheshwar Reddy has strongly criticized the Telangana government under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing both the ruling BRS and opposition Congress of engaging in "match fixing" for political gains. Speaking at a public event, Maheshwar Reddy lashed out at CM Revanth Reddy for failing to fulfill promises made to the people and merely offering empty words instead of action. He specifically pointed to the unimplemented promises like loan waivers and questioned the lack of legal backing for the guarantees made by the CM.

He also raised concerns over the government's attitude towards the opposition, claiming that Revanth Reddy blamed the opposition for hindering his government's efforts, while he failed to deliver on his own promises. Maheshwar Reddy claimed that there is a deep interest in commissions related to revised estimates for ministers,



with little attention given to the needs of students and farmers. The BJP leader further accused the BRS and Congress of working in tandem, orchestrating a "dupe fight" to divert attention from real issues.

He questioned why CM Revanth Reddy hasn't revealed details of

corruption in the Kaleshwaram project, the Formula-E scam, or power procurement deals, despite allegedly having records. He also expressed doubt about Revanth Reddy's future in politics, stating that the BJP leadership will decide whether he will be welcomed into the party.

MLC Kavitha Raises Concerns Over Group 1 Exam Results



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The Group-1 examination results have raised suspicions, particularly among Telugu medium students who claim they were treated unfairly. BRS MLC Kavitha has responded to these concerns, demanding that the state government, along with the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC), address the doubts raised by the candidates. There is widespread unrest in the state regarding the Group-1 results, with al-

legations that Telugu medium students were discriminated against. MLC Kavitha has voiced her concerns, stating that the issues brought up by candidates regarding the examination results should be resolved by the government and TSPSC. She highlighted that candidates had raised doubts regarding the evaluation of answer papers, especially pointing out translation issues. According to Kavitha, professors and degree college lecturers struggled to evaluate papers accurately, leading to discrepancies in marks, which is why candidates are protesting.

Furthermore, Kavitha mentioned that the different hall ticket numbers assigned for the prelims and mains exams led to additional confusion among students. She also criticized the recent Group-2 results, where nearly 13,000 candidates were declared invalid. Kavitha has demanded an explanation from the authorities regarding why these candidates were disqualified. Students' unions from 11 universities have also approached MLC Kavitha, urging her to take their concerns to the government and raise the matter in the legislative assembly.



DK Aruna Demands Security After Break-In at Her Residence

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : BJP MP DK Aruna has demanded enhanced security following an alarming incident at her residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. Aruna reported that an intruder broke into her home around 3 AM yesterday, spending approximately an hour and a half inside her premises. Despite the intruder's presence, no valuables or documents were stolen, and the reason for the break-in remains unclear. Speaking about the incident, Aruna pointed out that her residence is located just 100 meters from the home of Telangana CM Revanth



Reddy, raising concerns about the security situation. She stressed the need for increased protection, not just for herself but also for her fam-

ily, considering her political background. "I need security. The CM should consider increasing my protection, especially given my family background. It is important for my husband and me to have enhanced security at our residence," she stated. The incident has raised several questions about the intruder's intentions, especially since nothing was stolen from her home. Aruna's appeal to the authorities highlights the growing concerns over personal safety and security, especially for public figures.

AirAsia Flight Makes Emergency Landing at Shamshabad Airport

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : An AirAsia flight made an emergency landing at Shamshabad Airport after experiencing a technical malfunction. The flight, which was en route from Kuala Lumpur to Shamshabad, encountered a technical issue mid-flight. The pilot detected the issue and immediately informed the air traffic control authorities. With swift action, the aircraft safely landed, ensuring the safety of all 70 passengers onboard. Passengers



were relieved after the safe landing, as no major damages or injuries were reported. Authorities are currently investigating the incident to gather further details. The emergency landing has raised concerns, and airport officials are working to ensure all safety protocols are followed thoroughly. Further updates are awaited as the investigation progresses.

Women Journalists Highlight Challenges and Ethics in Journalism on Women's Day

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The importance of ethics in journalism and the struggles faced by women journalists were highlighted at an International Women's Day event organized by the Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) and Hyderabad Union of Journalists (HUJ) on Sunday at Tyagaraya Ganasabha in Chikkadapally. Senior women journalists discussed the challenges they face in the profession, underlining the need for mental resilience. Uma Sudheer, Executive Editor of NDTV Telugu, was the chief guest and spoke about the loss of credibility in journalism when ethics are compromised. She emphasized the unique challenges faced by women journal-

ists who juggle household responsibilities while working under constant pressure. Reflecting on the recent remarks made by CM Revanth Reddy, she stressed that journalists do not have special privileges and condemned the growing negative rhetoric on social media, which tarnishes the journalism profession. She also pointed out that women journalists often face difficulties in advancing in male-dominated leadership roles. Senior journalist Swetha highlighted the necessity of mental fortitude for women entering journalism, noting the lack of facilities in many media organizations and the challenges faced by women in the field. Independent journalist Tulasi



Chand discussed the rise of online trolling targeting women and the need to focus on public issues. TWJF State Secretary Saleema discussed the increasing work pressure on women journalists and urged them to stay updated with industry changes. The event was chaired by Federation Vice President Radhika, who pointed out

the rarity of women leaders in print and electronic media, given the challenges they face both at home and at work. Over 70 women journalists attended the event, including senior journalists like Surekha, Vani Pushpa, K. Lalitha, and others, who were felicitated for their contributions to journalism.

MLC Candidate Accuses TGPSC of Malpractice in Group-1 Results

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The controversy surrounding the Telangana Group-1 exam results continues to intensify, with allegations of malpractice in the evaluation process. MLC candidate Prasanna Harikrishna has raised serious concerns about the fairness of the results, accusing the government and officials of neglecting the interests of unemployed youth. Speaking at a media conference, Harikrishna demanded that the top 100 exam papers be re-evaluated by experts, stating that if the papers were reviewed by any ordinary citizen, they would easily spot the errors. He criticized the government's failure to release the Group-1 GRL (Graded Result List) in the public domain, unlike with the



Group-2 and Group-3 exams. Harikrishna questioned the secrecy behind not making the GRL public, suggesting that this was a deliberate attempt to hide discrepancies. He also raised concerns over the change in the Government Order (GO) from 55 to 29, which he claimed failed to benefit the unemployed and further worsened the situation. Harikrishna also highlighted that the questions for the October exams were recycled from the previous papers, questioning the expertise of those who prepared them. He alleged that the blueprint for the Telugu medium students was poorly translated from Google, denying them justice. He called for a comprehensive review of the evaluation process, including the qualifications and backgrounds of those who prepared the question papers.

TGSRTC Launches Two New Electric Buses from Bachupally to T-Hub



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : On March 16, the Telangana Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) announced the launch of two new green metro electric buses connecting Bachupally to T-Hub in Hyderabad. Starting Monday, March 17, these buses will operate on a convenient route, covering key locations such as Rajeev Gandhi Nagar, Nizampet, JNTU, Forum Mall, Cyber Towers, TCS, Raidurgam Metro Station, Mindspace Junction, and finally T-Hub.

The buses will depart from Bachupally to T-Hub at 6:10 am, with the last bus leaving at 7:10 pm. In the reverse direction, from T-Hub to Bachupally, the first bus will depart at 6:55 am, and the final bus will leave at 7:55 pm. In addition, TGSRTC introduced six electric AC buses for IT corridor commuters, including routes 216W and 216G, connecting Lingampally to Mehdiptnam and Lakshmi Gar, respectively. These buses aim to ease traffic congestion

for software employees and others working in the area, based on extensive surveys of travel patterns and requirements. TGSRTC Managing Director VC Sajjanar shared that the corporation is on track to achieve a turnover of Rs 10,000 crore by next year, a significant improvement from the Rs 3,800 crore turnover in 2021. This growth is attributed to strong management, financial transparency, and employee dedication.

Four Arrested for Attempting to Exchange Demonetised Currency at Abids Hotel

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : On March 15, four individuals were arrested at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Abids, for attempting to illegally exchange demonetised Indian currency. The police seized a total of Rs 55,52,500 in demonetised Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 notes from the accused. The arrested individuals have been identified as Syed Muzammil Hussain, Amzad Khan, Palthi Bhaskar, and Shaik Naseema. Syed Muzammil Hussain, the prime accused, had previously worked in real estate and later moved to Jeddah in 2006. His family had concealed Rs 30 lakh in demonetised currency to evade income tax, which they did not exchange be-

fore the deadline. After returning to India in 2019, Hussain attempted to exchange the old notes but failed. Through his associate, Amzad Khan, he managed to gather an additional Rs 25,52,500 in demonetised currency. Hussain then collaborated with agents Palthi Bhaskar and Shaik Naseema, offering a 5 percent commission to find buyers. On March 15, they gathered at the hotel to exchange the old notes for valid currency at a 10 percent commission, but the police apprehended them during the transaction. A case has been filed, and further investigations are ongoing.



YouTuber Harsha Sai Booked for Promoting Betting Apps

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : YouTuber Harsha Sai Bandaram has been booked by Cyberabad police on March 16 for promoting betting apps after a victim complained of losing over Rs 13 lakh. The case was registered following a complaint from a restaurant worker, who had followed Harsha Sai on Instagram and subscribed to his YouTube channel in 2022.



According to the complainant, Harsha Sai shared links on his Instagram claiming that a deposit of Rs 20,000 would yield a 150 percent bonus. Trusting these claims, the victim deposited the money and started participating in online betting games. Harsha Sai also invited him to join a Telegram group called "Harsha Sai Tips," where betting advice was provided. Following the tips, the victim

lost Rs 13,67,300 over a year, funding these transactions through savings, loans, and even selling gold assets. A case of cheating has been filed against Harsha Sai under Section 318 (4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 66-D of the Information Technology Act. This incident is part of a growing trend of cases against social media influencers in the Telugu states pro-

moting betting apps. Earlier, similar cases were registered against YouTuber 'Local Boy Nani' and Bayya Sunny Yadav for promoting such apps. Cyberabad Police and IPS officer VC Sajjanar have warned the public to be cautious about following influencers promoting online betting, urging them to report such activities to the authorities.

KTR, Jagadish Reddy Effigy Burnt by Protesters

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Protests erupted across various districts of Telangana, including Medak, Khammam, and Manchiryala, in response to controversial remarks made by Speaker Jagadish Reddy. As part of their demonstration, Congress party workers burned effigies of KTR and Jagadish Reddy, expressing their strong disapproval. The protesters raised their voices against the Speaker's remarks, which they felt were inappropriate and offensive. The protests gained momentum as the Congress party demanded an apology from Jagadish Reddy and called for a change in the stance of BRS leaders. Videos of the effigy burning quickly went viral on social media, showcasing the intensity of the protest. Congress leaders emphasized



that such remarks were unacceptable and urged the BRS leadership to rethink their actions and approach. The protest is a direct response to the comments made by Jagadish Reddy, and Congress workers have vowed to continue their

agitation until their demands are met. The incident highlights the growing political tension between the ruling BRS and the opposition Congress, with both sides continuing to clash over various issues.

Jaggareddy Opens Up About His Film Journey Inspired by Delhi Tour

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : In a recent interview, Jaggareddy, a prominent political leader, shared insights into his unexpected entry into the film industry. He revealed that his journey into cinema began after he was approached by director Ramanjan, who showed him a photograph and expressed interest in working with him. Although initially unsure about taking part, Jaggareddy decided to take the plunge after learning more about the film's concept. He clarified that the film, titled "A WAR Love," is not directly related to his political life. The director had outlined the storyline, with Jaggareddy contributing his personal life experiences to shape the narrative. "The film will have elements of love, faction, emotion, and politics, but my role as a political leader will not influence the



storyline," he stated. He credited a recent Delhi tour for changing his perspective and giving him the confidence to pursue acting. Jaggareddy emphasized that despite his political career, he does not plan to use the film industry to gain political advantages.

He expressed his dedication to the development of Sangareddy, his constituency, while also focusing on his film career. His movie shoot is scheduled to begin on Ugadi, with the release of a song written by Mogiliya, a Sangareddy native, from 18 years ago.

Turmeric Prices Plummet, Telangana Agri Minister Urges Central Support for Farmers



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : Telangana's Agriculture Minister, Tummala Nageswara Rao, has raised a strong call for immediate intervention by the central government to assist turmeric farmers in the state, who are suffering significant financial setbacks due to a sharp decline in turmeric prices. Minister Nageswara Rao wrote a letter to Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shivaraj Singh Chouhan, urging the government to deploy the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) to buy turmeric under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in order to stabilize prices and protect farmers from further losses. Turmeric is cultivated extensively across 42,093 acres in Telangana, contributing a total production of 125,436 metric tons. Despite this large-scale production, the price of turmeric has drastically fallen, with current rates ranging from Rs 17,000 to Rs 11,000 per quintal. Furthermore, there is concern that the price may continue to drop, leaving farmers with unsold stocks from last year. Over the past two years, prices have fallen by 17% to 27% depending on the quality of the turmeric, adding to the financial strain on local farmers. In his letter, Minister Tummala emphasized the urgency of central intervention to safeguard farmers from escalating economic hardships. He recommended that NAFED purchase turmeric under the MIS at rates based on the cost of cultivation, as per the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee. This initiative, he stressed, is vital to ensuring that farmers receive a fair price for their crops and to prevent further distress. The Telangana Agriculture Minister's appeal comes amid growing concerns over the state's agricultural crisis and a worsening economic outlook for turmeric farmers. Immediate action, he argues, is crucial to stabilize the market and ensure the well-being of farmers in the region.

Police Brutality Goes Viral as Youth Beaten with Sticks in Ahmedabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : A video showing police officers brutally beating a youth with sticks while dragging him through a street in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, has gone viral. The incident occurred two days ago during the unrest in the city, which saw violent protests and vandalism. The accused youths had reportedly thrown stones and damaged vehicles, leading to their arrest by the police. In the video, the youth is seen being pulled through a narrow alley while being struck with lathis (sticks) by the police. The disturbing footage has sparked widespread criticism and raised questions about police conduct and the use of excessive force in handling suspects. Social media users have expressed their concerns about human rights violations and the need for proper law enforcement protocols. While the police claim the action was necessary to control the situation, many are questioning whether such brutal measures are justified, especially when the accused individuals have not been tried in court. This incident has ignited debates on the importance of respecting the law and ensuring accountability for law enforcement officers in upholding human rights. Further investigations into the matter are ongoing.



Telangana Civil Society Demands 15% of Budget Allocation for Education

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : A coalition of NGOs, political parties, and civil society groups in Telangana has called on the state government to honor its 2023 election promise of allocating 15% of the state's budget to education. While the organizations acknowledge that this may not be sufficient to fully address the quality of public education in government schools, they see it as a crucial first step in the right direction. The groups launched a democratic movement on March 15, 2023, at the Basheerbagh Press Club, urging the government to prioritize education over other schemes such as Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak. These schemes, according to child rights activist Varsha Bhargavi, have led to over Rs 8,335 crore being spent in the last three years, depriving 390,000 girls of education by pushing them into early marriages. She suggested reallocating these funds towards children's education instead. Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Abbas highlighted the alarming rise in student suicides in private educational institutions and the decline in enrollment in government schools. He pointed out



that 1,800 government schools have zero enrollment and 4,500 schools have fewer than 10 students, leading to concerns about closures. The collective also stressed that more than 60 lakh children are enrolled in government schools across the state, and despite efforts to enroll students in Gurukuls, the education system remains insufficient. They emphasized the importance of transforming existing government schools in rural areas and increasing the state's budget allocation for education. The group demands at least 20-30% of the state's budget be dedicated to education, including both school and higher education, to address the growing educational challenges in Telangana.

Burglar Strikes at Actor Vishwak Sen's House, Escapes with Diamonds and Cash

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : A burglar broke into the house of actor Vishwak Sen in Filmnagar on Sunday and made away with diamond jewellery and cash. According to the complaint filed by Vishwak Sen's father, C. Raju, at the Filmnagar police station, the unidentified intruder entered the house during the early hours of the day.



The thief managed to escape with valuable diamond rings and a sum of Rs 2.2 lakh in cash. The police have launched an investigation to track down the suspect and recover the stolen items. The authorities are examining CCTV footage and other evidence to identify the intruder and make arrests.

Challenges Mount in SLBC Tunnel Rescue Operations

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad : The ongoing rescue operations at the Srisaillam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel, where a tragic accident occurred on February 22, have entered a challenging phase, as rescuers struggle to navigate the final 40 meters of the collapsed structure. The precarious state of the tunnel's roof, which is half-standing, complicates the efforts to recover the remaining seven missing workers and engineers. The incident has left rescuers contending with unstable conditions, including debris, slush, and oxygen

shortages, all of which have hindered progress. While the body of one worker has been recovered, the remaining personnel are still unaccounted for. To aid in the rescue efforts, advanced technology has been brought into play, including a hydraulic-powered robot capable of performing 15 times faster than manual labor. This state-of-the-art machinery is expected to expedite the removal of debris and aid in locating the missing workers. Teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the

State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) are leading the operations, working tirelessly under difficult conditions. While the situation remains grim, the introduction of sophisticated equipment has provided a glimmer of hope for the rescue teams. Families of the missing individuals have gathered at the project camp, anxiously awaiting news of any breakthrough. Despite the ongoing efforts, officials have found it increasingly difficult to provide solace to the worried families as the operation continues.



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 Virginia,



is a student at the University of Pittsburgh. She had traveled to the RIU Hotel and Resort in Punta

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



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 Shimmit 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

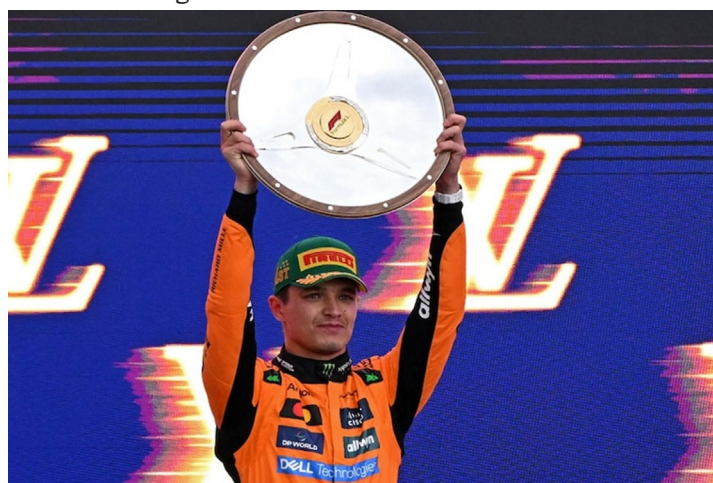
On for Red Bull. George Russell of Mercedes completed the podium in third place, maintaining a clean and consistent race despite the chaos around him. The race was marked by drama, as Ferrari's strategy gamble backfired, leaving both drivers—Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton—struggling. Leclerc ended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

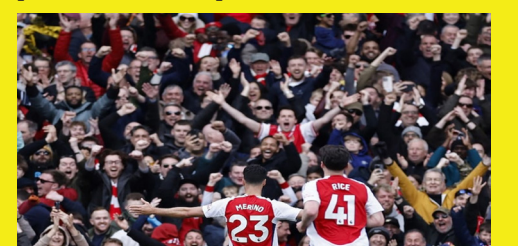
The race, held at the Albert Park Circuit in Melbourne, was a thrilling start to the 2025 Formula 1 season, with surprises, strategy mishaps, and impressive performances across the grid.



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.

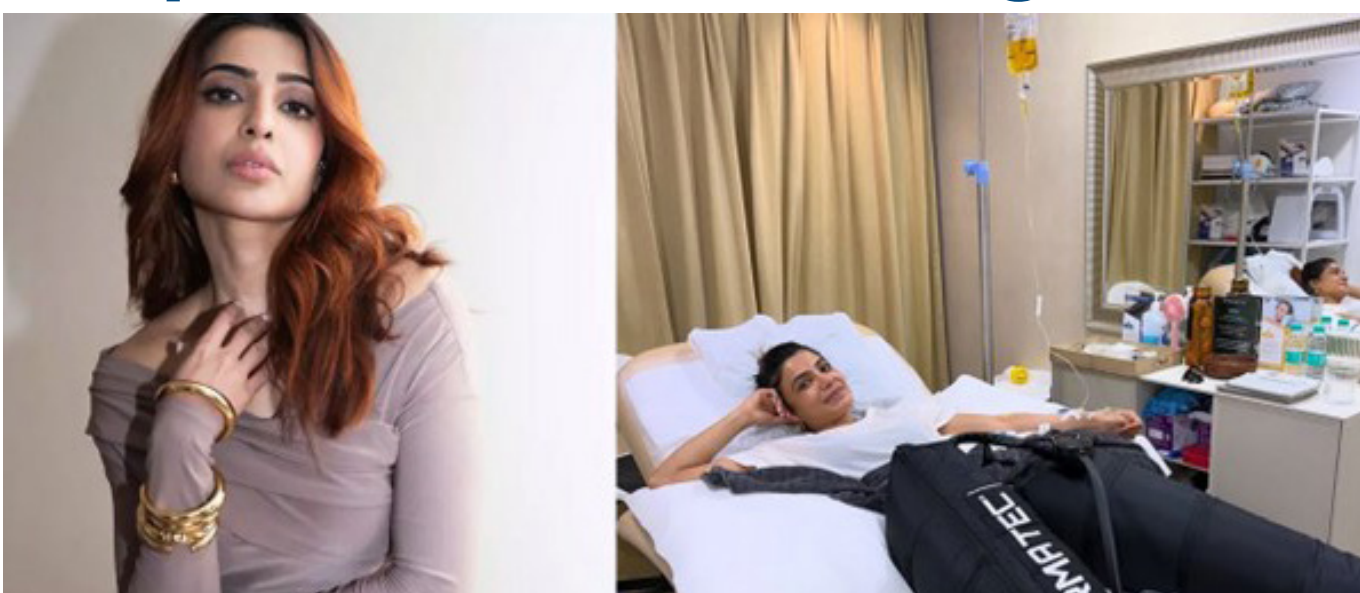
Pushpa 3 Release Date Confirmed for 2028, Allu Arjun Fans Excited!



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 Brahmam. 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.