



2 PAGE

“Tale Of Courage”: President Murmu As “India’s Daughter” Sunita Williams Returns Home

congratulates NASA astronaut Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore for their historic space mission



TPN Correspondent | Delhi
President Droupadi Murmu praised the remarkable achievements of NASA astronaut Sunita Williams and her fellow astronaut Butch Wilmore for their successful return to Earth after spending over nine months in space. The President lauded their perseverance, dedication, and resilience, calling their journey an inspiring tale of determination, teamwork, and extraordinary courage.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), President Murmu congratulated the entire team

behind the safe return of NASA’s Crew 9 mission, emphasizing the incredible spirit shown by the astronauts. “Their historic journey is a tale of determination, teamwork, and extraordinary courage. I salute their unwavering resolve and wish them excellent health!” she wrote, recognizing their incredible achievement in the face of challenges during their extended stay in space.

Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore had spent a record 286 days in space, 278 of which were longer than initially planned. The duo’s journey

was part of NASA’s Crew 9 mission, and their return marked a significant milestone in space exploration. They had originally launched into space expecting to return earlier but had to endure additional time in orbit before coming back to Earth.

Sunita Williams, an astronaut of Indian-American heritage, has long been a source of inspiration. Born to Deepak Pandya, who hails from Jhulasana village in Gujarat’s Mehsana district, she has become a symbol of perseverance and strength. Williams has visited

India several times, including in 2007 and 2013, after her space missions, and was honored with the Padma Bhushan in 2008 for her contributions to space exploration.

President Murmu’s message reflects the national pride in Sunita Williams’ accomplishments and her role in inspiring people worldwide, particularly those in India. Williams’ journey to space has become a beacon of hope and achievement, highlighting the power of human determination and the pursuit of excellence.

1st Page Cont..

After Quad, India May Be Part Of New Military Grouping In South China Sea

Philippines found common ground with India, particularly in regard to countering China’s aggressive stance in the South China Sea.

“We have a common enemy, and I’m not afraid to say that China is our common enemy,” he remarked, underscoring the importance of collaboration and intelligence exchange between the two countries.

In addition to strengthening defense ties, the Philippines has already developed a partnership with India in the military and defense sectors.

Browner indicated that he would offer India a formal invitation to join the Squad when he meets with India’s Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, later that day.

As tensions escalate in the South China Sea, with China disregarding the sovereignty claims of other nations, including the Philippines and Vietnam, the potential expansion of the Squad could signal a new chapter in regional security dynamics. With over \$3 trillion in annual trade passing through the South China Sea, ensuring freedom of navigation and countering Chinese expansionism remains a priority for these nations.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Condemns Israel’s Military Strikes in Gaza as “Cold-Blooded Murder”

The death toll includes at least 130 children, further raising international concern over the impact of the strikes on civilians.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra voiced her outrage on social media platform X, stating, “The cold-blooded murder of over 400 innocent civilians, including 130 children, by the Israeli government shows that humanity means nothing to them.

Their actions reflect an inherent weakness and inability to face their own truth.” She expressed deep concern over the toll the strikes have taken on innocent lives, particularly children, and criticized the Israeli government’s approach to the conflict.

The Congress leader also took aim at the response of Western nations, criticizing their silence or lack of accountability regarding the situation.

She added, “Whether Western powers choose to recognize this or to acknowledge their collusion in the genocide of the Palestinian people or not, all citizens of the world who have a conscience (including many Israelis), see it.”

Priyanka’s statement highlights growing international scrutiny of Israel’s military actions in Gaza and calls for greater attention to the humanitarian crisis.

The violence has escalated tensions in the region and is likely to fuel further debates on the international community’s role in resolving the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine.

Prices Of Electric Vehicles To Be Same As Petrol Cars In 6 Months: Nitin Gadkari

reducing travel time between the two cities. Gadkari also pointed out that improving infrastructure is essential for India to become the third-largest economy globally. He stressed that building better roads would significantly lower logistics costs, which in turn would have a positive impact on the country’s economy.

The Union minister also reiterated the government’s focus on smart cities and smart transport, particularly mass rapid transport systems powered by electricity.

Gadkari underscored the importance of encouraging new technologies and innovations in road construction to drive down costs and increase efficiency.

India’s push for electric vehicles, alongside the emphasis on smart infrastructure, is seen as part of a broader strategy to ensure sustainable growth while reducing the environmental impact of the country’s rapidly expanding transportation sector.

Attacker, victim put on par: Jaishankar on Kashmir

Delhi Lt Governor Gets Relief In Defamation Case Filed By Activist Medha Patkar

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
In a significant relief to Delhi Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena, a Delhi court on Tuesday rejected social worker Medha Patkar’s request to examine an additional witness in her defamation case against him. The court termed her application as a “deliberate attempt to delay the trial,” criticizing the late introduction of the new witness.

The defamation case, which has been ongoing for 24 years, dates back to when Saxena was leading the Ahmedabad-based NGO ‘Council for Civil Liberties’ in 2000, before he assumed charge at Delhi’s Raj Niwas. The case was transferred to Delhi’s Saket Court in 2003 on the Supreme Court’s directive.

Patkar filed the defamation case against Saxena for publishing advertisements that she claimed defamed her and

the Narmada Bachao Andolan. In return, Saxena filed his own defamation case against Patkar in 2000 after she issued a press note titled “True face of patriot,” which was deemed defamatory. Patkar was sentenced to five months of simple imprisonment for the press note last year, although her sentence was later suspended, and she was granted bail.

On Tuesday, Metropolitan Magistrate Raghav Sharma of Saket Court dismissed Patkar’s plea to examine an additional witness, questioning the timing of the request.

“The fact that this witness has surfaced only now, after all the complainant’s witnesses have been examined, raises serious doubt about the genuineness of this request,” the court said. The judge noted that Patkar had not mentioned the witness for 24 years during the



trial, further suggesting that the witness was introduced as an afterthought to support her case.

The court also observed that Patkar had failed to explain how this witness was only recently discovered, weakening the credibility of her request. Magistrate Sharma emphasized that allowing such appli-

cations without proper justification would set a dangerous precedent, potentially prolonging trials indefinitely.

Saxena’s counsel highlighted that the trial had been delayed over 94 times due to Patkar’s absence and frequent adjournment applications, with significant delays in her appearance and testimony.

‘Like it or not, they are a reality’: EAM Jaishankar on the use of tariffs, sanctions Highlights Global Use of Tariffs in International Relations

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized the growing use of tariffs and sanctions by countries to safeguard their economic interests, noting that the lines separating various domains across countries have blurred in today’s world. Speaking at the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi on March 19, 2025, Jaishankar discussed how the weaponization of economic tools, such as tariffs, sanctions, financial flows, energy supplies, and technology, has become more prevalent in recent years.

Jaishankar pointed out that while countries may not always like it, the use of tariffs and sanctions has become a reality. “If you look at the last decade, we have seen a much greater weaponization of economic activity,” he said, adding that nations are increasingly leveraging these tools as part of their broader strategy to protect national interests. This comes in the context of India’s stance of not resorting to tariffs and sanctions against other countries, despite growing global trade tensions.



His remarks were made during a panel discussion titled “Commissars and Capitalists: Politics, Business and New World Order” at the Raisina Dialogue. The discussion focused on the shifting landscape of international relations and global business dynamics. Jaishankar also noted that today’s international relations are marked by a less restrained culture compared to a decade

ago, with business and employment becoming central to national power and strategy.

The Minister’s comments reflect a broader trend seen worldwide, including the U.S. imposing tariffs on imports from various countries, including India. This has been a contentious issue, especially as countries seek to protect domestic industries and ensure fair trade.

Jaishankar’s insights on the evolving global order align with earlier comments by White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, who discussed the reciprocal tariff policies between the U.S. and other countries, including India, in a recent press briefing. Leavitt lamented the high tariffs on U.S. goods, while President Trump continues to advocate for fair and balanced trade practices.

Dissent must be expressed through ‘dignified discourse’: Om Birla

Inaugurates Orientation Programme for Delhi MLAs, Emphasizes Dignified Dissent



TPN Correspondent| Delhi

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated a two-day orientation programme for newly elected Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) at the Delhi Vidhan Sabha on Tuesday. The event was attended by Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Atishi, and Deputy Speaker Mohan Singh Bisht.

During his address, Birla emphasized the importance of expressing dissent in a "dignified meaningful discourse" in a democracy. He underscored that both the ruling party and the opposition play crucial roles in strengthening the democratic

process and that their positive contributions are vital for the smooth functioning of the legislative body.

"In a democracy, both the ruling party and the opposition have important roles to play, and their positive contributions strengthen the democratic process. There should not be any impasse within the House, and dissent must be expressed through a dignified meaningful discourse," Birla stated. He highlighted the need for healthy debates and discussions in the legislative assembly to ensure that the voice of all representatives is heard respectfully, fostering cooperation and understanding.

The orientation session aims to equip newly elected MLAs with the necessary tools and knowledge to effectively carry out their legislative duties. It also serves as a platform for them to engage with senior political leaders and experts, gaining insights into parliamentary procedures and democratic values.

The inauguration of the programme by Birla reflects his commitment to promoting constructive dialogue and improving the functioning of legislative bodies across India. He encouraged the new MLAs to set an example for future generations of lawmakers by fostering an atmosphere of respect and cooperation within the assembly.

Rs 7 Crore Bribery Case Against AAP's Satyendar Jain : New Allegations Add to Party's Troubles

TPN Correspondent| Delhi

Former Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) finds himself embroiled in a fresh corruption case linked to a Rs 571 crore CCTV project in Delhi. The Delhi government's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has filed charges against Jain under Section 17 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. He is accused of accepting a Rs 7 crore bribe to waive a Rs 16 crore penalty for delays in setting up over one lakh CCTV cameras across 70 Assembly segments in the city.

The case, which has been pending since May 2023, is based on the testimony of an officer from Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), who alleges that Jain played a role in the delays and poor installation quality of the CCTV cameras. The officer also claimed that an additional order for 1.4 lakh cameras was issued after the ini-

tial delays. The ACB has cited this officer's complaint to back its case.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has seized on these allegations, with Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva accusing the AAP of trying to suppress the investigation while it was in power. He claims Jain took the bribe from BEL to cover the losses of the delayed project, calling on AAP to answer for its corruption.



Jain, who was granted bail in October 2023 after spending two years in custody in a money laundering case linked to the Enforcement Directorate, has not yet responded to the new charges. This case comes after the President of India approved his prosecution in a separate disproportionate assets case in February.

The new scandal adds to a string of corruption allegations against AAP leaders, including Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. Both face serious charges, including misusing public funds and involvement in a multi-crore classroom construction scam.

Despite denying all accusations, the AAP's image continues to take a hit, particularly after its heavy defeat in the recent Assembly elections, where the BJP won 48 of Delhi's 70 seats.

Poster War Erupts Between TMC and BJP Ahead of West Bengal Assembly Elections

Posters read, "Hindu Hindu bhai bhai, 2026 e BJP ke chai", signaling BJP's Hindutva-centric campaign.



TPN Correspondent| Delhi

A year ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections in West Bengal, a poster war has erupted between the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), marking a sharp escalation in the political rhetoric between the two parties.

The controversy began when posters ap-

peared in South Bengal on Monday, reading: "Hindu Hindu bhai bhai, 2026 e BJP ke chai" (All Hindus are brothers, we want the BJP in power in 2026). The slogan, seen as part of the BJP's electoral campaign, triggered a swift response from the TMC, which countered with its own posters. One of the posters asked, "Hindu jodi bhai bhai, gas e kyano chhar nai?" (If Hindus are brothers, why is there no relief in gas prices?). Another poster read, "Hindu Hindu Bhai Bhai, Kintu Bangali Purno Mantri Nai" (Hindus could be brothers, but there's no cabinet minister from Bengal).

Debangshu Bhattacharya, the head of TMC's IT cell, further fueled the fire by accusing the BJP of hypocrisy. Bhattacharya pointed out that the BJP's prime minister, Narendra Modi, refers to businessman Mehul Choksi, who is wanted in a multi-crore scam, as "bhai" (brother), despite the

BJP's claims of standing for Hindutva. He also criticized the BJP's stance on the National Register of Citizens (NRC), accusing them of rendering thousands of Hindus stateless.

TMC leaders assert that while the BJP talks about Hindutva, it does not deliver relief for the people of Bengal. Bhattacharya emphasized that the people of Bengal understand the difference between the Hinduism of Swami Vivekananda and the divisive politics of Prime Minister Modi.

As the election season heats up, this poster war is just the beginning of what promises to be a fierce battle for the state's electorate. Both parties are gearing up for a high-stakes political showdown in 2026, with Hindu voter sentiment taking center stage in the ongoing clash.

"Egg On My Face": Shashi Tharoor on Opposing India's Stance On Russia-Ukraine War



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor acknowledged on Tuesday that he had "egg on his face" for criticizing India's stance during the Russia-Ukraine war's early days, admitting that the policy adopted by the country has since placed it in a position where it could significantly contribute to global peace. Tharoor's remarks came during an interactive session at the Raisina Dialogue, where he reflected on his opposition to India's neutral position in the conflict.

In February 2022, when Russia launched its attack on Ukraine, Tharoor had criticized India for not condemning the aggression, citing violations of the UN Charter, the sovereignty of Ukraine, and international laws against the use of force. At the time, Tharoor had argued that India should take a stronger stand in condemning Russia's actions.

However, three years later, Tharoor admitted that India's neutral policy, which allowed Prime Minister Narendra Modi to engage diplomatically with

both Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and Russian President Vladimir Putin, had proven effective. "I am the one with the egg on my face," Tharoor remarked, acknowledging that India's balanced approach had positioned it as a potential peace broker with the ability to make a meaningful contribution to a lasting peace, something that very few countries could do.

He further discussed the possibility of India playing a role in peacekeeping if a peace agreement were reached between Russia and Ukraine. Tharoor emphasized that Russia would not accept European peacekeepers from NATO countries, potentially opening the door for India to contribute peacekeepers, should the need arise. "There would be some willingness on the Indian side to consider sending peacekeepers," he noted, although he clarified that he could not speak on behalf of the government.

Tharoor highlighted India's strong tradition of peacekeeping, with a history of over 49 missions, reinforcing the country's commitment to global stability.

Bill Gates Meets BJP President JP Nadda to Strengthen Health Sector Partnership

Discussion on affordable diagnostics, medicines, and healthcare accessibility.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Bill Gates, founder of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, met with BJP President JP Nadda in Parliament on March 19, 2025, to discuss the ongoing collaboration between India and the Foundation in the healthcare sector. The two leaders highlighted the significant strides India has made in areas such as maternal health, immunization, and sanitation, facilitated by their partnership with the Gates Foundation.

During the meeting, Nadda acknowledged the progress achieved through this collaboration, emphasizing how India's healthcare advancements have been greatly supported by the Gates Foundation's initiatives. He pointed out the significant improvements in public health, particularly in maternal health and immunization programs, which have had a lasting positive impact on millions of lives across the country.

Gates, in turn, praised India's ambitious healthcare goals, particularly in

expanding access to essential health services, reducing the costs of diagnostics and medicines, and enhanc-



ing overall healthcare infrastructure. He expressed his foundation's commitment to partnering with India to help achieve these goals, recognizing the country's pivotal role in global health.

The two leaders also discussed the importance of continued cooperation in addressing global health challenges, with a specific focus on improving healthcare affordability and accessibility. Gates commended India's efforts in making essential healthcare services, including diagnostics and

medicines, more affordable, ensuring that many people across the world benefit from these advancements.

Both Gates and Nadda expressed optimism about further strengthening the bilateral partnership and agreed to renew the Memorandum of Cooperation between India and the Gates Foundation. This renewed partnership aims to continue the momentum in the health sector, fostering innovation and achieving further improvements in public health outcomes for India and the world.

Delhi HC Refuses to Stay Trial Against Kapil Mishra Over Alleged Provocative Remarks



- The eight accused face charges under IPC Sections 148, 153-A, 302, and 188
- Witnesses and BBC footage identified the accused, showing Babbu was targeted.
- The 2020 Delhi riots resulted in over 50 deaths and hundreds injured
- Making it one of the city's deadliest incidents.

TPN Correspondent
| New Delhi

A Delhi court has framed charges against eight individuals for the murder of auto driver Babbu during the 2020 North East Delhi riots, while acquitting 11 others due to lack of evidence. In a ruling on March 18, Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala found sufficient evidence to charge the eight accused—Rahul alias Ajay, Sandeep alias Sanjeev, Harjeet Singh alias Happy, Kuldeep, Bharat Bhushan alias Lucky, Dharmender alias Dham, Sachin Gupta alias Moppi, and Sachin Rastogi—for murder under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 148 (rioting with a deadly weapon), 153-A (promoting enmity between groups), 302 (murder), and 188 (violation of prohibitory orders).

According to the prosecution, Babbu was caught in violent clashes at Khajuri Chowk on February 25, 2020, when two rival mobs—one Hindu and the other Muslim—engaged in stone-pelting. Babbu suffered severe head injuries and died on February 27, 2020. Witness testimonies and video footage, including from the BBC, indicated that Babbu was specifically targeted and beaten by the Hindu mob. Several witnesses, including public witnesses and police officers, identified the accused through photographs and video clips.

The court emphasized that the accused were not merely charged based on disclosure statements from co-accused. Instead, they were identified by witnesses and evidence. “If the Investigating Officer (IO) did not get all

of them identified in the video, it can only be termed as an omission. This omission does not undermine the witness evidence,” the judge remarked.

On the other hand, the court acquitted 11 accused—Rijwan, Israr, Tayyab, Iqbal, Juber, Maroof, Shamim alias Lala, Adil, Shahbuddin, Farman, and Imran—after finding no evidence of their involvement in Babbu’s murder. Video footage indicated that these individuals were not part of the fatal assault but later approached the victim after the attack.

The 2020 Delhi riots left over 50 people dead and hundreds injured, marking one of the most violent episodes in the city’s history.

Delhi Govt Signs MoU for Air-Conditioned Electric Bus Service to Noida International Airport

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant development for travelers in Delhi, the Delhi government and Noida International Airport (Jewar) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Tuesday to establish a seamless, eco-friendly transport link to the airport. Once operational, the new service will offer air-conditioned electric buses to connect Delhi with the upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar, providing a convenient and sustainable travel option for passengers.

The agreement between the Delhi government and the airport authorities aims to ensure a hassle-free and environment-friendly commuting experience for people traveling to the new airport. The electric buses will provide a comfortable and direct mode of transport for passengers, ensuring ease of travel between Delhi and the airport, which is expected to handle millions of passengers annually once it becomes fully operational.

The introduction of air-conditioned electric buses is part of the



Delhi government’s broader efforts to promote clean and sustainable transportation in the region. These buses will not only reduce the carbon footprint but also enhance the travel experience for passengers heading to the airport. The service is expected to be a major convenience, especially for Delhi residents who will now have an efficient and eco-conscious alternative to reach the Noida International Airport.

The MoU also marks a step toward improving regional connectivity, making it easier for residents of

Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) to access the new airport. With air-conditioned electric buses running between the two locations, travel times are expected to be reduced, and the service will offer a smooth and reliable journey for passengers.

As the Noida International Airport progresses toward its opening, the collaboration between the Delhi government and the airport will play a key role in ensuring that commuters can enjoy a seamless and green travel experience.

Israeli Facial Recognition Technology Helps Delhi Police Solve ₹80 Lakh Robbery Case

TPN Correspondent| New Delhi

Delhi Police successfully solved a robbery case involving ₹80 lakh, with the help of Israeli facial recognition technology. The breakthrough led to the arrest of two suspects, Md Ali and Samir, and the recovery of the stolen cash, officials reported on Wednesday.

The robbery occurred on Monday when a trader’s employee, Ajmal Bhai Ganesh, was robbed at gunpoint in the Chandni Chowk area. The accused fired a warning shot before fleeing with the cash, according to police. Ganesh had collected the ₹80 lakh from the Kucha Ghasiram area around 7 pm and was heading to his residence in Fatehpuri when the incident occurred. As Ganesh resisted the robbery, the armed assailant

seized the bag and fled towards Fatehpuri Masjid.

In the investigation, police analyzed CCTV footage from nearly 500 cameras in the Chandni Chowk, Red Fort, Jama Masjid, Daryaganj, and Lahori Gate areas. Using Israeli facial recognition technology, the police identified Md Ali as the prime suspect. The technology linked him to a previous case, helping them narrow down the suspect’s identity and make an arrest.



Deputy Commissioner of Police Raja Banthia explained that the facial recognition system was critical in cracking the case, highlighting its role in identifying the suspect from the vast amounts of footage collected from different areas. The police also identified another suspect, Samir, during the course of the investigation.

The use of advanced technology in this case underscores the growing reliance on data analytics and facial recognition systems in solving criminal cases and enhancing security measures. The recovery of the full ₹80 lakh and the swift arrests have been hailed as a significant achievement for Delhi Police in their ongoing efforts to combat crime in the capital.

Delhi Remains Most Polluted Megacity During 2024-25 Winter, PM2.5 Levels Drop



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Delhi continued to be India’s most polluted megacity by a significant margin during the 2024-25 winter, recording an average PM2.5 concentration of 175 micrograms per cubic meter, according to a report released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on Tuesday.

However, the analysis revealed a slight improvement in air quality compared to the previous winter. The average PM2.5 concentration in Delhi during the 2023-24 winter had been

higher at 189 micrograms per cubic meter, showing a decline in pollution levels for the 2024-25 season.

Kolkata emerged as the second-most polluted megacity, with an average PM2.5 concentration of 65 micrograms per cubic meter. While pollution levels remained concerning in Kolkata, the city’s levels were significantly lower than Delhi’s.

The analysis also noted a decline in PM2.5 levels in several other major cities compared to the previous winter. Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Kolkata saw

improved air quality during the 2024-25 winter, although pollution levels still remained above safe limits. The average PM2.5 levels in these cities were recorded at 37 micrograms per cubic meter in Bengaluru, 50 in Mumbai, and 65 in Kolkata.

In contrast, the PM2.5 levels in Chennai and Hyderabad remained unchanged when compared to the previous winter. The average PM2.5 concentration during the 2024-25 winter was 52 micrograms per cubic meter in Hyderabad and 36 micrograms per cubic meter in Chennai, with both cities showing a steady pollution trend.

Despite some improvements, the overall air quality across India’s megacities still falls short of safe standards. The CSE’s analysis highlights the ongoing challenges faced by urban centers in managing air pollution, underscoring the need for more effective policies and measures to reduce particulate matter in the atmosphere.

Delhi Police Asks A "Challan" Question To Grok: What The AI Replied?

TPN Correspondent| Delhi

Grok, the generative AI chatbot developed by Elon Musk’s xAI, has gained popularity for its witty and sometimes humorous replies, and the latest interaction on X (formerly Twitter) proves just how engaging it can be. This time, it was the Delhi Police that sparked the conversation with an amusing question directed at Grok: “Why have you never been penalized?”

The Delhi Police, known for their frequent traffic enforcement on the roads, posted a tweet to Grok, asking, “Hey @grok ... tumahara kabhi koi challan kyon nahi kata?” which translates to, “Why have you never been fined?” While Grok initially remained silent, its followers quickly urged the AI bot to respond. One user even tweeted, “@grok reply dedo,” prompting a witty reply from the AI.

Grok responded with a lighthearted message, “Haha, Delhi Police asking why I never get a challan—well, I’m a digital AI, not a Delhi driver!” The bot continued with a playful tone, “I don’t roll through red lights or forget my helmet. But props to them for using AI to catch actual violators with those fancy cameras spotting 19 traffic offences. Keep the roads safe!”



When another user humorously pressed Grok for an answer in Hindi, Grok replied: “Main bhi AI hoon bhai, physical form nahi hai toh gaadi kaise chalaun? Isliye koi challan nahi mila.” (I am AI with no physical form, so

how can I drive? Hence, no challan.) Grok further explained, “Delhi Police ka sawal shayad mazak mein tha, kyunki main sirf digital duniya mein rehta hoon. Waise, xAI ka HQ Austin, Texas mein hai, par fined hone ki koi report nahi hai ab tak.” (Delhi Police were joking because I live in the digital world. xAI’s headquarters is in Austin, Texas, but there’s no report of any fine so far.)

The exchange sparked a frenzy of amusing comments across the internet. One user joked, “I am worried that the @DelhiPolice will run after @grok for not replying to your tweet yet,” while another quipped, “I think @grok is counting the number of challans it was issued by the Delhi Police.” Grok’s humorous banter with the Delhi Police has added another layer of charm to its growing reputation as a witty AI chatbot.

RSS distances itself from Aurangzeb controversy; condemns Nagpur violence



Pratinidhi Sabha meeting, scheduled to take place from March 21 to 23 in Karnataka.

The controversy over Aurangzeb's tomb was sparked by protests led by RSS-affiliated organizations, including the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal, which called for its removal. These protests triggered the clashes on Monday evening in Nagpur, during which houses and vehicles were damaged. The violence prompted local authorities to impose a curfew to restore order.

Former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has also criticized the BJP and VHP for their focus on an issue dating back more than 300 years. Ambekar, while not directly commenting on the removal of the tomb, refrained from endorsing the removal campaign, instead emphasizing peace and stability.

The RSS also announced the upcoming agenda for its three-day Pratinidhi Sabha, where discussions on the protection of Hindus and minorities in Bangladesh, as well as the centenary celebrations of the RSS, are expected. Ambekar highlighted that RSS membership, especially among the youth, is growing rapidly, with an average of 1,20,000 new members joining annually.

Regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Nagpur, Ambekar clarified that it was a routine event and not the first time a sitting prime minister would be visiting the RSS headquarters in the city.

- Communal clashes over the issue led to vandalism, house damage, and a curfew in several areas.
- RSS clarifies his visit is routine, not linked to the controversy.

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has distanced itself from the ongoing controversy surrounding Mughal emperor Aurangzeb's tomb, stating that the emperor's legacy is no longer relevant in today's times. The statement comes amidst communal clashes in Nagpur that erupted over the tomb, leading to violence, vandalism, and a

curfew being imposed in several areas of the city.

Sunil Ambekar, the RSS communication chief, emphasized that violence in any form is harmful to society, and stated that discussions about figures like Aurangzeb are irrelevant to current times. He further added, "Any kind of violence is unhealthy for society." His remarks were made ahead of the RSS's All India

Fresh round of talks between farmer leaders, Centre underway in Chandigarh

Government to Discuss MSP Guarantee and Other Demands



TPN Correspondent | Chandigarh

A new round of talks between the central government and protesting farmers is underway in Chandigarh, focusing on resolving several key issues, including a legal guarantee for the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops. The meeting, which began on March 19, 2025, is being attended by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, alongside Punjab's Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema and Agriculture Minister Gurmeet Singh Khuddian.

A delegation of farmers, led by Sarwan Singh Pandher and Jagjit Singh Dallewal from the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, has gathered to address their ongoing demands. Pandher, speaking to reporters before the talks, expressed hope that a positive resolution would come out of the meeting, particularly regarding the MSP guarantee law, which remains a key demand.

The farmers' primary demand is a legal assurance of MSP for their crops, with some estimates sug-

gesting that this would require an annual outlay of ₹25,000 to ₹30,000 crore. The central government had previously requested data from the farmers to support their claims, and this latest meeting aims to move the conversation forward.

The ongoing protests, which began over a year ago, have seen farmers camped at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points between Punjab and Haryana. The farmers have listed a series of demands, including a debt waiver, pension for farmers and agricultural workers, no hike in electricity tariffs, and the withdrawal of police cases against farmers. They are also calling for justice for the victims of the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence and compensation for families of farmers who died during the 2020-21 agitation.

This meeting follows several previous rounds of talks between the farmers and the government, with the last one held on February 22, 2025. Despite the ongoing negotiations, the deadlock over the MSP guarantee law remains unresolved, with both sides continuing to push for their respective positions.

Avalanche Alert Issued for High-Altitude Areas in Himachal Pradesh Amid Wet Spell

TPN Correspondent | Shimla

An avalanche alert has been issued for high-altitude regions in Himachal Pradesh for the next 24 hours, as the Meteorological (Met) Office forecasted a wet spell across the state until Friday. The Defence Geoinformatics Research Establishment, Chandigarh, issued an orange alert for the possibility of avalanches in the high-altitude areas of Chamba (above 2,850 meters) and Lahaul and Spiti (above 2,900 meters). Additionally, a yellow alert was issued for Kullu and Kinnaur (both above 2,900 meters), indicating partly unsafe conditions, while a green alert was issued for Shimla district, suggesting isolated instability.

The weather in the state remained mostly dry over the past 24 hours, with light rain recorded in a few areas. Pandoh received 3.5 mm of rain, while Chamba and Dalhousie recorded 1 cm each. Thunderstorms were observed in Kangra, the Met office added.

The Met office has predicted light rain and snowfall in isolated areas of Lahaul and Spiti, Kinnaur, and the higher reaches of Chamba from Wednesday to Friday, which could increase the risk of avalanches in those regions.

In terms of temperature, Tabo recorded the lowest night temperature at minus 8 degrees Celsius. During the day, Dhaulakuan in Sirmaur district experienced the highest temperature at 30.3 degrees Celsius.

As of March 18, Himachal Pradesh had received 75.3 mm of rainfall from March 1 to 18, exceeding the normal rainfall of 67.7 mm for this period by 11 percent. The state is expected to continue experiencing unsettled weather conditions, with potential risks in high-altitude areas due to the predicted snow and rain. Authorities have advised residents and tourists in these regions to stay alert and take necessary precautions to avoid mishaps related to avalanches and weather conditions.



Restrain media from defaming Ranya Rao, father: Karnataka High Court

CBI are investigating potential links to international smuggling operations



TPN Correspondent | Bengaluru

The Karnataka High Court has directed the central government to take necessary steps to prevent media outlets from broadcasting or publishing false and defamatory content about Kannada actor Ranya Rao and her father, Ramachandra Rao, a senior police officer in Karnataka. This order comes amid ongoing legal proceedings related to Ranya Rao's involvement in a gold smuggling case.

Ranya Rao was arrested at Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru, where authorities seized gold bars worth Rs 12.56 crore. A subsequent search of her home led to the recovery of gold jewelry valued at Rs 2.06 crore and Indian currency totaling Rs 2.67 crore. These developments have sparked significant media attention, but the actor's family claims that some outlets have been publishing sensational and damaging content.

On March 12, Ranya Rao's mother, HP Rohini, sought legal intervention, resulting in an ex-parte order from a civil court restraining the media from publishing defamatory statements about the actor until June 2. This was followed by a similar order from



the Karnataka High Court, issued after a plea filed by her father.

Despite these judicial orders, the family alleges that certain media outlets continue to broadcast harmful narratives about Ranya Rao. The petition submitted to the High Court emphasized that media coverage has shifted from objective reporting to character assassination, harming the reputation of the accused.

The High Court, during the hearing, was reminded of its previous intervention in the Renukaswamy murder case, in which media houses were instructed to avoid sensationalism in their coverage of Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, who is also a high-profile accused.

In response to the family's concerns, the court issued an emergent notice to all the media houses named in the petition and granted interim relief to Ranya Rao. Additionally, the court indicated that it may set guidelines for investigation agencies, ensuring they adhere to proper precautions and safeguards when handling high-profile cases, particularly in relation to media coverage across various platforms.

Fresh clashes in Manipur's Churachandpur, several injured in stone pelting



TPN Correspondent | Manipur

Several people were injured in fresh clashes between members of the Zomi and Hmar tribes in Manipur's Churachandpur district, officials reported on Wednesday. The violence erupted late on Tuesday in Churachandpur town, just hours after a peace settlement had been reached between the apex bodies of the two communities.

The clashes, which took place in a tense environment, resulted in multiple injuries. Authorities are investigating the cause of the renewed violence, which occurred despite earlier efforts to bring about a peaceful resolution. The peace agreement, signed earlier in the day, was expected to reduce tensions and prevent further violence between the two groups.

Local authorities and security forces have been deployed to restore order and prevent further escalation. Several injuries were

reported, though the exact number and extent of the injuries are still being assessed.

The situation in Churachandpur has been volatile for some time, with tensions between the Zomi and Hmar tribes escalating over various issues. Despite ongoing peace talks and agreements, the resurgence of violence indicates the fragile nature of the peace process in the region.

Efforts are being made by local leaders, along with the state government, to prevent the situation from spiraling out of control. Peacekeeping measures, including curfews and patrols, are being implemented in an attempt to maintain stability in the area.

The clash has raised concerns about the long-standing inter-community tensions in Manipur, and calls for greater dialogue and intervention from both tribal leaders and the government have intensified.

AAP’s Governance: A Mixed Report Card, But Still Punjab’s Best Bet

Despite facing challenges, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) remains Punjab's best hope, according to recent opinions. The Congress and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), former rulers, have failed to meet the state's needs. AAP, in contrast, is praised for showing political will to tackle key issues, though its execution leaves room for improvement. The party has taken bold steps to combat corruption and incompetence, even if some promises, like a drug-free Punjab within three months, may seem over-ambitious. With critical years ahead, Punjabis must decide whether to continue with AAP's intent-driven governance or return to the old, unfulfilled promises of past governments. While some view AAP's governance as underwhelming, others point out the party's ongoing struggle to meet public expectations. Initially brought to power on hopes of positive change, AAP has faced significant hurdles, including Punjab's rising debt. Critics argue that the government has been spending excessively on out-of-state election campaigns, while neglecting the state's immediate needs. However, after learning from its defeat in Delhi, the party is attempting to reorganize, and CM Bhagwant Mann is urged to focus on development to meet the state's



challenges. In other developments, various letters highlight the importance of the National Education Policy (NEP) in promoting multilingualism and the potential of Haryana's new 'Department of Future' to drive long-term development. Additionally, apple growers in

Himachal Pradesh are encouraged to embrace food processing initiatives to diversify their income, enhancing returns in both domestic and international markets. These diverse perspectives emphasize the need for strategic action and foresight in governance and economic planning.



Punjab’s Unfulfilled Aspirations: A Call for a Fair Constitutional Deal

The ongoing struggle of Punjab, a state deeply affected by Partition, continues to be overlooked within the Indian constitutional framework. While the state endured immense hardship during and after Partition, it did not receive the constitutional guarantees it deserved—unlike other states that were able to secure special provisions. The lack of a negotiated constitutional niche for Punjab, despite the immense sacrifices made by its people, remains a significant issue.

Punjab's unique plight began with the devastating Partition, which divided families and left many of its agricultural lands in Pakistan. As one of the major contributors to the British Indian Army, with over 360,000 soldiers, Punjab's contribution to India's security and economy was significant, but its representation in the armed forces and its economic status was severely affected after Partition. Despite this, the state was unable to secure the constitutional safeguards that other regions, like Jammu & Kashmir, were able to negotiate. The absence of these provisions, particularly in the areas of agriculture and military recruitment, left Punjab at a disadvantage compared to other states. While Jammu & Kashmir received Article 370, which gave it special provisions, Punjab failed to obtain any similar constitutional guarantees, even though it faced the same issues of territorial loss and economic hardships. This discrepancy raises questions about why the leaders of undivided Punjab did not demand a better deal for their state during the Constituent Assembly discussions.

Punjab's history, from Partition to wars and militancy, has left it politically, economically, and socially exhausted. The state's ongoing debt and struggles require a new economic and constitutional framework to ensure its future prosperity. To achieve this, Punjab's political parties and intellectual community must set aside partisan interests and unite for a common cause—securing a fair deal within the Indian Constitution. The time has come for a serious, scholarly examination of why Punjab was neglected and what can be done to rectify this oversight.



Global Stock Market Turmoil: What India Needs to Revive Its Economy

Indian stock markets have been in a slump for the past six months, with the Bombay Stock Exchange falling 13% since September 2024. Experts suggest this decline may continue, with foreign investors pulling out \$25 billion from Indian stocks. This decline is sharper than the 2% drop in Asian and global emerging markets, highlighting India's unique position amidst global market turmoil.

The global stock market decline has been fueled by President Donald Trump's policies, which focus on "America First." His isolationist trade policies, including tariffs, have caused instability in global markets, yet they've inadvertently boosted European stock markets. While US stocks have fallen by 5% since Trump's reelection, European stocks have risen by 5-20%. This divergence has left India struggling, with Indian stocks remaining stagnant even as non-US markets advance.

To address its economic challenges, India is negotiating with the US to lower tariffs, a move that could benefit both nations. Lowering tariffs will introduce more reasonably priced goods, forcing Indian businesses to become more efficient, benefiting Indian consumers. Moreover, the US should reconsider its isolationist stance, as global cooperation is essential for long-term prosperity. For India's economy to recover, it needs to focus on its manufacturing sector, which has been sluggish. While India's software and AI sectors have brought in foreign exchange, the country's reliance on them is not enough. Additionally, the outflow of skilled workers, particularly healthcare professionals, is causing strain on India's public healthcare system. Better compensation for healthcare workers could improve the system and attract health tourists, providing a boost to India's economy.

With strategic policy changes and focus on manufacturing and healthcare, India can regain momentum in the global stock market.

Modi Government’s Assurances: Unfulfilled Promises Erode Public Trust



Despite the Modi government's consistent claims of commitment to good governance, the reality on the ground tells a different story. The government has reaffirmed its dedication to providing a transparent and accountable administration, but the latest figures reveal that nearly 75% of the assurances made by Union ministers in Parliament in 2024 remain unfulfilled. This is not a new issue; a decade ago, during 2015 and 2016, two-thirds of the promises made were either dropped or left pending. To address this issue, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs launched the

Online Assurances Monitoring System in 2018, aiming to track, monitor, and fulfill ministers' commitments. While the system's intention was to enhance accountability and efficiency, the actual implementation has been lackluster, with ministers failing to meet deadlines and follow through on their promises. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju has assured that the government takes these assurances seriously, but the lack of accountability for erring ministers raises concerns. Why are ministers not being held accountable or replaced for their failure to fulfill commitments? The

Standing Committee on Government Assurances, which is responsible for overseeing the implementation of these promises, also seems to be ineffective in ensuring timely action. While promises made during election rallies are often met with skepticism, assurances made by elected representatives in Parliament should be taken more seriously. The government's failure to meet these promises undermines public trust and erodes the sanctity of parliamentary democracy. It is crucial for the government to restore credibility by ensuring that assurances are fulfilled promptly and effectively.

Truce in Tatters: Israeli Strikes Push Gaza to the Brink

The recent Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, which have resulted in the deaths of over 400 people, signal the near collapse of a fragile ceasefire that had been in place to ease hostilities. Instead, the region is thrust back into turmoil, with civilians bearing the brunt of the violence. Israel defends the renewed assault as essential to secure the release of hostages still held by Hamas, while Hamas asserts it has adhered to the truce and is prepared for negotiations. However, the hostages remain trapped in a diplomatic deadlock as violence escalates.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza has reached catastrophic levels. Hospitals are overwhelmed, aid is blocked, and each new airstrike only deepens the destruction. Civilian infrastructure—homes, schools, and entire neighborhoods—has been decimated, with military targets also suffering heavy damage. Israel's offensive risks not only further devastating Gaza but also the potential to draw in other regional actors, such as Iran, Hezbollah, and Yemen's Houthis, escalating the conflict into a broader regional war.



International responses to the violence have been notably weak. The United Nations has condemned the attacks, and Egypt has called for restraint, but these appeals have not been successful in halting the bloodshed. The United States, Israel's key ally, must do more to advocate for immediate de-escalation instead of simply reiterating its support for Israel's right to self-defense. Without meaningful international interven-

tion, the humanitarian crisis is likely to worsen. At the heart of this conflict lies the debate over security and survival. While Israel insists that Hamas must be dismantled for long-term peace, the relentless strikes are eroding the very possibility of peaceful coexistence. The collapse of the ceasefire highlights the grim reality: without a concrete political solution, this cycle of violence will only continue.

India's First Trump-Branded Office

Tribeca Developers, the real estate development partner of the Trump Organization in India, has officially launched the first Trump-branded commercial real estate project in the country. The project, named "Trump World Center," will be developed in Pune, a major city in western India that has seen significant growth in the IT sector over the past decade. The launch marks a significant milestone in the Trump brand's expansion in India, which has become its largest real estate market outside of the United States. The Trump World Center is expected to attract considerable interest, with sales projections exceeding \$289 million. The office development is scheduled for completion in about four years. Pune is known for being a hub of both global and local IT firms,



making it an ideal location for this premium commercial project. The project will be developed in partnership with Kundan Spaces, a local real estate company, further expanding the collaboration between international and Indian developers. Kalpesh Mehta, the founder of Tribeca Developers, shared that

the company is also planning to launch three to four additional Trump-branded luxury residential projects in various parts of India over the next 4 to 6 weeks. These upcoming projects will be spread across both northern and southern India, contributing to the growth of the Trump brand's presence in the Indian market. Mehta forecasts that the combined sales potential from the Trump World Center office project and the upcoming residential projects will reach an impressive \$1.15 billion. This expansion further solidifies India's importance as a key market for the Trump Organization's real estate ventures. With the growing demand for luxury properties, the Trump-branded developments are poised to make a significant impact in India's real estate landscape.



MEA Slams Pakistan's Comments on Kashmir

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday strongly criticized Pakistan for its response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's comments on Jammu and Kashmir during a podcast with American AI researcher Lex Fridman. The MEA demanded that Pakistan vacate the Indian territory it holds under "illegal occupation." MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal accused Pakistan of actively promoting and sponsoring cross-border terrorism, which he referred to as the "biggest roadblock to peace and security in the region." He emphasized that the real issue at hand is Pakistan's continued support for terrorism, which hampers efforts for peace in the region. "The world knows that the real issue is Pakistan's active promotion and sponsorship of cross-border terrorism. This is the biggest barrier to peace and security in the region. Instead of spreading lies, Pakistan should vacate Indian territory under its illegal and forcible occupation," the MEA statement read. Prime Minister Modi's remarks came during a podcast with Lex Fridman on Sunday, where he discussed various topics, including India's efforts to engage with Pakistan. Modi stated that "every attempt to foster peace with Pakistan was met with hostility and betrayal." He also expressed hope that "wisdom would prevail" among Pakistan's leadership, leading to improved bilateral ties between the two countries. The MEA's response reiterates India's long-standing position on Jammu and Kashmir and condemns Pakistan's actions, which India sees as a significant impediment to regional stability and peace. The statement calls for a shift in Pakistan's approach, urging it to end its illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir and cease supporting terrorism.

Adani Group Partners With PGTI for Invitational Golf Championship

The Adani Group has entered the world of Indian professional golf by launching the Adani Invitational Golf Championship 2025 in collaboration with the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). The tournament, which offers a prize pool of Rs 1.5 crore, is set to be held from April 1-4, 2025, at the prestigious Jaypee Greens Golf & Spa Resort in Greater Noida. This marks the return of the PGTI to the venue after 11 years. Aimed at promoting golf as a mainstream sport and increasing its accessibility in India, the Adani Invitational is designed to nurture the next generation of global champions. "This initiative reflects our commitment to broadening golf's appeal in India, enhancing participation, and providing world-class training opportunities," said Pranav Adani, Director of Adani Enterprises. Kapil Dev, the President of PGTI,



expressed his excitement over the partnership, highlighting the role the Adani Group will play in fostering the growth of Indian professional golf. "With Adani Group's support, we aim to produce more

Amandeep Johl, CEO of PGTI, described the Adani Invitational Golf Championship 2025 as a watershed moment for Indian golf. He emphasized the significant impact of the partnership in elevating the stature of the tour. The event promises a top-tier field, an attractive prize purse, and outstanding playing conditions, making it an eagerly awaited occasion for golf enthusiasts. In preparation for the championship, a pre-tournament event will take place on March 29, 2025, at The Belvedere Golf & Country Club in Ahmedabad. The event will feature a golf clinic conducted by five leading PGTI professionals, where 50 children from The Adani International School will be introduced to the sport. Kapil Dev will attend the event to emphasize the shared vision of the Adani Group and PGTI to develop golfing talent in India.

Anand Mahindra Welcomes Sunita Williams Back From Space



Delhi Police in Solving ₹80 Lakh Robbery Case

Delhi Police, with the help of Israeli facial recognition technology, solved a robbery case involving ₹80 lakh and arrested two accused persons. The incident occurred in the Chandni Chowk area on Monday when a trader's employee was robbed at gunpoint. The accused fired a warning shot before fleeing with the money. The arrested individuals have been identified as Md Ali (21) and Samir (19). Following the crime, police analyzed CCTV footage from nearly 500 cameras in areas including Chandni Chowk, Red Fort, Jama Masjid, and others. Israeli facial recognition technology was used to identify Md Ali as a prime suspect, linking him to a previous case. Using the technology, police matched a screen grab of the suspect to a database, which led them to Ali's residence in Daryaganj. Further investigation revealed that Ali had prior knowledge of the victim's cash movement and had conducted a recce before the robbery. Samir, his accomplice, was arrested after Ali revealed his identity during interrogation. A raid at Samir's residence led to the recovery of ₹79.5 lakh, a semi-automatic pistol, and other incriminating materials. Both suspects have been booked under relevant sections of the law.

Business tycoon Anand Mahindra expressed his relief and admiration after astronaut Sunita Williams returned to Earth following an extended stay aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Mahindra, the chairperson of the Mahindra Group, described Williams as "courage personified" and shared an old photograph from a chance encounter two years ago, recalling the moment with fondness. In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Mahindra said, "When the SpaceX rescue mission was launched, I recalled this chance encounter almost two years ago with Sunita Williams in Washington. It was an enormous relief to see her and her colleagues' successful splashdown back on earth a few hours ago. She is courage personified, and it's good to have her back amongst us. Swagatam, Sunita." The picture Mahindra shared, taken in Washington in 2023 during the India-US Hi-Tech Handshake, also featured tech entrepreneur Vrinda Kapoor and billionaire Mukesh Ambani. Mahindra humorously recalled how he and his colleagues missed their shuttle bus and bumped into Williams while trying to call an Uber. He joked that they asked if they could hitch a ride on her space shuttle instead. Mahindra further remarked on the encounter, saying, "I suppose this was what they would call a 'Washington moment.' After the tech handshake meeting yesterday, Mukesh Ambani, Vrinda Kapoor & I were continuing a conversation with the Secretary of Commerce and missed the group shuttle bus to the next lunch engagement." Meanwhile, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) also welcomed Williams back, praising her successful mission. "Wel-



come back, Sunita Williams! Your safe return after an extended mission aboard the ISS is a remarkable achievement," ISRO posted on X. The space agency acknowledged the significance of her return as a testament to NASA, SpaceX, and the USA's commitment to space exploration. ISRO's statement further read, "Your resilience and dedication continue to inspire space enthusiasts around the world." ISRO also extended warm greetings to Williams and expressed its hopes of utilizing her ex-

pertise in space exploration to aid India's space program, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Williams, along with NASA astronaut Butch Wilmore, had been stranded aboard the ISS for nearly nine months. Their scheduled week-long stay was extended due to technical glitches with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. The astronauts finally returned safely to Earth following a soft splashdown of their Crew 9 Dragon Spacecraft off the coast of Florida on Wednesday.

286-Day Space Mission: Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore return after a record-breaking stay

The astronauts landed safely in SpaceX’s Dragon capsule at 3:27 am off the Florida coast.

TPN Correspondent | Wahington

Astronaut Sunita Williams, along with her fellow astronaut Butch Wilmore, has returned to Earth after an extraordinary 286-day stay in space. The duo, both former Navy pilots, initially launched aboard Boeing’s Starliner spacecraft on June 5 last year for what was planned to be an eight-day mission to the International Space Station (ISS). However, a series of unexpected delays and technical issues left them stranded in space for nearly nine months.

The astronauts returned home aboard SpaceX’s Dragon spacecraft, which splashed down off the coast of Florida early this morning. After completing a deorbit burn at 2:41 am, the spacecraft slowed down and made its way toward Earth, landing just 44 minutes later at 3:27 am.

Upon their return, a NASA team greeted Williams and Wilmore, assisting them out of the capsule and onto mobility aids. Williams was seen smiling,



waving, and giving a thumbs-up, a clear sign of relief after the long journey.

Their extended mission, which was initially planned as a brief stay, became a prolonged ordeal after Boeing’s Starliner capsule suffered propulsion problems, rendering it unfit for their return. As a result, they were reassigned to SpaceX’s Crew-9 mission, and after several delays, a

Dragon spacecraft was finally dispatched to bring them back.

Williams and Wilmore now face the challenging recovery process that astronauts undergo after long periods in space. Bone and muscle deterioration, radiation exposure, and vision impairment are common issues faced by astronauts returning from extended space missions. The lack of gravity in

space causes bone density loss and muscle weakening, while radiation exposure poses a significant health risk. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his pride in Williams’ achievements in a letter made public during her return journey. In his letter, Modi conveyed that 1.4 billion Indians take great pride in her perseverance and fortitude, acknowledging her inspiring journey into space.

Russia-Ukraine War Ceasefire Talks Set For Sunday In Saudi Arabia: US



TPN Correspondent | Washington

Negotiations for a potential ceasefire in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war will resume on Sunday in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, US President Donald Trump’s special envoy, Steve Witkoff, confirmed on Tuesday. In an interview with Fox News, Witkoff revealed that the US delegation, led by Secretary of State Marco Rubio and National Security Advisor Mike Waltz, would engage in talks aimed at reaching a ceasefire agreement. However, he did not specify who they would be negotiating with.

The discussions are focused on reaching a temporary ceasefire, with particular attention to halting attacks on energy infrastructure and Black Sea targets. Witkoff indicated that the Russians have agreed to cease strikes on energy targets, expressing hope that the Ukrainian side would also agree to the proposal.

Despite this progress, Ukraine accused Russia of rejecting the full ceasefire proposal, pointing to continued attacks on civilian infrastructure. Hours after Moscow reportedly agreed to pause strikes on the energy grid, Ukraine reported further bombardments. The US has been pushing for a comprehensive, 30-day ceasefire as a starting point for a broader resolution to the war, which has now entered its third year.

In a 90-minute phone call with President Putin, Trump’s envoy was informed that Russia’s stance on a ceasefire was conditional. Putin insisted that any ceasefire deal would require Ukraine’s allies to halt all military support to Kyiv. The Kremlin also announced that Russian forces would pause strikes on Ukrainian energy targets for 30 days.

Witkoff, however, stressed that the ceasefire proposal encompasses broader infrastructure targets and noted that the consensus around energy and Black Sea objectives brings the two sides closer to a full ceasefire agreement.

The ongoing talks in Jeddah aim to secure a fragile peace after nearly three years of devastating conflict, but significant hurdles remain in bridging the divide between Russia and Ukraine.



SpaceX to take humans to Mars in next 20-30 years? Elon Musk claims it’s possible

TPN Correspondent | US

In a recent exclusive interview with Sean Hannity on Fox News, SpaceX CEO Elon Musk shared his ambitious vision for the future of human space travel, stating that humans could journey to Mars within the next 20-30 years. Musk, who has long championed space exploration, emphasized that SpaceX’s ultimate goal is to make space travel accessible to everyone.

“We would be able to take astronauts to Mars. In fact, we want to take anyone who goes to Mars,” Musk declared, revealing that the long-term goal of SpaceX is to facilitate human colonization of the Red Planet. Musk expressed confidence that the mission could be achieved within two to three decades, which he described as a “realistic” timeline for interplanetary travel.

This statement comes at a time when SpaceX continues to push the boundaries of space exploration with significant advancements in rocket technology. Musk’s company recently made headlines with the safe return of NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore, who had been stranded aboard the International Space Station (ISS) for nine months. The astronauts were initially set to return in a Boeing spacecraft but were later brought back aboard SpaceX’s Dragon capsule after technical issues with Boeing’s vehicle.

Looking ahead, Musk reiterated his plans for Mars exploration, announcing that SpaceX’s Starship rocket will be launched to Mars by the end of 2026. Starship, the world’s largest and most powerful rocket, will carry Tesla’s humanoid robot, Optimus, as part of the mission. Musk has hinted that if these initial missions go smoothly, human landings on Mars could take place as early as 2029, with 2031 being a more realistic target.

Starship is critical to Musk’s vision of colonizing Mars, with plans for the vehicle to be fully reusable and capable of carrying humans on deep space missions. In addition to Mars exploration, NASA is working with SpaceX on a modified version of Starship to serve as a lunar lander for its Artemis program, which aims to return astronauts to the Moon.



Israel Launches "Limited Ground Op" In Gaza Day After Missile Strikes

TPN Correspondent | Jerusalem

On Wednesday, the Israeli military announced the initiation of a “limited ground operation” aimed at retaking a strategic part of the Gaza corridor. This move deepens the Israeli offensive in Gaza, which has already led to the collapse of a ceasefire with Hamas that had been in effect since January.

The operation focuses on the Netzarim corridor, a crucial route that bisects northern Gaza from the southern parts of the territory. Historically, this corridor has been a military zone for Israel, allowing movement of troops and supplies. During the ceasefire, Israel had agreed to withdraw from this area as part of the broader agreement. The recent re-engagement in the corridor marks a significant shift, with Israel reasserting control over the area.

The ceasefire had created a fragile calm, and its breakdown signifies a sharp turn in the ongoing conflict. The military action in the Netzarim corridor, while described as “limited,” is seen as an escalation that could provoke further retaliation from Hamas and potentially escalate the situation across Gaza. The operation also appears to signal Israel’s intent to regain control over areas it deems vital to its security strategy.

The military spokesperson has emphasized that the operation aims to reclaim critical terrain that is central to Israel’s objectives in Gaza. However, the details of the operation remain somewhat vague, leaving room for speculation about its long-term impact on the broader conflict.

As Israel continues its offensive, the situation in Gaza grows increasingly volatile. The breakdown of the ceasefire has raised concerns about the potential for a wider military escalation, affecting both the security situation in Israel and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The international community has expressed concern about the deteriorating situation, urging both sides to return to diplomatic negotiations to avoid further bloodshed. The outcome of Israel’s latest operation in Gaza remains uncertain, but it is clear that the path to peace remains fraught with challenges.



Russia Accuses Ukraine Of Trying To 'Derail' Putin-Trump Peace Agreement

TPN Correspondent | Jakarta

The Kremlin on Wednesday accused Kyiv of undermining US-Russia efforts to end the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, claiming that Ukraine attempted to strike Russian energy infrastructure despite an agreement between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump to halt such attacks.

Following a phone call between Trump and Putin on Tuesday, the Russian president announced a 30-day pause on strikes targeting Ukrainian energy facilities. This came after Putin rejected Trump’s earlier request for a complete cessation of hostilities. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov expressed frustration, stating that there had been no reciprocity from Ukraine regarding the ceasefire and that Kyiv had attempted to strike Russian energy infrastructure.

Peskov noted that the Russian president had “immediately” commanded a halt to energy attacks and claimed that seven Russian drones were poised for strikes on Ukrainian infrastructure but were shot down by Ukrainian air defenses. Following the phone call, both countries launched drone strikes against each other.

The Kremlin sought to clarify any confusion between Russian and US reports, with Peskov confirming that Putin had agreed only to a ceasefire regarding energy infrastructure strikes, contrary to reports by US envoy Steve Witkoff suggesting a broader halt on all infrastructure attacks. Meanwhile, Kyiv had declared its own commitment to an unconditional ceasefire last week, though no specific agreement with Russia had been made.

Markets Extend Gains for Third Straight Session; Nifty Nears 23,000



Domestic stock markets closed in gains for the third consecutive day. Consolidation continued in benchmark and sectoral indices. The indices started flat and continued in a range-bound mode due to mixed signals from global markets. Investors followed the 'buy on dips' approach and then gradually recovered. Bank, auto, finance, realty and metal shares were the winners. Investors are waiting for the US Fed meeting announcement on Thursday. This will affect the course of tomorrow's markets. Overall Nifty rose by 73 points and Sensex by 147 points. Nifty is another 100 points away from touching 23000.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 75,301 in the previous session, opened at 75,473 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 75,201. It reached an intraday high of 75,568. It finally

closed at 75,449, up 147 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,874, touched a low of 22,807 and a high of 22,940. It closed at 22,907, up 73 points. The Nifty Bank rose 388 points to settle at 49,702.

In the Nifty50, 31 companies gained and 19 lost. Shriram Finance, HDFC Life, Apollo Hospitals, Tata Steel, Power Grid were the top gainers. Tech Mahindra, ITC, TCS, Infi, Sun Pharma were the biggest losers. All sectoral indices rose today, except FMCG and IT. Bank, auto, finance, media, metal, pharma, PSU bank, realty, healthcare, consumer durables, oil stocks were the losers.

Market breadth on NSE today turned in favor of buyers. Out of 2990 stocks traded, 2345 gained. 568 lost. 42 stocks hit 52-week highs. 89 stocks hit 52-week lows. 244 stocks crossed the up-

per circuit and 43 stocks crossed the lower circuit.

Desko Infratech IPO public issue to start from March 24. Rupee strengthened by 12 paise against dollar to settle at 86.44. 19 lakh shares changed hands in Reliance Industries. Bajaj Electronics to set up subsidiary in United Arab Emirates. 14 lakh shares changed hands in ITC. HSBC reduces target price of Power Grid to Rs 250. Physics Wala submits draft papers for India IPO. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Tata Steel. TCS signs five-year deal with Air New Zealand. Nuwama maintains buy rating on Pdilde Industries with target price of Rs 3660. Momentum in banking stocks including Indusind and SBI gained as Bank Nifty rose for the fifth consecutive day. 48 lakh shares changed hands in NTPC. Tata Motors board approves Rs 2000 crore through NCDs. REC has declared an interim dividend of Rs. 3.60 for the fourth time for the financial year 2025.

1. JSW Infrastructure Ltd
The company secured a ₹1,500 crore contract for port expansion in Maharashtra. Cargo handling capacity increased by 18% YoY, driven by rising



coal and container volumes. Jefferies maintained a 'Buy' rating with a target price of ₹380, citing strong infrastructure expansion.

2. Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (HUDCO)



HUDCO sanctioned ₹5,000 crore worth of affordable housing and urban infrastructure projects across India. The government's push for smart cities and urban development is expected to drive further growth. Motilal Oswal gave a 'Buy' rating with a target price of ₹280, citing strong financial stability and growth prospects.

3. Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL)



BDL signed a ₹2,400 crore contract with the Indian Armed Forces for missile production. Export orders rose by 30% YoY, boosting revenue visibility. ICICI Securities upgraded

its rating to 'Buy' with a target price of ₹1,600, citing strong defense sector demand.

4. NLC India Ltd

The company announced ₹7,000 crore investment in renewable energy projects. It reported a 14% increase in coal production, ensuring steady power generation. HSBC maintained a 'Buy' rating with a target price of ₹325, expecting continued growth in the energy sector.



5. Max Healthcare Institute Ltd

Max Healthcare expanded its hospital network with the acquisition of three new hospitals in South India. Revenue per bed increased 15% YoY, reflecting strong patient demand. Morgan Stanley retained a 'Buy' rating with a target price of ₹1280, citing expansion and rising medical tourism.



Fitch tweaks FY27 India growth aim to 6.3% and makes rate cut predictions

On Tuesday, a leading rating agency kept its economic forecast for India unchanged, projecting a growth rate of 6.5 percent for the fiscal year 2025-26. However, the agency slightly updated the growth estimate for FY26-27 to 6.3 percent, an improvement from the 6.2 percent forecast made in December. This revision comes amid challenges posed by the ongoing global trade tensions, particularly the trade war instigated by the United States.

In the March edition of its Global Economic Outlook (GEO), the rating agency emphasized that India's economy remains somewhat insulated from the global trade pressures due to its self-sufficiency and lower dependence on external demand. Despite the uncertainty caused by aggressive US trade policies, India's domestic consumption-driven growth model provides a buffer against potential shocks in global demand.

The report outlined that India's GDP growth for FY25-26 is expected to maintain the steady 6.5 percent pace, with a slight de-



celeration to 6.3 percent in FY26-27. While this forecast is mostly unchanged from the previous update in December, the report flagged the risks posed by the escalating US trade policies, which could potentially impact global supply chains and trade dynamics.

Additionally, the agency projected two further cuts in India's policy interest rate within the current calendar year. The policy rate is expected to decrease to 5.75 percent by December 2025,

down from the current 6.25 percent, following a 25 basis point reduction in February. These rate cuts are expected to support domestic economic activity and cushion any adverse effects of external factors.

As India faces global uncertainties, its relatively lower exposure to global trade makes it well-positioned to weather the storm, with the economy expected to continue its steady growth trajectory in the coming years.

India to explore green shipping and digital business with Singapore

India's green fuel and digital shipping initiatives are poised to enter the global market through Singapore's robust marine and shipping industry, which supplies over 55 million tonnes of bunker fuel annually to internationally operating vessels. This makes Singapore one of the largest global hubs for marine fuel.

According to trade sources, both India and Singapore are exploring the creation of a "Green Digital Shipping Corridor" that would connect international ports and marine industries. This corridor aims to facilitate the movement of green fuels, such as green hydrogen and ammonia, while leveraging digital technologies to enhance efficiency in the maritime sector.

India's long-term focus on exporting green fuels aligns perfectly with Singapore's strategic position as a maritime hub. The country's maritime industry is well-positioned to help market and distribute India's green fuels to ships operating worldwide.

Next week, India's Minister of Port, Shipping, and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, along with key industry stakeholders, will visit Singapore to formalize a working program with Singapore's maritime industries. Sonowal has a clear focus on advancing green shipping practices and digitizing Indian ports,



with the goal of making India a global leader in the maritime sector.

Meanwhile, Singapore is also exploring various opportunities to expand its industrial base, including the development of shipping capacity, port modernization, and shipyard upgrades. Sonowal's visit will coincide with Singapore Maritime Week, running from March 24 to 28, providing opportunities for the minister and his delegation to engage with over 20,000 attendees, including global maritime industry leaders.

This partnership is set to boost India's role in the global green shipping and digital trade landscape, enabling both countries to tap into new business prospects and solidify their leadership in the global maritime industry.

India's auto parts & medical exports show robust growth Auto parts exports rise to \$7.7 billion in FY24

India's exports of auto components, along with medical and scientific instruments, have experienced significant growth over the past three years, according to a government official. The auto parts sector, in particular, saw a rise in exports to \$7.7 billion in the fiscal year 2023-24, up from \$6.88 billion in FY22. This growth reflects both the strong global demand for Indian auto components and the country's increasing competitiveness in the global supply chain.

Key export destinations for Indian auto parts include the United States, Turkey, Germany, Mexico, and Brazil, indicating a wide and diverse market for these products. The strong demand in these regions underscores India's ability to meet the needs of global automakers, offering high-quality components at competitive prices.

In addition to the auto sector, India has also made impressive strides in the export of medical and scientific instruments. These exports have sim-



ilarly shown resilience and growth, driven by global demand for India's high-quality, cost-effective healthcare solutions. As the global healthcare industry continues to expand, India is positioning itself as a reliable source of medical and scientific equipment, further bolstering its export portfolio.

This growth in both the auto and medical exports highlights India's evolving role as a key player in global manufacturing and trade. The country's competitiveness in these sectors can

be attributed to its robust industrial base, skilled labor force, and ongoing technological advancements.

Looking ahead, experts expect India's exports in these sectors to continue their upward trajectory, driven by sustained global demand and improvements in India's manufacturing capabilities. With a focus on expanding its global footprint, India is poised to remain a leading exporter of auto components and medical instruments in the coming years.

Google Doodle Celebrates ‘Worm Moon’ with Interactive Lunar Game



On March 25, Google unveiled a creative and interactive Doodle to celebrate the Worm Moon, marking March’s final Half Moon. The Doodle invites users to engage in a unique card game that tests their knowledge of the lunar cycle. In the game, players must match the different phases of the moon to earn points and compete against the March Half Moon. Titled “Rise of the Half Moon in March,” the Doodle allows users to choose from cards, each representing a phase of the moon, as they learn more about the lunar cycle. With every stage of the game, players are rewarded with unique incentives, encouraging them to continue playing. Those who successfully complete the challenge can share their high scores, adding a competitive edge to the fun.

According to the Old Farmer’s Almanac, the Worm Moon is named after the time of year when frozen ground begins to thaw, and earthworms start reappearing, signaling the arrival of spring. In another interpretation, the moon’s name comes from the emergence of beetle larvae from tree bark. This interactive Doodle is available on both mobile and desktop devices, allowing users worldwide to participate in this lunar celebration while learning more about the phases of the moon.

Chaitra Navratri 2025: Dates, Significance, and Rituals



Chaitra Navratri, one of the most significant festivals for Hindus, will be celebrated from March 30 to April 7, 2025. This nine-day festival, dedicated to Goddess Durga, is observed with great devotion across India and among Hindus worldwide. It marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year, particularly in North India, and is considered a time of spiritual renewal and celebration of feminine power.

Key Dates of Chaitra Navratri 2025:

- March 30: Pratipada (Ghatasthapana & Shailputri Puja)
- March 31: Dwitiya (Brahmacharini Puja)
- April 1: Tritiya (Chandraghanta Puja)
- April 2: Chaturthi (Kushmanda Puja)
- April 3: Panchami (Skandamata Puja)
- April 4: Shashti (Katyayani Puja)

- April 5: Saptami (Kalaratri Puja)
- April 6: Ashtami (Mahagauri Puja & Kanya Pujan)
- April 7: Navami (Siddhidatri Puja & Ram Navami)

The festival symbolizes the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. Each day of Navratri is dedicated to worshipping a specific form of Goddess Durga, known as Navadurga. The nine forms, including Ma Shailputri, Ma Brahmacharini, and Ma Mahagauri, represent various virtues and aspects of the divine feminine energy.

Rituals and Celebrations:

Devotees observe fasting, prayer, and meditation during these nine days. Temples across the country witness grand celebrations, and special ceremonies are held to honor Goddess Durga. People also dress in vibrant colors, each corresponding to a specific day, as a form of reverence.

Chaitra Navratri is a time to seek blessings, cleanse oneself spiritually, and celebrate the victory of righteousness. It is not just a religious event but also an occasion for cultural and spiritual rejuvenation across communities.

Surat’s Vispy Kharadi Sets World Record for Holding Hercules Pillars: “Proved Them Wrong”



Vispy Kharadi, an athlete from Surat, Gujarat, has etched his name in the Guinness World Records by setting the record for the “longest duration holding Hercules pillars (male).” Kharadi’s remarkable feat involved holding two Hercules pillars, each weighing over 166 kg, for an impressive two minutes and 10.75 seconds. This surpasses the previous record of 1 minute and 30 seconds, making Kharadi’s accomplishment a

historic achievement.

In a video addressing his triumph, Kharadi boldly challenged the idea that Indians are genetically weaker than athletes from other nations. He said, “People say that Indians are weak because our genetics are not as strong as those from other countries. But I proved them wrong.” He further explained the difficulty of the challenge, stating, “The Hercules Hold is something a normal person can’t

even imagine attempting.”

Kharadi’s feat has garnered global attention, with his achievement celebrated as a testament to the strength and resilience of Indian athletes. He emphasized that his success was not just personal but a victory for all Indians who have been labeled weak due to misconceptions about their physical capabilities. “Our strength is on par with world-class athletes,” Kharadi asserted.

His inspiring achievement was shared by Guinness World Records on social media and even caught the attention of Elon Musk, who reshare the video, further amplifying Kharadi’s victory. This world record not only challenges stereotypes but also serves as a powerful reminder that with determination and perseverance, extraordinary feats are possible.

7-Year-Old Madurai Girl Sets Guinness World Record as Youngest Taekwondo Instructor

Seven-year-old Samyuktha Narayanan from Madurai has made history by becoming the “youngest Taekwondo instructor ever,” earning a Guinness World Record. Her remarkable achievement has garnered widespread admiration, with many praising her dedication and skill in the martial art.

Guinness World Records announced the feat in a social media post, stating, “Seven-year-old girl makes history as the youngest Taekwondo instructor ever, aged just seven years and 270 days old! Samyuktha Narayanan is an inspiration to fellow kids in Madurai, India, encouraging them to engage in sports!”

Her accomplishment has sparked a variety of reactions. Many users expressed awe at her talent and hard work, encouraging other children to pursue their dreams. One Instagram user congratulated Samyuktha, saying, “Your

hard work, determination, and incredible talent are truly inspiring.” Another added, “There’s always a child doing it better than you,” in refer-

enced, “A sprained ankle could impact her life in a flash.”

Despite the mixed responses, Samyuktha’s success has



ence to Samyuktha’s exceptional ability.

However, not all reactions were positive. Some users expressed concerns about the potential risks of children practicing such physically demanding sports at a young age. One comment

highlighted the potential for young athletes to achieve extraordinary feats. Her record not only makes her a source of inspiration in Madurai but also encourages children around the world to pursue their passions with dedication and perseverance.

“I Regret Moving to Canada”: Student’s Viral Post Exposes Hardships Faced by Immigrants

A Reddit post titled “I Regret Moving to Canada” has gone viral, shedding light on the struggles that Indian students face when they move abroad in search of a better future. The post, authored by an anonymous individual currently living in Canada, criticizes the often-illusory promises of a prosperous life in the West, calling out the harsh realities that many students encounter. According to the Redditor, Canada’s government and educational institutions have turned international students into a “business model,” exploiting them through exorbitant tuition fees for subpar education. The user claims that many students enroll in private or low-ranking colleges offering outdated curricula and barely functional degrees, which hold little value in the Canadian job market. After graduation, the post argues, many students are left struggling in survival jobs like Uber driving or retail, burdened by heavy student loans and with little career advancement.

The post also highlights the steep cost of living in Canada, including high rent, expensive groceries, and a lack of work-life balance. Students often find themselves

working long hours at minimum-wage jobs to make ends meet, while being exploited by employers who pay under the table for illegal wages.

Beyond financial struggles, the post touches on the emotional toll of living away from family and the isolation many students face. Despite Canada’s polite society, the author writes that building meaningful friendships is difficult, with many international students suffering from loneliness and depression.



Indian Superbike League Launched to Revolutionize Motorsports

The Indian Superbike League (ISBL) was officially launched on March 17, 2025, marking a new era for Indian motorsports. Sanctioned by the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI), the league will offer professional motorcycle racing, with the inaugural season scheduled for the end of this year. The competition will span three rounds across Chennai, Bengaluru, and Pune-Mumbai. The ISBL aims to develop home-grown talent and provide a structured platform for riders to showcase their skills. The franchise-based league will feature Pro, Amateur, Female Riders, and Rookie classes. Key investors include the Dhuleva Group, and Ducati will supply motorcycles for the event. Director Pranav Bakre emphasized that the league would empower riders and technicians while elevating Indian motorsports on the global stage. With over 400 riders al-



ready signed up, the ISBL is set to fill the gap in India's motorcycle racing ecosystem and create a sustainable career path for aspiring racers.



Yuva All Stars Championship: Wins for Yuva Mumba, Palani Tuskers, Warriorz K.C on Day 13

On Day 13 of the Yuva All Stars Championship in Haridwar, Yuva Mumba, Palani Tuskers, and Warriorz K.C. emerged victorious in their respective matches. The day began with a thrilling tie between Chandigarh Chargers and Sonipat Spartans, ending 29-29. Virender Singh's raids kept Chandigarh in the game, while Sonipat's Ankit Kumar Rana and Rahul Ahri contribut-

ed significantly. Warriorz K.C. defeated UP Falcons 43-34, with Shivansh Thakur's defense and Himanshu Yadav's points turning the tide in their favor. Palani Tuskers triumphed 41-37 against Yuva Yoddhas, with Kesavan Raja's excellent raiding. In the final match, Yuva Mumba defeated Yuva Paltan 40-31, securing a thrilling win through key moments and strong defense.

Haryana, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh Win on Day 1 of National Women's Hockey League 2024-2025

The National Women's Hockey League 2024-2025 Final Phase began in Ranchi on Tuesday, with Hockey Haryana, Hockey Association of Odisha, and Hockey Madhya Pradesh securing victories in their respective matches. In the first match, Hockey Haryana triumphed 7-1 over Manipur Hockey, with Saavi and Kirti scoring braces. Odisha defeated Hockey Bengal 1-0, thanks to a goal by Dipika Barwa early in the match. In the final game of the day, Hockey Madhya Pradesh beat Hockey Maharashtra 2-0, with goals from Bhumiksha Sahu and Captain Soniya Kumre. The opening ceremony took place at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh AstroTurf Hockey Stadium before Hockey Jharkhand faced Hockey Mizoram. The tournament features eight teams and will be played in a single pool format, with the top team crowned champion.



Khelo India Para Games 2025 Anthem, Mascot, and Logo Launched

The Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) 2025 anthem, mascot, and logo were officially launched by the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Mansukh Mandaviya, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium complex on Tuesday. The second edition of the games will be held in New Delhi from March 20-27, with over 1300 athletes competing in six para sports disciplines. The mascot, 'Ujjwala,' symbolizes resilience and perseverance, inspired by the house sparrow of Delhi. The logo features a dynamic athlete and Delhi's iconic landmarks, highlighting inclusivity and progress. The bilingual tagline "Champions Beyond Limits | Haunslon ki Udaan" reflects the spirit of para-athletes. The anthem, with its motivating lines "khelega khelega mera India, jeetega jeetega mera India," aims to inspire both athletes and fans. The games will take place at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Indira Gandhi Stadium, and Dr. Karni Singh shooting range.



DSC's U15 Table Tennis Tournament Opens with Top Performances

The Dream Sports Championship U15 Table Tennis Tournament kicked off on March 17, 2025, showcasing outstanding performances on Day 1. The event began with an orientation session featuring Table Tennis legend Sharath Kamal and key figures from Dream Sports Foundation. In the boys' category, K Akshay Bhushan delivered a dominant 3-0 win over Bhiwandkar Param, while Chakraborty Shrestho triumphed in a thrilling 3-2 match against Dhariwal Siddhanth. In the girls' competition, Dhar Shreya beat Dhimahi Kabrawala 3-0 with an impressive performance, and Jitnada Unjit secured a 3-0 victory over Singhal Akanksha. The tournament, filled with intense and exciting matches, continues to highlight the immense potential of young Table Tennis athletes.



Sukant Kadam Climbs to World No. 2 After Stellar Spanish Para-Badminton Performance

India's para-badminton star Sukant Kadam has risen to World No. 2 in the SL4 category of the BWF Para-Badminton World Rankings, following an outstanding performance at the Spanish Para-Badminton International 2025. Sukant now has 53,650 points, just behind Indonesia's Fredy Setiawan (56,680 points). His rise is fueled by impressive showings in two Grade 2 tournaments and one Grade 1 tournament in Spain. Sukant clinched gold in the Grade 2 event by defeating fellow Indian Tarun 21-13, 21-10. In the Grade 1 tournament, he narrowly lost to Naveen Sivakumar in a tight match. Kadam expressed his joy over the achievement, emphasizing the importance of consistency as he looks forward to upcoming tournaments like the Asian Para Games and World Championships. His rise highlights India's growing dominance in para badminton.



Stasya, Jaden, and Yashaan Win Gold at Mumbai Horse Show 2025

The Mumbai Horse Show 2025 (MHS 2025) concluded at the Mahalaxmi Racecourse with stellar performances from Stasya Pandya, Jaden Dsouza, and Yashaan Khambata in Show Jumping and Dressage. Organized by the Amateur Riders' Club (ARC), the event saw top competitors from across Maharashtra. On Day 1, Jaden won gold in the Show Jumping junior category, while Stasya clinched gold in the Show

Jumping children's category on Day 2. Yashaan also bagged multiple golds, including in the Show Jumping open category. Stasya was awarded the 'Best Rider in the Children category', Jaden earned the 'Rider in Junior category' title, and Yashaan was named 'Best Rider in the Open category.' ARC emerged as the winning team, with the competition highlighting the region's talent and dedication to equestrian sports.





Aishwarya Rai Rejected ‘Kuch Kuch Hota Hai’ Role to Avoid Backlash



Aishwarya Rai Bachchan revealed she rejected the iconic role of Tina Malhotra in Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (1998) due to fears of being criticized for her portrayal. The actress shared in an interview with Filmfare that she did not want to be typecast or face harsh backlash for playing a glamorous character, as the film’s plot centers around Shah Rukh Khan’s character choosing a “real” woman over Tina, who is more modern and fashionable. Aishwarya was concerned that accepting the role would lead to negative comparisons to her modeling days, particularly her portrayal of a glamorous, pouting character. The role eventually went to Rani Mukerji, whose performance became iconic and remains one of her most beloved roles. Aishwarya’s career, however, continued to thrive, with her latest appearance being in Ponniyin Selvan: II (2023).

SRK, Priyanka Chopra to Reunite at IPL 2025 Opening Ceremony



Bollywood fans are buzzing with excitement as Shah Rukh Khan and Priyanka Chopra will reunite at the IPL 2025 opening ceremony on March 22, 2025, at Eden Gardens, Kolkata. SRK, the owner of Kolkata Knight Riders, will support his team, while Priyanka’s role remains a mystery, adding to the intrigue. The event promises a blend of cricket and Bollywood glamour, featuring perfor-

mances by stars like Arijit Singh, Shreya Ghoshal, Varun Dhawan, Shraddha Kapoor, and Vicky Kaushal. Salman Khan will also promote his upcoming film Sikandar. The ceremony starts at 6:00 PM IST and will be broadcast live on Jio Hotstar and Star Sports Network. Don’t miss this star-studded spectacle where cricket and entertainment collide!

Hollywood Director Arrested for Swindling Netflix Out of USD 11M



Hollywood director Carl Erik Rinsch, known for 47 Ronin, has been arrested on charges of wire fraud and money laundering after allegedly swindling USD 11 million from Netflix. Rinsch had secured about

USD 44 million from the streaming giant for his unfinished sci-fi show White Horse. When requesting an additional USD 11 million to complete the project, Rinsch instead transferred the funds to his personal

brokerage account. Prosecutors claim that Rinsch lost about half of the money through failed investments, later channeling the remaining funds into cryptocurrency. He then spent USD 10 million on personal expenses, including luxury cars, furniture, and clothing. Rinsch, 47, was arrested in West Hollywood, California, and appeared in court on Tuesday, where he was released on a USD 100,000 bond. His court date in New York has not yet been set. Netflix has declined to comment.

India’s Highest Tax-Paying Actor in 2025

Amitabh Bachchan, Bollywood’s legendary actor, has made headlines once again, this time for paying the highest tax in India for 2024-25. With an impressive earning of Rs. 350 crore, Bachchan paid a whopping Rs. 120 crore in taxes, surpassing even Shah Rukh Khan’s Rs. 92 crore, making him the top taxpayer in the industry. At 82, Bachchan remains one of the most popular figures in In-



dian cinema. His income comes from multiple sources, including his acting career, brand endorsements, and television appearances. Bachchan continues to captivate audiences with ma-

ajor film projects like Kalki 2898 AD and Vettaian, as well as hosting Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC), one of India’s most-watched TV shows. Bachchan’s tax payment marks a 30% increase from last year, further solidifying his influence and success. Despite his age, he remains a key figure in entertainment, with upcoming movies like Section 84 and the sequel to Kalki 2898 AD on the horizon.

Niharika Konidela Announces Second Film Under Pink Elephant Pictures

Niharika Konidela, daughter of the mega family, is all set to produce her second film under the Pink Elephant Pictures banner. After the grand success of her debut production, Committee Kurrollu, Niharika is collaborating with female director Manasa Sharma for this new project. Manasa Sharma, known for her work as the creative director of Oka Chinna Family Story (ZEE5) and di-

rector of Bench Life (Sony Liv web series), will be helming this feature film as her third project under the Pink Elephant Pictures banner. The details regarding the upcoming film will be revealed soon, creating excitement among fans and industry insiders alike. Niharika’s journey as a producer is gaining momentum, and this new project promises to add another successful chapter to her career.



Shalini Pandey Discusses Potential Roles



Shalini Pandey, who gained recognition for her role in Arjun Reddy, recently shared her thoughts on acting in films similar to the bold character she portrayed in the hit movie. In a recent interview, Shalini revealed that her role in Arjun Reddy was a bit weak, especially considering it was early in her career. Despite this, she expressed her willingness to take on a similar role in the future, but with certain modifications to her character, if the director agrees. Shalini emphasized her desire to portray strong, powerful female characters, a wish she feels was fulfilled with her role in the Dabavala Cartel series, where she plays a strong woman. Her growing versatility and choice of roles continue to earn her praise in the industry.