



My Heart is Filled with Gratitude



Tollywood Actor Megastar Chiranjeevi was honored at a special event in the UK Parliament, attended by several MPs, ministers, and diplomats. The event recognized his remarkable contributions to cinema and philanthropy. On this occasion, Bridge India Group presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award in appreciation of his illustrious career and humanitarian efforts. Expressing his gratitude, Chiranjeevi took to social media, stating, "My heart is filled with gratitude to receive this honor in the presence of so many esteemed personalities. The kind words spoken about me brought immense joy." He dedicated the award to his fans, film fraternity, well-wishers, and family, especially those who became his "blood brothers and sisters" through his blood donation campaigns. He emphasized that this recognition inspires him to continue his work with even greater enthusiasm.



KTR: My Padayatra Is for BRS to Regain Power

TPN Correspondent, Suryapet: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao has made it clear that his upcoming state-wide padayatra is aimed at bringing the party back to power. Speaking to the media during his visit to Suryapet, KTR announced that he would embark on a padayatra across Telangana next year.

He asserted that the BRS is not new to movements, governance, or opposition roles. "We are not demanding power for ourselves. Jagadish Reddy and I have served as ministers for ten years. Many here have held key positions, including MLAs, MLCs, Corporation Chairpersons, ZP Chairpersons, MPPs, and Sarpanches. Today, BRS is fighting not for us, but for the people," KTR stated.

Recalling the party's origins, he said that TRS was formed under unavoidable circumstances. Taking a dig at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, KTR remarked, "People are witnessing a distorted leadership today. He became the CM at a young age, and we initially thought he would mature over time. But at 54, he hit the jackpot."



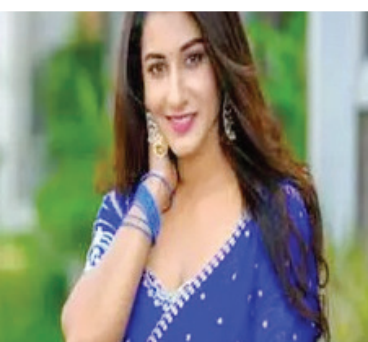
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HERE ONWARDS ONLY AGGRESSION

Speed with clarity from the high command

Revanth's strategies in his own style

Will he focus on his opposition faction?

Plans to gain complete control in four years

The opposition faction within the party, as well as the opposition, is his target

Are arrests inevitable in the state in the coming years?

TPN, Kishore Katta

Hyderabad, Mar 21 : "I should be seen as a successful CM. I should receive appreciation from the people. All my strategies are focused on that. No matter who comes in the way or what happens, I have to push forward and move ahead." Now, a perception has emerged that Revanth Reddy is determined to adopt an aggressive approach, caring little about obstacles and focusing solely on moving forward.

It has already become clear that there will be no change in the Chief Minister's position in Telangana for the next four years. This means that Revanth Reddy will serve a full term as CM. With this clarity, Revanth Reddy has started crafting strategies in his own style.

Over the >> PAGE 2



Betting Apps Promotion Is a Scam..!

TPN, Krishna Kumar
Hyderabad, Mar 21 : The game has begun... The police crackdown on betting apps has started... Dozens, even hundreds, of names have been added to the list. A detailed plan has been prepared to track them down one by one. Police from three commissionerates in Hyderabad are on high alert. They have identified everyone involved and started issuing notices. A total of 36 names have surfaced in the investigation. As a result, the police are summoning individuals to the station under what appears to be a major crackdown.

For the past four days, the betting app mafia has been shaking the entire state, with the epicenter in Hyderabad. The police have identified 11 YouTubers who promoted these apps and have issued notices to them. One by one, they are appearing before the Panjagutta police. Some are pleading, "Maha Prabhu, it was a mistake," while others are requesting Cyberabad Police Commissioner Sajjanar to pardon them on the spot. However, the city police have made it clear—they will not let anyone go unpunished.

Recently, the Cyberabad



Commissionerate police have this issue. While Hyderabad also intensified their focus on city police are pursuing You-

tubers, Cyberabad police have turned their attention to well-known celebrities. A shocking development has unfolded as film stars like Daggubati Rana, Prakash Raj, Vijay Deverakonda, Manchu Lakshmi, and anchor Shyamala, among others, have been named in an FIR for promoting betting apps. Cases have been registered against 25 film celebrities. The police have warned that failure to appear for questioning after receiving notices will lead to jail time. Many celebrities, who made money from these promotions, were stunned upon learning about the FIRs. >> PAGE 2

30 Maoists Killed, Policeman Dies in Chhattisgarh Encounters

TPN Correspondent | Chhattisgarh

At least 30 Maoists were killed in separate encounters in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur and Kanker districts, while a police jawan lost his life in the exchange of fire. These operations mark a major success for security forces in their ongoing fight against left-wing extremism.

The encounter in Bijapur began around 7 AM near the

border with Dantewada when a joint team of security personnel conducted an anti-Naxalite operation in Gangaloor police station limits. The State Task Force and District Reserve Guard engaged in intense crossfire with Maoists, resulting in the elimination of 26 insurgents. Security forces recovered firearms and explosives from the site. A police jawan was martyred in the operation. In Kanker, >> PAGE 2



- Two major encounters in Bijapur and Kanker
- 26 Maoists killed in Bijapur, 4 in Kanker
- Amit Shah declares India will be Maoist-free by March 2026

KTR.. No Comparison Between You and Me: CM Revanth Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy made a sharp attack on BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), asserting that there is no comparison between them. Speaking at the 'Koluva Panduga' event at Ravindra Bharathi, he stated that 922 candidates were recruited under compassionate appoint-

ments. He questioned KTR's comments about Miss World contests being held in other countries, accusing him of diverting attention from real issues. "You misused public funds in the Formula E case. What comparison exists between you and me?" he asked. He emphasized that everyone, regardless of status, must apply through the Build

Now portal. "Some people are busy with marketing while we are working hard. Are you angry because I provided jobs?" he questioned. Responding to KTR's allegations, he said, "I work for 18 hours a day. If I don't stage dharnas, does it mean I lack commitment?"

Revanth Reddy further targeted the BRS leadership, questioning whether >> PAGE 2





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HERE ONWARDS ONLY AGGRESSION

next four years, he is unlikely to face major opposition within the state. As a result, there are whispers that Revanth will target those who stand in his way, both within his party and in the opposition. It is said that he will take strict action against those who attempt to hinder his growth. Reports suggest that his target list is already prepared. Revanth is planning to consolidate his grip over both the party and the state during this period. It appears that he is particularly focusing on his internal critics within the party and those in the opposition who strongly criticize him. Given this, speculation is growing that opposition leaders may face arrests in the coming years. There are also rumors that Revanth intends to take revenge on those responsible for sending him to jail in the past. This situation is expected to make Telangana politics more intense in the near future.

Although at times there appears to be a slight gap between Rahul Gandhi and Revanth Reddy, in most situations, their relationship remains strong. It can be said that Revanth Reddy has gained significant control over the party. He has now completed one year as Chief Minister and has successfully stepped into his second year. While some government schemes are being implemented effectively, the execution of others remains limited. In this context, the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi has been making allegations against the government. The party's leaders claim that Revanth will not be able to complete a full five-year term and that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi will return to power in the next elections.

In response, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy provided clarity on the matter in the Legislative Assembly. Having successfully completed one year in office, he confidently declared that the Congress party would win the next elections and that he would continue as Chief Minister. "There is no doubt. I have worked extremely hard to reach this position. I became Chief Minister directly, and I have successfully completed my first year in office. I still have four more years to govern, and I will continue as Chief Minister in the next term as well," Revanth Reddy stated.

Following his comments, a key question has emerged in Telangana politics—where does Revanth get so much confidence? Political analysts believe that his plan is to further strengthen the Congress party, establish his leadership firmly within the high command, and secure another term as Chief Minister.

Betting Apps Promotion Is a Scam..!

Some others are in panic mode, saying, "Did we really promote them? Let's check if any video evidence exists, and if so, we need to get it deleted immediately."

The police have already compiled a list of hundreds of names. When some film personalities reached out to the police, they were reportedly told, "The film is still unfinished, high bro!" The police from all three commissionerates are actively competing to gather the names of those involved, making the situation resemble a real-life blockbuster.

However, an unexpected twist has emerged in this case. Not only are film personalities under the scanner, but even the Metro MD is now being linked to the controversy. The police have started investigating his role in allowing betting app advertisements in the Metro. But will this case be limited to an investigation, or will it turn into a full-fledged legal battle? That remains to be seen.

30 Maoists Killed, Policeman Dies in Chhattisgarh Encounters

a joint team of the Border Security Force and District Reserve Guard killed four Maoists near Koroskodo village. Both encounters come as part of heightened anti-Maoist operations across Chhattisgarh.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed these encounters as a significant achievement in the fight against extremism. He reiterated the government's commitment to eliminating Maoist insurgency, stating, "The country will be Maoist-free before March 31 next year. The Modi government is implementing a zero-tolerance policy against Maoists who refuse to surrender despite multiple opportunities."

Last month, security forces eliminated 31 Maoists in Bijapur's Indravati National Park area, where a fierce encounter resulted in the deaths of two security personnel.

In January, security forces killed senior Maoist leader Jayaram Reddy, also known as Chalapati, who carried a bounty of ₹1 crore. More than 200 Maoists were neutralized in Chhattisgarh in 2024, with 217 from the Bastar region. Additionally, over 800 Maoists were arrested, and 802 surrendered during the year.

KTR.. No Comparison Between You and Me: CM Revanth Reddy

they understood the meaning of compassion. "We are ensuring transparent governance. They say there is opposition against me, but why would the people oppose me?" he asked. He highlighted that his government had waived ₹21,000 crore in farm loans and facilitated free bus travel for women. "Did these initiatives cause opposition against me?" he asked.

Slamming BRS for ignoring the poor while favoring the wealthy, he remarked, "Under BRS rule, only the rich benefited. Now, contractors are staging protests near the Secretariat—this is because we are truly implementing public governance."

Revanth Reddy also defended the compassionate appointments program, calling it the people's right. At the event, he distributed appointment letters for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development posts.

"The previous government neglected compassionate appointments for ten years," he alleged. He questioned why notifications were not issued earlier and accused BRS of failing to fulfill employment promises.

"I'm not claiming to have issued all notifications, but we acted on the pending ones. Why couldn't you do in ten years what we have done in ten months?" he asked.

Phone Tapping Case: High Court Quashes FIR Against Harish Rao

- High Court quashes FIR against Harish Rao
- No evidence found in phone tapping case
- Police forced accused to name Harish Rao
- BRS slams Congress for political vendetta

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana High Court has quashed the FIR registered against former minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao in the phone tapping case. The case was filed based on a complaint by real estate businessman Chakradhar Goud, accusing Harish Rao and Radha Kishan Rao of illegally tapping his phone. The Panjagutta police registered an FIR in December 2024, listing both leaders as accused. After hearing arguments from both sides, the High Court

ruled that the FIR had no substantial evidence and dismissed the case. The court observed that the police filed the case without proper investigation. Following this, Harish Rao had approached the court with a quash petition, arguing that the case was politically motivated. BRS leaders and activists welcomed the verdict, calling it a lesson for the Congress government, which they alleged was using false cases for political vendetta.

Chakradhar Goud had earlier accused Harish Rao's former



PA, Vamsi Krishna, along with two others, of using a fake SIM card to send him threats and extort money. The police arrested the three and placed them on remand. However, Vamsi Krishna later claimed that he was forced by the police to name Harish Rao in the case. He alleged that senior police of-

ficials threatened his job and harassed his family to extract a false statement.

With the court dismissing the case, Harish Rao has received a significant relief, and the ruling has sparked discussions on the Congress government's alleged misuse of police power.

Defector MLAs Shock CM Revanth Reddy Claim they haven't switched parties, deny allegations

- BRS seeks disqualification of 10 MLAs
- MLAs deny switching parties
- Legal experts predict consequences

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The BRS has filed petitions in the Supreme Court seeking disqualification of 10 MLAs under the anti-defection law. KCR and KTR have asserted that bypolls are inevitable. However, the MLAs in question claim they never defected and merely met CM Revanth Reddy out of courtesy.

On March 4, the Supreme Court issued notices to the defecting MLAs, the Speaker's

office, and the Legislative Secretariat, directing them to provide clarifications by March 25. The court also criticized the Speaker for delaying action. In response, some MLAs have now taken a new stance, stating in affidavits that they never left the BRS and that media reports about their defection to Congress were false.

Three MLAs have already submitted affidavits, including Patancheru MLA Gudem Mahipal Reddy, who insisted he



remains with the BRS. MLAs from Mahbubnagar and Ranga Reddy districts are reportedly doing the same.

However, MLA Danam Na-

gender, who officially joined Congress and contested as an MP candidate, cannot deny switching parties, making his disqualification likely.

Big Relief for Bandi Sanjay as High Court Quashes Case

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Telangana High Court has provided major relief to Union Minister and BJP MP Bandi Sanjay by dismissing the case filed against him. The case was registered during the GHMC elections, based on complaints that his comments allegedly incited communal disharmony. Following a petition from Bandi Sanjay, the High Court reviewed the matter and ruled that there was no substantial evidence, leading to the case's dismissal.

Similarly, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and former minister KTR also re-



ceived relief from the High Court in separate cases. The court quashed a case against Revanth Reddy related to the 2020 incident in Narsingi, where he was accused of flying

a drone over a restricted area. The police had remanded him at the time, but his legal team argued that the case was baseless. After reviewing the arguments, the court ruled in his

favor.

In another instance, the court dismissed the case against KTR, which was filed at Saifabad Police Station based on a complaint by MP Anil Kumar Yadav. The complaint alleged that KTR had made remarks against CM Revanth Reddy. However, KTR's lawyers contended that the case was politically motivated. The court, after hearing both sides, ruled that the case lacked merit and issued orders to dismiss it.

These rulings mark a significant legal victory for Bandi Sanjay, Revanth Reddy, and KTR, who all faced politically charged cases.

Children Selling Gang Busted: Major Twist in Infant Trafficking Case

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A shocking case of infant trafficking has come to light in Hyderabad, where a gang was illegally buying and selling newborns across multiple states. Police have arrested several key individuals linked to this organized crime. Initially, 11 accused were arrested last month, and further investigations led to the detention of 9 more agents and 18 parents who illegally purchased infants.

Authorities revealed that a total of 21 infants were trafficked, with 10 already rescued. The investigation uncovered that the main accused, Somu

Amulya, a 29-year-old ASHA worker from Malakpet, was at the center of this racket. She was identified following the interrogation of Krishna Veni, Vandana, and Deepti. Amulya allegedly collaborated with hospital supervisor Ismail to procure infants and sell them through a network of agents.

The gang operated across Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. They bought male infants for ₹4-5 lakh and sold them for ₹6 lakh, while female infants were purchased for ₹3 lakh and sold for ₹4 lakh. The network was primarily run by Krishna Veni,



who, along with her associates, facilitated the sale of at least 25 infants.

A breakthrough came when police arrested gang members in Chaitanyapuri while they were attempting to sell a baby

boy. Further interrogation revealed more cases, prompting authorities to intensify their search. So far, 14 infants have been rescued, and legal action has been taken against 17 adoptive parents.



KTR Lacks Political Knowledge: Minister Komatireddy

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy made sharp remarks against former minister KTR, stating that KTR has no eligibility other than being KCR's son. He further criticized KTR, calling him a "shadow son" of KCR and claiming that he lacks political awareness.

He praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, highlighting that he rose from a farmer's background and climbed the political ladder to become the CM. He stated that KCR, who once dominated Telangana politics, has now been erased from public memory. Komatireddy also took a dig at KTR, saying he is not in a position to even mention the names of Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi. He added that Prabhakar Rao and Shruvan would soon return to India, and once they arrive, more people might end up in jail. The minister asserted that the latest Telangana budget would be remembered in history and reiterated that the Congress government would fulfill all its promises without any deviation. He also emphasized that decisions like SC categorization and reservations for BCs are historic and that only the Congress party can ensure social justice.



Winning as ZPTC Gave Me More Joy Than Becoming CM: Revanth Reddy



TPN | Hyderabad: Telangana CM Revanth Reddy reflects on his political journey and emphasizes the government's commitment to job recruitment. Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy stated that winning as a ZPTC (Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency) member gave him more joy than assuming the Chief Minister's post. Speaking at the 'Job Fest in Public Administration' event at Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad, he urged people to make the most of the opportunities they receive. Revanth Reddy criticized the previous government for neglecting job recruitments, causing a decade-long loss for many unemployed youths. He asserted that the responsibility of executing compassionate appointments lies with the government and assured that both job calendars and compassionate appointments would be implemented.

He acknowledged the crucial role of unemployed youth in the Telangana movement but lamented that their dreams remained unfulfilled despite the formation of a separate state. He pointed out that unemployed individuals from poor and underprivileged backgrounds primarily prepare for competitive exams and that the current government recognizes their struggles. He highlighted that 59,000 government jobs have been provided within a year. Revanth Reddy further stated that the previous BRS government lost the elections due to its failure to address unemployment. He remarked that people who were denied jobs had no reason to vote for BRS, which led to their downfall. He assured that recruitment processes would not be delayed and that exam results would be announced within months to ensure timely appointments.



Opposition Role and Movements Are Not New to BRS: KTR

TPN | Surypet: BRS working president KTR slams CM Revanth Reddy, accusing him of misleading people with false promises.

BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao stated that playing the role of the opposition and leading movements is nothing new for BRS. Speaking in Suryapet, he criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, calling him a "jackpot CM" who became the leader by misusing YouTube propaganda. KTR alleged that Revanth Reddy previously used offensive language against KCR but is now threatening the same YouTube influencers who helped him rise to power.

He claimed that the Congress government deceived people with fake promises and manipulative tactics. Referring to a song by Deshpati Srinivas, he mocked the Congress guarantees, saying, "Govinda... Govinda... six guarantees are gone." He also accused Congress leaders of making extreme remarks, swearing false oaths, and misleading the public.

KTR further alleged that Revanth Reddy's priority is securing his position rather than serving the state, sending "suitcases" to Delhi to safeguard his power. He concluded by stating that both Congress and BJP are envious of BRS, as they lack the vision and leadership that KCR brought to Telangana.

BJP Telangana Leaders Meet JP Nadda in Delhi

- Discussed Telangana strategy and upcoming elections

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

A delegation of Telangana BJP leaders, including Union Minister and State BJP President G. Kishan Reddy, MPs, newly elected MLCs, and senior party leaders, met with BJP National President and Union Minister J.P. Nadda in New Delhi on Wednesday.

During the meeting, discussions centered on strengthening the BJP's position in Telangana ahead of upcoming elections. The leaders strategized on ways to secure victory in the Medak, Adilabad, Nizamabad, and Karimnagar Graduate

MLC elections, as well as the Warangal, Khammam, and Nalgonda Teachers' MLC elections. They also focused on intensifying campaigns against the Congress government, highlighting its alleged failures and unfulfilled promises.

The BJP leadership aims to expand its influence by actively engaging with graduates, teachers, intellectuals, unemployed youth, and students. The party is working on strengthening its organizational structure and mobilizing support at the grassroots level. JP Nadda assured the Telangana BJP



unit of full support from the central leadership in their efforts to establish the party as a formidable force in the state. The meeting under-

scores BJP's commitment to challenging the ruling Congress and emerging as a strong alternative in Telangana's political landscape.

Palakurthi Congress MLA Faces Protest Over Midday Meal Issues

TPN Correspondent | Mahabubabad

Palakurthi Congress MLA Yasaswini Reddy faced public outrage during her visit to Ammapuram village in Thorrur Mandal, Mahabubabad district. She had arrived to distribute cooking materials for the midday meal scheme at a government school when students and their parents confronted her over the poor quality of food.

Students complained that the midday meals were substandard and inedible, urging the MLA to address the issue. However, instead of responding to their grievances, Yasaswini Reddy reportedly left the premises in her car without addressing their concerns.

The incident led to further dissatisfaction among the villagers, who felt ignored by their elected representative. The protest reflects growing frustration among parents and students over the inadequate implementation of the midday meal scheme in government schools.

This incident highlights the increasing scrutiny faced by public representatives over welfare schemes and their execution. With education and nutrition being crucial concerns, the response of authorities to such complaints remains a key issue for the local community.



Thin Rice for Women from Ugadi: Minister Ponguleti



TPN Correspondent | Khammam
Telangana Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, announced that the state government will begin distributing thin rice (Sanna Biyyam) to women from Ugadi, fulfilling its promise. During his visit to Kalluru and Penuballi mandals in Khammam district, he laid the foundation for several development projects, including Indiramma housing schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister stated that the Congress government, which came to power with the blessings of the people, has successfully completed 15 months. He highlighted the fulfillment of key promises, including the free bus travel scheme for women, for which

the government has allocated ₹5,450 crore to the RTC so far.

Minister Ponguleti further emphasized that the Congress government has waived ₹20,676 crore in farm loans and created employment opportunities for over 56,000 unemployed youth within a year. He also noted that the state government successfully implemented the ₹500 gas cylinder scheme. Additionally, he announced the launch of a new scheme, Rajiv Yuva Vikasam, which will provide employment opportunities to nearly 4,000 youth in his constituency.

The minister reiterated the Congress government's commitment to welfare and development, ensuring that all promises made to the people are gradually fulfilled.

Congress Leader Mocks BJP MP Dharmapuri Aravind's Bald Head

TPN Correspondent | Nizamabad

A Congress woman leader took a dig at Nizamabad BJP MP Dharmapuri Aravind's bald head while criticizing the BJP's failure to secure central funds for Telangana. Speaking at Gandhi Bhavan, she ridiculed the BJP's Telangana MPs, stating that despite having eight representatives in Parliament, they failed to bring substantial financial aid to the state.

She sarcastically remarked that Telangana expected to receive funds equivalent to the hair on Union Minister Kishan Reddy's head but ended up getting as little as the hair on Bandi Sanjay's head. Ultimately, she quipped that the state received funds equal to Dharmapuri Aravind's bald head—meaning nothing at all.

Her comments have since gone viral on social media, drawing reactions from both Congress and BJP supporters. The remarks highlight the ongoing political rivalry between the parties, with Congress targeting the BJP over its alleged inability to secure sufficient central assistance for Telangana.





Betting Apps Case: Gathering All Details, Says Madhapur DCP

- Betting apps case under detailed probe
- Celebrities, influencers face legal scrutiny
- Telangana banned betting apps in 2017
- Notices to organizers before investigation
- YouTubers promoted apps via accounts

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Madhapur DCP Vineeth stated that the police are gathering all necessary details regarding the Miyapur betting apps case. He mentioned that notices would be issued to the app organizers first, and their explanations would be recorded before intensifying the investigation. Given the involvement of Pan-India stars in this case, legal aspects are also being carefully examined.

and social media influencers are promoting these apps through advertisements on various platforms. We will be summoning influencers to the Miyapur police station for questioning," he said. It was found that YouTubers and social media influencers not only promoted these apps through various sites but also advertised them through their personal accounts. Strict action will be taken against those involved in such activities, DCP Vineeth added.



Since 2017, betting apps have been banned in Telangana. The police are investigating the agreements between the organizers and the celebrities promoting them. The DCP highlighted that the case involves multiple complexities and assured a thorough probe to uncover all aspects of the betting app operations.

The DCP expressed concerns over celebrities and influencers endorsing betting apps irresponsibly. "Many film stars

Betting Apps Case

Rana Daggubati's Team Responds

- Signed as a brand ambassador for skill-based gaming Contract ended in 2017
- Limited to legally approved regions
- Legal team reviews all agreements before signing
- Supreme Court recognizes skill-based gaming as legal

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Rana Daggubati's team has clarified reports linking him to the betting apps case, stating that he was only associated with a skill-based gaming platform as a brand ambassador. The agreement was signed years ago and ended in 2017. His endorsements were strictly limited to regions where such games were legally allowed. The team emphasized that Rana's legal advisors thoroughly review all agreements before he signs any deal. They assured that his associations comply with legal regulations and that he has always ensured lawful partnerships. They also highlighted that skill-based gaming is legally distinct from gambling, as recognized by



the Supreme Court of India. Rana's team urged people to differentiate between legally permitted skill-based gaming and betting platforms.

I Will Explain to Police About Betting Ad: Prakash Raj

- Clarifies past ad involvement, denies current association
- Prakash Raj did a gaming ad in 2016
- Ended contract after one year in 2017
- Legal notices sent for unauthorized ad use
- Ready to explain to the police if needed



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Actor Prakash Raj has responded to the ongoing betting apps controversy, stating that he is willing to explain his past advertisement to the police. He acknowledged that he had done an ad for a gaming platform in 2016

under a one-year contract but later realized it was a mistake. When the company approached him for a contract extension in 2017, he refused and requested that the ad not be aired. Prakash Raj further clarified that he is not currently associated with any gaming apps. He revealed that in 2021, when the company was sold to another firm, his old ad was reused on social media without his consent. He also mentioned that he had sent legal notices to the company for unauthorized use of his advertisement. While he has not yet received any police notice, he stated that he is prepared to cooperate with the authorities.

Betting Promotions: Vishnupriya Appears at Panjagutta PS

- Investigation to determine her role
- Reports suggest crores earned in promotions
- Arrest possible if answers are unsatisfactory
- ED may investigate financial transactions



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
As part of the ongoing investigation into betting app promotions, police have issued notices to 11 individuals, including TV artists, anchors, YouTubers, and influencers. Among them, anchor Vishnupriya appeared at Panjagutta Police Station on Thursday morning, accompanied by her lawyer, for questioning. Authorities are yet to determine whether she will be arrested or released based on the investigation. If her responses fail to satisfy the police, an arrest could be likely. Meanwhile, reports suggest that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) may also step in to probe possible money laundering, as individuals involved in betting promotions are believed to have earned crores.

Medchal Police Bust Fake Cotton Seed Racket

TPN Correspondent | Medchal
Medchal SOT police busted a gang smuggling fake cotton seeds near Shamirpet. Acting on credible information, police intercepted a vehicle at ORR Exit 7 and discovered 37.5 quintals of fake seeds concealed beneath maize sacks.

According to the police, the gang had been illegally transporting these fake seeds from Karnataka to different parts of Telangana, targeting innocent farmers and making crores in the process. Medchal DCP stated that the illegal network had been operational for a while, deceiving farmers with counterfeit seeds that could severely impact their crops and financial stability.

During the operation, the police arrested the vehicle's driver, Nares, who hails from Mancherial. Two other suspects, Ramana from Karnataka and Suresh from Mancherial, managed to escape. Authorities seized the fake seeds along with an Eicher vehicle and a mobile phone, estimating the total value at approximately ₹98.75 lakh. The police are intensifying their search for the absconding suspects and expanding the investigation to uncover further links in the network. Officials have warned farmers to stay vigilant and report any suspicious seed sales to prevent large-scale agricultural fraud.

Telangana Records 17,162 MW Power Demand, Uninterrupted Supply Ensured: Bhatti Vikramarka

- Telangana hits a record 17,162 MW power demand.
- Government ensures uninterrupted power supply.
- Industrial and IT sector growth driving higher demand.

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Telangana has reached a record-high power demand of 17,162 megawatts, yet the state government is ensuring uninterrupted and high-quality power supply, Deputy Chief Minister and Power Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu stated on Thursday. In his statement, he mentioned that at 4:39 PM on March 20, Telangana recorded its highest-ever electricity demand, surpassing the previous peak of 15,623 MW recorded on March 8, 2024. The minister attributed this surge

in demand to increased industrial, commercial, and IT sector activities. He emphasized that the state government had anticipated this rise and had taken proactive measures, including strengthening power generation, transmission, and distribution infrastructure. Despite the significant increase in consumption, the administration is committed to ensuring an uninterrupted power supply for all sectors, including agriculture. Bhatti Vikramarka acknowledged the efforts of TGGENCO, TGTRANSCO, TGSPDCL, and TGNPDCL employees in main-



taining reliable power supply and commended their dedication. He urged them to continue their efforts with the same commitment to meet future demands efficiently.

Cab Drivers Protest Near Gachibowli Stadium Over Low Fares

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Around 200 Ola and Uber cab drivers staged a protest near Gachibowli Stadium, demanding fair fare policies from ride-hailing companies. They alleged that while the initial agreement was to pay ₹18 to ₹20 per kilometer, they are now receiving only ₹6 to ₹9 per kilometer. Additionally, companies deduct 30% commission from their earnings, making it difficult for them to sustain their livelihoods. Protesting drivers pointed out that earlier, they used to earn ₹600 for

an airport trip from Gachibowli, whereas now they receive only ₹300 to ₹350 for the same distance of 30 km. They are demanding a return to the old fare structure of ₹18 to ₹20 per kilometer. The drivers also raised concerns over the influx of out-of-state vehicles operating on Ola and Uber platforms, which they claim is reducing their earnings. They further alleged that companies are charging customers ₹850 for a trip from Madhapur to the airport but paying them only ₹450, pocketing a commission of ₹400 per trip.

Beauty Pageants Will Boost Job Opportunities: Minister Jupally



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao responded to the upcoming beauty pageant scheduled to take place in Hyderabad. Speaking to the media on Thursday morning, he stated that hosting the Miss World competition would create employment opportunities and attract investments. He emphasized that around 140 countries would participate, bringing global attention to Telangana. "Beauty pageants should not be seen from a different perspective. These events instill confidence and determination in many girls and women," the minister remarked. Meanwhile, opposition parties have strongly criticized the state government for allocating ₹250 crore for the beauty pageant while claiming a shortage of funds for welfare schemes.

Fire Accident at EKAM Convention in Shamshabad



TPN Correspondent | Ranga Reddy

A massive fire broke out at the under-construction EKAM Convention Hall in Shamshabad, causing panic among locals as thick smoke engulfed the area. The incident took place on Thursday morning in Thondapally under Shamshabad Municipality, Ranga

Reddy district.

With flames rising high, people in the vicinity ran for safety, avoiding the danger zone. Fire department personnel are making relentless efforts to control the blaze, while police have reached the spot and are evacuating nearby residents to ensure their safety.

Constable Dies in a Fatal Road Accident in Kamareddy



TPN Correspondent | Kamareddy

A tragic road accident in Kamareddy district claimed the life of a constable, highlighting the alarming rise in accidents across Telugu states due to overspeeding. Despite repeated warnings from authorities,

reckless driving continues to endanger lives, including that of law enforcement officials. The incident occurred in Gandhari, Kamareddy district, where Constable Ravi (38) lost his life on the spot. Ravi and his colleague Subhash, both stationed at Gandhari Police Station, were on early morning patrol and had stopped by the roadside when a speeding car rammed into them. While Subhash managed to escape by running aside, Ravi was thrown into the air due to the impact and succumbed to his injuries instantly.

Raghunandan Meets PM Modi with Family – BJP Chief Post Confirmed?

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Medak MP Raghunandan Rao met Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his family, sparking speculation about his potential elevation as the Telangana BJP president. He was accompanied by his grandson, granddaughter, daughter, and son-in-law during the courtesy meeting with Modi.

With ongoing discussions about a leadership change in Telangana BJP, this meeting has gained political significance. Reports suggest that Raghunandan Rao might be in line for the BJP state president post. His meeting with Modi has fueled speculations on whether he received any confirmation from the party regarding the position.



Government Focuses on Education Sector: Minister Ponnam

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized that the Telangana government has prioritized the education sector. On Thursday, he visited Nalgutta and Balamrai Government High Schools along with District Collector Anudeep Durishetty. During his visit, he inspected the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy

(FLN) program, AXL initiatives, AI-based computer labs, and science laboratories. Extending his best wishes to students appearing for the 10th-grade board exams, Minister Ponnam encouraged them to perform well. He also reviewed the quality of mid-day meals provided to students and directed officials to ensure nutritious food is served. The minister highlighted that the government is

making significant efforts to strengthen the education system. He stated that AI-based computer labs will help in continuously assessing student performance, enabling better learning outcomes. The government aims to enhance educational facilities in government schools, ensuring students have access to the latest technology and resources.



Telugu Film Producers Council Statement on Gaddar Awards



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The Telugu Film Producers Council has expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for announcing the Gaddar Awards to promote the Telugu film industry. The government plans to host a grand event next month to present these awards.

In response, the Producers Council released an official statement today, thanking CM Revanth Reddy, Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and FDC Chairman Dil Raju for their efforts in establishing the Gaddar Awards.

Telugu Film Producers Council Honorary Secretary T. Prasanna Kumar stated that the awards for the best films, artists, and technical experts for the year 2024 will be presented in the names of legendary figures such as NTR, Paidi Jairaj, B.N. Reddy, Nagireddy, Chakrapani, Kanta Rao, and Raghupathi Venkaiah. He added that it is a moment of pride for the Telugu film industry.

Hyderabad to Host 72nd Miss World Pageant



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The 72nd edition of the Miss World competition is set to take place in Hyderabad. Ahead of the event, a pre-event press conference was held at Begumpet Tourism Plaza, attended by Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, TGT-DC Chairman Patel Ramesh Reddy, Tourism Secretary Smita Sabharwal, Miss World Limited CEO Julia Morley, and 2024 Miss World winner Krystyna Pyszkova.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Jupally Krishna Rao expressed pride in hosting the Miss World event, calling it a grand celebration of women. He emphasized that welcoming contestants from across the globe is an honor and stated that Hyderabad, known for its rich heritage, is further strengthening its global reputation by hosting such prestigious beauty pageants.

Four Arrested for Smuggling 20 Quintals of PDS Rice in Adilabad

TPN Correspondent | Adilabad

Four persons were arrested in Uttoor mandal, Adilabad district, for allegedly smuggling Public Distribution System (PDS) rice on Wednesday night. Acting on a tip-off, police seized 20 quintals of rice worth ₹40,000 from their possession.

According to Uttoor ASP Kajal Singh, the arrested individuals have been identified as Nallanna Krishnaiah, Thakur Arun Singh, Thakur Dhara Singh, and Gyan Singh. The accused were caught while transporting the rice illegally, following which they were taken into custody and handed over to the Uttoor police for further investigation. ASP Kajal Singh warned that strict action would be taken against those involved in the illegal transportation of PDS rice. She also urged the public to report any such activities to the authorities to prevent the misuse of essential commodities meant for the needy.



Interstate Drug Peddling Gang From Odisha Busted in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Hyderabad police busted an interstate drug peddling gang from Odisha and arrested three persons, including two women, at Gowliguda on Thursday. The operation was carried out by the Task Force (South-East) team in coordination with Afzalgunj police, leading to the seizure of 7 kg of marijuana worth ₹2.4 lakh.

The arrested individuals have been identified as B Takri, Ghouri Jhara, and Dhanarjaya Khila, all hailing from Malkangiri, Odisha. According to the police, the trio was working under the instructions of Sanjay, the kingpin of the gang from Malkangiri. They reported-



ly procured the contraband locally and traveled to Hyderabad via a private bus to deliver it to a drug peddler in Mangalhat. Police officials confirmed that the accused were caught

red-handed while waiting to hand over the contraband. Further investigations are underway to identify and arrest other members of the gang involved in the smuggling network.

Telangana Women's Commission Warns Against Obscene Dance Moves in Films



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The Telangana Women's Commission has taken a serious stance against obscene dance moves in film songs. The commission has issued a stern warning to filmmakers, producers, and choreographers, urging them to act responsibly. It has directed the film industry to immediately stop incorporating vulgar dance steps that degrade women, warning of strict action under relevant laws if such content continues.

The commission emphasized that the film industry has a moral responsibility to deliver positive messages to society and uphold the dignity of women. Given the impact of movies on youth and children, the industry must practice self-regulation.

Additionally, the Women's Commission has invited public and social organizations to share their opinions on this matter. It assured that a thorough review is underway, and further actions will be taken as necessary to ensure respectful portrayal of women in cinema.

Zaheerabad Dairy Farmers Protest Against Firm's Refusal to Buy Milk

TPN Correspondent | Zaheerabad

Dairy farmers in Zaheerabad staged a protest on Thursday against a private dairy firm's refusal to procure milk from them. Frustrated by the company's sudden decision, the farm-

ers took out a rally and poured several cans of milk on the road, expressing their outrage. The protesting farmers alleged that the firm's refusal to buy milk had left them in distress, as they rely heavily on dairy farm-

ing for their livelihood. They demanded an immediate resolution to the issue, urging the authorities to intervene and ensure fair procurement practices.

KARATAM RAMBABU, A SPARROW LOVER



The humble sparrow, a tiny bird that once thrived in every village and city, is now struggling to survive. Once a common sight in our backyards, sparrows are gradually disappearing due to increasing environmental challenges such as cell tower radiation, pollution, excessive pesticide use, and the indiscriminate cutting of trees. It is heart-breaking to acknowledge that our own village sparrow has now joined the list of endangered species.

However, amidst this crisis, there are individuals who are striving to protect and revive the sparrow population. In our region, one such compassionate and dedicated individual is Sri Karatam Rambabu Garu. Much like environmentalist Mohammed Dilawar, who has been working tirelessly for the conservation of sparrows in India, Sri Karatam Rambabu Garu is leading a noble effort to save these little birds. His love for nature and wildlife is as deep as his love for the people he serves.

Understanding the dire need for sparrow conservation, Sri Karatam Rambabu Garu has taken significant steps to ensure their survival. In his household complexes, he ties rice husks into bundles and keeps them as food for the sparrows. Aware of the harsh summer conditions, he also arranges for water sources to quench the thirst of these little birds. His generosity extends beyond his home—whenever friends or acquaintances show interest in helping sparrows, he readily provides them with rice husks to encourage more people to take up this cause. His brother, Sri Karatam Uma, actively assists him in this mission, proving that conservation is best achieved when done together.

As we observe World Sparrow Day on March 20, let us draw inspiration from Sri Rambabu Garu's unwavering commitment to environmental protection. It is a call for all of us to take action in our own small ways—placing bird feeders, setting up water bowls, planting native



Karatam Rambabu

trees, and spreading awareness about sparrow conservation. These small efforts, when combined, can make a big difference in reviving the sparrow population and ensuring a balanced ecosystem.

The chirping of sparrows in the morning is a melody that signals the start of a new day. Let us make sure that this sound continues to be a part of our lives and that future generations do not miss out on the joy of having these little birds around. Sri Karatam Rambabu Garu has set an example for us all—now, it is our turn to follow his path and protect our feathered friends.

— By Chintala Nani

Revanth Reddy's Outburst: A Threat to Free Speech



Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's recent remarks in the state assembly, where he threatened to have critics "stripped and paraded," are deeply troubling. These words, reminiscent of a feudal mindset, not only violate democratic principles but also highlight the growing intolerance of political leaders toward dissent. Such statements, especially from a chief minister, set a dangerous precedent, normalizing the use of violent rhetoric against opponents.

The controversy began with the arrest of journalists Revathi Pogadadanda and Tanvi Yadav, who allegedly post-

ed an abusive video targeting Reddy and his family. While defamation is a legitimate concern, the state has legal avenues to address it. Resorting to threats and punitive actions, instead of allowing the judiciary to decide, reeks of authoritarianism. The very essence of democracy is the ability to tolerate criticism and respond within the framework of law, not through intimidation.

Reddy's comments raise a larger question: Should public figures have unchecked power to suppress dissent? His call to distinguish "government-approved journalists" from in-

dependent ones is an alarming sign of media control. Freedom of the press is a cornerstone of democracy, and journalists—whether mainstream or digital—play a vital role in holding power to account. If politicians start dictating who qualifies as a journalist, it will effectively turn the press into a state-controlled entity, undermining its credibility and independence.

The backlash from the opposition, particularly the BJP and BRS, is expected, but their own track records on press freedom aren't spotless either. Political hypocrisy aside, the larger issue remains—an increasing trend of using state machinery to suppress voices of dissent. The arrest of journalists on serious charges like criminal conspiracy and promoting hatred, rather than pursuing defamation suits, signals an intent to instill fear.

This incident is a stark reminder that political power, when unchecked, can erode civil liberties. Telangana's government must recognize that a leader's strength lies in their ability to handle criticism, not in silencing it. The Congress party, which frequently accuses the BJP of stifling dissent, must introspect. If it fails to rein in such authoritarian tendencies within its own ranks, it risks losing the moral high ground.

Revanth Reddy must clarify whether his comments were a moment of frustration or a reflection of his governance approach. Either way, such rhetoric has no place in a democracy. The law must remain the only recourse for grievances, not threats of public humiliation.

India-New Zealand Relations: A Strategic Shift in the Indo-Pacific



New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's visit to India in March 2025 marks a pivotal moment in bilateral relations. Historically, New Zealand has maintained a cautious foreign policy, balancing economic dependence on China with regional security concerns. However, Luxon's trip signals a shift—one that prioritizes deeper engagement with India in trade, maritime security, and regional stability within the evolving Indo-Pacific order.

Economic Diversification: The Long-Awaited FTA

A key highlight of the visit was the revival of talks on a long-delayed Free Trade Agreement (FTA), initially proposed in 2009 but stalled due to geopolitical considerations. The agreement, if finalized, could significantly boost trade in agriculture, pharmaceuticals, critical minerals, and tourism, with projections suggesting a tenfold increase in trade over the next decade.

New Zealand's economic ties have been heavily dependent on China, particularly in dairy and agricultural exports. However, shifting global supply chains and geopolitical uncertainties have underscored the risks of over-reliance on a single market. Strengthening trade with India presents a strategic alternative, providing New Zealand with access to a large and expanding consumer base, while also supporting India's ambitions to integrate into global supply networks.

Maritime Security and Indo-Pacific Cooperation

Beyond trade, Luxon's visit underscores growing security cooperation between India and New Zealand. A key takeaway was New Zealand's commitment to a "free, open, and rules-based" Indo-Pacific—aligning closely with India's Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) vision. Both nations recognize that security is not just about military alliances but also about tackling non-traditional threats like illegal fishing, maritime disasters, and climate change.

New Zealand's participation in India-led initiatives such as the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) reinforces this commitment. IPOI, for instance, provides a platform for collaboration on maritime resource management, environmental sustainability, and capacity-building for smaller island nations. Given rising sea levels and extreme weather events affecting the Pacific, India and New Zealand can play a crucial role in developing climate adaptation strategies and strengthening regional resilience.

Strategic Realignment in the Indo-Pacific

While New Zealand remains outside formal security groupings like the Quad, its increasing cooperation with India allows for greater alignment with Quad-led initiatives on humanitarian assistance, cybersecurity, and maritime security. This reflects a broader shift toward a multipolar Indo-Pacific, where regional middle powers like India and New Zealand play an active role in shaping security dynamics beyond US-China competition.

Conclusion

Luxon's visit has injected fresh momentum into India-New Zealand ties, transforming them from a primarily trade-focused engagement into a more comprehensive strategic partnership. As both nations navigate an evolving Indo-Pacific, their strengthened collaboration holds the promise of fostering regional stability and resilience. The challenge now lies in sustaining this momentum and translating diplomatic goodwill into concrete outcomes across trade, security, and multilateral cooperation.

JD(U) After Nitish: Implosion or Survival?

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is facing the most crucial political transition of his career. As he eyes a fifth term, the question of succession looms large over the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)]. Without a clear successor, the party risks either disintegration or a forced merger with the BJP. Nitish has always been the undisputed leader of JD(U), sidelining potential rivals within the party. His earlier attempts to groom successors, like Prashant Kishor and RCP Singh, ended in failure.

His close aides—Lallan Singh, Ashok Chaudhary, and Sanjay Jha—lack the charisma to lead. This leaves a critical leadership vacuum, making succession a defining issue for the party's survival. The buzz around his son Nishant entering politics has intensified. Though Nishant has largely stayed away from public life, his recent appearances at political events suggest a possible entry. However, Nitish has long opposed dynastic politics, and endorsing Nishant would be a reversal of his stance. If he does name his son as his successor, senior party leaders could rebel, potentially defecting to the BJP or RJD. On the other hand, without a clear transition plan, JD(U) risks internal strife. A leadership tussle between senior figures could push the party into chaos, giving the BJP an opening to orchestrate a merger. History shows that political transitions are smoother when a party is in power, as seen with Akhilesh Yadav and Tejashwi Yadav. If Nishant has to take over, now is the right time.

For JD(U) to survive post-Nitish, it must act decisively. Either Nishant takes charge under Nitish's guidance, or the party risks being a rudderless ship headed toward collapse. The choice is between controlled succession or political irrelevance.



Curfew Lifted, Partially Relaxed in Nagpur After Three Days of Violence

Curfew was lifted in some parts of Nagpur on Thursday, while restrictions were partially eased in others, three days after violent clashes erupted in the city. The unrest began on Monday night when mobs went on a rampage in central Nagpur following rumors that a 'chadar' with holy inscriptions had been burned during protests led by Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal. The demonstration was held to demand the removal of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb's tomb located in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district.

The violent protests led to curfew being imposed in multiple police station jurisdictions, including Kotwali, Ganeshpath, Tehsil, Lakadganj, Pachpaoli, Shanti Nagar, Sakkardara, Nandanvan, Imambada, Yashodhara Nagar, and Kapil Nagar. The clashes caused widespread panic among residents, disrupting daily life and raising security concerns across the city. To restore normalcy, law enforcement deployed additional forces in sensitive areas, and strict restrictions were implemented to prevent



further escalation. Considering public convenience and an improvement in law and order, Commissioner of Police Ravinder Singal announced the lifting of curfew in Nandanvan and Kapil Nagar police station areas from 2 pm on Thursday. Additionally, authorities decided to partially relax curfew in five other areas—Lakadganj, Pach-

paoli, Shanti Nagar, Sakkardara, and Imambada—from 2 pm to 4 pm. This temporary relaxation allowed residents to step out and purchase essential items while maintaining security measures. Despite the easing of restrictions, police and security forces continue to monitor the situation closely. Authorities have urged citizens to maintain peace and

refrain from spreading misinformation that could incite further unrest. The administration is expected to take further decisions based on the evolving situation and security assessments. Meanwhile, appeals for calm and communal harmony have been made by both government officials and local leaders to prevent any further disturbances.



Mamata Banerjee Accuses Rivals of Tarnishing Bengal's Image

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has alleged that political opponents are engaged in an online campaign to malign the state ahead of her official visit to the UK next week. While addressing a gathering, she stated that she does not object to criticism, acknowledging that it is a part of democracy. However, she expressed strong disapproval of any attempts to defame Bengal on international platforms. "You can insult me, but don't try to tarnish the image of Bengal abroad," she asserted.

Ms. Banerjee accused certain groups of spreading misinformation through WhatsApp and email. Without naming any specific party, she claimed that these individuals had drafted false narratives about Bengal and encouraged people to send them to universities in the UK. "We do not humiliate them, but it is unfortunate that some anti-social elements (Ganashatru) are indulging in such dirty tricks," she said.

The Chief Minister is set to leave for the UK next week, where she will engage in multiple official events. She is scheduled to deliver a lecture at Oxford University and participate in a programme at the Indian High Commission on March 24. Additionally, she will attend a G2G (Government-to-Government) programme on March 26 and another in Oxford on March 27. Ms. Banerjee highlighted Bengal's strong ties with the UK, recalling their participation in the Bengal Global Business Summit.

In response to her remarks, the BJP criticized the Chief Minister, accusing her of shifting blame instead of addressing crucial issues. BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh stated that while Bengal was once celebrated as the cultural capital of India, it has now gained notoriety for rising crime rates. "If you check the pending cases in Calcutta High Court, the highest number of rape cases are registered there. Kolkata has now turned into the 'rapist center' of India under her rule," he alleged.

The BJP maintained that its criticism of the government is valid and necessary for accountability, rejecting claims of an organized campaign to malign the state. As political tensions escalate, the Chief Minister's visit to the UK remains a topic of heated debate in West Bengal's political landscape.



UP Professor Arrested for Raping and Blackmailing Students

Uttar Pradesh police have arrested Rajnish Kumar, a 50-year-old Geography professor accused of sexually abusing his students and blackmailing them with videos of his assaults. Kumar, who served as the Chief Proctor at Seth Phool Chand Bagla PG College in Hathras, had been on the run for 72 hours before being captured. The scandal came to light earlier this week when police received a USB drive containing 59 videos of Kumar sexually assaulting students. The professor allegedly recorded these acts and used the footage to blackmail victims into further abuse. Disturbingly, police sources revealed that Kumar did not recall the number of students he had abused over the years.

During interrogation, Kumar admitted that he began recording his crimes accidentally when a webcam unintentionally captured a molestation. This incident, which occurred in 2009, allegedly inspired him to continue recording and blackmailing students. Investigators also discovered that he accepted bribes from students and parents in exchange for higher grades and job placements, which he used to demand sexual favors. According to Superintendent of Police Chiranjeev Nath Sinha, Kumar installed special software on his computer to secretly record these assaults. Over 65 videos have been recovered, some of which were uploaded to pornographic websites. Kumar, who was married in 1996, was appointed as a teacher at Bagla College in 2001 and promoted to Chief Proctor last year. His reign of abuse allegedly began in 2008, leaving behind a shocking trail of exploitation and trauma. Police are now investigating whether more victims are yet to come forward.

Air India Dismisses Lisa Ray's "No Empathy" Allegation as "Unfounded"

Air India has refuted allegations by actor and author Lisa Ray, who claimed the airline showed "no empathy" when she requested a medical waiver for her ailing 92-year-old father. Calling the claims "unfounded," the Tata Group-owned airline clarified the situation in a detailed statement. Lisa Ray had alleged on X (formerly Twitter) that Air India refused to accept a medical waiver after she had to cancel her father's travel due to his deteriorating health. She said she had submitted a doctor's letter but was still denied the waiver.

"Here we go again, Air India. My father is 92, unwell, and I have



to cancel travel due to his ailing condition. Submitted doctor's letter and the waiver was denied? How is that possible? Where is the empathy from an airline that claims to care about passengers?" she posted.

Air India responded publicly, followed by an official statement explaining its stance.

"While we fully empathise with the passenger, we wish to clarify that the claim that Air India did not display empathy is unfounded. The passenger herself mentioned that she was booked to fly with two others, excluding her father, whose medical documents were submitted," the airline said. The airline further stated that Lisa Ray initially contacted her travel agent instead of Air India. Once the issue was brought to Air India's attention, the airline reached out and offered a free date change or a one-

year validity for future travel. However, Lisa Ray declined these options and insisted on a full refund.

Air India urged the media to "refrain from maligning the airline's reputation without corroborating facts," adding that misleading reports undermine its commitment to customer service and empathy.

Lisa Ray, a cancer survivor and advocate for patient rights, has been vocal about healthcare issues. Her memoir, *Close to the Bone* (2019), details her battle with multiple myeloma and her advocacy for healthcare awareness.

Delhi Airport's Terminal 1



Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) has announced that Terminal 1 (T1) of the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) will be fully operational from April 15. As a result, all flights currently operating from Terminal 2 (T2) will be shifted to T1.

Currently, IndiGo and Akasa Air operate from T2, handling around 270-280 air traffic movements and over 46,000 passengers daily. The temporary closure of T2 is part of a planned refurbishment project, expect-

ed to last four to six months, with completion anticipated in the September quarter.

DIAL stated that the expansion and modernization of T1 were carried out under the Phase 3A expansion project. The newly upgraded terminal was dedicated to the nation in March last year.

The revamped T1 now features 100 check-in counters, including 36 Self Baggage Drop (SBD) kiosks and 108 Common Usage Self-Service (CUSS) kiosks. Security checks will be stream-

lined with 20 Automated Tray Retrieval Systems (ATRS). Additionally, baggage reclaim facilities have been enhanced with 10 carousels, and baggage handling capacity has increased from 3,240 to 6,000 bags per hour.

The terminal area has expanded significantly from 55,740 sq m to 2,06,950 sq m, integrating arrival and departure areas to improve passenger convenience. With these upgrades, T1 can now accommodate 40 million passengers annually,

while T3 handles 45 million. T2, which will undergo refurbishment, has an annual capacity of 15 million passengers.

DIAL has informed airlines of the transition and advised them to prepare accordingly. IGIA, India's busiest airport, operates three terminals—T1, T2, and T3—with T1 and T2 currently serving domestic flights. The modernization of T1 aims to enhance passenger experience and operational efficiency at one of the country's busiest aviation hubs.

Trump, Zelenskyy agree; US-Ukraine to continue working together to bring about end to war

Discuss Path to Ceasefire and Peace Amid Ongoing Conflict

TPN Correspondent | Wahington

US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy held a productive phone conversation on Thursday, agreeing to continue working together toward ending the war in Ukraine. According to US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and National Security Advisor Mike Waltz, both leaders expressed optimism about achieving lasting peace under Trump's leadership.

During the call, Zelenskyy thanked Trump for his previous support, especially the delivery of Javelin missiles, and for his ongoing efforts to bring about peace. Trump updated Zelenskyy on his recent conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, focusing on the situation in Kursk. Both leaders agreed to share information closely, as battlefield dynamics continued to evolve.

A significant part of the conversation was dedicated to Ukraine's defense needs, with Zelenskyy requesting additional air defense systems, particularly the Patriot missile system, to protect civilians. Trump assured Zelenskyy that he would work to find available systems, particularly from Europe, to assist in this matter.

The two leaders also discussed a



partial ceasefire, focusing on energy infrastructure. They agreed to technical discussions in Saudi Arabia regarding the expansion of the ceasefire to include the Black Sea as part of efforts toward a full ceasefire. This agreement was seen as a crucial first step in bringing the war to an end and ensuring security for Ukraine.

Trump also discussed Ukraine's energy needs, offering US expertise in running nuclear power plants and securing American involvement in the country's electrical supply infrastructure. Zelenskyy expressed gratitude for Trump's humanitarian

efforts, particularly for pushing forward the exchange of prisoners of war.

Additionally, the two leaders spoke about the missing children from Ukraine, some of whom were reportedly abducted during the conflict. Trump expressed his willingness to work with both sides to ensure their safe return.

The call concluded with both presidents instructing their teams to quickly address technical issues related to the ceasefire and work towards achieving lasting peace.

Elon Musk's X Sues Indian Government Over Alleged Censorship and IT Act Violations

TPN Correspondent | Jakarta

Social media platform 'X' (formerly Twitter), owned by Elon Musk, has filed a lawsuit against the Government of India in the Karnataka High Court, challenging what it claims is unlawful content regulation and arbitrary censorship. The lawsuit specifically targets the government's interpretation of Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology (IT) Act, arguing that it violates Supreme Court rulings and undermines online free expression.



process or a legally defined route, like Section 69A.

Section 79(3)(b) requires online platforms to remove illegal content if directed by a court order or government notification. If a platform fails to comply within 36 hours, it risks losing its safe harbor protection and could be held accountable under the Indian Penal Code. However, 'X' con-

tests this interpretation, arguing that the provision does not grant the government independent authority to block content, and that it is being misused to impose arbitrary censorship without following due process.

Under Section 69A, the government can block digital content deemed a threat to national security, public order, or sovereignty, but only through a regulated review process. 'X' argues that the government is bypassing these safeguards by using Section 79(3)(b) as a shortcut, allowing content removal without necessary scrutiny.

Additionally, 'X' opposes the government's Sahyog portal, created by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) to streamline content takedown requests. 'X' argues that the portal acts as a censorship tool that pressures platforms to remove content without legal review, further undermining judicial oversight.

Israeli Army Bans Traffic on Gaza's Main Artery Amid Renewed Ground Operations

TPN Correspondent | Jerusalem

The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) on Thursday imposed a ban on traffic along the main north-to-south artery of Gaza, known as Salaheddin Road. This move came a day after the IDF announced the resumption of ground operations in Gaza, marking a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict.

IDF spokesman Avichay Adraee stated on X that the military had begun targeted ground operations in central and southern Gaza to expand the security zone between the northern and southern parts of the Gaza Strip. As part of the operation, movement along Salaheddin Road is prohibited for safety reasons.

Instead, travelers from northern Gaza to southern areas are being rerouted to the Al-Rashid coastal road. The Israeli army did not clarify whether this restriction also applies to movement from the south to the north, leaving some uncertainty about the full scope of the traffic ban.

The closure of Salaheddin Road fol-



lows an earlier action on Wednesday, when Israeli forces shut down Netzarim Junction, located just south of Gaza City. Tanks were reportedly deployed at the junction after the withdrawal of American special security forces, who had been stationed there since February as part of a ceasefire agreement brokered earlier this year.

The ceasefire, which expired earlier this month, has been a point of contention, with Israel rejecting negotiations for the second phase of the agreement. Instead, Israel demand-

ed the return of all hostages, further stalling progress toward a lasting ceasefire. In response to the deadlock, Israel resumed its air campaign in Gaza on Tuesday, which drew widespread international condemnation.

On Wednesday, the IDF confirmed it was also resuming ground operations in Gaza, heightening the tensions in the region once again. The ongoing conflict continues to have devastating humanitarian consequences, with both sides suffering heavy losses.



Sri Lanka to Hold Local Council Elections on May 6

TPN Correspondent | Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's Election Commission announced on Thursday that the country's local council elections will take place on May 6, 2025. The election is set to be a significant political event, with voters across the island heading to the polls to elect councillors for 340 local councils.

This marks the first electoral challenge for the current government, led by Anura Kumara Disanayake, since it secured victories in the presidential and parliamentary elections in the last quarter of 2024. The local council elections are expected to provide a snapshot of the government's popularity at the grassroots level and its ability to maintain support among the public.

The Election Commission set the date after reviewing and accepting nominations from various political parties and independent groups. Over 17 million eligible voters will participate in the elections, making it a crucial test of political dynamics in the country.

The elections will see councillors elected to local councils throughout Sri Lanka, covering a wide range of regions and communities. These councils play a significant role in local governance, as they handle important issues such as infrastructure, education, and public health services at the municipal level.

The May 6 election will also serve as a reflection of the political climate in Sri Lanka following the economic turmoil and protests that have defined the past few years. Voters will likely use this election to voice their opinions on the current government's performance and policies.

As the date for the election approaches, political campaigns are expected to intensify, with various parties seeking to rally support and secure key local council positions. The outcome of these elections could shape the future of the current administration and influence the political landscape leading up to future national elections.

Netanyahu Accuses "Leftist Deep State" of Weaponizing Justice System, Sparks Controversy



TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has stirred controversy after accusing the "leftist Deep State" of weaponizing the justice system against him. In a post shared on his official X (formerly Twitter) account, Netanyahu said, "In America and in Israel, when a strong right-wing leader wins an election, the leftist Deep State weaponizes the justice system to thwart the people's will. They won't win in either place! We stand strong together." However, the post was deleted within an hour, and Netanyahu reposted the same message from his personal account.

Netanyahu's remarks came amid ongoing investigations into alleged corruption involving his aides. Reports from The Times of Israel revealed that two suspects were detained in connection with an investigation into whether Qatar funneled money to Netanyahu's team. One suspect was released under unspecified conditions, while the other remained under interrogation.

The controversy surrounding Netanyahu has been further fueled by his controversial plans to overhaul the judicial system, which include increasing political control over the judiciary and firing top officials, including Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar. These moves have sparked significant anti-government protests in Jerusalem, with Netanyahu's critics accusing him of undermining the rule of law.

President Isaac Herzog responded by expressing his full confidence in Israel's judicial system. "Israel's strong and independent judicial system is an asset to our democracy, and the president of Israel is very proud of it," Herzog wrote on X. Opposition leader Yair Lapid, head of the Yesh Atid party, strongly criticized Netanyahu's statements, accusing him of losing touch with reality. "He's gone off the rails," Lapid's party posted, calling Netanyahu's rhetoric "dangerous conspiracies" that undermine the rule of law.

Markets Rally Strong; Nifty Surpasses 23,000, Sensex Soars 899 Points



Domestic stock markets closed flat for the fourth consecutive session. They closed with huge gains on Thursday. The benchmark indices, which started flat, gained on the back of the US Fed meeting details, Taiwan's central bank keeping interest rates unchanged, and positive signals from Asian markets. Despite the expiry of derivatives, the bullish momentum continued and investors continued the buy-on-dips method, reaching daily highs. Nifty gained 258 points and Sensex 899 points. Nifty not only broke the key resistance level of 23,000 but also closed above that level, adding to the positivity.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 75,449 in the previous session, opened at 75,917 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 75,684. It reached an intraday high of 76,456. It finally closed at 76,348 with a gain of 899 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,036, reached a low of 22,973 and a high of 23,216. It rose by 258 points in total and closed at 23,165. The Nifty Bank rose by 291 points and settled at 49,993.

In the Nifty50, 44 companies gained and 4 lost. Bharti Airtel,

Titan, Eicher Motors, Bajaj Auto, Britannia were the top gainers. IndusInd Bank, Bajaj Finance, Trent, Shriram Finance lost the most. Today, auto, oil, infra, FMCG, media, metal, health-care, metal, IT, realty, PSE, and pharma stocks were the winners. PSU banks, private banks, commodities, energy and manufacturing stocks were underperforming.

Market breadth turned in favor of buyers on NSE today. Out of 2978 stocks traded, 1755 gained and 1147 lost. 35 stocks hit 52-week highs. 58 stocks hit 52-week lows. 184 stocks crossed the upper circuit and 55 stocks crossed the lower circuit.

Rupee settled at 86.36 against dollar. Pradeep Phosphates Company started production at ammonia and urea plants. CLSA has given a hold rating to Voltas with a target price of Rs. 1375. Jefferies has maintained a buy rating for Interglobe Aviation with a target price of Rs. 5700. 21 lakh shares changed hands in Tata Steel. India VIX fell 4% to

12.71. Nomura has given a neutral rating to DLF with a target price of Rs 700. Diamond Power Infra has received an order worth Rs 175 crore. It is learnt that Air India has given orders worth hundreds of crores to Boeing and Airbus. 22 lakh shares changed hands in NTPC. 10 lakh shares changed hands in ITC. Taiwan keeps interest rates unchanged at 2%. Dhana Lakshmi Bank board approves Rs 150 crore raising. Axis Capital has given a buy rating to Mahanagar Gas with a target price of Rs 1580.

1. Aditya Birla Capital (ABCAPITAL)



The company reported strong growth in its asset management business, with AUM rising 14% YoY. Its lending arm, Aditya Birla Finance, saw a steady rise in loan disbursements, indicating strong credit demand. Market sentiment remains positive due to expectations of strong Q4 earnings and increasing retail participation in financial services.

2. Jindal Saw



The company secured a ₹800 crore export order for supplying large-diameter pipes to the Middle East. Rising steel prices and strong demand from infrastructure projects boosted investor confidence. Analysts expect the stock to remain bullish in the near term, with a target

price of ₹350.

3. Tata Communications

The company secured a strategic partnership with a global cloud provider to enhance its data center services. Revenue from international business grew 9.2% YoY, driven by increased demand for enterprise solutions. Long-term outlook remains positive with expansion in 5G and AI-driven connectivity solutions.



4. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)

Crude oil prices softened, leading to better refining margins for BPCL. The company announced plans to expand its fuel retail network and invest in renewable energy projects. HSBC reiterated a BUY rating with a target price of ₹320, citing strong fundamentals and government support for the sector.



5. Eicher Motors

Royal Enfield sales showed a 5% YoY growth, with strong demand for premium models. The company is set to launch an electric motorcycle by early 2025, which could be a game-changer in the segment. Jefferies maintained a BUY rating with a price target of ₹5,500, citing strong brand positioning and international expansion.



RBI appoints Indranil Bhattacharyya as executive director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced on Thursday, March 20, 2025, the appointment of Indranil Bhattacharyya as its new Executive Director (ED). Effective from March 19, Bhattacharyya will oversee the Department of Economic and Policy Research, as stated in the RBI's official announcement.

Prior to his promotion, Bhattacharyya served as an Adviser in the Monetary Policy Department of the RBI. With nearly three decades of experience, he has a well-established career spanning various key areas, including monetary policy, fiscal policy, banking, and international economic relations. Bhattacharyya has held positions in several critical RBI departments such as the Department of Economic and Policy Research and the International Department.

Notably, Bhattacharyya's career also includes a five-year tenure at the Qatar Central Bank in Doha, where he worked as an economic expert in the technical office of the Governor from 2009 to 2014. This international experience further strengthens his broad expertise in economic and financial matters.

Bhattacharyya holds a postgraduate degree in economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and his research interests focus on monetary theory and policy, financial markets, market microstructure, and fiscal policy. These areas of expertise align with his responsibilities at the RBI, particularly in the areas of policy research and economic strategy.

His appointment comes at a time when the RBI continues to play a crucial role in shaping India's monetary policy and economic direction. Bhattacharyya's wealth of experience in both domestic and international finance will be instrumental in supporting the RBI's ongoing efforts to enhance the Indian economy's stability and growth.

As he steps into his new role, Bhattacharyya is expected to bring valuable insights and leadership to the RBI, particularly in its research and policy-making initiatives.



Chip giant Infineon looks to double India headcount by 2030, focus on R&D

Infineon Technologies Plans to Double India Workforce to 5,000 by 2030



German semiconductor giant Infineon Technologies is set to double its workforce in India, aiming to employ 5,000 people by 2030. The company plans to focus primarily on expanding its research and development (R&D) operations, with no immediate intentions to commit to manufacturing in India, according to a top official.

Andreas Urschitz, Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) and management board member at Infineon, revealed that the company currently has 2,500 employees in India, all working on R&D projects. Infineon, which employs over 58,000 people globally, primarily in the APAC region, sees India as a key hub for its growth in the future.

The company is a leading player in providing semiconductors, particularly for the automobile industry, and aims to strengthen its technological capabilities by significantly increasing its Indian workforce. With the growing demand for automotive chips and other semiconductor solutions, Infineon's expansion of R&D operations in India will help it meet global market needs.

While Infineon is investing heavily in R&D in India, it has not yet announced plans for setting up manufacturing units in the country. The focus remains on bolstering its research presence, in line with India's growing role in the global semiconductor ecosystem.

Indian Stock Market Soars on Strong IT Rally and Fed's Rate Cut Projections

Indian stock markets surged on Thursday, March 20, 2025, propelled by a rally in IT stocks and positive momentum from U.S. equities, following the Federal Reserve's decision to maintain its rate cut projections for this year.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 478.13 points to reach 75,927.18 in early trading, while the NSE Nifty gained 149.1 points, climbing to 23,056.70. The rally was largely driven by strong performances from leading IT stocks, including Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, and HCL Tech, as well as other significant gainers like Bharti Airtel, Zomato, and Mahindra & Mahindra. However, some stocks, including Bajaj Finance, UltraTech Cement, Adani Ports, and Tata Steel, faced declines.

Vikas Jain, Head of Research at Reliance Securities, noted that the domestic market is likely to continue its positive trajectory due to strong global momentum, especially following the U.S. Federal Reserve's announcement of planned interest rate cuts this year.

While Asian markets displayed mixed performance—Seoul traded positively, while Shanghai and Hong Kong were lower—the U.S. markets saw a significant surge on



March 19, 2025, indicating a broader global market recovery.

The Federal Reserve's decision to hold rates steady and its projection of two interest rate cuts this year, alongside an expected growth rate of 1.7% and an inflation forecast of 2.8% for 2025, aligned with expectations. V.K. Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, highlighted two key trends in the Indian market: strong domestic consumption themes and growing interest in underperforming sectors such as defense and

shipping. Global oil prices also saw a slight increase, with Brent crude climbing 0.54% to \$71.16 per barrel. In terms of investor activity, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) sold equities worth ₹1,096.50 crore on March 19, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought equities worth ₹2,140.76 crore.

Overall, market sentiment remains positive as the anticipation of further rate cuts from the Fed continues to boost global equities.



Bengaluru Cab Driver's 'No Romance' Warning Note Leaves Internet in Splits

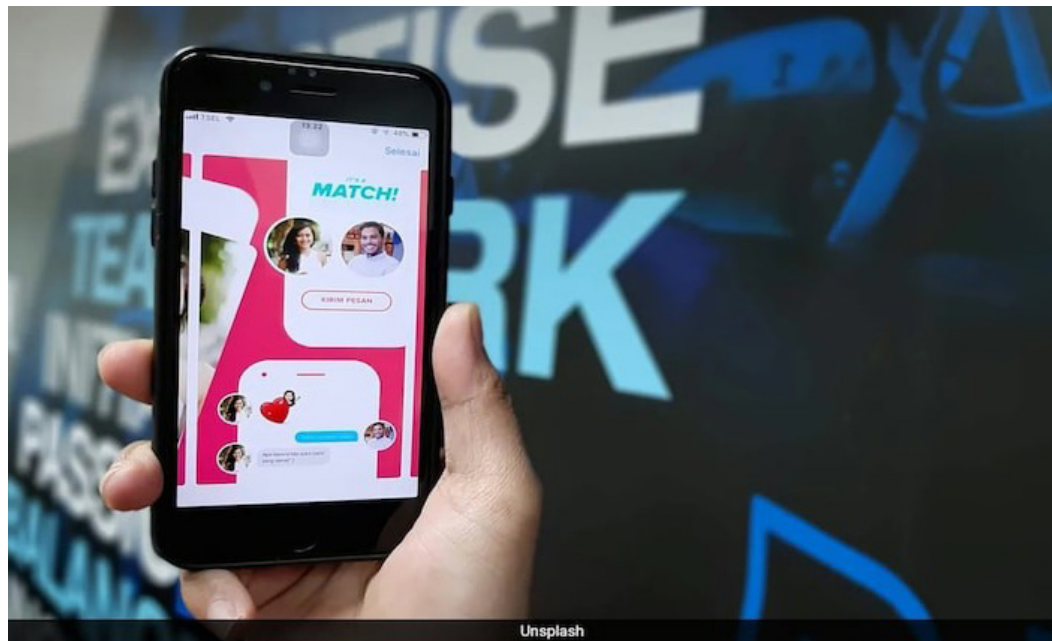
Bengaluru, often referred to as India's startup capital, is known for its unique urban culture and viral internet moments. One such instance has caught social media's attention—a Bengaluru cab driver's warning note advising passengers to "keep distance" has left the internet in splits. A Reddit user recently shared a picture of the note displayed inside a cab, which read: "Warning!! No romance. This is a cab, not your private place or OYO, so please keep distance and stay calm." The candid and humorous message has since gone viral, sparking a flurry of reactions from netizens. Social media users found the driver's

straightforwardness amusing, with many speculating about the experiences that led him to put up such a notice. "Mr. Driver has seen stuff, and he doesn't want to witness it again," joked one user. Another user supported the driver's stance, saying, "In a closed environment like a car, public display of affection is uncomfortable for the driver. He has every right not to be a part of it." Many users sympathized with the driver's plight, acknowledging that some couples take things too far inside cabs. "I've heard stories of couples making out or engaging in inappropriate activities in cabs. It must be uncomfortable for the driver. People should at least wait un-

til they get home or check into a hotel," commented one user. Another user humorously remarked, "Drivers in Bengaluru have seen things that would make you rethink any romantic plans in a cab. It's a whole different level of urban life!" The post has sparked discussions on boundaries and etiquette inside shared transport. While most users found humor in the situation, others pointed out the need for basic respect towards cab drivers. The incident has now become another addition to the long list of "Peak Bengaluru" moments, proving yet again that the city never fails to entertain the internet.

London Tops UK Cities Where Women Suspect Partners of Cheating on Tinder

A new analysis has revealed that London has the highest number of women checking Tinder to see if their partners are being unfaithful. According to a report by CheatEye.ai, 27.4% of all Tinder-related searches in London are focused on uncovering a partner's infidelity, with 62.4% of these searches being conducted by women. Beyond London, cities like Manchester and Birmingham also ranked high in suspicion-driven Tinder searches. In Manchester, 8.8% of searches were related to infidelity concerns, while Birmingham recorded 8.3%. Notably, in Birmingham, a significant 69% of these searches were carried out by women investigating their male partners. Glasgow also appeared on the list, with 4.7% of Tinder searches linked to concerns about infidelity. Similar to other cities, 62.1% of these searches were conducted by women. Why Suspicion is Rising? Infidelity expert Samantha Hayes attributes the rising trend to the widespread use of dating apps in major cities. "In



cities like London, the dating scene is more dynamic, which naturally leads to heightened suspicion and scrutiny of partners' activities," she explained. Hayes also noted that young adults aged 18 to 24 are particularly anxious about their partners' faithfulness, given the accessibility

of dating apps. With trust issues on the rise, the report suggests that Tinder is increasingly being used not just for dating, but also for relationship surveillance, particularly by women in major UK cities.

Company Orders Employees to Always Answer Boss's Calls, Even on Silent Mode—Internet Reacts

A company's controversial new policy requiring employees to always answer calls from their managers—even when their phones are on silent or in Focus Mode—has sparked outrage and humor online. A viral Reddit post exposing the policy has led to a heated debate on work-life balance and employee rights. Enforcing 24/7 Availability The company's instructions mandated that employees add their managers to the 'Emergency Bypass' feature on iPhones, ensuring that calls and messages from leadership would come through even when devices were on silent. Additional directives included enabling VIP alerts on Apple Watches and adding managers to the 'Allowed Callers' list under Focus Mode. While the company claimed that these measures were essential for handling urgent matters efficiently, one justi-

fication in the email particularly angered employees: "Since the company pays for your phone service, calls from leadership must always come through, even in Focus Mode." This statement implied that the employer had the right to dictate how employees used their phones, even outside of work hours. Backlash on Social Media Reddit users were quick to criticize the policy, pointing out the lack of work-life balance and potential overreach by the company. Many sarcastically suggested ways for employees to turn the policy against their bosses. One user proposed calling managers at 3:00 a.m. to ask, "Would you still hire me if I were a worm?" Another commented, "If the job requires 24/7 availability, they better pay for that time." Others highlighted the importance of compensation for



being on call. "If the company provides the phone, fine. But it stays off after work hours." A more empathetic user said, "I'd take an emergency call from a colleague in trouble, but anything from my boss? Ignored." The Debate Over Work-Life Boundaries The viral post reignited discussions about boundaries in the modern workplace, particularly in an era where digital connectivity often leads to unrealistic work expectations.

With many companies promoting flexible work environments, the expectation that employees must be available at all times raises concerns about mental well-being, burnout, and fair compensation. While some argue that emergency contact is necessary for business operations, the overwhelming response online suggests that employees are pushing back against policies that erode personal time and privacy.

Bengaluru Man Buys World's Most Expensive Wolfdog for ₹50 Crore



A Bengaluru man has made headlines after purchasing one of the world's rarest and most expensive dogs—a unique wolfdog named Cadaboms Okami—for a staggering ₹50 crore (\$5.7 million). A Rare and Exotic Breed The buyer, S Satish, president of the Indian Dog Breeders Association, is known for owning expensive and rare breeds. Cadaboms Okami is a cross between a wolf and a Caucasian Shepherd, making it the first of its kind in India. The New York Post reports that the dog was originally bred in the United States before arriving in India. "I spent ₹50 crore on this pup because I love dogs and want to introduce unique breeds to India," Mr. Satish told The Sun. At just eight months old, Okami weighs over 5 kilograms and has a special diet of 3 kg of raw meat every day. According to the American Kennel Club, the wolfdog is a guardian breed known for its intelligence and protective instincts.

A Profitable Investment Apart from his passion for rare dogs, Mr. Satish also earns a fortune from them. He reportedly charges between \$2,800 (₹2.3 lakh) for a 30-minute appearance to \$11,700 (₹9.7 lakh) for five hours at events where people pay to see his exotic pets. "People love to take selfies and pictures with my dogs. They attract more attention than movie stars," he said. Luxury Care for Elite Pets This isn't his first high-profile purchase. Last year, he bought a rare Chow Chow for ₹27 crore (\$3.25 million). His elite pets live in a seven-acre farm where each dog has a 20ft by 20ft kennel. "There is enough space for them to walk and run, and six caretakers look after them," Mr. Satish said, adding that air conditioning isn't required due to Bengaluru's cool climate. His latest purchase has once again captured the attention of dog lovers and luxury pet enthusiasts worldwide.

International Day of Happiness 2025: Date, Theme, and Significance



The International Day of Happiness is observed on March 20 every year, promoting the importance of happiness in personal and global well-being. Established by the United Nations General Assembly on July 12, 2012, this day recognizes happiness as a fundamental human goal. Origin and Background The initiative was led by Bhutan, a country that has prioritized Gross National Happiness over Gross Domestic Product since the 1970s. The first International Day of Happiness was celebrated in 2013, with participation from the United Nations' 193 member states. In 2015, the UN introduced 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to combat poverty, inequality, and environmental challenges, reinforcing the link between well-being and sustainable development. Significance in 2025 With ongoing global crises in

Ukraine, Gaza, Yemen, and elsewhere, prioritizing happiness has become more challenging. The day serves as a reminder that small acts of kindness and compassion can make a difference in building a better world. Modern life often leads to stress, anxiety, and material-driven pursuits, overshadowing emotional well-being. This day encourages individuals to focus on meaningful relationships and positive actions. Theme for 2025 The theme for International Day of Happiness 2025 is "Caring and Sharing", emphasizing the role of kindness and generosity in strengthening communities and enhancing well-being. Studies show that giving and receiving kindness significantly boost happiness, reinforcing the idea that compassion is essential for a fulfilling life.

Cricket Board Announces ₹58 Crore Reward for Champions Trophy Winners



The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced a ₹58 crore cash reward for Team India after their triumphant ICC Champions Trophy 2025 victory. The prize recognizes

the contributions of players, coaching staff, and selectors.

Under Rohit Sharma's leadership, India dominated the tournament, securing wins over Bangladesh, Pakistan,

and New Zealand before defeating Australia in the semi-final.

BCCI president Roger Binny stated, "Winning back-to-back ICC titles is special. This cash reward acknowledges

the hard work put in by the team and support staff." He also highlighted India's success in the ICC U19 Women's World Cup 2025, emphasizing the country's strong cricketing foundation.

Indian Para Swimming Team Set for 2025 Para Swimming World Series in Barcelona

A 27-member Indian contingent, including 19 para swimmers and eight officials, will compete at the 2025 Para Swimming World Series in Barcelona from March 20 to 23.

Led by Paralympian and Arjuna Awardee Sharath M Gayakwad, the team features experienced athletes like Niranjana Mukundan, Shridhar N Malagi, and Tejas Nandakumar, along with emerging talents like Vaishnavi Jagtap and visually impaired swimmer Hi-

manshu Nandal.

Coach Gayakwad expressed confidence in the team's preparations, calling it one of India's most promising contingents. Rising swimmers Afrid Attar, Ali Imam, and Chaitanya Kulkarni add depth to the squad.

With rigorous training and high aspirations, India aims to make a strong mark on the global para-swimming stage, reinforcing its commitment to excellence and inclusivity in sports.



India Submits Bid to Host 2030 Commonwealth Games in Gujarat



India has officially submitted its bid to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Gujarat, a top sports ministry source confirmed. The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) sent the 'Expression of Interest' before the March 31 deadline. Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya had earlier expressed India's interest in hosting the Games, marking the country's bid to bring the prestigious event back since the 2010 Delhi edition. Additionally, India is also eyeing the 2036 Olympics as part of its long-term sports ambitions.

Chhetri Scores on Return as India Beat Maldives 3-0

Sunil Chhetri marked his international comeback in style, scoring in India's commanding 3-0 win over Maldives in a football friendly on Wednesday. The victory ended India's 12-match winless streak since November 2023. Rahul Bheke opened the scoring in the 35th minute, followed by Liston Colaco's strike in the 66th. Chhetri, re-

turning after retiring in May last year, sealed the win with a glancing header in the 77th minute, netting his 95th international goal.

Despite an earlier save by the Maldives goalkeeper in the 47th minute, the 40-year-old captain made his presence felt before being substituted in the 82nd minute.



Mandaviya Inaugurates 2nd Khelo India Para Games 2025

Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya declared the 2nd Khelo India Para Games 2025 open at the KD Jadhav Indoor Hall, Indira Gandhi Stadium, New Delhi. Over 1,300 para-athletes will compete in six sports disciplines over eight days. A unique torch rally, joined by Paralympians Simran Sharma, Praveen Kumar, and Nitesh Kumar, marked

the inauguration. Mandaviya lauded Khelo India's role in nurturing talent, emphasizing India's success at the Paris Paralympics 2024.

Union Minister Virendra Kumar praised the platform for providing para-athletes with opportunities to excel. The event witnessed participation from top officials, athletes, and coaches from across India.



Swiss Open: PV Sindhu Exits Early, Srikanth Advances to Pre-Quarterfinals



PV Sindhu suffered another early exit at the Swiss Open, losing 21-17, 21-19 to Denmark's Julie Jakobsen in the first round. This marks Sindhu's third consecutive first-round defeat in 2024 after similar setbacks at the Indonesia Masters and All England Open. In men's singles, Kidambi Srikanth edged out HS Prannoy 23-21, 23-21 in a tightly contested match to reach the pre-quarter-

finals, where he faces world No. 6 Li Shifeng. Qualifier Sankar Subramanian also progressed, defeating Magnus Johannesen 21-5, 21-16. In women's singles, Anupama Upadhyaya and Isharani Baruah secured wins, while Malvika Bansod and others were eliminated. In mixed doubles, India's pair of Sathish Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath advanced, while two other pairs suffered defeats.



Rahul Bose on Chameli Pay Gap: "I Was the Starlet, She Was the Star"

Actor Rahul Bose revealed that he was paid only a fraction of what Kareena Kapoor Khan earned for the 2004 film *Chameli*. Speaking at Mardon Wali Baat, a national conference on gender-based violence, Bose admitted the pay gap was justified as Kareena had a stronger box-office appeal.

"Men have also been starlets, and I am a shining example of that. Kareena was the star; she brings more people to theatres even today. It's completely logical," he said. Bose, who has also produced films, added that the industry is commercially driven, not biased.

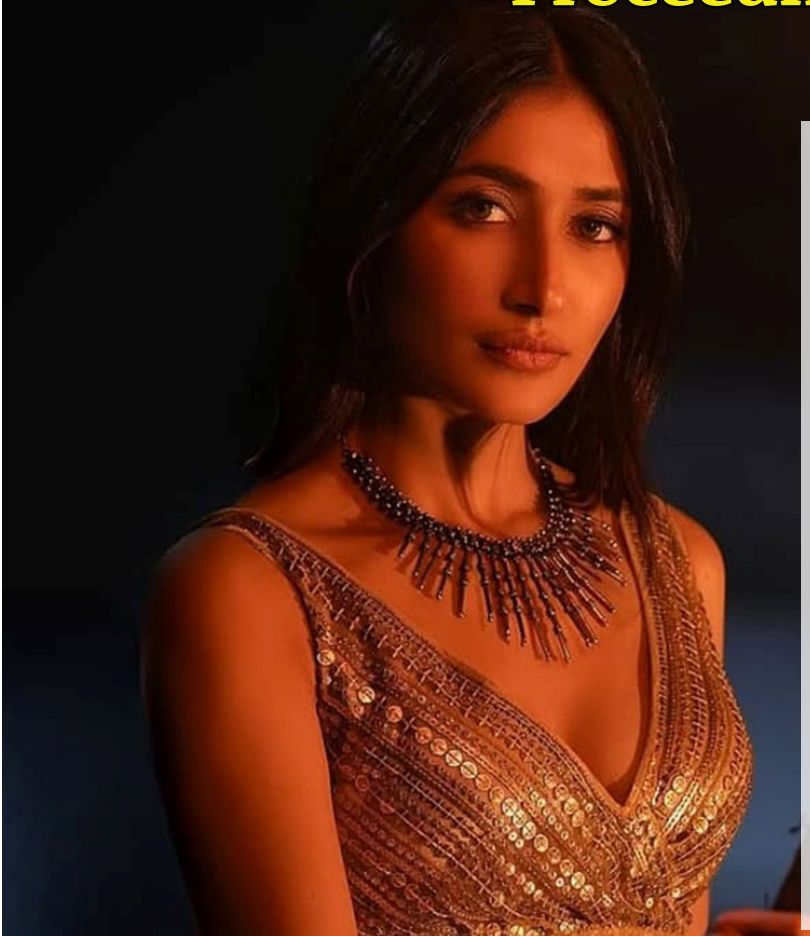
Rahul Bose is known for *Mr. and Mrs. Iyer* and *Dil Dhadakne Do*, while Kareena's recent films *Crew* and *Singham Again* were box-office hits.



Dhanashree Verma Stars in Song on Toxic Relationships Amid Divorce Proceedings

Amid her divorce from cricketer Yuzvendra Chahal, Dhanashree Verma stars in *Dekha Ji Dekha Maine*, a song that delves into toxic relationships. Featuring Ishwak Singh, the music video presents a raw portrayal of love and emotional turmoil. Set in Jaipur's outskirts, the song is composed by Jaani with Jyoti Nooran's powerful vocals. Dhanashree called it an "emotionally charged performance", while

Jaani highlighted its intense theme. Directed by Dhruwal Patel and Jigar Mulani, the song is now streaming on T-Series' YouTube channel. Meanwhile, reports suggest Chahal has agreed to pay ₹4.75 crore in alimony. The Bombay High Court has expedited their mutual consent divorce, instructing the Bandra family court to finalize it by March 20, ahead of Chahal's IPL commitments.



L2: Empuraan Trailer – Mohanlal's Swag Takes Over

The much-awaited trailer of *L2: Empuraan*, the sequel to *Lucifer*, is finally out, and Mohanlal's signature style dominates the high-octane visuals. Directed by Prithviraj Sukumaran, the film features Tovino Thomas, Sachin Khedekar, Manju Warrier, and Indrajith Sukumaran in key roles. The trailer showcases intense political drama, with Tovino's Jathin Ramdas leading a party

amidst conspiracies. Manju Warrier's character challenges blood ties, while Mohanlal's Stephen Nedumpally emerges as the mysterious savior of Kerala. Explosive action sequences, gunfights, and combat scenes fill the gripping trailer, ending with Mohanlal declaring, "Lucifer." Bankrolled by Antony Perumbavoor, Gokulam Gopalan, and Subaskaran, *L2: Empuraan* re-

leases in multiple languages on March 27, 2025.



"Proud to Be His Brother": Pawan Kalyan on Chiranjeevi's Lifetime Achievement

Megastar Chiranjeevi was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Bridge India at the UK Parliament for his contributions to cinema and society. Reacting to this, his younger brother Pawan Kalyan expressed pride, calling it a moment of immense honor.

Taking to X (Twitter), Pawan wrote, "From being a middle-class excise constable's son to becoming a Megastar, my brother has entertained audiences for over four decades. I will always be proud to be his younger brother."

He hailed Chiranjeevi as his guiding force, highlighting his social service through the Chiranjeevi Charitable Trust. Recalling Chiranjeevi's recent Padma Vibhushan honor, he stated

that the Lifetime Achievement Award further elevated his legacy.

Pawan congratulated Chiranjeevi and thanked Stockport MP Navendu Mishra for hosting the event.



Janhvi Kapoor Visits Ram Charan's Home, Shares Special Moment With Upasana



Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor, currently in Hyderabad for *RC16*, took a break from her shoot to visit Ram Charan's residence in Jubilee Hills. She spent quality time with his wife, Upasana Konidela, making the visit extra special. Upasana surprised Janhvi

with *Athamma's Kitchen*, a collection of recipes curated by Ram Charan's mother, Surekha Konidela. A picture of their heartfelt moment is now viral, and the brand's official Instagram handle teased more surprises ahead, fueling speculation about Janhvi's possible collabo-

ration. Meanwhile, the *RC16* team will soon head to Delhi for an important shoot at Jama Masjid. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana and featuring music by AR Rahman, the film is produced by Vriddhi Cinemas with Mythri Movie Makers and Sukumar Writings.

Rakul Preet Singh Spreads Positivity on International Day of Happiness

Actress Rakul Preet Singh celebrated the International Day of Happiness by sharing an inspiring message on Instagram. Posting radiant photos, she emphasized that "Happiness is a choice, not a destination. Let's choose it together today and every day!"

The pictures, seemingly from a beach vacation, captured Rakul's joyous moments in a serene setting. Actress Rasika Dugal also marked the occasion, sharing her thoughts on finding happiness in small things. The International Day of Happiness, observed on March 20, was established by the UN to promote global well-being. Meanwhile, Rakul recently completed the *Patiala* schedule for *De De Pyaar De 2*, where she reprises her role as Aisha alongside Ajay Devgn and R. Madhavan.

