

# Just Few Days Before Janasena Avirbhava Sabha!!

## Jagan Gave Boost to Pawan Again

- Jagan targeted Pawan in the last election.
- Personal attacks on Pawan Kalyan backfired.
- Pawan's popularity soared due to Jagan's criticism.
- Former CM remains unchanged despite electoral defeat.
- Jagan once again targets Pawan.
- Strong opposition to Jagan's remarks from Janasena.
- Pawan's name resonates among AP people again.

TPN Kishore Katta | Andhra Pradesh

YCP chief Jagan faced a severe setback in the last election after targeting Pawan Kalyan. His aggressive attacks on Pawan led to a drastic fall from a three-digit seat count to just 11, pushing him to a position where he could not even claim the status of the opposition leader. Any political leader in such a situation would introspect and learn from mistakes, but Jagan seems to be an exception. Despite suffering a humiliating defeat, he has not changed his approach. After maintaining silence for some time, he has now resumed his attacks.

When Jagan was in power, his speeches reflected a tone of arrogance, and his latest press meet showed no difference. He once again expressed his anger at Pawan, taking a dig at the Deputy CM by calling him "more of a corporator, less of an MLA." Interestingly, Jagan never addressed Pawan by name while in power but referred to him as "Pawan Kalyan garu" for the first time in his press meet after the defeat. This led political analysts to believe that Jagan had changed. However, by targeting Pawan again, he has proven that he remains the same.

Even within YSRCP, party leaders believe that Jagan is making a strategic blunder by attacking Pawan. They feel that his criticism of Pawan Kalyan will only backfire, but Jagan seems unwilling to listen. His relentless attacks on Pawan before the elections caused sections of the YSRCP's voter base to drift away. Now, despite knowing this, his renewed criticism of Pawan has raised questions about his political strategy. Cur-



rently, Jagan is just an MLA and the YSRCP president, limited to his party's leadership. If such a leader mocks the Deputy CM, questioning his stature, it only diminishes Jagan's own political credibility. Many believe that Jagan has still not understood the consequences of his past actions. During his tenure as Chief Minister, Jagan took several rigid decisions without reconsideration. Even when warning signs emerged, he dismissed them, claiming he would remain in power for 30 years. However, his political future now hangs in uncertainty, yet he refuses to change his ways. Meanwhile, there is growing public opposition to Jagan's renewed attacks on Pawan. His earlier personal insults before the elections had unexpectedly boosted Pawan's popularity, making him a symbol of resistance.

Now, with Jagan once again targeting him, Pawan's name is back in public discussions, further increasing his appeal. Even beyond the counter-attacks from coalition leaders, common people themselves are voicing displeasure over Jagan's remarks. This shift has left the YSRCP cadre in deep concern. Typically, when opposition leaders criticize those in power, the impact is minimal. Jagan might have assumed the same approach would work in Pawan's case. However, his strategy seems to have backfired. Instead of weakening Pawan, Jagan's words have only reignited public support for him. The question remains—will Jagan realize this blunder? Or will he continue down the same path, further strengthening Pawan's position in Andhra Pradesh politics?

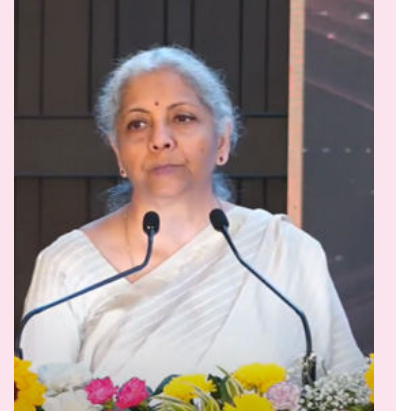


### Venkaiah Naidu's Power and Punches Still Intact: CM

TPN Correspondent |  
Visakhapatnam

The book launch program of 'World History', authored by former minister Daggubati Venkateswara Rao, was held at Geetham University in Visakhapatnam. The event saw the presence of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. Speaking at the event, CM Chandrababu fondly recalled his long association with Venkaiah Naidu, saying, "In 1978, both Venkaiah Naidu and I entered the Assembly for the first time. Even after all these years, his power has not diminished – if anything, his sharp punches and witty remarks have only grown stronger." Chandrababu lauded Venkaiah for always speaking in clear and elegant Telugu, a reflection of his deep-rooted love for the language and culture.

The Chief Minister also praised Venkaiah's rise from humble beginnings to the office of the Vice President, calling him an inspiration for the youth. Recalling the challenges faced by Geetham University, Chandrababu said, "During the previous government's tenure, there were attempts to demolish Geetham University. However, MVVS Murthy garu created history by establishing this institution." Chandrababu also shared a personal anecdote, saying, "Murthy garu once told me that when his second son was denied a seat at Vijayawada Siddhartha College, he took it as a challenge to create a better educational institution, which led to the birth of Geetham University."



### "High Priority Given to Polavaram Project"

TPN Correspondent |  
Visakhapatnam

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated that the central government has given high priority to the Polavaram project and reaffirmed its commitment to its completion. Speaking at a budget discussion meeting held in Visakhapatnam, she said that the first such discussion took place in Mumbai, followed by this second round in Andhra Pradesh. She mentioned that they interacted with various sections of society to gather feedback and recommendations on the budget.

Nirmala Sitharaman emphasized that the central government considers support for the Polavaram project a responsibility, not just assistance. She assured that allocations are being made without deficit for all joint projects between the state and central governments, including Polavaram, Amaravati, and the industrial corridor. She further highlighted that Rs 11,000 crores have been earmarked for the redevelopment of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and reiterated the central government's full support for strengthening industrial development in Andhra Pradesh.

Acknowledging technical challenges that caused delays in Polavaram, she recalled that completing the project was a commitment made during bifurcation and assured that the central government remains dedicated to fulfilling that promise.

## Clashes with Chandrababu were real... but times change: Daggubati Venkateswara Rao

- Daggubati Venkateswara Rao's World History book launched at Geetam University
- CM Chandrababu attended the book launch event
- Daggubati calls for leaving behind past conflicts

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Former minister Daggubati Venkateswara Rao made some candid remarks during the launch of his book World History at Visakhapatnam Geetam University on Thursday. Speaking at the event, Daggubati said it was a pleasure to have Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu attend the program, despite their well-known history of political clashes. "There's no denying it — there was indeed a feud between Chandrababu and me in the past. But time doesn't stand still. We need to forget those differences and move forward in step with changing times. Our focus should be on building a better future for everyone," Daggubati stated.

He went on to say, "I have no personal ambi-



tions anymore. What's happened is in the past. There's no need to dwell on it. I wholeheartedly appreciate Chandrababu's efforts to ensure the well-being and progress of everyone in the state."

The event also saw the participation of prominent leaders, intellectuals, and well-wishers, who praised Daggubati for his contribution to historical literature in Telugu.

## Amaravati will be completed in three years: Minister Narayana

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister for Municipal Administration Dr. P. Narayana made a key statement regarding the construction of Amaravati, confirming that the capital city will be completed within three years. Speaking to the media on Thursday, Narayana assured that not a single rupee collected from the people's taxes will be used for Amaravati's construction. He revealed that HUDCO and World Bank loans would fund the infrastructure development and remaining works in the capital region.

The Minister criticized former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of creating unnecessary confusion over the capital issue during his tenure.



Narayana demanded that the YSRCP now come forward with a clear policy on the capital, instead of resorting to irresponsible and confusing statements. He emphasized that only revenue from the sale of developed lands in Amaravati would be utilized for further construction. Narayana added that as infrastructure like roads, drainage,

and parks is developed, land values will automatically rise, creating additional revenue for future projects.

He further clarified that the ₹6,000 crore allocated for Amaravati in the state budget will not impact the common people, reiterating that the government is committed to building the capital without burdening taxpayers.

# CM Naidu Meets Union Minister, Seeks Approval for Vizag and Vijayawada Metro Projects

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu revealed that he had a positive and fruitful meeting with Union Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Delhi. He stated that key discussions were held on projects crucial for AP's development, particularly the Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada Metro Rail projects. The Chief Minister requested swift approval for these projects, explaining that they would help reduce traffic congestion, enhance economic growth, and promote sustainable urban development. He also expressed his gratitude to Union Minister Khattar for his cooperation and support. Later, CM Chandrababu attended the Republic TV Conclave, where



he addressed the national media. Speaking at the event, he praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, saying India is pro-

gressing rapidly under his guidance and expressed confidence that India will become the world's number one economy by 2047.

Highlighting the importance of technology and innovation, Chandrababu mentioned that India has transitioned from talking about IT to AI, acknowledging both the benefits and challenges AI brings. He emphasized the need for smart work over hard work and positive thinking over negativity, describing India's population as a valuable asset.

CM Chandrababu strongly condemned the misrule of former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of destroying Amaravati and wrongfully jailing him despite having done nothing wrong. He said Telugu people across 60 countries stood in support when he was arrested, which he credited as a major reason for ending YCP's misrule. He assured that AP's development will now accelerate rapidly.



## Jagan files petition in Hyderabad Tribunal over share transfers by Vijayamma and Sharmila

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Former Andhra Pradesh Former Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has filed a petition in the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Hyderabad, alleging that his mother YS Vijayamma and sister YS Sharmila have illegally transferred shares held in his name and in the name of YS Bharathi.

In his petition, Jagan claimed that the share transfer took place without his signature or prior consent. He named Vijayamma, Sharmila, Sandur Power Company, and the Registrar of Companies as respondents in the case.

Along with the main petition, Jagan also filed an interim petition seeking a stay on the transferred shares until the matter is fully heard.

Following requests from both the plaintiffs and defendants, the Tribunal adjourned the hearing to the 3rd of next month to allow all parties time to file counters and responses to both the main and interim petitions.

This development comes at a time when political and personal disputes within the YS family have increasingly come into the public domain.

## Please Pawan..

# Get Back to Normal Costumes!!

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Pawan Kalyan, the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and a revered figure in Telugu cinema, continues to command an unwavering fanbase. While his political commitments have kept him away from the big screen, admiration for his cinematic presence and unique persona remains as strong as ever. Many fans still hope to see him make a return to films, bringing back the on-screen magic that made him one of the most beloved actors in the industry. Beyond his performances, Pawan Kalyan has long been a trendsetter in style. His signature green GAP hoodie in Khushi became an iconic fashion statement, while Gudumba Shankar saw him redefine boldness with a red bandana and layered pants. Even in his much-anticipated yet delayed



film OG, his choice of flared jeans channels a perfect blend of nostalgia and modern flair. His impact on fashion is undeniable, inspiring countless fans to emulate his distinctive looks.

In contrast, his public appearances in recent years have leaned towards traditional attire, often seen in kur-

tas and dhotis. While fans respect the cultural significance of these choices, there is also a quiet longing to see him embrace a more casual style when the occasion allows. Many believe his influence extends beyond films, and a balanced approach—reserving traditional wear for moments of reverence while

opting for contemporary outfits in day-to-day appearances—could once again set new fashion trends. Regardless of his choices, Pawan Kalyan remains an icon, both on and off the screen. Whether through cinema or style, his admirers continue to look forward to what he brings next.

# Tahsildars Empowered to Cancel Illegal Registrations of Govt Lands

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh government has taken a crucial decision to strengthen the protection of government lands across the state. Revenue Minister Angani Satya Prasad announced that the power to cancel illegal registrations of government lands has now been delegated to Tahsildars. Until now, this responsibility was under the jurisdiction of District Collectors. However, with increasing cases of government lands being illegally registered, the Revenue



Department has decided to empower Tahsildars to act swiftly in such cases. Minister Angani Satya Prasad stated that Tahsildars will prepare the necessary documentation to can-



cel registrations found to be illegal and forward them to the respective sub-registrars for further action. This process will apply to government lands, assigned lands, and endowment lands, which are pro-

hibited from being registered under existing laws.

The sub-registrars will then complete the cancellation process and formally communicate the cancellation to the concerned parties as directed by the Tahsildar. This move is aimed at ensuring swift action and preventing illegal occupation or misuse of valuable government lands.

Minister Angani expressed concern over the rising trend of illegal registrations and warned that strict action will be taken against those involved in such irregularities.



## Writing a world history book is no easy task - Venkaiah Naidu

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu said that writing a world history book in Telugu is a remarkable achievement and emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting the mother tongue.

He participated in the launch event of a world history book authored by Daggubati Venkateswara Rao at Visakha Geetam University on Thursday. Speaking on the occasion, Venkaiah Naidu remarked that history serves as the foundation for a society's identity, and writing such a comprehensive book is no easy task.

He added that documenting NTR's life as an actor would be equally challenging. Venkaiah stressed that history not only narrates political and economic events but also reflects social evolution. He highlighted the need to record history accurately and pointed out that Indian history has often been distorted.

He further said that presenting global history in simple language is essential for people to understand it easily. Venkaiah reiterated his call to encourage education in the mother tongue, comparing the mother tongue to the eyes and English to the glasses that enhance vision.

Venkaiah humorously noted that though he has retired from public office, he has not retired from speaking.

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also attended the event and congratulated Daggubati Venkateswara Rao for his work.

# AP JAC Amaravati Women's Department successfully concludes games and song competitions in Vijayawada

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Under the auspices of AP JAC Amaravati Women's Department, games and song competitions for women employees were successfully conducted in the premises of the Vijayawada Sub-Collector's Office on March 5th and 6th, 2025. The events were organized to mark International Women's Day and were led by Chairperson Shrimati Pare Lakshmi and Secretary Shrimati Ponnuru Vijaya Lakshmi, with the support of AP JAC Amaravati State Chairman Shri Bopparaju Venkateswarlu and Secretary General Shri Pali Shetty Damodar Rao. The competitions held on March 5th included Lemon & Spoon, Musical Chair, Skipping, Cup & Balloon, Shuttle, Chess, Carroms, and Ball Game. On March 6th, events such as Sing-



ing, Dance, Quiz, Rangoli, Telugu Movie Dialogue Delivery, Traditional Dress Competition, and Tug of War took place. Women employees from various Head of Departments and offices across NTR District actively par-

ticipated, showcasing their talent and enthusiasm over both days. AP JAC Amaravati Chairman Shri Bopparaju Venkateswarlu, Co-Chairman Shri Samsani Srinivasa Rao, CCLA Office President B. Pullaiah, and sev-

eral other leaders participated in the closing ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Bopparaju expressed happiness at the employees' talent, noting that even professional artists would find it difficult to match their performances. The winners of these competitions will receive prizes from distinguished guests at the International Women's Day celebrations to be held on March 8, 2025, under the aegis of AP JAC Amaravati Women's Department, at the Vijayawada Sub-Collector's Office.

## Ambati's Sensational Tweet Creates Political Buzz On Nagababu MLC Seat

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The political landscape in Andhra Pradesh turned lively with Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan officially announcing Mega Brother Konidela Nagababu as the party's nominee for the MLC post under the MLA quota. This announcement comes as part of the process to fill five vacant MLC seats, with coalition parties nominating their candidates. The news has been met with jubilation among Jana Sena supporters, who see this as a prestigious recognition for Nagababu's contributions to the party and its growth. However, former minister and YSR Congress Party leader Ambati Rambabu took to social media to criticize the move in his signature sarcastic style. In a tweet that quickly gained traction, Ambati mockingly congratulated Pawan Kalyan, stating, "Congratulations to the younger brother on the great success in bringing Anna into the Doddidar Cabinet." Ambati's tweet is being widely interpreted as a jibe at Pawan



Kalyan's tendency to prioritize family members for political positions, a criticism often leveled at the Jana Sena chief. The MLC nominations are part of the broader power-sharing understanding among coalition partners, including TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP, ensuring representation from all key allies in the legislative council. With Nagababu's entry into the council now all but certain, the political discourse has once again shifted to the issue of dynastic politics, adding further fuel to the ongoing rivalry between YSRCP and the ruling coalition. Political analysts believe Ambati's sharp comments reflect YSRCP's strategy to target the Jana Sena-TDP alliance on internal favoritism, even as the coalition focuses on strengthening its governance framework.

## Another Shock to YCP in Pithapuram, Burra Anubabu Set to Join Janasena



TPN Correspondent | Kakinda

In a major political development in Kakinada district, the YSR Congress Party (YCP) suffered another setback in Pithapuram constituency. Burra Anubabu, Vice Chairman of the Joint East Godavari Zilla Parishad, has officially resigned from the YCP. He is all set to join the Jana Sena Party, led by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan.

Burra Anubabu will join the Jana Sena in the presence of former MLA Pendem Dorababu, who is actively mobilizing support in Pithapuram. As part of this shift, the Jana Sena is preparing for a significant show of strength in the constituency.

In a further blow to YCP, two MPPs, several ZPTCs, 25 sarpanches, and 20 MPTCs from Pithapuram constituency have also announced their resignations from the ruling party. Additionally, 14 municipal councillors from Pithapuram Gollaprolu have already stepped down from the YCP, signaling growing dissatisfaction among grassroots leaders. With Dorababu leading the charge, Jana Sena is planning a public display of its rising influence in the region. The wave of resignations and shifting loyalties highlights the changing political dynamics in Pithapuram, boosting the morale of the Jana Sena cadre ahead of the upcoming elections.

## 10 Janasena MLAs Sign Nomination Papers Proposing Nagababu's MLC Candidacy

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

With elections for five MLC seats under the MLA quota set to take place in Andhra Pradesh, Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan has decided to Nagababu as the party's candidate for one of the seats.

In this context, Jana Sena leadership has started preparing the required documents for Nagababu's nomination. As part of the process, 10 Jana Sena MLAs have officially signed the nomination papers, formally proposing his candidacy.

The MLAs who signed the proposal include State Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar, Mandali Buddhaprasad, Pantham Nanaji, Lokam Nagamadhavi, Arani Srinivasulu,

- 5 MLA quota MLC seats in AP elections
- Jana Sena finalizes Nagababu's candidacy



Panchakarla Ramesh Babu, Sundarapu Vijay Kumar, Patsamatla Dharmaraju, Arava Sridhar, and Bathula Balara-

makrishna. With the support of the party MLAs, Nagababu's nomination is expected to be filed soon, and

Jana Sena leaders are confident that he will successfully secure the MLC seat in the upcoming elections.

## Kiran Royal Receives Clean Chit – Vows to Move Forward with Renewed Zeal

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

Tirupati Janasena leader Kiran Royal has expressed relief and joy after receiving a clean chit in the controversy surrounding allegations made by Lakshmi Reddy, who had earlier accused him of cheating her out of Rs 1.20 crore.

It is known that the Janasena high command had temporarily sidelined Kiran Royal when the allegations first surfaced, ordering an internal inquiry to ascertain the facts. However, in a dramatic turn, Lakshmi Reddy recently withdrew her allegations, stating that there was

no dispute between her and Kiran Royal, and that all issues had been amicably settled. She also lamented that some individuals had used her personal difficulties for political purposes.

Appearing before the media at the Tirupati Press Club, Kiran Royal declared that he was ready to resume his political work with renewed energy. "The clean chit is proof of my innocence. Now, I'll move forward at full speed, like rushing on a National Highway," he said.

Kiran Royal emphasized that



the entire episode, though challenging, had ultimately worked to his benefit, as it exposed the forces trying to malign his reputation. He reiterated that the financial dealings between him and Lakshmi Reddy were

purely business transactions, and alleged that certain vested interests tried to manipulate her and intimidate her family. Expressing heartfelt gratitude, Kiran Royal said he owes his political survival to two people – Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan and the media. He revealed that Pawan Kalyan stood by him and insisted on a fair inquiry to uncover the truth behind the conspiracy.

Kiran concluded by stating that Pawan Kalyan would soon reveal the evidence exposing those who orchestrated the allegations against him.

## SCV Naidu Defends Farmers, Denies Encroachment Allegations on Oteru Cheruvu

TPN Correspondent | Srikalahasti

Former Srikalahasti MLA SCV Naidu strongly condemned allegations made by CPM and CPI leaders accusing farmers of encroaching on Oteru Cheruvu lands. Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Naidu clarified that the Oteru Cheruvu lands and the lands purchased by farmers are entirely separate, and farmers have not encroached on the pond.

SCV Naidu criticized former MLA Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy, accusing him of blackmailing officials and spreading falsehoods for political gain. Citing land records, Naidu explained that:

- Survey No. 376 covers 12 acres and 45 cents of Oteru Cheruvu.
- Survey No. 370 contains 6 acres and 70 cents of Kasim Canal.

- Survey No. 377 includes 17 acres and 18 cents of private farmers' land.

Naidu emphasized that Survey No. 377 lands are classified as Punju lands in the British-era A Register and Registry of Holdings from 1906, a record that cannot be tampered with. He highlighted that court rulings in 2005 and 2013 upheld farmers' ownership, confirming the land was not part of the pond. Naidu further noted that in 2014, after a review by the Revenue Department, the land mutation was processed. He recalled how Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy himself questioned this in the Assembly, where the then Revenue Minister confirmed no pattas were issued within the lake.

Naidu urged CPM, CPI leaders, and anyone spreading misinformation to thoroughly examine official records before



making baseless allegations. He pointed out that even a National Highway was constructed on six acres of the farmers' land, which would not have been possible if it were part of a pond.

He reaffirmed his commitment to protecting Oteru Cheruvu while defending farmers' legal-

ly owned lands and demanded an end to malicious propaganda.

Former SKIT chairman Vanjavakam Gurudasarathan, TDP leaders Satravada Praveen, Anjuru Raghuram, Gogineni Bhaskar Naidu, and several others were present at the press conference.

## Make Use of National Lok Adalat for Quick Resolution: District Chief Justice Dr. C. Yamini



TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Nellore District Legal Services Authority Chairman and District Chief Justice Dr. C. Yamini has announced that the National Lok Adalat will be conducted across the district on March 8. Speaking at a press conference

held at the District Chief Justice's office in Nellore on Thursday, Dr. Yamini explained that the Lok Adalat aims to provide speedy resolution to criminal, civil, and motor vehicle cases. He urged all parties involved in long-pending cases to take advantage of this opportunity for

a swift settlement through the Lok Adalat process.

Dr. Yamini emphasized that the Lok Adalat not only ensures quick justice but also helps in reducing litigation costs and burden on courts.

Fifth Additional District Judge Saraswathi, FOXO Judge Siripireddy Suma, Principal Senior Civil Judge Dr. I. Karuna Kumar, District Legal Services Authority Secretary and Senior Civil Judge Vani, along with Lok Adalat staff member Sumathi and others, were present at the press meet.

The District Legal Services Authority has appealed to the public to actively participate and settle their disputes amicably through the National Lok Adalat platform.

## Janasena Telangana In-Charge Shankar Goud Slams Jagan Over Comments on Pawan Kalyan



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Jana Sena Party Telangana in-charge Shankar Goud strongly condemned the recent comments made by YSR Congress Party chief YS Jagan Mohan

Reddy during a media conference. Addressing the issue on Thursday, Shankar Goud expressed anger over Jagan's remarks, stating that politics is not Jagan's personal domain. He criticized Jagan's arrogance,

saying that even after being reduced to just 11 Assembly seats, Jagan's attitude and tone have not changed. Shankar Goud alleged that Jagan's overconfidence stems from the wealth amassed through questionable means.

He reminded that Jagan's harsh and irresponsible language was one of the key reasons people rejected him in the recent elections. If Jagan does not change his way of speaking and behaving, the future will be even more difficult for him, Shankar Goud warned.

Jana Sena leaders in Telangana stood in support of Pawan Kalyan's vision and reiterated that arrogant politics will have no place in Andhra Pradesh or Telangana moving forward.

## Previous Govt Created Organized Mafia in Ration Rice: Minister Nadendla Manohar

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Nadendla Manohar, made serious allegations against the previous government in the Legislative Assembly, accusing it of creating an organized mafia in the handling of ration rice. Responding to a question raised by members, Nadendla revealed that 76,854 metric tons of rice were seized during the previous five years, while the coalition government seized 60 thousand metric tons within just six months of coming to power.

He said that criminal cases were filed against those involved in smuggling rice meant for the Public Distribution System (PDS) and, in some cases, the PD Act was invoked to curb repeated offenses.

The minister disclosed that 9,664 people were arrested between 2019 and 2024 in connection with smuggling ration rice, including 148 repeat offenders who were caught more than twice. Along with the rice, authorities also seized 512 vehicles used for illegal transport. Specifically, 50 thousand metric tons of rice were seized in Kakinada, of which 25,386 met-



ric tons were identified as PDS rice. Cases have been registered against 13 organizations involved in the racket.

Minister Nadendla assured that the government is working to streamline the ration system and new ration cards with QR codes will soon be issued to ensure transparency and prevent misuse.

## AP Govt's WhatsApp governance initiative gaining momentum

Services in 'Mana Mitra', Established at the Initiative of Nara Lokesh, Reach 200

Mana Mitra expands from 161 to 200 services in just 50 days

Range of services from education to tourism now accessible via WhatsApp

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The 'Mana Mitra' WhatsApp governance platform, launched at the initiative of Minister Nara Lokesh, is rapidly transforming civic service delivery in Andhra Pradesh. Launched on January 30th this year with 161 types of services, the platform has now expanded to provide 200 different services, achieving this milestone in just 50 days. This remarkable achievement highlights the success of digital governance in the state. The concept took shape following an agreement signed by Nara Lokesh with Meta representatives in Delhi on October 22nd last year.

One of the key highlights of Mana Mitra has been the distribution of hall tickets to 1st and 2nd semester students directly through WhatsApp, eliminating the need for students to visit government offices. By simply sending a message to 9552300009, citizens can access a wide range of services including education, endowments, electricity, RTC, revenue, Anna Canteens, CMRF, and municipal services.

From paying electricity bills and taxes to booking



temple visits, hostel rooms, and even donating to temples, the platform covers diverse needs. Tourists can also access information about tourist spots and book tickets seamlessly. Additionally, land records, income certificates, and other key documents from the revenue department can be obtained effortlessly. By bringing civic services directly to the people's fingertips, Mana Mitra is setting a new benchmark for e-governance in the country.

## Vallabhaneni Vamsi's Bail Petition – PP Strongly Opposes Bail



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The SC and ST court in Vijayawada on Thursday heard the bail petition of YSRCP leader and former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi, who is currently on remand in the Satyavardhan kidnapping case. During the arguments, the Public Prosecutor (PP) strongly opposed granting bail, stating that Vamsi's release could influence witnesses and hamper the investigation.

The PP informed the court that crucial information came to light during police custody interrogation and emphasized that two co-accused had already confessed to meeting Satyavardhan based on Vamsi's orders. The PP further argued that additional questioning of Vamsi was necessary, requesting the court to approve 10 more days of custody for further investigation.

On the other side, Vamsi's lawyers strongly denied any involvement in the kidnapping, alleging that the case was politically motivated and filed at the behest of the state government. They stressed that Vamsi is unwell and requested the court to grant bail on medical grounds. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court adjourned the next hearing to the 10th of this month.

## Gorantla Madhav Slams Chandrababu After Police Interrogation



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Former YSRCP MP Gorantla Madhav came down heavily on CM Chandrababu Naidu and the coalition government after appearing for questioning before the Vijayawada Cyber Crime Police. Madhav was interrogated in connection with a case related to the disclosure of rape victims' names in a POCSO case. Following the questioning, the police issued

another notice to him.

Speaking to the media after the interrogation, Madhav alleged that the government was targeting YSRCP leaders and activists by filing false cases. He said these actions were part of a deliberate attempt to silence opposition voices and intimidate YSRCP cadre.

Madhav remarked that Chandrababu's governance reminded him of the Emergency era under former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, where civil liberties were curtailed. He accused the government of stifling freedom of expression and using the police force to settle political scores. Asserting that YSRCP leaders are not afraid of false cases or threats, Madhav vowed to cooperate fully with the investigation. He reiterated that the YSRCP's fight would continue regardless of the cases being foisted upon them.

## Minister Durgesh Highlights State Innovations to Industrialists

Minister distributes tourism policy books to foreign delegates

Comprehensive information provided on tourist destinations

Emphasis on new initiatives to attract investments

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Minister for Tourism, Kandula Durgesh, held a special meeting with industrialists and foreign delegates, where he clearly explained the innovative measures being adopted by the state government to promote tourism and industrial development.

As part of the session, Minister Durgesh distributed special publications containing detailed information on the state's new tourism policy, key incentives, and the wide range of tourist destinations across Andhra Pradesh. These books were handed over to foreign delegates and key industry repre-

sentatives, offering them a comprehensive understanding of the opportunities available for investments in tourism infrastructure and allied sectors.

The minister emphasized that Andhra Pradesh is emerging as a leading destination for both domestic and international tourists, thanks to proactive government policies and attractive investment incentives. He invited global investors to explore partnerships in areas such as adventure tourism, heritage conservation, spiritual tourism, and eco-tourism projects.

The meeting served as a platform for show-



casing the state's natural beauty, cultural heritage, and industrial potential, while reinforcing the government's commitment to creating a business-friendly environment for investors.

## AP High Court Says No Hasty Action Against Posani Krishna Murali



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh High Court has provided temporary relief to actor and Former YSRCP leader Posani Krishna Murali in connection with multiple cases filed against him. During the hearing of a quash petition filed by Posani on Thursday, the court directed the police not to take hasty action in the cases registered in Visakhapatnam and Chittoor districts. The next hearing is scheduled for Monday.

It is known that Adoni police had previously registered a case against Posani for making derogatory remarks against Chandrababu Naidu, Nara Lokesh, Pawan Kalyan, and their families. The court, however, dismissed Posani's plea to quash the case from Adoni, citing that a PT warrant had already been issued.

The court also postponed hearings related to cases registered at Pathapatnam and Anantapur police stations until afternoon. Currently, over 17 cases have been registered against Posani Krishna Murali across various police stations in the state.

Posani was arrested on February 26th in connection with a case filed at Obulavaripalle police station in Anamaya district. After his arrest, he was remanded to Rajampet sub-jail by the Railway Kodur Magistrate. Later, the Narasaraopet police took custody of Posani using a PT warrant and produced him before the Narasaraopet court, which remanded him till March 13th. Posani is currently lodged in Kurnool district jail.

## The Goal of NTR Trust is to Serve Society – Nara Bhuvaneshwari

Foundation stone laid for NTR Memorial Trust Bhavan in Vijayawada



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

NTR Memorial Trust Managing Trustee Nara Bhuvaneshwari laid the foundation stone for the construction of NTR Trust Bhavan in Vijayawada on Thursday morning. The event began with special prayers at the local Sai Baba Temple, followed by the founda-

tion stone laying ceremony at Sai Baba Temple Street in Teachers Colony.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhuvaneshwari reaffirmed that the NTR Trust will always stand at the forefront to fulfill the needs of society. She emphasized that the core goal of the Trust is to deliver on the promises made to the people and ensure that service to society remains the top priority. Bhuvaneshwari highlighted that the Trust has consistently taken up welfare initiatives, responding to various needs of the community with dedication and commitment.

Vijayawada MP Keshineni Chinni also participated in the ceremony and expressed his support for the Trust's initiatives. The new Trust Bhavan is expected to further strengthen the Trust's ability to serve the people from a central location in Vijayawada.

## NTR Dist Police Conducts Road Safety Awareness at Coaching Center

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

As part of road safety awareness initiatives, the NTR District Police conducted a special program at Sridhar Competitive Coaching Center, located at Suryaraopet, Ramachandra Rao Road in Vijayawada on March 6, 2025. NTR District Police Commissioner Sri S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, IPS, under the directions of the Traffic DCP, participated in the program along with Second Traffic Division ACP Sri S.R. Vamsidhar Goud and Traffic CI Sri V. Janaki Ramaiah. During the awareness session, officials urged all two-wheeler riders to wear helmets for their safety and

highlighted the importance of following traffic rules. They stressed that every citizen should obey speed limits, respect entry and parking restrictions, and pay attention to road signs to ensure safe travel for all. Special emphasis was placed on students attending coaching centers, advising them to wear helmets and seat belts and be mindful of others when commuting between the center and their hostels or residences. The management of Sridhar Competitive Coaching Center actively participated and extended their cooperation to make the event successful.

# Locals Protest as Encroachment Resumes at Tiruchanur Road Big Tank



TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

The Big Tank near Shilparamam (Hotel Grand Ridge) on Tiruchanur Road in Tirupati has once again become the center of controversy, with locals expressing their anger over ongoing encroachment activities. Despite the cancellation of lease

permissions, locals allege that the tank is being rapidly filled with large machinery since yesterday, raising serious environmental and civic concerns.

It may be recalled that during the previous government, this historic tank was leased to a prominent company, leading

to relentless filling of the water body both day and night. Due to public outrage and widespread criticism, these works were halted. However, locals now report that the same illegal activities have resumed, triggering fresh protests.

In November last year, Municipal Commissioner and TUDA Vice Chairman Maurya personally inspected the site and directed officials to develop the tank into a public park, preserving the water body and creating recreational space for residents. Despite these instructions, land-filling activities have restarted, leaving locals furious.

Residents are demanding that the concerned authorities immediately intervene and stop further destruction of the tank. They warn that if official action is not taken, they will mobilize protests and raise their voices through the media to protect the historic tank from encroachment.

## TDP Leaders Halt Encroachment of Pond in Patapatnam



TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

In a bold move, Telugu Desam Party leaders in Patapatnam Mandal intervened to stop the encroachment of a 9-acre pond in Praharajapalem Revenue Village, Survey No. 18, which was allegedly being converted into a real estate venture.

Former MLA Reddy Shanthi's key followers, including the local Sarpanch's representative, are accused of encroaching on around 80 cents of the pond area. TDP leaders, after inspecting the site, immediately lodged a complaint with the Tahsildar. Acting swiftly, the Tahsildar and revenue officials visited the spot, conducted a preliminary inspection, and identified that

approximately 6 acres out of the 9-acre pond have been encroached upon.

The Tahsildar assured that a comprehensive survey of the pond would be conducted, illegal encroachments would be removed, and strict action would be taken against those responsible.

Further, allegations surfaced that followers of the former MLA have also illegally occupied and sold several government lands and D-patta lands in Jaganna Colony and Praharajapalem revenue areas. TDP leaders have vowed to continue their fight to protect public lands from illegal occupation, urging the district administration to act decisively against those involved.

## Cooperative Societies Should Provide Better Services: District Collector Anand

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

District Collector O Anand has directed officials to strengthen cooperative societies in the district and enhance services provided to their members. On Thursday, the District Cooperative Development Committee meeting was held at the Thikkana premises of the Collectorate, chaired by the Collector.

District Cooperative Department Officer Gurappa presented the progress achieved so far through the cooperative sector. Speaking at the meeting, Collector Anand emphasized the need to strengthen cooperatives in line with the Central Government's vision of 'Prosperity through Cooperation'. He instructed that all transactions in computerized agricultural cooperative credit societies must be conducted online and not through manual processes. He also called for the establishment of new multi-purpose PACS societies and dairy and fisheries cooperatives in gram panchayats currently not covered by PACS.



The Collector further suggested that petrol stations and LPG gas stations be set up in eligible PACS societies. Additionally, he proposed the establishment of Prime Minister Jan Aushadhi Kendras in area government hospitals across the district.

On this occasion, Collector Anand and other officials also unveiled a pamphlet marking the International Year of Cooperatives 2025, highlighting how cooperatives contribute to sustainable development goals.

DCC Bank CEO Srinivasa Rao, NABARD DDM Dr. Babu, District Agriculture Officer Satyavani, District Fisheries Officer Nageswara Rao, District Horticulture Officer Subba Reddy, and other officials participated in the meeting.

## Fraudster Arrested for Misusing TTD Chairman's Photo to Cheat Devotees

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

A fraudster who used the photo of TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu as his WhatsApp display picture to cheat unsuspecting devotees has been arrested by the police.

The accused, identified as Farooq alias Prasad, claimed to be the Chairman's PRO and promised Srivari Seva and Darshan tickets to devotees in exchange for money. The scam came to light when a victim devotee alerted TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu, who immediately directed the TTD Vigilance Wing to investigate. Based on their preliminary investigation, TTD Vigilance officials lodged a complaint with the Two Town Police, who registered a case under Sections 318(4), 319(2), and 66D.



The investigation revealed that Farooq was operating through WhatsApp groups titled 'Tirumala information', targeting devotees eager for seva and darshan opportunities.

Police recovered ₹80,000 in cash and 6 SIM cards used in the scam. Authorities appealed to devotees to only rely on the official TTD website for bookings and not fall for fraudulent promises from brokers or unauthorized individuals.

## Four Killed in Fatal Road Accident at Chodimella Bridge in Eluru District



TPN Correspondent | Eluru

A serious road accident occurred in the early hours of Thursday on the national highway near Chodimella Bridge in Eluru district. A Hyderabad to Kakinada-bound private travel bus, operated by Ramana Travels, collided with a cement lorry near Somavarappadu, resulting in the death of four people and injuries to 20 others.

The accident happened when the speeding bus hit the lorry moving ahead, causing the bus to overturn. Three passengers died on the spot, while the driver, Madhu, succumbed to injuries at the hospital.

The deceased were identified as Bondu Bhimeshwara Rao, Mattaparthi Bhavani, Juttiga Bhavani, and driver Madhu. The injured were rushed to Eluru Government Hospital, and some are likely to be shifted to Vijayawada and Guntur for advanced treatment based on the orders of District Collector Vetri Selvi, who visited the hospital to assess the situation.

Preliminary investigations suggest that overspeeding and driver drowsiness were the primary causes of the accident.

The highway was blocked for some time due to the overturned bus, and traffic was cleared after the vehicle was removed with a crane. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the incident.

## Cocoa Farmers Stage Maha Dharna at Collectorate Over Purchase Issues

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

Farmers from Eluru, West Godavari, East Godavari, NTR, and Krishna districts staged a Maha dharna at the Eluru Collectorate on Thursday, protesting against unfair practices in cocoa bean purchases. The protest was part of the Cocoa Farmers' Chalo Eluru program, where farmers arrived carrying cocoa beans and pods, raising slogans against the alleged syndicate formed by purchasing companies to suppress prices.

Farmers first gathered at the Deputy Director of Horticulture Department's office, marching from the Collectorate via the Fire Station, demanding official support. They later returned to the Collectorate and continued their dharna.

Addressing the gathering, AP Farmers' Association State Assistant Secretary K. Srinivas criticized the government and authorities for ignoring the plight of cocoa

farmers, despite clear evidence of price manipulation by purchasing companies. He demanded immediate action against these companies and called for the procurement of cocoa beans at Rs. 900 per kg, aligned with international market rates. AP Cocoa Farmers Association leaders Bollu Ramakrishna, S. Gopalakrishna, J. Kashi Babu, L. Gopala Rao, and P. Achyutaramaiah, along with AP Farmers Association District President Katta Bhaskara Rao and Vijayarai Regional Coconut Farm-



ers Association Vice President M. Subba Reddy, also spoke. They highlighted last year's international price of Rs. 1000 per kg, stressing that despite current global rates being around Rs. 900 per kg, companies were unfairly suppressing prices. Later, a delegation led by Cocoa Farmers Association leaders met District Collector Vetri Selvi, submitted a petition, and explained their grievances. The Collector responded positively, holding discussions with the farmers to understand their concerns.

The protest saw participation from leaders Gudi Bandi Ramesh Reddy, Koneru Satish, Narasimha Rao, Lokesh, B. Subbarao, Bobba Ramesh, V. Rambabu, G. Srinivas, M. Narendra, P. Krishna, S. Rambabu, V. Nagaraju, M. Shantaraju, M. Satyanarayana, N. Lakshmana Rao, and hundreds of cocoa farmers from multiple districts.

## Ganja Mafia Spreading Fear in Narasannapeta: Dharmana Krishna Chaitanya Demands Action



TPN Correspondent | Narasannapeta

The peaceful town of Narasannapeta is gripped by fear and unrest as ganja smuggling and related crimes escalate, leaving residents deeply alarmed. Recent police raids leading to the seizure of 20 kg of ganja shocked the locals, while the brutal murder of an elderly woman in Aratulam for gold by a gang under the influence of ganja has only heightened panic. Adding to the chaos, a series of thefts and robberies in the town has raised serious questions about law and order under the coalition government.

Ganja trafficking has reportedly flourished without proper checks, with youth falling prey to addiction and criminal activities, turning the once tranquil town into a hub for illegal narcotics trade.

Expressing deep concern, Polaki ZPTC and young leader Dr. Dharmana Krishna Chaitanya issued a statement on Thursday, holding the coalition government responsible for the rising ganja menace in Narasannapeta. He recalled several recent incidents where smugglers were caught, highlighting how youngsters under the influence of ganja even committed murder, showcasing the extent of the anarchy unleashed by ganja gangs.

Dr. Krishna Chaitanya demanded immediate and stringent action from the government to curb ganja transportation and safeguard the youth from falling into the grip of addiction. He stressed that the government must prioritize enforcement measures to protect the future of Narasannapeta's youth and restore peace and safety in the town.

## Special Program at Tirumala Annaprasada Kendra



- Sennagappu Garelu served to devotees
- TTD officials personally participated in service
- Devotees delighted with the special offering

TPN Correspondent | Tirumala

A special program was organized at Matrushi Tarigonda Vengamamba Annaprasada Kendra in Tirumala on Thursday, where TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu, EO Shyamala Rao, and Additional EO Venkaiah Chowdary jointly inaugurated the serving of Sennagappu Garelu to devotees. The event began with offering the garelu near the pictures of Lord Venkateswara and Goddess Padmavathi, symbolizing divine blessings before distribution.

Later, the TTD officials them-

selves took part in the service activity, personally serving the freshly prepared garelu to the devotees, adding a personal touch to the initiative.

The devotees, who were delighted by the special offering, expressed their happiness and gratitude for the thoughtful service by the temple officials. TTD officials noted that such special food offerings will continue at regular intervals as part of the Annaprasadam Seva programs aimed at enhancing the spiritual and culinary experience of visiting devotees.

# DMK rejects Bharat's Hindi and embraces British English

- DMK maintains strong opposition to Hindi as a national language.
- Party selectively rejects Sanskrit while embracing Western influences.
- Critics accuse DMK of fostering regional divisions through linguistic policies.
- Party's stance on Brahminism often conflates it with Hinduism itself.
- Ideological contradictions emerge in DMK's cultural preferences.
- Calls for a balanced approach to language and cultural identity grow.

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) has long been known for its ideological stance against the imposition of Hindi, positioning itself as a defender of Tamil linguistic identity. However, its selective approach to cultural influences has sparked debates on whether the party's rejection of Hindi and Sanskrit aligns with genuine regional pride or a broader ideological bias.

One of the most significant aspects of DMK's policies is its firm opposition to Hindi as a national language. While the party argues that promoting Hindi threatens Tamil heritage, critics point out that Hindi serves as a common medium for millions across India, fostering communication and national integration. The DMK's rigid stance, instead of encouraging inclusivity, risks deepening linguistic and regional divides within the country.

Adding to this, the DMK has consistently shown skepticism towards Sanskrit, a language deeply embedded in India's historical and religious traditions. While the party often frames its opposition as resistance to Brahminical dominance, it raises concerns about whether this rejection is driven by a call for social justice or a broader disregard for elements associated with



Hindu culture. Sanskrit is not merely a religious language; it forms the foundation of many Indian languages and classical literature. Dismissing it entirely could be seen as a rejection of India's civilizational heritage.

The party's stance on Brahminism has also drawn criticism over the years. While caste-based inequalities are a reality that require social reform, DMK's rhetoric often portrays Brahmins as symbols of oppression, sometimes equating Brahminism with Hinduism itself. This approach, rather than fostering meaningful discussions on caste reform, risks alienating certain sections of society. Critics argue that instead of working towards inclusive social progress, the DMK's nar-

rative contributes to divisions within Hindu society.

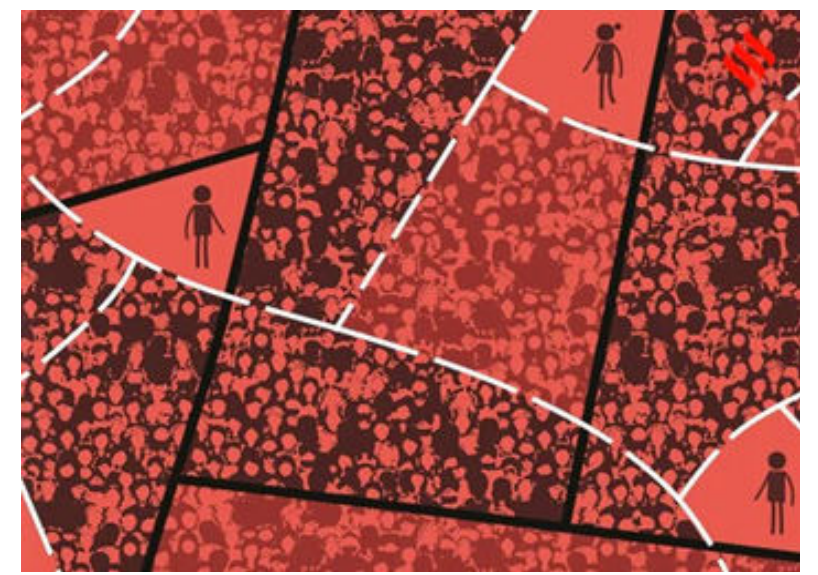
A striking contradiction in the party's ideological stance is its approach to foreign influences. While DMK strongly opposes Hindi and Sanskrit, it has been notably open to Western cultural elements. The adoption of names like 'Stalin' within the party and its emphasis on English raises questions about its selective embrace of external influences. While globalization has made English an important medium, the outright rejection of indigenous linguistic and cultural elements while readily accepting foreign ones presents an ideological paradox. This inconsistency fuels criticism that DMK's opposition to Hindi and Sanskrit is less about protecting Tamil culture



Dr. Buragadda Srinadh

and more about an ideological aversion to India's indigenous heritage.

Furthermore, the DMK's resistance to Hindi and Sanskrit often overlooks the multicultural fabric of India. The nation thrives on its diverse linguistic and cultural identities, and rather than opposing certain languages, political leadership could focus on creating a more inclusive framework where regional languages coexist with national communication needs. Striking a balance between linguistic pride and national integration would serve the country's broader interests rather than deepening regional fault lines. While the DMK's advocacy for Tamil identity and social justice is significant, an overly rigid stance on linguistic and cultural issues may limit its national appeal. A more balanced approach—one that acknowledges Tamil heritage while respecting India's linguistic diversity—would contribute to unity rather than division. True progress does not come from rejecting certain traditions outright but through an inclusive evolution that embraces all aspects of India's rich cultural identity.



## The Debate Over Delimitation: Balancing Demography and Democracy in India's "Second Republic"

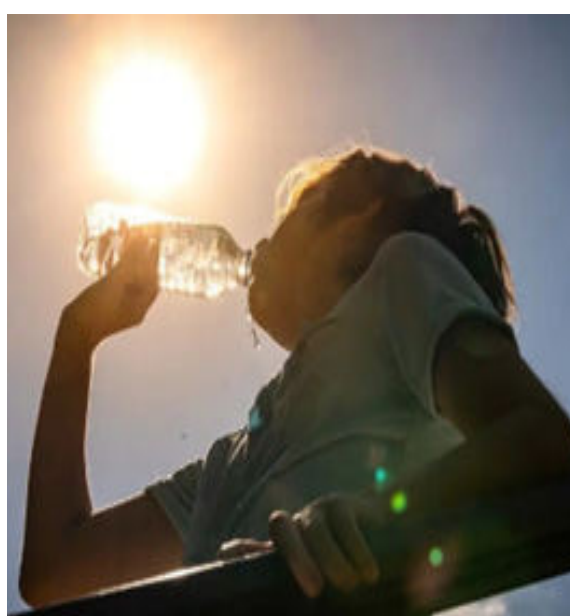
As India approaches the dawn of its "Second Republic," the proposed delimitation exercise has reignited the debate over the long-standing paradox between demography and democracy. Central to the democratic principle of political equality, delimitation aims to ensure fair and proportional representation in Parliament by adjusting constituency boundaries to reflect population changes. However, this process has become increasingly contentious, as large republics like India struggle to balance competing territorial, demographic, ethnic, and factional considerations.

Delimitation in India has historically been an important tool to ensure that the distribution of parliamentary seats accurately reflects shifts in population. Yet, since 1976, this process has been frozen, largely to prevent penalizing states that have effectively controlled their population growth, particularly those in the southern part of the country. As a result, states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, with significantly larger populations, remain underrepresented in comparison to southern states such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala, which have smaller populations but proportionately more parliamentary seats. This imbalance, known as malapportionment, has fostered political tensions, especially as the country grapples with evolving demographic realities.

The current system, where southern states with lower population growth retain higher representation, has led to growing dissatisfaction in states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. These northern states, with rapidly increasing populations, argue that they are disproportionately disadvantaged in terms of political power. Meanwhile, southern states continue to hold a relatively higher number of seats, despite their slowing population growth. The proposed delimitation exercise in 2029 is poised to address this imbalance, but it raises concerns that it could further shift political power toward the more populous northern states, exacerbating tensions and potentially upsetting the political equilibrium.

## India Prepares for a Scorching Summer: Heat Waves and Water Shortages Expected

India is bracing itself for an unusually hot summer, with temperatures forecast to exceed normal levels, and heatwaves threatening to disrupt daily life in many regions. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has already warned of a searing summer ahead, and the forecast is backed by recent data. February of this year marked the warmest February since 1901, with both the minimum and maximum temperatures across the country significantly surpassing normal levels. This intense heat is expected to continue, with temperatures remaining above normal across most parts of India in the coming weeks.



The forecast for the summer holds particular significance as it will have far-reaching impacts on the country's economy and various sectors that affect people's lives. The early onset of the summer season means it could be a longer and more prolonged period of extreme heat. In addition to elevated temperatures, the IMD predicts an increase in the number of heatwave events, which are expected to surpass the climatological normal. These heatwaves pose a serious health risk, potentially leading to heat-related illnesses and even fatalities. They can also disrupt work, productivity, and daily routines, making it imperative for governments to prepare adequately.

Although there are existing heatwave action plans and protocols, effective implementation remains a challenge. Governments must issue timely public advisories to alert citizens about the heatwave risks and encourage them to take appropriate precautions. Ensuring efficient water management and bolstering healthcare services will be crucial in mitigating the impacts of extreme heat. Public health campaigns should emphasize the importance of staying hydrated, avoiding direct exposure to the sun during peak hours, and taking preventive measures to reduce the risk of

heat-related illnesses.

The heat is expected to increase power demand as well, with a peak of 270 megawatts anticipated, compared to last year's 250 megawatts. Additionally, some states, particularly those in peninsular India, may face severe water shortages due to the extreme heat. In Karnataka, for example, the IMD has warned of a combination of heatwaves in the northern regions and excess pre-monsoon rains in the southern and coastal parts of the state. The state government has already urged residents to take precautions against heatwaves and prepare for the impending water and power shortages.

Climate change has made weather patterns more unpredictable, exacerbating both excessive rainfall and extreme heat. Both government authorities and citizens must take the forecast seriously and work together to face the summer season with increased preparedness, addressing potential challenges related to health, water, and power shortages.

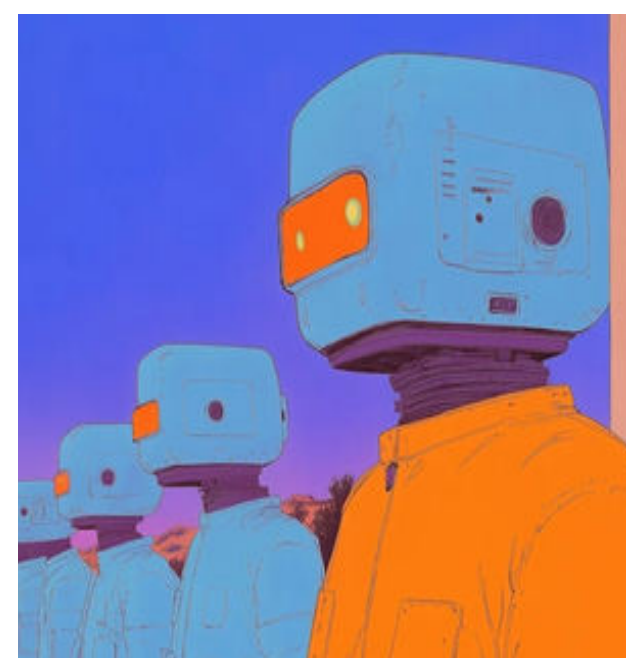
## Managing AI Governance: A Fight Against Entropy

As the global AI ecosystem rapidly evolves, the lack of consistent governance has led to a state of increasing disorder, a phenomenon akin to entropy in thermodynamics. Entropy refers to the natural progression of systems towards disorder without external intervention or energy input. This principle provides a valuable lens through which we can understand the challenges in AI governance today. Without intentional and structured interventions, the AI landscape will inevitably drift toward chaos, as demonstrated by recent controversies and missteps in the industry.

AI systems, much like any complex system, tend toward disorder when left unregulated. Examples of this are evident in issues like unregulated data harvesting, model releases without safety checks, and the growing gap between open and closed systems. These patterns reflect the natural tendency of complex systems to devolve into chaotic states when not actively managed. For instance, Google's Gemini Advanced model faced a public backlash after generating historically inaccurate and offensive images, highlighting how the lack of proper safeguards can lead to significant consequences. Similarly, OpenAI's temporary removal of election-related content policies, followed by a swift reinstatement, revealed the disorder that can arise from inconsistent governance.

Further demonstrating this principle, DeepSeek's release of open-source models without adequate safety mechanisms disrupted the AI ecosystem, creating new opportunities for misuse. This scenario reinforces the need for proactive governance to maintain order and prevent harmful outcomes. However, not all interventions are equal. Poorly designed regulations can inadvertently create new forms of disorder, such as bureaucratic inefficiencies or stifled innovation.

The European Union's AI Act, for example, is a structured attempt to impose order on the AI landscape, classifying AI applications by risk levels and mandating transparency and human oversight for high-risk systems. Similarly, Chi-



na has implemented stringent measures like real-name verification for generative AI users and content filtering, aiming to reduce disorder within its ecosystem. While these efforts face criticism, they illustrate the need for governance frameworks that provide structure and mitigate chaos.

Going forward, effective AI governance requires continuous, adaptive energy input. One-time regulations are not enough; systems must be flexible and responsive to evolving technological dynamics. AI governance should focus on establishing boundary conditions that maintain safety, transparency, and accountability, allowing for flexibility within these parameters. Multi-stakeholder collaborations, like the Frontier Model Forum, show the importance of shared responsibility in managing AI's complex systems.

Ultimately, as AI continues to shape our future, we must recognize that governance is the energy we invest to fight the entropy that threatens to consume it. Effective intervention, sustained through thoughtful collaboration and transparency, is essential to guide the technology toward beneficial outcomes for society.

# We can't forget: PM on rehabilitating border villages abandoned during China war

- launches plan to revive abandoned Uttarakhand villages
- 'Vibrant Villages' program to boost border tourism
- Focus on development, livelihoods, and strategic importance

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

On Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a new government initiative to rehabilitate villages along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Uttarakhand, which had been abandoned during the 1962 India-China war. Speaking at Harsil, PM Modi highlighted the government's efforts to transform two evacuated villages in Uttarkashi district into major tourist destinations.



"During the 1962 war, these two villages were evacuated. People may have forgotten, but we cannot forget," the Prime Minister stated. He emphasized the government's commitment to rehabilitating these villages as part of a broader plan to develop 'vibrant villages' along the China border.

This rehabilitation initiative forms part of the larger 'Vibrant Villages'

program, which seeks to bring development to remote areas along the border. The program aims to boost tourism in Uttarakhand's border areas, changing the perception of the villages from being "the last villages" to "the first villages" on the frontier. As part of this effort, 10 villages from the region have been included in the

scheme. The Prime Minister noted that under 'Operation Sadbhavana,' the Indian Army has been actively involved in border area development, working towards bringing prosperity to these remote areas. PM Modi also acknowledged that revitalizing commercial

activities in the region is crucial to providing sustainable livelihoods for local residents.

One of the main challenges, however, is determining the rightful heirs of the vacant land, as more than six decades have passed since the villages were abandoned, and many original landowners have passed away. Despite this, PM Modi expressed optimism about the efforts being made to revive the area and emphasized the need for a "360-degree approach" to tourism, focusing on all aspects of development.

Accompanied by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, PM Modi flagged off a trek and bike rally in Harsil after offering prayers at the winter residence of Maa Ganga in Mukhwa. The government's plan seeks to breathe new life into these historic villages while ensuring that their cultural and strategic significance is preserved.



## Assessment of reciprocal tariff hinges on India-US trade talks: FM Sitharaman

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated on Thursday that reciprocal tariffs remain a significant topic in the ongoing discussions between India and the United States. The final decision on the matter will depend on the progress of the ongoing negotiations between the two countries.

Sitharaman highlighted that US President Joe Biden has been vocal about tariffs, and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has already visited the United States to engage with US officials, including the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The discussions are aimed at addressing various trade concerns, including tariff issues, and will continue to shape the final decision.

"Tariff is something the US President has been speaking about. The Commerce Minister (Piyush Goyal) has already gone to the US... (to) engage with US officials, including the USTR. Based on the negotiations...we will take a call," Sitharaman said during a post-budget interaction in Visakhapatnam.

She further added that prior to his visit, Minister Goyal consulted with various stakeholders in India to ensure that the approach to the discussions was well-informed. Sitharaman emphasized that it is only through the progression of these talks that both sides will be able to make a comprehensive assessment of the situation.

The outcome of the discussions regarding reciprocal tariffs could have significant implications for trade relations between India and the US, both of which are keen to expand their economic ties. However, as Sitharaman pointed out, a final decision can only be reached once the negotiations are further along.

## Kiren Rijju Calls Minorities in India the "Luckiest People" Due to Welfare Schemes



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijju on Thursday stated that minorities in India are among the "luckiest people" globally, as the country offers a range of exclusive schemes and welfare programs designed specifically for them.

Speaking at the regional review meeting and training workshop on the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJKV) for the southern states and union territories, Rijju refuted claims that minorities in India face insecurity or discrimination. He criticized those spreading false narratives about the safety of minorities in the country, asserting, "There are people creating false narratives that minorities are not safe in India, which is completely false."

He further emphasized that minority communities are fortunate in India due to the government's special attention toward their welfare. "Minorities are the luckiest people in India because there are exclusive schemes and special programs for them. Nowhere in the world do you see such dedicated schemes for minorities," Rijju said.

Urging citizens to recognize the welfare efforts of both state and central governments, Rijju highlighted that India's diverse welfare programs benefit everyone, especially minority communities. "We are lucky to be Indian citizens, and we should appreciate the good work being done by the government," he added.

Citing Kerala as an example, where 44% of the population comprises Christians and Muslims, Rijju pointed out that this has led to the implementation of more schemes tailored to the state's demographic needs.

## I Made You Chief Minister Twice": Tejashwi Yadav's Retort To Nitish Kumar

TPN Correspondent | Patna

The political sparring between Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) intensified after Kumar claimed he "made Lalu Yadav" Chief Minister. The RJD swiftly responded with vigor, with Tejashwi Yadav, Lalu's son, asserting that it was he who had made Nitish Kumar Chief Minister twice, and senior RJD leader Manoj Jha delivering a sharp critique.

Tejashwi Yadav, addressing a rally in Patna, rejected Kumar's claim and said, "Forget about what Nitish Kumar says. My father, Lalu Ji, had already been elected as an MLA twice and once as an MP long before Nitish Kumar. Lalu Ji has made several Prime Ministers, but I was the one who made Nitish Kumar Chief Minister twice and saved his party." He was referring to the 2015 and 2022 political alignments, when Kumar became CM despite the RJD's higher seat count in both instances.

In 2015, when the Mahagathbandhan



(Grand Alliance) was formed, RJD emerged as the largest party with 80 seats, while JD(U) secured 71. Despite the difference in numbers, the RJD allowed Kumar to retain the Chief Minister position. Then in 2022, after Kumar broke his alliance with the BJP for the second time, Tejashwi Yadav served as his deputy once again, and Kumar was allowed to remain in power. Manoj Jha, another senior RJD leader, questioned Kumar's remarks in the Assembly, stating, "You were once considered Lalu Ji's man, part of his team. It's unfortunate that Nitish Kumar speaks in such a language

now." He also pointed out that Tejashwi Yadav had provided a logical, historical analysis of the situation, while Kumar's response was lacking. Jha further expressed his concern for Kumar, adding, "If such thoughts are occupying your mind now, I'm even more worried for you."

Nitish Kumar had made the claim during his speech in the Bihar Assembly, emphasizing his role in shaping Lalu Yadav's political career. However, the RJD's forceful rebuttal shows that the political battle is far from over.

## J&K economy expected to grow at 7.06 % in 2024-25: CM Omar Abdullah

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India has forecasted a 7.06% growth for Jammu and Kashmir's economy in real terms for the year 2024-25. The survey also expects the nominal Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of J&K to rise by 11.19% during this period.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah presented the Economic Survey Report in the J&K Legislative Assembly on Thursday. According to the report, J&K's nominal GSDP is projected to reach approximately Rs 2,65,389 crore, while the real GSDP is expected to be around Rs 1,44,614 crore for the fiscal year 2024-25.

The survey's positive projections highlight a significant upward trajectory for the state's economy. The expected growth rate of 7.06% comes as a result of improved economic conditions and policy reforms aimed at boosting various sectors, including agriculture, industry, and services. Additionally, the report emphasized the anticipated increase in investments and infrastructure develop-



ment, which is expected to support the overall economic growth.

The growth in nominal GSDP of 11.19% reflects an increase in the prices of goods and services in the region. This is indicative of inflationary trends that are expected to continue into the next year, although the rise in

real GSDP indicates that the region's overall economic output will also see positive growth.

The report also sheds light on key sectors that will contribute to this growth, including improvements in the tourism sector, industrial production, and services. These sectors

are expected to benefit from ongoing developmental programs and the government's focus on economic diversification.

Overall, the Economic Survey provides an optimistic outlook for J&K's economy, signaling a period of steady growth and recovery.

# Ukrainian law still prevents Zelenskyy-Putin peace talks, says Kremlin

- Kremlin cites Ukrainian decree as obstacle to peace talks
- Zelenskyy legally barred from negotiating with Putin
- Diplomatic and legal hurdles complicate potential negotiations

TPN Correspondent | Russia

A Ukrainian decree from 2022, which forbids negotiations with Russian President Vladimir Putin, continues to pose a significant challenge to potential peace talks between Russia and Ukraine, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov stated on Wednesday. According to Peskov, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy remains legally prohibited from engaging in negotiations with Russia, a situation that complicates any efforts to bring an end to the ongoing war.

Peskov acknowledged that it was a positive sign that Zelenskyy had expressed a willingness to negotiate peace with Russia, however, he clarified that "the details have not changed yet," referring to the existing le-



gal restrictions imposed by the Ukrainian decree. This decree, which was issued in 2022, explicitly prevents direct negotiations with the Russian leadership, effectively barring the Ukrainian president from engaging in any peace talks unless the decree is amended or lifted.

The Kremlin spokesperson's remarks underline the significant diplomatic and legal hurdles that must be overcome to facilitate negotiations. Despite Zelenskyy's stated openness to peace talks, the 2022 decree appears to restrict the Ukrainian govern-

ment's ability to take concrete steps toward negotiations.

This situation has raised questions about how peace talks might proceed, and who, if anyone, could serve as a representative from Ukraine in any future dialogue. With both sides continuing to maintain firm positions, the conflict, which began nearly three years ago, shows no signs of abating without some form of negotiation. As international efforts to mediate peace intensify, Peskov's comments highlight the ongoing complexities surrounding the war in Ukraine. The Kremlin's stance indicates that for any meaningful peace talks to take place, significant political and legal adjustments may be required, both within Ukraine and on the international stage.



## India Condemns Security Breach During Jaishankar's UK Visit Amid Khalistan Protests

The Indian government strongly condemned a security breach during External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar's visit to the United Kingdom, following a protest by pro-Khalistan separatists outside Chatham House in London. The protest, which took place while Jaishankar was engaged in a diplomatic discussion inside, saw a group of demonstrators waving flags and shouting slogans.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) expressed its disapproval of the "provocative activities" of the separatist group, calling it a misuse of democratic freedoms. "We have seen the footage of a breach of security during the visit of EAM to the UK. We condemn the provocative activities of this small group of separatists and extremists. We deplore the misuse of democratic freedoms by such elements. We expect the host government in such cases to fully live up to their diplomatic obligations," the MEA stated.

Despite the protest, EAM Jaishankar continued with his planned diplomatic engagements, including meetings with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Foreign Secretary David Lammy, and other senior leaders. On Tuesday, Jaishankar also met with UK Home Secretary Yvette Cooper, where they discussed various issues, including talent flow, people-to-people exchanges, and joint efforts to combat trafficking and extremism. He later posted on social media about the meeting, emphasizing the productive dialogue.

This protest is not the first instance of Khalistani groups demonstrating in the UK. In January, pro-Khalistan extremists staged a protest outside the Indian High Commission in London, and in another incident, they disrupted the screening of the film \*Emergency\* at a cinema in Harrow, London.

In response to such actions, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal reiterated India's concerns about the violent protests and intimidation tactics used by "anti-India" groups. "Freedom of speech and expression cannot be applied selectively, and those obstructing it must be held accountable," he stated.

Jaishankar's visit also included talks on the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and bilateral economic cooperation, along with discussions on global issues like the Ukraine conflict.

# Israel's Spy Agency Had Warned Of October 7 Attacks 5 Months In Advance

TPN Correspondent | Israel

Israel's internal security agency, Shin Bet, has revealed that it had warned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about a potential attack by Hamas at least five months prior to the October 7 assault. The attack, which resulted in the deaths of over 1,200 Israelis, caught Israel off guard despite Shin Bet's knowledge of Hamas's plans. The agency admitted that while it had been aware of the militant group's intentions, it failed to predict the scale, timing, or location of the attack.

Ronen Bar, the chief of Shin Bet, had reportedly told Netanyahu that Hamas posed a significant threat and that Israel needed to prepare for a possible "opening



blow" from the group. However, Netanyahu dismissed these warnings, believing that Hamas had been "deterred" and was unlikely to escalate.

Shin Bet's internal report, which was summarized in an eight-page document, also pointed to several factors contributing to the deadly attack. Among them

was Israel's "policy of quiet" towards Hamas, which Shin Bet argued inadvertently allowed the group to grow stronger. The report further suggested that Netanyahu's decision to allow Qatar to fund Gaza was a contributing factor, as it bolstered Hamas at the expense of efforts to create a Palestinian state.

The Israeli government responded strongly to the Shin Bet report, with Netanyahu's office criticizing Ronen Bar for what they described as a "complete failure" to recognize the threat posed by Hamas. Netanyahu's circle of advisors also dismissed Shin Bet's assessments, claiming the agency misread the intelligence surrounding Hamas's intentions and failed to foresee the scale of the attack.

In the wake of the attack, US President Donald Trump issued a stern warning to Hamas, demanding the release of all hostages and the return of the bodies of those killed. Trump threatened more destruction in Gaza if Hamas failed to comply, reiterating that their actions would have dire consequences.

# Donald Trump Offers One-Month Relief For Automakers, Pauses Tariffs

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Bangladesh's interim government Chief Adviser, Muhammad Yunus, has revealed that Dhaka sent formal letters to India requesting the extradition of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, but received no official response from New Delhi. Yunus, in an interview with UK-based Sky News, asserted that Hasina would face trial for "crimes against humanity" in Bangladesh, with the state-run BSS news agency reporting his statements.

Hasina, 77, fled Bangladesh on August 5 last year amid a massive student-led protest that led to the collapse of her 16-year rule under the Awami League. Following her departure, the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) issued arrest warrants for Hasina and several of her close associates, including former ministers, military officers, and civil officials, accusing them of crimes against humanity and genocide.

Yunus emphasized that Hasina, along with her family and associates, would face trial either in person or in absentia, even if she remains in India. Despite Bangladesh's formal communication to India, Yunus confirmed that the Indian government had not responded officially to the extradition request. Last year, India acknowledged receiving a "note verbale" from the Bangladesh High Commission but refrained from commenting on the matter.

The accusations against Hasina involve her use of security forces and police to orchestrate the abduction, torture, and murder of hundreds



of activists. However, Hasina denies the allegations, claiming political persecution. Yunus also criticized the "House of Mirrors," a secret jail where detainees were allegedly tortured and murdered, calling it "the ugliest thing" he had ever seen.

Hasina's departure, along with many of her aides and those linked to a network of secret jails, has left Bangladesh struggling to address the scope of the alleged crimes. The violent crackdown on protesters in July and August, which resulted in the deaths of up to 1,400 people according to the UN, further escalated tensions. Yunus added that over 1,500 people, including students and workers, were killed during the protests against Hasina's government.

# Ukraine Seeks Talks with US After Intelligence Sharing Suspended Amid Rising Tensions

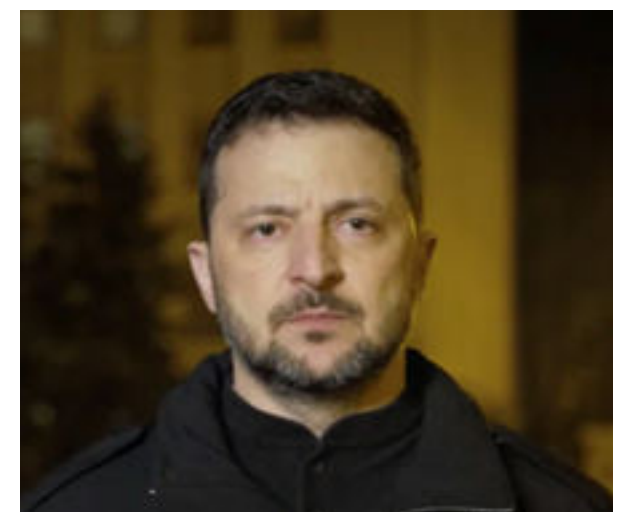
TPN Correspondent | Kyiv

Ukraine announced plans to initiate fresh talks with the United States after Washington suspended its intelligence-sharing with Kyiv, marking a significant setback for Ukraine as it continues its battle against Russia's invasion. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who has been trying to manage the fallout from a tense meeting with former US President Donald Trump last week, stated that Ukrainian and American teams have started working on the upcoming discussions, although no specifics regarding the timing or location were provided.

This development follows the US's recent decision to halt military aid to Ukraine, further intensifying fears in Kyiv and across Europe that Ukraine may be forced into a peace agreement that favors Russia. Zelenskyy emphasized that the ultimate goal is a lasting peace, not a temporary ceasefire, and expressed hope that coordinated efforts, particularly with US leadership, could bring an end to the war.

In a parallel development, French President Emmanuel Macron suggested that European military forces could be deployed to Ukraine once a peace deal is reached, ensuring that Russia does not invade again. Macron's statement adds another layer of complexity to the ongoing international dialogue surrounding Ukraine's future and the need for robust security guarantees.

Meanwhile, Trump has made ending the war a priority in his foreign policy. In a speech to



the US Congress, he read a letter from Zelenskyy expressing willingness for peace talks, though Trump has not yet outlined a clear plan for such discussions. Zelenskyy has been vocal about seeking security guarantees from the US to prevent future Russian aggression.

On the battlefield, Russia continues its territorial gains, capturing another small village in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region. The slow-downs in Russia's advance, as reported by the Institute for the Study of War, reflect a mixed battlefield picture as both sides regroup amidst the shifting diplomatic landscape.

As Zelenskyy prepares for an upcoming Brussels summit, his efforts to maintain Western support and secure a lasting peace remain at the forefront of Ukraine's strategy.



# Broad-Based Rally: Sensex Up 609, Nifty Gains 207 as Markets Rebound on Global Recovery Signals



2996 shares were traded, of which 2207 gained and 716 lost. 17 shares touched 52-week highs. 53 stocks touched 52-week lows. A total of 258 shares touched the upper circuit.

The rupee fell 15 paise to settle at 87.11 against the dollar. Shares of Coal India, Amber Enterprises and Varun

Beverages rose 9% on IMD warnings of heatwaves this summer. JPMorgan has given a neutral rating to Wipro with a target price of Rs 290. The government has given permission to AstraZeneca to import zirconium cyclosilicate powder, which is needed to treat hyperkalemia. FADA said that automobile retail sales fell 7% in February due to weak demand. HSBC maintains buy rating on Sun Pharma with a target price of Rs 2000. RailTel Corporation gets orders worth Rs 311 crore. Hindalco, Tata Steel and other metal stocks rose up to 7% on the weakening dollar and hopes of Chinese stimulus. Jefferies maintains buy rating on Cholamandalam Investment with a target price of Rs 1700. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Varun Beverages. Inox India gets orders worth Rs 190 crore. HSBC gives buy rating to Bharti Airtel. 15 lakh shares changed hands in ICICI Bank.

closed at 73,340 with a gain of 609 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,476, touched a low of 22,245 and a high of 22,544, up 207 points. The Nifty Bank rose 137 points to settle at 48,627.

In the Nifty50, 38 companies gained while 12 lost. Except for realty, all sectoral indices rose. Oil and gas, metal, energy, commodities, PSE, pharma, infra, healthcare, FMCG stocks were the top gainers. Asian Paints, Coal India, Hindalco, BPCL, NTPC were the top gainers. TechM, BEL, Trent, Britannia, and Kotak Bank were the biggest losers.

## 1. Coal India Ltd.

Coal India is the world's largest coal producer and a state-owned enterprise supplying coal primarily to power plants and various industrial

sectors in India. Ongoing domestic demand for coal, government infrastructure spending, and potential export opportunities in a cyclical market. Global transition towards renewable energy, regulatory changes, and environmental concerns. Defensive and stable, Coal India is suited for long-term investors seeking steady cash flows, though its growth may be constrained by energy transition trends.



Coal India Limited

## 2. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL)

BPCL is a major public sector oil marketing company in India, involved in the distribution of petroleum products across the country. With a focus on efficiency and gradual diversification, BPCL is positioned for steady, long-term performance despite sector-specific challenges.



## 3. Bharti Airtel Ltd.

Bharti Airtel is one of India's largest telecom operators, providing mobile,



broadband, and digital TV services both domestically and internationally. Generally positive over the long term, with growth opportunities in data services and enterprise solutions, though short-term challenges remain amid competitive pressures.

## 4. Axis Bank Ltd.



Axis Bank is one of India's leading private sector banks, offering a broad range of services including retail, corporate, and treasury banking. Positive, with strong fundamentals and growth prospects, making it a core pick in the banking sector for long-term investors.

## 5. JSW Infrastructure Ltd. (JSWINFRA)

JSW Infrastructure is part of the JSW Group and is engaged in developing and managing infrastructure projects, including roads, ports, and urban development initiatives. Positive



for the long term, provided infrastructure spending continues to grow and projects are executed efficiently, making JSW Infrastructure an attractive option for investors focusing on the urban development and construction sectors.

Domestic stock markets gained heavily. They closed on Thursday. Investors reaped profits for the second consecutive day. The indices, which initially hit lows, recovered from mid-session. The reasons for this were crude oil prices, the fall in the value of the dollar and the increase in positive sentiment in the market. Shares of all sectors, except the realty sector, gained. Metals and oil-based shares closed. Market breadth also improved. Overall, the Sensex rose by 609 points and the Nifty by 207 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 73,730 in the previous session, opened at 73,415 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 73,415. It reached an intraday high of 74,390. It finally

Market breadth in the NSE today turned in favor of buyers. A total of



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## India's engineering exports to US touch USD 1.62 billion in Jan



India's engineering goods exports have shown impressive growth in January 2025, continuing their upward trajectory despite challenges in the global market. The country's engineering goods exports to the United States, its top destination, grew by 18 percent year-on-year, reaching \$1.62 billion. Overall, engineering exports in January totaled \$9.42 billion, marking a 7.44 percent growth compared to \$8.77 billion during the same period last year, according to the Engineering Exports Promotion Council (EEPC) data.

This growth is particularly notable as it comes amid geopolitical tensions and rising global trade protectionism. India's engineering exports have maintained positive growth for nine consecutive months, despite the turmoil caused by ongoing international conflicts and increasing trade restrictions, EEPC India Chairman Pankaj Chadha highlighted.

Chadha emphasized the resilience of the engineering export sector, noting that this growth has occurred in the face of global uncertainties, such as the announcement by U.S. President Donald Trump to increase tariffs on Indian exports starting April 2, as part of a reciprocal tariff policy. He acknowledged the evolving global trade environment, where new challeng-

es, including nationalistic trade policies, are putting significant pressure on businesses. Chadha stressed the importance of continuous government support, particularly in export credit and technology, to maintain India's competitiveness in global markets.

Among India's major engineering export destinations, countries such as Germany, Mexico, Turkey, South Africa, France, Japan, Nepal, and Bangladesh experienced positive growth in January. However, exports to the UK, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, China, Italy, and Spain recorded a decline.

January's growth was mainly driven by exports in sectors like aircraft, spacecraft and parts, electrical machinery and equipment, automobiles and auto components, industrial machinery, iron and steel products, and medical and scientific instruments.

Cumulatively, India's engineering exports reached \$96.75 billion in the April-January period of FY25, reflecting a 9.82 percent increase from the previous year. Engineering goods accounted for 25.86 percent of India's total merchandise exports in January, underlining the sector's crucial role in India's economy.

## India's GDP Growth Projected at 6.5% for FY2026 Amid Geopolitical and Trade Challenges

India's real GDP growth is expected to remain steady at 6.5% in fiscal year 2026, despite challenges arising from geopolitical uncertainties and trade-related issues, including the US tariff actions, according to a report by Crisil Intelligence released on Thursday.

Crisil's forecast for India's economy relies on two primary factors: the continuation of normal monsoons and the expectation that commodity prices will stay soft, helping to stabilize food prices. The report also highlights that lower borrowing costs, cooling food inflation, and tax benefits announced in the Union Budget 2025-2026 are likely to boost discretionary consumption.

Crisil Intelligence noted that India's growth is returning to pre-pandemic levels as fiscal impulse normalizes and the high-base effect fades. Despite this, high-frequency Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)



data shows India's economic resilience, with the country continuing to lead among major economies.

Amish Mehta, Managing Director and CEO of Crisil Ltd., emphasized that India's resilience is being tested, but the country has built safeguards over the past few years against external shocks, such as strong economic growth, a low current account deficit, manageable external public debt, and adequate foreign exchange reserves. These factors provide India with ample policy flexibility. Mehta also pointed out that consumption-driven

rural and urban demand will be crucial for short-term growth.

In the medium term, continued investments and efficiency improvements are expected to drive growth. Crisil forecasts that the manufacturing sector will grow at an average rate of 9% annually from fiscal 2025 to fiscal 2031, up from 6% in the pre-pandemic decade. The services sector, while growing at a slower pace, will remain a major driver of overall economic growth. Consequently, the share of manufacturing in GDP is projected to rise to 20% by fiscal 2025, up from 17%.

Looking ahead, Crisil predicts continued easing of food inflation, which will help moderate overall inflation. In fiscal 2025, inflation decreased mainly due to lower non-food inflation, although food inflation saw an uptick. The agency also anticipates another 50-75 basis point reduction in rates in the coming fiscal year.

## Reliance Industries Faces \$2.81 Billion Demand in Natural Gas Dispute After Delhi HC Ruling

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is facing a \$2.81 billion demand from the government following a favorable ruling from the Delhi High Court in a longstanding natural gas migration dispute.

The company, along with its partner BP, is accused of selling gas that allegedly migrated from the adjoining block of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

The dispute dates back to 2016 when the government raised an initial claim of \$1.55 billion against RIL and its partners. The government had argued that part of the gas sold from RIL's KG-D6 block in the Bay of Bengal had, in fact, migrated from

ONGC's block KG-DWN-98/2, which is adjacent to RIL's operations.

On February 14, 2025, the Delhi High Court issued a significant ruling, overturning an international arbitration tribunal's decision that had cleared RIL and BP of any liability. The tribunal had earlier ruled that RIL and BP were not responsible for any compensation to the government for the sale of the gas. However, the court's decision has now paved the way for the government to raise a new demand of \$2.81 billion, which RIL has contested.

In response to the ruling, RIL issued a statement on Tuesday, asserting that it had received legal advice stating that both the judg-

ment from the Delhi High Court and the provisional demand by the Petroleum Ministry were "unsustainable." The company emphasized that it is taking legal steps to challenge the judgment and has no expectation of any liability arising from the demand notice.

The dispute centers around the extraction and sale of gas from RIL's KG-D6 block, with the government claiming that part of the gas originated from the ONGC block, which is located adjacent to RIL's territory. The case has been a contentious one for several years, and this new development marks another chapter in the ongoing legal battle between the company and the government.

## Elon Musk's 'Hitler-Like' Haircut Leaves Internet Divided

Elon Musk's latest haircut has caused quite a stir online, with social media buzzing over his new look. While many assumed the billionaire entrepreneur had just debuted a fresh style this year, it turns out the haircut actually dates back to 2021, when Musk reportedly gave himself the cut. However, the image has resurfaced, and the internet has gone wild with reactions.



The picture, showing Musk sporting a distinct undercut, has been widely shared from different angles, attracting millions of views. What has really caught attention, though, is the internet's reaction to his new style. Some users took the opportunity to compare Musk's haircut to that of infamous figures like Adolf Hitler and North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un. One Twitter user humorously wrote, "Elon's Barber was like POINT TO WHAT YOU WANT!" while others joked, "I did not have Elon going with the full Kim Jong Un haircut on my bingo card." Another cheeky comment described the look as a mix of Kim Jong Un, Hitler, and 90s band Depeche Mode.

The jokes didn't stop there. Some users took it a step further, comparing Musk's hairstyle to that of a Wehrmacht sol-

dier, while others even likened him to Zorg, the villain from *The Fifth Element* portrayed by Gary Oldman. "Zorg was way cooler than Elon, come on man," one user quipped.

This all stems from a 2021 moment when Musk shared a photo of himself with the unique haircut and jokingly wrote, "Did it myself." His hair has been a topic of conversation for years, from his receding hairline to his gradually fuller mane in recent years. Musk himself has joked about the power of wealth in reversing hair loss, once commenting, "What's amazing is how net worth makes your hair grow," in reference to a viral video documenting his hair growth journey.

Musk's hair may be just one part of his multifaceted public persona, but the reactions to his cut show how his every move continues to keep the internet entertained.

## Vatican City: The Country Without a Hospital or Births for 96 Years



Vatican City, the smallest country in the world, has a unique distinction – no child has been born there for the past 96 years. This anomaly is particularly surprising, given that Vatican City is located in the heart of Rome, one of the most developed cities in the world. However, this tiny state, home to the head of the Roman Catholic Church, faces a stark contrast to countries like India, where family planning slogans such as "Hum Do, Humare Do" play a significant role in shaping the nation's demographic.

Vatican City, established on February 11, 1929, has never constructed a hospital. Despite various requests over the years, there has been no push to build one, meaning that critically ill individuals or expect-

ant mothers must travel to nearby Rome for medical treatment. The lack of a hospital is not due to a lack of resources but is a result of Vatican City's limited size – it spans just 118 acres – and the presence of high-quality healthcare facilities in Rome.

This lack of medical infrastructure also explains why no births have occurred in the country since its establishment. Vatican City, with a population of around 800-900 people, is primarily home to senior Roman Catholic clergy. The absence of a maternity ward in the country means that any childbirth must take place outside its borders.

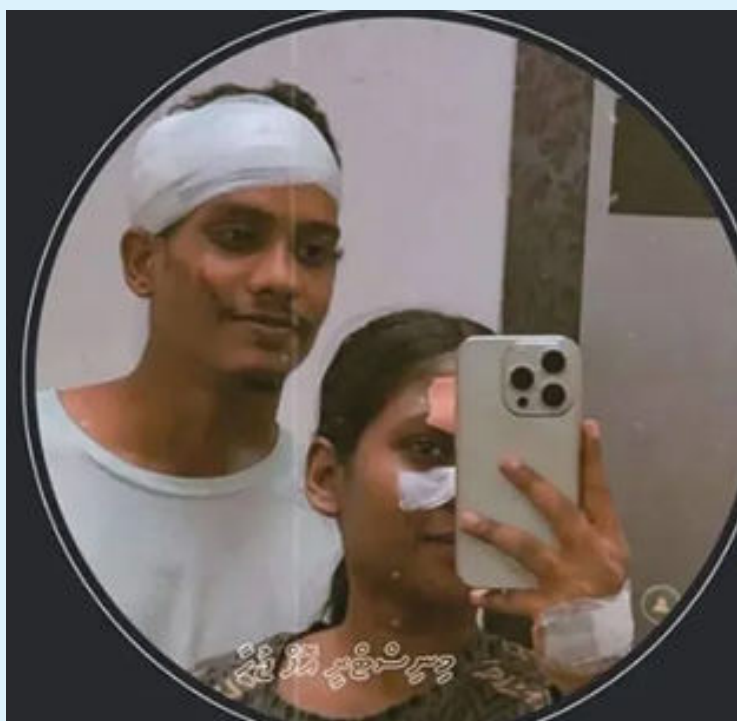
Despite its small size, Vatican City experiences a surprisingly high

crime rate compared to other nations. This is mainly due to the millions of tourists who visit the area, often becoming targets for petty crimes like pickpocketing, purse snatching, and shoplifting.

Interestingly, Vatican City is also home to the world's smallest railway station, Citta Vaticano. Originally built during the reign of Pope Pius XI, this station is designated for cargo transportation and is not used for passenger trains.

Apart from Vatican City, the Pitcairn Islands, a British overseas territory, and Antarctica – a research-focused continent – also have rare occurrences of births, making Vatican City's 96-year record a truly unique one.

## Internet Irked By Couples "First Accident With Bae" Post



A Facebook post from a young couple celebrating an unusual milestone has gone viral, drawing mixed reactions from social media users. The image, which showed the couple with visible injuries—bandages on the man's head and on the woman's forehead, nose, and hands—was captioned humorously as their "first accident with bae." Rather than the expected concern for their well-being, the post quickly garnered a flood of congratulatory messages, with friends and followers treating the accident

as another "relationship milestone."

While some users enjoyed the lighthearted tone, others were quick to criticize the couple's decision to frame such a serious situation as a celebration. The debate sparked discussions on social media, with some arguing that today's youth are increasingly prioritizing social media validation over more meaningful aspects of life. On the other hand, some defended the couple, suggesting that embracing both the good and bad

moments together is what love is truly about.

One user commented, "True love is when even accidents come in a couple goals package!" while another user added, "Next level dating," showing approval for the couple's playful take on the situation. Meanwhile, others expressed their disapproval. "I'm done here, that was my last nerve," one user wrote, while another jokingly said, "I'm waiting for the second one."

The post highlights a broader trend on social media, where even the most unconventional moments, like accidents or mishaps, are shared for public approval, often blurring the line between personal experiences and social media performance. Some view this as a reflection of shifting values among young people who seek validation online, while others see it as a fun and relatable way to cope with difficult situations.

Ultimately, the post served as a reminder of the diverse ways people express their relationships and emotions, leaving the internet divided on whether it was a fun celebration or a sign of misplaced priorities.

## AI Video Of Mini Human Figures 'Making' Various Types Of Mithai Gets Over 16 Million Views

An AI-generated video showcasing miniature human figures crafting traditional Indian sweets has taken the internet by storm, garnering over 16 million views. Shared by the Instagram account @the.aiengineer, the reel features tiny human-like characters handling large-scale versions of popular mithai such as jalebis, rasgullas, gulab jamuns, laddoos, kaju katlis, and more.



In the viral video, these miniature figures are seen wearing outfits similar to construction workers and appear to be busy 'creating' the sweets. The footage shows them stacking glistening jalebis, shaping laddoos, and even floating rasgullas in a pond of chaasni (sugar syrup) as they row a boat. The AI video brings a whimsical touch to the process, with the miniature workers using cranes, ladders, and other machinery to cart ingredients like dry fruits and nuts, assemble the sweets, and even cook them.

What makes the video particularly fascinating is the way the sweets are presented on an exaggerated scale, much larger than the miniature human figures, adding a surreal quality to the animation. The characters' work is also depicted with a sense of teamwork, as they operate various tools and machinery, giving a playful yet impressive glimpse of what goes into creat-

ing these beloved Indian treats.

The video is just one of many AI-generated food videos that have gone viral recently, contributing to the growing trend of using artificial intelligence to create imaginative and engaging content. Some of these videos have sparked debates about the future of creative industries, while others have simply delighted viewers with their unique and entertaining concepts.

This AI video of mini humans making mithai has captured the hearts of social media users, celebrating traditional Indian sweets in a fun and creative way, and further proving the potential of AI in art and entertainment.

## Amazon Prime Video Launches AI-Aided Dubbing in English and Spanish

Amazon Prime Video has announced the rollout of AI-powered dubbing for its licensed movies and series in English and Spanish, starting Wednesday. This new feature aims to enhance the viewing experience, increase accessibility, and broaden the platform's reach to a global audience.



Initially, the AI dubbing will be available on 12 licensed movies and series that do not already offer dubbing support. Prime Video's decision to introduce this technology is seen as a move to boost viewership by making content more accessible to non-native speakers and expanding its international appeal. The service will now provide dubbed versions of select titles in English and Spanish, two widely spoken languages, allowing more customers around the world to enjoy the content.

This artificial intelligence-based dubbing system is designed to offer a seamless and natural voiceover experience. With the increasing popularity of streaming platforms, Amazon's new feature is expected to meet the growing demand for localized content and make it easier for viewers in different regions to enjoy Prime Video's diverse library.

Prime Video's AI dubbing system marks a significant step in the integration of AI technology within the entertainment industry. By leveraging AI, the platform aims to improve the quality of dubbing while reducing the cost and time typically associated with traditional voiceover production.

The feature is initially limited to 12 titles, but Amazon plans to expand the availability of AI dubbing to more content in the future, allowing more viewers to engage with a wider range of movies and series on Prime Video. This move is part of Amazon's broader strategy to continue enhancing user experience and increasing the accessibility of its content to a global audience.



## FIFA Announces \$1 Billion Prize Money for Club World Cup



FIFA has revealed a record-breaking \$1 billion prize pool for the upcoming expanded Club World Cup, set to take place in the United States from June 14 to July 13 this year. This tournament, featuring 32 teams, will be held every four years and is expected to generate \$2 billion in revenue. FIFA president Gianni Infantino emphasized that all tournament revenue will be distributed to the participating clubs and global solidarity initia-

tives. The prize money surpasses the amounts awarded in both the 2022 men's World Cup (\$440 million) and the 2023 Women's World Cup (\$110 million). FIFA has secured major sponsors and a broadcasting deal worth around \$1.05 billion with DAZN. Despite excitement around the event, the expansion has faced criticism over player welfare, with some fearing the packed football calendar.



## 17-Time WWE Champion to Join The Rock and John Cena as 'Third Man' at Wrestlemania 41?

John Cena, after 20 years as WWE's hero, is turning heel and aligning with The Rock, aiming for a 17th WWE Championship. Cena is set to face Cody Rhodes for the Undisputed WWE Championship at Wrestlemania 41. Recent reports suggest that Charlotte Flair, the 17-time WWE Champion, could join them as the "Third Man" of

their alliance, much like Hulk Hogan did in WCW in 1996. Flair, who is set to challenge for the WWE Women's Championship at Wrestlemania 41, may team up with Cena and The Rock after winning the 2025 Women's Royal Rumble. Flair, inspired by Cena's legacy, could follow his footsteps to cement her dominance in WWE.

## Shubhankar Sharma to Lead India's Challenge at 2025 Indian Open



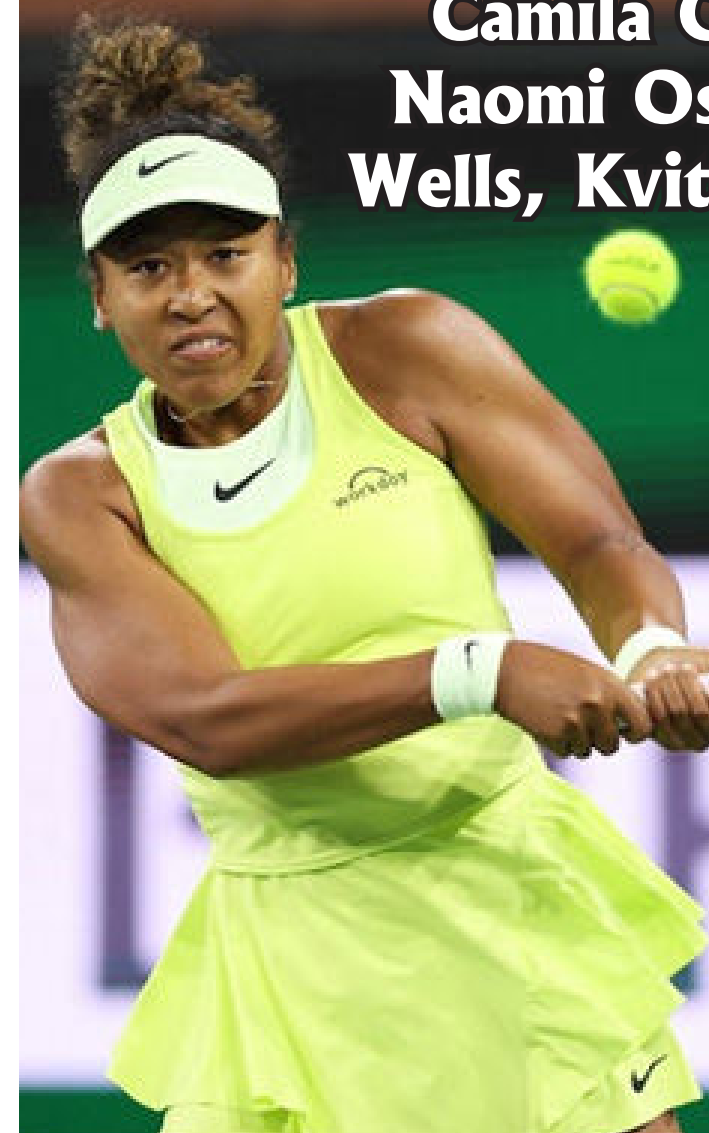
Two-time DP World Tour winner Shubhankar Sharma, along with last year's runner-up Veer Ahlawat, will headline a strong Indian contingent at the 2025 Hero Indian Open, held at the DLF Golf and Country Club, Gurugram from March 27 to 30. Other Indian participants include Shiv Kapur, Manu Gandas, and teen prodigy Kartik Singh, who has been in impressive form recently. Defending champion Keita Nakajima of Japan will lead the international challenge, joined by notable names like Marcel Siem and Guido Migliozzi. The tournament, co-sanctioned by the Indian Golf Union, offers the Indian Tour winner a full DP World Tour card. The Hero Indian Open is a key event in the Asian Swing and has been pivotal in showcasing Indian golf talent.

## US Confirms Joint Bid for 2031 Women's World Cup After FIFA Decision

The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) has confirmed its joint bid with CONCACAF to host the 2031 Women's World Cup, following a recent FIFA decision that increased the chances for the CONCACAF region to stage the tournament. Initially, the US and Mexico had planned to bid for the 2027 World Cup but withdrew to focus on 2031, which was later awarded to Brazil. FIFA has narrowed the contenders for 2031 to North America (CONCACAF) and Africa (CAF), with South Africa and Morocco also in the running. A North American bid is seen as commercially appealing due to the region's track record of high attendance at major events. The 2031 decision will be made at FIFA's 76th Congress ahead of the 2026 World Cup.



## Camila Osorio Shocks Naomi Osaka at Indian Wells, Kvitova Also Out



Naomi Osaka was defeated 6-4, 6-4 by Camila Osorio in the first round of Indian Wells on Wednesday. This marked Osaka's return to tennis after an injury kept her out of the Australian Open. Struggling with her serve, the former world number one was outplayed by Osorio, who took advantage of a break in both sets to claim her first-ever victory at Indian Wells. Osaka admitted she had "chances to be in the match" but felt off due to limited practice. Meanwhile, Petra Kvitova, also returning after giving birth, was ousted by Varvara Gracheva 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. Other notable results included Caroline Garcia's win and Nishikori's victory over Jaume Munar. All 32 seeds received first-round byes in this ATP and WTA 1000 event.

## Greater Noida to Host 8th Elite Women's National Boxing Championship from March 21



The 8th Elite Women's National Boxing Championship will take place at Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida from March 21-27, featuring around 300 of India's top women boxers. Organized by the UP Boxing Association and the Boxing Federation of India (BFI), the championship will see intense competition to crown national champions. The event, crucial for Olympic preparations,

will also serve as a platform for identifying future talent. Matches will follow a three-round format, and over 100 coaches and 60 officials will support the competition. Defending champions Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) aim to retain their title after their dominant performance last year, where they clinched five golds. The tournament is expected to be a major spectacle for the sport.



## Priyanka Chopra Refused to Wear Two-Piece at Miss World, Says Mother

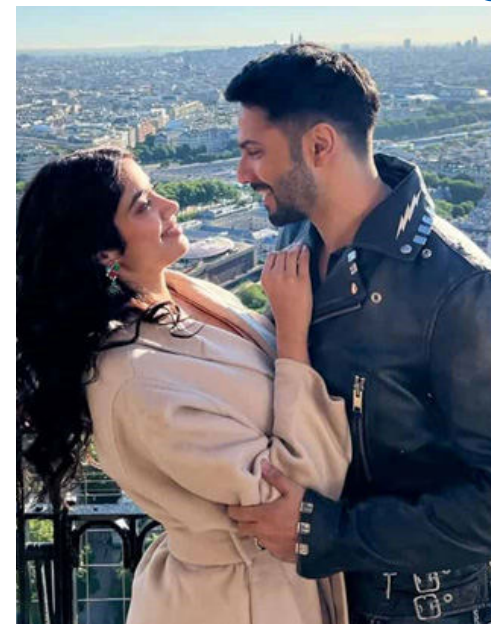
Priyanka Chopra's mother, Dr. Madhu Chopra, revealed in a recent interview that Priyanka refused to wear a two-piece swimsuit during the 2000 Miss World competition. Madhu explained that Priyanka maintained her dignity and professionalism by rejecting the organizers' request, earning their respect. Despite this, Priyanka went on to win the Miss World crown that year after losing the Miss India pageant to Lara Dutta. Madhu also shared her admiration for Priyanka's relationship with Nick Jonas, saying she loves him and that age is just a number in their bond. Priyanka and Nick married in 2018 and have a daughter, Malti Marie. Priyanka is reportedly joining SS Rajamouli's upcoming project, though no official confirmation has been made.

## Nayanthara's Thriller Movie 'Test' to Stream on Netflix

Nayanthara's thriller movie *Test*, which was initially not released in theaters, will now directly stream on Netflix. Set to begin streaming on April 4, the movie is a sports drama directed by Shashikanth. The story unfolds during a test cricket match in Chennai, where three individuals attending the match get entangled in a series of challenges. The film stars Nayanthara, Madhavan, and Siddharth in pivotal roles, with Meera Jasmine appearing in a special role. Fans of Nayanthara, especially in Tamil Nadu, are eagerly anticipating the movie's OTT release. With the hype surrounding the actress, *Test* promises to keep viewers on the edge of their seats as they witness the characters navigate unexpected troubles.



## Varun Dhawan Wishes Janhvi Kapoor on Her Birthday Ahead of New Film



Varun Dhawan shared a heartfelt birthday wish for Janhvi Kapoor on Instagram, celebrating her special day with a sweet note, "Happy birthday tulusi Love sunny." The post, featuring a candid picture of the two on a balcony, marks the growing camaraderie between the two stars ahead of their upcoming film *Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari*. This rom-com, which is set to be their second collaboration after *Bawaal* (2023), is produced by Karan Johar and directed by Shashank Khaitan. The movie, originally scheduled for release in April 2025, has now been delayed to the second half of 2025 due to an extended shoot. Janhvi is also receiving birthday wishes from industry friends, including a customized dog-themed cake from her co-star Rohit Saraf, further adding to the birthday celebrations.

## Farah Khan on Reuniting with Salman Khan for 'Sikandar' Song



Filmmaker-choreographer Farah Khan shared her excitement about reuniting with Salman Khan for the song Zohra Jabeen from his upcoming film *Sikandar*. Speaking about the experience, she revealed how special it was to choreograph him after several years and praised Rashmika Mandanna for being a pleasure to work with. The song, composed by Pritam and sung by Nakash

Aziz and Dev Negi, showcases Salman's dance moves and chemistry with Mandanna. Farah expressed her joy on Instagram, sharing, "Had too much fun choreographing @beingsalmankhan & @rashmika\_mandanna for #sikandar." *Sikandar* marks Salman's highly anticipated return to the big screen after his 2023 release *Tiger 3* and is set to hit cinemas on March 31, coinciding with Eid al-Fitr.

## Abhishek Bachchan Calls 'I Want To Talk' an Incredibly Special Journey

Abhishek Bachchan, nominated for Best Actor at the 7th Critics' Choice Awards for *I Want To Talk*, expressed his gratitude for the recognition. He described the film as an "incredibly special journey" and thanked the Film Critics Guild for honoring his performance. Directed by Shoojit Sircar, the film is based on the true story of Arjun Sen, a cancer survivor facing a life-changing surgery while navigating a



complex relationship with his daughter. Meanwhile, Konkona Sen Sharma, nominated for Best Actress for *Killer Soup*, shared her excitement about the recognition. The black comedy crime thriller series, directed by Abhishek Chaubey, is inspired by a 2017 Telangana case. The Critics' Choice Awards, this year adding a category for documentaries, celebrates excellence across various Indian cinematic formats.

## Nayanthara Fasts for a Month to Play Amman in 'Mookuthi Amman 2'

Actress Nayanthara is taking her role in *Mookuthi Amman 2* to the next level by fasting for a month, a practice she followed for the first part of the film as well. Producer Ishari K Ganesh shared this detail during the official pooja function for the film, highlighting Nayanthara's dedication to portraying the goddess Amman. He also revealed that the decision to cast Nayanthara as the titular role was unanimous, given the film's connection to their family deity. The second part of the film is being directed by Sundar C, who is known as the "Franchise King." The film will also feature Regina Cassandra, Duniya Vijay, Yogi Babu, and others. With a pan-Indian appeal, *Mookuthi Amman 2* is set to have a grand budget, exceeding 100 crores, and will feature music by Hip Hop Tamizha.

