

Weather Forecast HYDERABAD VIJAYAWADA TIRUPATHI

AP Cabinet Meeting Approves Key Proposals



B.Ed Paper Leak: Edu Minister Nara Lokesh Cancels Exam

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government is taking the issue of the Acharya Nagarjuna University B.Ed first-semester exam paper leak seriously.

Education Minister Nara Lokesh responded swiftly, ordering the higher education department to conduct an inquiry into the incident.

Lokesh made it clear that such incidents will not be tolerated under any circumstances. He warned that strict action would be taken against those responsible and directed education officials to implement stronger measures to prevent such leaks in the future.



Posani Granted Bail in Obulavaripalle Case, But Release Uncertain

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Popular actor and screenwriter Posani Krishna Murali secured a key relief as the Kadapa Mobile Court granted him bail in the case registered at Obulavaripalle Police Station in Annamaya district.



- Approval for Private Universities Act Amendment Bill
Green signal for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development proposals
Clearance for Medical Department recruitment and land allocations

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh State Cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, concluded today at the Secretariat, with several key decisions taken across departments.

The cabinet extensively discussed and approved the proposals put forward by the Higher Education Department concerning amendments to the Private Universities Act.

The Panchayati Raj and Rural

Development Departments' proposals were also approved, which focus on strengthening rural governance and improving infrastructure in villages to ensure better delivery of civic services at the grassroots level.

In a significant move, the cabinet gave its nod to the Medical and Health Department's proposal to fill 372 civil surgeon posts across government hospitals. This decision is expected to enhance healthcare delivery and address the shortage of specialist doctors in various districts.

The cabinet also approved a social empowerment measure by deciding to allocate 4 liquor shops to the Sondi caste community, promoting opportunities for traditionally marginalized groups in the retail sector.

A key digital infrastructure initiative was also cleared with the approval for establishing a Digital Nerve Center at Kuppam, aimed at enhancing digital governance, public service delivery, and tech-driven citizen engagement across the region.

The cabinet approved several land allocation proposals critical for educational and infrastructure development. This includes free land allocation for setting up an

agriculture college in Rajahmundry, which is expected to boost agricultural education and research. Additionally, 116 acres of land was sanctioned for the development of the Old Havelock Bridge in Rajahmundry, promoting tourism and preserving historical heritage.

Further, the cabinet cleared proposals for a new tourism land allotment policy, enabling strategic land allocation for tourism-related projects to attract investments in the sector.

In a step to boost industrial development in tribal areas, the cabinet approved free land allocation for the Seethampet MSME Park, fostering entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for local communities.

To enhance administrative efficiency, the cabinet also approved regularization of the cadre of District Panchayat Officers (DPOs), ensuring a stable and efficient cadre to oversee panchayat operations.

Nagababu Files Nomination for MLC Under MLA Quota



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Former YCP MLA joins Janasena

- Former Pithapuram MLA Pendem Dorababu joins Jana Sena.
Pawan Kalyan welcomes him with the party flag.
Several other YSRCP leaders from Pithapuram also shift allegiance.

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Former Pithapuram YSRCP MLA Pendem Dorababu joined the Jana Sena Party today in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister and party chief Pawan Kalyan.



Dorababu, several other YSRCP leaders from the Pithapuram constituency also joined Jana

Sena, further strengthening the party's presence in the region. Nadendra Manohar welcomed them by presenting them with Jana Sena scarves.

YS Viveka Murder Case Key Witnesses Dead, CM Naidu Orders Probe



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The murder case of former Kadapa MP and YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's uncle, YS Vivekananda Reddy, has once again stirred political tensions in Andhra Pradesh.

The latest incident involving the death of YS Viveka's watchman, Ranganna, has sparked fresh controversy. Amid growing suspicions, the government acted on the concerns of Ranganna's wife, Susheelamma, and registered his death as suspicious rather than natural.

TDP Pulivendula in-charge and former MLC B.Tech Ravi claimed that while reports suggest four witnesses have died, the actual count is six. He urged Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to order an immediate and detailed probe.

## TDP High Command Furious Over Narasaraopet MLA Aravindababu's Ruckus at Excise Office

- MLA Aravindababu disrupts Excise Commissioner's Office
- Demands removal of outsourced staff at Narasaraopet IML Depot
- TDP High Command demands explanation from MLA



TPN Correspondent | Narasaraopet

The TDP High Command has taken serious note of Narasaraopet MLA Chadalavada Aravindababu, who created a ruckus at the Excise Commissioner's Office in a shocking display of unruly behavior.

On Thursday, Aravindababu visited the Excise Commissioner's Office and caused a stir with his outrageous antics, despite Commissioner Nishant Kumar being absent at the time. The MLA entered the Commissioner's chamber, sat on the sofa, lay down on the floor, and disturbed officials, demanding

they follow his instructions.

The issue stemmed from a petition Aravindababu had submitted earlier, seeking the removal of 10 outsourced staff working at the Narasaraopet IML depot and replacing them with individuals of his choice. At around 1 PM, Aravindababu instructed officials to prepare appointment orders within an hour.

Despite the Commissioner's explanation that the matter required review, the MLA refused to listen and left, only to return at 3 PM. Finding the Commissioner still absent, Aravindababu created further commo-

tion, disrupting the office for nearly three hours.

Learning of the incident, TDP State President Palla Srinivasa Rao tried to contact Aravindababu, but the MLA did not respond. Even calls from ministers and fellow MLAs went unanswered. Finally, after Commissioner Nishant Kumar returned and assured that action would be taken as per rules, Aravindababu left the office.

The TDP High Command, alarmed by the incident, has demanded an explanation from Aravindababu, questioning the need for such disruptive behavior in a public office.



## This is a milestone in the field of renewable energy: Minister Lokesh

- Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited to develop 7 GW renewable energy projects.
- AP government aims for ₹10 lakh crore investment in clean energy.
- MoU to create 7.5 lakh jobs in the next five years.

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a major step towards strengthening the renewable energy sector, the Andhra Pradesh government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL), a subsidiary of Tata Power. The agreement was formalized in the presence of Andhra Pradesh Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh. As part of this collaboration, Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited and the AP government will jointly explore opportunities for developing 7 gigawatts (7,000 megawatts) of renewable energy projects, including solar, wind, and hybrid power initiatives across the state. Speaking at the event, Minister Nara Lokesh described the agreement as a milestone in the renewable energy sector. He emphasized the state government's ambitious target of attracting ₹10

lakh crore in investments for the sector and establishing renewable energy projects with a total capacity of 160 gigawatts. "We welcome Tata Renewable Energy Limited's partnership in advancing Andhra Pradesh's renewable energy sector. This agreement strengthens the long-standing relationship between the Tata Group and the AP government. The MoU will contribute to the state's long-term economic and environmental benefits by promoting investments and innovations in clean energy," Lokesh stated. The minister further highlighted that the state aims to accelerate clean energy expansion, creating 7.5 lakh jobs over the next five years through these massive investments. The partnership with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited is expected to boost sustainable energy production and support Andhra Pradesh's commitment to becoming a leader in renewable energy.

## Gudivada Police Serve 41A Notices to Kodali Nani's Close Associates

TPN Correspondent | Gudivada

Gudivada Police have served 41A notices to several close associates of former minister Kodali Nani in connection with two sensitive cases that have stirred controversy in the region.

The notices were handed to Dukkipati Shashibhushan, popularly known as Kodali Nani's shadow, Paladugu Ramprasad, a close friend, and Gudivada YSRCP president Gorla Srinu. The cases pertain to alleged coercion of volunteers to resign and threats linked to the Gudivada liquor godown affair.



These cases, which also name former AP Beverages MD Vasudeva Reddy, J.C. Madhavilath Reddy, and

others, were filed under multiple sections by Gudivada Police. Following petitions in the High Court, the court directed the police to conduct a thorough investigation and issue 41A notices to those involved.

Acting on the court's directives, Gudivada Police summoned Kodali Nani's associates to the One Town Police Station, where the notices were formally served. These developments have intensified political tensions in Gudivada, with opposition parties closely monitoring the proceedings.

Further investigation is underway.

## SIT to Probe Suspicious Deaths of Witnesses in Vivekananda Reddy Murder Case

- Five key witnesses died under suspicious circumstances
- SIT formed with DSPs, CIs, SIs, and technical experts
- Protection assured to witnesses seeking security

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

District SP Ashok Kumar has responded to the death of Rangananna, a crucial witness in the murder case of former minister Y. S. Vivekananda Reddy. He stated that Rangananna's death raised several suspicions, prompting a thorough investigation to uncover the facts.

The SP revealed that five witnesses linked to the Vivekananda Reddy murder case have so far died under suspicious circumstances. These include Srinivasa Reddy, Gangadhar Reddy, Abhishek Reddy, driver Narayana Yadav, and watchman Rangananna.

In light of these events, SP Ashok Kumar announced the formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the circumstances surrounding the deaths. The SIT



will consist of two DSPs, three CIs, and two SIs, supported by technical experts to assist in the investigation.

The SIT will examine whether the accused in the Vivekananda Reddy case had any role in these suspicious deaths, and all possible angles will be thoroughly explored.

SP Ashok Kumar emphasized that protecting witnesses is now a top priority. He assured that any witness seeking police protection will be provided with adequate security arrangements.

The SP also confirmed that investigations are underway into alleged threats received by Dastagiri, a key witness and approver in the Vivekananda Reddy murder case. With the formation of the SIT, the police aim to bring out the truth and ensure that justice is served in this high-profile case.

## Nagababu Files Nomination for MLC Under MLA Quota

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Jana Sena leader Konidela Nagababu has officially filed his nomination as a coalition candidate for the MLC elections under the MLA quota. He submitted his nomination papers to the election returning officer in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, with Minister Nara Lokesh, Nadendra Manohar, and other alliance leaders present to strengthen his candidacy.

Prominent figures such as Konatala Ramakrishna, Vishnu Kumar Raju, Bolisetty Srinivas, and Palla Srinivasa Rao participated in the nomination process. Speaking on the occasion, Nagababu expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan for giving him this opportunity. He also thanked Nara Lokesh and Nadendra Manohar for their support.

The MLC elections under the MLA quota are a key political event in Andhra Pradesh, with the NDA alliance holding a significant majority in the Assembly. Given this strength, the alliance is expected to secure all available MLC seats. Nagababu's nomination highlights the strong coordination within the NDA, as the entire coalition came together in support of his candidacy, rather than presenting it solely as a Jana Sena-sponsored event.



## TDR Bond Irregularities: Vigilance, Enforcement, and CID Investigation to Continue - Minister

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister Narayana announced in the Assembly that the Regional Vigilance Enforcement and CID investigations into irregularities in the issuance of TDR (Transferable Development Rights) bonds in Visakhapatnam under the previous government will continue. He assured that action will be taken against those responsible once the investigation report is received.

Minister Narayana was responding to a question raised by Visakhapatnam East MLA Velagapudi Ramakrishna Babu during the session. He stated that irregularities in TDR bond issuance were not limited to Visakhapatnam but also occurred in Tanuku and Tirupati.

In Tanuku, TDR bonds were supposed to be issued for Rs. 63.24 crore, but shockingly, bonds worth Rs. 754 crore were issued. Minister Narayana explained that the bonds were issued based on the value of houses in urban areas, even after providing land in rural areas, which led to severe discrepancies.

Similarly, in Tirupati, 29 TDR bonds worth Rs. 170.99 crore were issued under questionable circumstances. The Minister informed the House that after the YSRCP government took charge, TDR bond issuances were suspended for five months due to the irregularities discovered during the previous government's tenure.



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Borugadda Anil, a controversial figure in Andhra Pradesh politics, is now at large after securing bail under suspicious circumstances. During YS

## Borugadda Anil's Bail & Escape!!!

### Where Is He Now?

Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure as Chief Minister, Anil was known for issuing death threats to opposition leaders and making offensive remarks about the families of Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan. Following the formation of the Telugu Desam-Jana Sena-BJP government, he was arrested and jailed under multiple charges. However, on February 15, Anil was granted bail on the grounds that he needed to take care of his ailing

mother. Citing a doctor's prescription, he informed the court that he had to take her to Apollo Hospital in Chennai for treatment, which led to an extension of his bail until March 11. Recent revelations, however, indicate that the medical certificate Anil submitted was fake. Once this was discovered, the police launched a search operation to locate him, but his whereabouts remain unknown. His phone has been switched off, and he has not responded to any attempts to contact him. The authorities are now

left wondering whether he will return to jail as per the bail conditions. Adding to the controversy, reports suggest that the jail authorities failed to inform the police station where Anil's case was registered, nor did they notify higher government officials about his release. Even the media was kept in the dark, as the entire process was conducted in secrecy. This has raised serious concerns over the way Anil was granted bail and whether he received preferential treatment while in prison.

## YCP Reduced to Baseless Propaganda After Crushing Defeat – Govt Whips Counter Allegations

YCP leaders slammed for disrespecting people's verdict

NDA leaders demand YCP face Assembly, not hide in Bengaluru

Pawan Kalyan credited for grassroots development work

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Government Whips Boli-setti Srinivas, Bommidu Nayakkar, and Ungutur MLA Dharmaraju have strongly countered the false propaganda being spread by YSRCP leaders against the coalition government, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. They reminded that the NDA government is working tirelessly for the state's reconstruction, while YCP leaders, after being rejected by the people, are holding baseless press

meets instead of respecting the public mandate.

The whips challenged YCP leaders to attend the Assembly instead of hiding in Bengaluru, saying the people elected them to speak for their constituencies. They stressed that forming a government requires a majority, and becoming Leader of Opposition requires following constitutional norms, which YCP is desperately ignoring.

They compared YCP to the Pakistan cricket team, saying if YCP faces the NDA government in the Assembly, they



will face a Dubai-like defeat. They blamed YCP's corrupt governance for pushing the state back by a decade, highlighting how sub-plan funds meant for SCs and STs were diverted, and accused Jagan of amassing wealth disproportionate to known income — a palatial home in Rushikonda alone costing ₹550 crore.

The whips also slammed Ambati Rambabu, pointing out his ignorance as Water Resources Minister, questioning his knowledge of basic terms

like cusecs or diaphragm wall, and exposing his alleged scams in Vrinda Degree College. They reminded how Pawan Kalyan stood by the people even in defeat, while Jagan misused power to jail political opponents for 51 days without proof.

They credited Pawan Kalyan and Jana Sena for constructing over 3,000 kilometers of village roads, bridging development gaps left by YCP's corrupt rule, and vowed to expose every scam in the Assembly if YCP dares to show up.

## People Rejected Jagan's Self-Serving Politics to Secure AP's Future – MLA Vijaysundarapu



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Yelamanchili MLA Vijaysundarapu strongly criticized former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy and the YSR Congress Party at the Assembly Media Point, highlighting the damage done to Andhra Pradesh's reputation between 2019 and 2024. He said the people voted for the coalition government in 2024 to secure the state's future, rejecting Jagan's self-serving politics.

He said while Janasena, Telugu Desam, and BJP are unitedly working for development, Jagan's desperate antics to secure Opposition status are nothing short of disgraceful. Jagan lacks even basic leadership qualities, he added.

Vijaysundarapu compared Jagan's greed to Bihar's past politics, highlighting how Lalu Prasad Yadav's daughter donated her kidney for her father, while Jagan dragged his own mother and sister to court over shares in Saraswati Power Company. He snatched

family property and discarded his sister, making it laughable for such a person to speak about the Chief Minister and Deputy CM.

He reminded how Jagan blamed EVMs for his defeat, but even in the Legislative Council elections conducted with ballot papers, graduates and intellectuals overwhelmingly supported the NDA, showing they wanted freedom from YSRCP's oppressive rule. He slammed Jagan for ignoring the Pulivendula people who elected him, choosing instead to stay home and hold press meets, failing even as an MLA. He accused Jagan of using social media to malign his own sister and manipulating his uncle Vivekananda Reddy's murder investigation.

Vijaysundarapu asserted that Jagan's days in Pulivendula are numbered, noting the NDA's rise from 1 to 21 seats with a 100% strike rate, while YSRCP crashed from 151 to 11 seats. He questioned whether Jagan would contest from Karnataka next, after losing even his home turf.

## "People Mock YSRCP's Demand for Opposition Status – MLA Adireddy Srinivas"



TPN Correspondent | Rajahmundry

Rajahmundry City MLA Adireddy Srinivas strongly criticized the YSRCP, stating that people are laughing when they demand opposition status despite being rejected by voters. Addressing a media conference at the local press club on Friday, he said the same attitude exists from former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy to former MP Margani Bharat.

MLA Srinivas accused YSRCP leaders of ignoring public issues and development during their tenure and questioned Jagan's absence from the recent assembly budget sessions. He said a leader who disregards legislative responsibilities does not deserve the status of opposition leader. He mocked Jagan for raising demands for opposition recognition despite facing widespread public rejection in the elections.

Criticizing former MP Bharat, Srinivas said holding press meets and making reels is no substitute for genuine public service. He accused YSRCP leaders of lacking accountability, unlike their alliance, which actively highlighted public issues when in opposition. He also mentioned efforts to restore Rajahmundry's lost glory by developing parks and stadiums, including plans for a stadium at VL Puram lorry

stand.

Srinivas slammed Bharat for making false allegations while ignoring critical issues like the state of government hospitals. He highlighted the crackdown on illegal activities such as ganja and blade gangs, along with efforts to strengthen women's safety through special programs.

He also revealed efforts to protect public assets, such as saving ₹5 crore worth of land belonging to Gautami Super Bazaar, which was illegally leased. He accused Bharat of spreading misinformation and advised him to focus on public service rather than propaganda.

Jana Sena City In-charge Anusree Satyanarayana also criticized Bharat, alleging his involvement in liquor businesses while falsely accusing others. Several alliance leaders participated in the event.

## Posani Krishna Murali's arrest justified, Says CPI Leader Ramakrishna

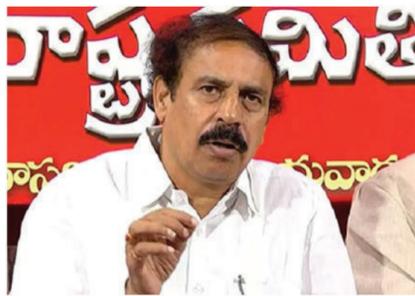
TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

CPI Andhra Pradesh State Secretary K. Ramakrishna strongly condemned the derogatory comments made by Posani Krishna Murali against Pawan Kalyan's wife and children, stating that his arrest was justified. Speaking to the media on Friday, Ramakrishna stressed that personal attacks, particularly those targeting women and families, have no place in politics.

He appealed to all sections of society not to support Posani, emphasizing that supporting individuals who demean wom-

en through public remarks would set a dangerous precedent. He reminded that Posani Krishna Murali is not only a film actor but also an educated individual with a post-graduate qualification, making his comments even more inexcusable.

Ramakrishna noted that Posani's language was so degrading that it embarrassed society itself, adding that regardless of political affiliation, such



personal abuse is unacceptable. He made it clear that if Posani or anyone else had political differences with Pawan Kalyan, they should criticize his policies and actions, not resort to

attacking his family.

The CPI leader further said that healthy political debate should focus on public issues, while personal criticism and particularly offensive remarks targeting women are deeply objectionable.

He urged all political parties and public figures to uphold respect and dignity in public discourse, setting an example for younger generations. Ramakrishna concluded by reiterating CPI's commitment to fostering responsible politics and standing firmly against personal and family-targeted attacks.

## Sajjala Directs YSRCP Cadre to Combine Party Formation Day

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) State Coordinator Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy conducted a teleconference with the party's top leaders, issuing key instructions regarding upcoming programs. During the meeting, Sajjala announced that the 'Fee Fight' protest and YSRCP Formation Day celebrations will both be held on March 12, as per the directions of party chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

He stressed that the Fee Fight program should be organized successfully across the state to highlight the alleged betrayal of students and youth by the coalition government, which he claimed has failed to fulfill its promises. Sajjala called upon the entire party cadre to actively participate in this protest and ensure that their voice is heard loud and clear.

As part of the protest, Sajjala instructed YSRCP leaders and activists to hold rallies in every district and submit a memorandum to the respective District Collectors, explaining the plight of students and detailing how the government's policies have adversely impacted educational opportunities and financial support.



Alongside the protest, Sajjala directed that YSRCP Formation Day celebrations should be conducted on the same day, ensuring that the party's legacy and contributions to the state are highlighted. He stated that YSRCP flags should be hoisted at all levels, starting from village panchayats to the state headquarters, showcasing the party's widespread presence and public support.

Sajjala emphasized that the Formation Day events should conclude in the morning, followed by the Fee Fight protest activities. He urged the cadre to demonstrate that public respect and admiration for YSRCP remain strong, despite the efforts of the ruling alliance to discredit the party.

Senior leaders, district coordinators, and key YSRCP functionaries participated in the teleconference, expressing their commitment to make both programs a success.

## YS Sharmila Slams NDA Govt Over Free Bus Scheme for Women

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

APCC President YS Sharmila launched a scathing attack on the NDA coalition government in Andhra Pradesh, accusing it of betraying women voters with misleading promises. Speaking to the media on Friday, Sharmila said the government's claim of ensuring

free bus travel for women has fallen flat, with the scheme now restricted to district-level travel, contradicting the grand assurances given before the elections.

She ridiculed the government's approach, comparing it to the saying — "like a boat until it crosses the river, like a burden once it crosses."

Sharmila said the coalition parties promised statewide free bus travel for women, but after securing votes, they shrunk the scheme, limiting its benefits only within each district, thus denying women the freedom to travel across districts.

The APCC chief questioned if the government plans to



further restrict the scheme to mandal or even village levels in the future. She mocked the

coalition's version of women's empowerment, asking if limiting women's movement and

shrinking their opportunities is what they meant by empowerment.

Sharmila called on women across the state to see through the government's hollow promises, urging them to demand accountability for the assurances made during the election campaign.

She concluded that the coalition's handling of the free bus scheme has exposed their insincerity towards women's welfare, proving once again that their words and actions

## AP High Court Grants Anticipatory Bail to Former Minister Perni Nani

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a major relief for former Minister Perni Nani, the Andhra Pradesh High Court has granted anticipatory bail in connection with the ration rice case. The verdict, announced on Friday, comes as a significant legal respite for the former minister, who was named as Accused Number 6 (A6) in the case. The case revolves around alleged irregularities in the distribution of ration rice intended for the poor. Investigations into the case led to the inclusion of Perni Nani's name, following which he approached the High Court seeking anticipatory bail. It may be recalled that the district court had already granted anticipatory bail to Perni Nani's wife in connection with the same case. Now, with



the High Court's decision favouring the former minister, he has secured temporary protection from arrest. The High Court's ruling is seen as a crucial development in the ongoing probe, offering some legal relief to the former minister while the investigation continues.

## Basava Annapurna Leads Special Prayers for Janasena Aavirbhava Sabha's Success

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Ahead of the 12th Foundation Day celebrations of the Jana Sena Par ty, a sacred cow worship ceremony was organized on Friday at the Goshala of the Indrakiladri Kanakadurgamma Temple in Vijayawada. The event was held with the wish for the grand success of the foundation day gathering scheduled for March 14 in Pithapuram. Speaking on the occasion, Jana Sena leader Basava Annapurna emphasized the cultural and spiritual significance of cow worship in Indian tradition. She stated that in our mythology, the cow represents motherhood, and such rituals are deeply rooted in our heritage. She further conveyed the sincere wishes of Jana Sena Party founder and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, praying for divine blessings to ensure the success of the event without any obstacles, bringing happiness to the people and

contributing to societal well-being. Basava Annapurna described the upcoming foundation day as a "victory gathering" and a festival for all those who have stood by the party since its inception. She called upon Jana Sena supporters to participate enthusiastically and make the event a grand success. Praising Pawan Kalyan for his politics of integrity and commitment to public service, she highlighted his continuous efforts to address people's issues while honoring the mandate given to him in the 2024 elections. Expressing her wishes for the well-being of Pawan Kalyan, who is always dedicated to the welfare of the people, she urged party workers to uphold the principles of Jana Sena and actively contribute to social service and the state's development. She emphasized the importance of making the March 14 event a historic and memorable occasion for the party and its supporters.



## Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat Visits Indrakiladri Temple in Vijayawada



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat, Member of the Government of India's NITI Aayog, visited Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakiladri in Vijayawada on Friday afternoon. Dr. Saraswat had a special darshan of Sri Kanakadurgamma, the presiding deity of Indrakiladri Kshetra, and offered prayers for the well-being and prosperity of the nation. Following the darshan, temple priests and Vedic scholars blessed Dr. Saraswat and presented him with a sacred portrait of Sri Ammavaru along with temple prasada. Temple officials and staff accompanied him during the visit and explained the historical significance and spiritual importance of the shrine. Dr. Saraswat expressed his happiness at visiting the holy temple and appreciated the temple's arrangements and facilities for devotees.

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Special pujas were performed on Friday at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Indrakiladri, in the divine presence of Goddess Jagannmata Sri Kanakadurga. Devotees gathered in large numbers to offer prayers and participate in the sacred rituals. On the auspicious occasion, devotees took part in various arjitha sevas, including Laksha Kum-

kumarchana, Chandi Yagam, Sri Chakra Navavaranaarchana, and Shanti Kalyanam. The temple premises were filled with spiritual fervor, as devotees performed pujas with devotion and reverence.

To ensure convenience, the temple administration arranged free bus services to transport devotees from the foot of the hill to the temple. Special battery-operated vehicles were also made available from Om Turn

to the Protocol Office, providing a comfortable transport option for elderly and differently-abled devotees.

After completing their darshan, devotees gratefully received the free prasada and daily annadanam meals offered by the temple. Temple officials ensured that all arrangements were smooth, allowing devotees to experience divine bliss on the sacred Friday.



## Kuchipudi Dance Performance Held at Indrakiladri in Honour of Durgammathalli

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

A special Kuchipudi dance performance was held at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Indrakiladri, on Friday evening in the divine presence of Goddess Adi Parashakti and Jagannmata Sri Kanakadurgamma. The event took place at the newly built Rajagopuram premises, starting at 6.30 pm. The performance was presented by the talented artists of Sri Vagdevi Kuchipudi Nrityalayam from Vijayawada. Under the expert guidance of renowned Nrityacharya Sri Sappa Sivakumar, 25 artists came together to offer a vibrant and rhythmic dance presentation dedicated to the



goddess. The troupe performed to a series of devotional kirtans, including Mooshika Vahana, Akhilan-

deswari, Aigirinandini, Ananda Tandavam, and Mahadeva Shiva Shambho, captivating the audience with their graceful movements and expressive storytelling. Following the performance, the dance troupe had the divine darshan of Sri Ammavari. The temple authorities honoured them with prasada, offering blessings from Goddess Kanakadurgamma. The devotional dance presentation, blending spirituality with traditional art, was well-received by devotees present at the temple, making the evening a spiritually enriching experience at Indrakiladri.

## 37th Division Sanitary SI Inspects Shops, Seizes 300 Kg Single-Use Plastic in Vijayawada

Inspection at plastic wholesale shops and flower stalls

Fine of Rs.1,40,500 imposed on 18 shop owners  
300 kg of single-use plastic products seized

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

37th Division Sanitary SI B. Yogendarkumar conducted inspections at plastic wholesale shops and flower stalls across Vijayawada on Friday, covering both morning and evening sessions. The inspections were part of the ongoing drive to curb the sale and use of banned single-use plastic products within city limits. During these inspections, officials identified several shops selling and using restricted plastic materials. In particular, stocks of plastic carry bags below the mandatory 120-micron thickness were found in multiple shops. Strict enforcement action was taken against those violating the rules.

A total fine of Rs.1,40,500 was imposed on 18 shop owners found guilty of selling or using banned plastic products. Further, approximately 300 kilograms of single-use plastic products were seized during the inspections.

SI B. Yogendarkumar warned that the crackdown on banned plastics would continue across the division. He emphasized that all traders must comply with regulations and immediately stop stocking, selling, or distributing restricted plastic items.

The municipal authorities reiterated their appeal to business owners to switch to eco-friendly alternatives to protect the environment and avoid penalties. Officials also urged citizens to support these efforts by discouraging the use of single-use plastics and adopting sustainable practices.

The municipal administration confirmed that regular inspections will be intensified to ensure strict enforcement and promote awareness about the harmful impact of single-use plastics on public health and the environment.



## Collector Inspects Budameru Flood Damage Areas, Reviews Irrigation Issues

TPN Correspondent | Krishna Dist

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha, accompanied by local farmers and irrigation department officials, conducted an inspection of flood-affected areas in Krishna district, including the Budameru diversion channel, Shanti Nagar, and Ibrahimpattanam mandal. The visit focused on assessing damage caused by the 2024 Budameru floods and identifying immediate solutions to prevent future risks.

The inspection covered the damaged Budameru regulator at Velagaluru and the siphons within the Budameru diversion channel. Officials briefed the Collector on technical issues and the urgent need for repairs. Collector Dr. Lakshmi Sha instructed officials to ex-



pedite solutions to restore proper water flow and strengthen flood control mechanisms.

During discussions with farmers from Mylavaram constituency, the Collector reviewed the irrigation losses suffered due to the 2024 floods. Blockages in

Budameru, Pulivagu, and Kotula vagu channels, as well as damage to minor irrigation ponds, were also reviewed. Irrigation officials informed the Collector that proposals worth approximately Rs. 100 crore have already been submitted to the government for administrative approval. They assured that once permissions are granted, repair and restoration works will commence immediately, with the goal of completing all works before the onset of the upcoming monsoon season. Collector Dr. Lakshmi Sha emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts between departments and active involvement of local farmers to ensure timely and efficient execution of flood mitigation works.

## On Friday Specials Delight Devotees at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Temple

## NDA Govt Stands by Civil Supply Porters : Minister Nadendla Manohar



- Loading and unloading charges increased for porters
- Multiple allowances revised for civil supply workers
- Government committed to improving financial security

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar reaffirmed that the coalition government is fully committed to the welfare and financial security of civil supply porters working in the Civil

Supplies Organization across the state.

As part of these efforts, the government has increased the loading and unloading charges for porters from the existing Rs. 25 per quintal to Rs. 28 per quintal through G.O. No. 14, providing a much-needed

ed wage revision. In addition to this, the festival sweets allowance has been raised from Rs. 1300 to Rs. 1500, while the Dussehra bonus has been increased from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 6500. The gunny (bale) handling charge has also been enhanced from Rs. 50 to Rs. 55. The allowance for handling palm oil boxes has been revised from 50 paise to 75 paise per box. Furthermore, the monthly water allowance provided at each MLS point has been increased from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1000.

The government has also agreed to increase the wages for three pairs of uniforms and sweeper services by Rs. 1000.

Leaders of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Corporation Porters' State Union welcomed these decisions and expressed their happiness over the government's proactive approach in improving the financial conditions of civil supply porters.

## P-4 Survey from Today – Strict Action on Illegal Water Usage: Collector Shan Mohan

- P-4 survey across the district from March 8 to 18
- Cases on illegal water usage in canals
- Kakinada beach development plans underway

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

Kakinada District Collector Shan Mohan Sagili announced that the P-4 survey will be conducted across the district from March 8 to 18. He assured families that the survey will not affect the welfare schemes they are currently receiving and urged them to voluntarily provide their details. He directed government staff to explain the purpose of the survey clearly to every household. The Collector warned that illegal water extraction from canals in Tallarevu, Jaggampeta, and Pithapuram mandals is depriving water to suburban agricultural lands. Cases will be filed against those using

unauthorized motors for irrigation.

During a press meet at Vivekananda Hall, Collector's Office, on Friday, Shan Mohan explained that the P-4 survey is a joint initiative between the government, private sector, and the public. Survey teams will visit homes, gather information, and submit reports to the government, identifying family needs for future planning. He urged land concession applicants to wait for 21 days for approvals, warning that undue pressure on officials could encourage corruption. Action has already been taken against two officials found guilty of irregularities.



On industrial transport issues, the Collector confirmed that companies can freely hire lorries of their choice, and any disruptions in lorry operations will face strict action.

He also announced Kakinada beach beautification works worth Rs 3.5 crore. Special garbage bins have been set up, and those found littering will be fined Rs 500.

People can report irregularities directly to the Collector's WhatsApp number: 79933 32244, with location details for quick action.

## We Will Provide Corruption-Free Governance: PAC Chairman Anjibabu

TPN Correspondent | Bhimavaram

State Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Chairman and Bhimavaram MLA Pulaparthi Ramanjaneyulu (Anjibabu) affirmed that he would discharge his duties with sincerity, ensuring corruption-free governance, and uphold the trust placed in him by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan.

works, large convoys, and enthusiastic slogans filled the air as activists, fans, and brave women accompanied him in a celebratory rally to the MLA camp office.

Addressing the gathering, PAC Chairman Anjibabu said the government aims to give key responsibilities to experienced leaders to ensure effective administration. He announced



that PAC meetings will be held twice a month, focusing on transparency and accountability in financial management across government departments.

The event concluded with leaders and activists felicitating MLA Anjibabu with floral garlands and extending their support for his future initiatives.

Leaders, activists, fans, and large numbers of women from TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP actively participated in the program, showcasing the unity and strength of the alliance in the region.

A grand welcome was organized by TDP-Jana Sena-BJP alliance leaders in Losari, Bhimavaram Mandal, to mark MLA Anjibabu's first visit to Bhimavaram after assuming the role of PAC Chairman. Fire-

## Patapatnam MLA MGR Urges Action to Protect Govt Lands



TPN Correspondent | Patapatnam

Patapatnam MLA MGR has urged the state government to protect valuable government lands, ponds, and temple lands in Patapatnam constituency from encroachments. He submitted a formal petition to Senior IAS Officer and State Revenue Special Chief Secretary Shri R.P. Sisodia at the

- MLA submits petition to State Revenue Special Chief Secretary
- Calls for removal of encroachments on government lands and ponds
- Demands inquiry into temple and endowment lands

Secretariat on Friday, seeking immediate intervention.

The MLA highlighted the need for a comprehensive survey and inquiry into all government, forest, and endowment lands within the constituency. He specifically pointed out valuable "D" patta lands located in Gram Kantha and Praharajapalem Revenue Village limits, which have reportedly been encroached upon.

MLA MGR stressed the importance of taking legal action against encroachers and removing illegal structures from government lands and

ponds across the region. He also called for a thorough investigation into the encroachments on temple lands, particularly the lands belonging to Devudu Manyala, to safeguard religious properties.

Shri R.P. Sisodia reportedly responded positively to the MLA's requests and assured that necessary steps would be taken.

The MLA expressed confidence that the coalition government would take strong measures to reclaim public lands and protect natural and religious assets in Patapatnam constituency.

## SriKalahasti farmers should not suffer due to Chevireddy's collusion: SCV Naidu



TPN Correspondent | Srikalahasti

Former MLA SCV Naidu strongly criticized Srikalahasti MLA Bojjala Sudheer Reddy for allegedly working in collusion with former MLA Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy. He stated that lands belonging to Srikalahasti farmers near Oteru have no connection to any lake, as per British-era records from 1906. The lands in question were recorded as Punju lands (dry agricultural fields), not part of any lake, and he assured farmers that he would stand by them if they were being targeted unfairly.

farmlands in 377, all confirming the lands are Punju fields since 1906. He accused Sudheer Reddy of misleading the Assembly and questioned why encroachments on Tummalagunta Tank and other water bodies were ignored if Sudheer Reddy truly cared about conservation.

Dismissing rumors of ties with Ramachandra Reddy, SCV Naidu asserted they had no external influences and were solely committed to TDP's values. He warned Sudheer Reddy to stop spreading misinformation and act responsibly to protect his family's reputation.

He reiterated that Srikalahasti's farmers and TDP's integrity would be safeguarded, and if necessary, weekly updates would be shared with the media, exposing the MLA's failures.

Leaders from Srikalahasti and Satyavedu constituencies, including former MLA Satravada Muni Ramaiah, Vanjavakam Guru Dasharatham, and several local leaders, participated in the press meet.

Naidu highlighted survey records showing Oteru Tank in survey number 376, Kasim Canal in 370, and

## Set Up Textile Park for Weavers: MLA Prashanthi Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Nellore Dist

Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy has urged the government to establish a textile park in Kovur to support thousands of handloom weavers, especially those crafting the renowned Patu Zari sarees. Speaking in the Assembly on Friday, she highlighted the challenges faced by weavers and the need to revive the industry with innovative welfare schemes already introduced in Mangalagiri.

this financial year.

She urged the government to provide raw materials and marketing support to weavers, while also developing new designs to meet market demand. She proposed the creation of a "Weaver's Workshop" in Kovur, similar to Mangalagiri, to enhance skills and employment opportunities for youth.

Prashanthi Reddy also demanded the removal of illegal encroachments on land earmarked for a handloom building and called for its early construction.

Responding to her queries, State Handloom Minister Savita assured that health insurance and 200 units of free electricity for weavers would be implemented soon. She also announced the extension of NTR Bharosa pensions to weavers aged 50 and above, along with subsidized loans through NHDC to boost the sector.



## CITU Demands Protection and Rights for Women Workers



TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam Dist

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Working Women's Coordination Committee CITU organized a demonstration from Ambedkar Junction to Bus Stand in Padur town, Srikakulam district.

Speaking at the event, CITU District President C.H. Amman Naidu and AP ASHA Workers

Union leader Manne Manikumar demanded that the central and state governments take immediate steps to end violence against women and children. They stressed the need to ensure employment opportunities and create conditions for women to live with dignity.

The leaders called for the formation of sexual harassment prevention committees at all

workplaces and urged the strict enforcement of the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act. They also demanded the implementation of minimum wages and equal pay for equal work across all sectors.

Further, they insisted that ASHA, Anganwadi, and other scheme workers be regularized and provided with pensions and retirement benefits. They also urged

the government to control prices and strengthen the public distribution system to support poor and working families.

Leaders A. Ramalakshmi, C.H. Radhamma, Lakshmi Ratnam, Anuradha, Aruna, Simhachalam, Tammineni, Savitri, Rajini, Seetha, and many others actively participated in the demonstration, raising slogans for women's rights and social justice.



# Ooha sees change beyond the system, TRANSFORMS ADIVASI LIVES



## The Point Desk

In a world where success is often measured by power and prestige, just 27 years old, Visakhapatnam's youth Dr. Ooha Mahanathi chose a different path, one defined by service and social justice. Once aspiring to join the civil services, she realised that true transformation happens not behind a desk but at the grassroots level. As the Director of the Rural Development Welfare Society (RDWS), she has dedicated her life to uplifting Adivasi women and children in north coastal Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha.

Founded in 1991 by her grandfather, a philanthropist and former Sarpanch of Garudabilli village in Vizianagaram district, Mahanathi Ganapathi Rao, RDWS embodies his vision of rural development. Inspired by his legacy, Dr. Ooha expanded it into a force for justice. Initially drawn to policymaking, she realized true change required direct engagement. "I chose to work on the ground, understand their

struggles, and fight for their rights of Adivasi girls and women," she said.

Under her leadership, RDWS with 276 volunteers has prevented over 261 child marriages, reintegrated 6,489 child laborers into education so far, and conducted large-scale health awareness programs on HIV/AIDS, menstrual hygiene, and maternal health. She has led anti-human trafficking initiatives, rescuing vulnerable individuals from exploitation, and provided shelter and relief to families displaced by natural disasters and abandoned elderly individuals in need of care.

Dr. Ooha advocates for education, land rights, healthcare, and economic opportunities for Adivasi communities across Alluri Sitarama Raju, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Anakapalli, and Visakhapatnam's urban slums. Through skill development, she empowers tribal women with financial independence via vocational training and entrepreneurship. She also creates safe spaces for

girls to learn, grow, and lead while ensuring healthcare reaches remote villages.

Her efforts earned her the International Wonder Book of Records Award, presented by Odisha Governor Kambhampati Hari Babu. She also received Honorary Doctorates in Social Work from Global International Foundation and Manam Foundation International. Her advocacy spans national and international platforms, addressing gender equality, tribal rights, and rural development.

The journey, however, has not been easy. "Working in remote forest regions was never easy. The lack of proper roads, communication barriers, and deep-seated social challenges made every step a test of resilience," Dr. Ooha reflected. "Winning the trust of Adivasi communities was the hardest part, as they had been let down by outsiders for generations. I had to prove my sincerity through actions, not words."

Isolation, poor healthcare, child marriages, trafficking, and bureaucratic delays hindered welfare access, requiring persistence to educate girls and secure aid. Despite these struggles, Dr. Ooha never backed down. She walked through dense forests, crossed rivers, and stayed in villages for days to understand their problems firsthand.

She credits her strength to her family, father Suresh Mahanathi, mother Sudha, and brother Vardhan. Her father, Suresh Mahanathi, said, "I hoped she'd become an IAS officer to serve the poor, but I respect her choice of a path closer to those in need."

Though her path differs from her father's vision, Dr. Ooha remains committed to uplifting disadvantaged communities. "My goal is the same, to empower them for a better future," she said. She noted that women now use menstrual pads comfortably. "Seeing this change makes my hard work worthwhile," she added.





## Omar Abdullah Presents Jammu and Kashmir's First Budget Post-Article 370 Abrogation

TPN Correspondent | Patna

On March 7, 2025, Jammu and Kashmir's Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, presented the Union Territory's first budget since the abrogation of Article 370, marking a significant step in the region's governance post-reorganization. Abdullah described the budget as a catalyst for a new era of peace and prosperity, highlighting the gradual return of normalcy after more than three decades of unrest.

In his budget speech, Abdullah expressed gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for their support in various sectors, acknowledging their role in the region's development.

The last budget session for the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir took place in 2018, under the PDP-BJP coalition government. After the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, Jammu and Kashmir was reorganized into a Union Territory, with Ladakh being carved out as a separate UT.

Key highlights of the 2025-26 budget include a focus on youth and women empowerment, addressing regional disparities, and working towards the restoration of statehood. One of the major announcements was an allocation of ₹815 crore for the agriculture sector, aimed at generating 2.88 lakh jobs. Abdullah emphasized the promotion of a two-crop pattern in agriculture, alongside a strong push to expand the horticulture industry. Additionally, he proposed boosting the wool processing and leather tanning industries, which are expected to bolster the local economy.

## PM Modi lays foundation stone of various development projects in Silvassa

- Inaugurates ₹2,587 crore projects in Silvassa
- 450-bed NAMO Hospital launched to boost tribal healthcare
- Infrastructure, job creation, and welfare schemes prioritized

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation for several development projects worth ₹2,587 crore in Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, on Friday, March 7, 2025. These projects aim to significantly enhance the infrastructure, healthcare, and public welfare in the Union Territory.

During his visit, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the first phase of the NAMO Hospital, a 450-bed facility built at a cost of over ₹460 crore. This hospital will serve as a major healthcare hub, providing advanced medical care, particularly to the tribal communities in the region. Modi's focus on improving healthcare facilities across the country aligns with his broader goal to strengthen medical services in underserved areas.

In addition to the healthcare projects, PM Modi laid the foundation for various infrastructure initiatives, including village roads, educational institutions, health and wellness centers, and water supply and sewage systems. These projects are aimed at improving connectivity, promoting industrial growth, boosting tourism, and creating job opportunities in the region. At the event, the administra-



tor of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Praful K Patel, felicitated PM Modi to mark the inauguration and foundation-laying of these key projects. The projects also include the construction of Panchayat and administrative buildings, Anganwadi centers, and other essential infrastructure to promote regional development.

The Prime Minister also distributed appointment letters under the Rozgar Mela and extended benefits to various beneficiaries under government schemes, including PM Awas Yoja-

na-Urban, Gir Adarsh Aajeevika Yojana, and Sylvan Didi scheme. The Gir Adarsh Aajeevika Yojana is aimed at empowering women from marginalized communities by supporting small dairy farms, contributing to their economic upliftment.

Following his visit to Silvassa, PM Modi is scheduled to travel to Surat at 5 p.m. to launch the Surat Food Security Saturation Campaign. On March 8, 2025, he will travel to Navsari for interactions and the launch of various other development schemes.



## India Can Show Way To World By Virtue Of Its Cultural Heritage": RSS Chief

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday emphasized that India's rich cultural heritage positions the country to guide the world in various aspects of life. He made these remarks in Supaul district of north Bihar after inaugurating a new building for the Saraswati Vidya Mandir school.

"Our civilization is ancient, and Bharat symbolizes values and a cultural heritage that can show the way (margdarshan) to the entire world," Bhagwat stated, underlining India's potential to be a beacon of knowledge and wisdom on the global stage. He also pointed out that Vidya Bharati, the RSS's educational wing, is committed to imparting both "knowledge and values" (gyan aur sanskar), urging parents to consider enrolling their children in schools run by the organization.

In his speech, Bhagwat recalled his personal connection with Bihar, mentioning his six years as a 'kshetriya pracharak' in the state. "Whenever I visit Bihar, I wish I could see more places, but time constraints often limit my ability," he said.

The RSS chief also lauded the people of Bihar, praising their hard work and dedication. He cited the example of Dashrath Manjhi, the famed "mountain man" from Gaya, who carved a path through a mountain over many years, showcasing the resilience and perseverance of the people of Bihar.

The event was attended by senior BJP leader and Bihar minister Neeraj Singh Bablu, among others. Bhagwat's visit to Bihar highlighted the importance of education, values, and dedication, reaffirming the RSS's ongoing mission to contribute to the cultural and educational development of the nation.

## Railways Introduce Enhanced Crowd Control Measures at 60 Stations Across India

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Ministry of Railways has announced a new set of crowd control measures at 60 stations across the country, drawing on lessons learned from past experiences during events like the Maha Kumbh and festive seasons. The initiative, which was approved during a high-level meeting chaired by Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, aims to better manage overcrowding and ensure smoother passenger flow at key stations.

One of the key features of the plan is the creation of permanent waiting areas outside stations, where passengers will be allowed onto platforms only when their train arrives. This is expected to prevent crowding in station premises. Pilot projects are already underway at New Delhi, Anand Vihar, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Patna



stations, serving as test cases for this new system. Additionally, the railways will implement strict access control measures, permitting only passengers with confirmed reserved tickets to enter platforms. Unauthorized entry points will be sealed to ensure that only legitimate passengers are allowed

to access the train boarding areas. As part of improving crowd management, the ministry will also install new foot overbridges (FOBs) at stations. These FOBs will be 12 meters (40 feet) and 6 meters (20 feet) wide and will be equipped with ramps to improve movement.

## MK Stalin Raises Stakes Over Delimitation, Calls 7 State Leaders To Chennai

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has called on seven state counterparts, including Bengal's Mamata Banerjee and Odisha's Mohan Chandra Majhi, to join a joint action committee to oppose the Centre's proposed delimitation exercise. Stalin has invited Kerala's Pinarayi Vijayan, Karnataka's Siddaramaiah, Telangana's Revanth Reddy, Andhra Pradesh's Chandrababu Naidu, and Puducherry's N Rangaswamy to a meeting in Chennai on March 22 to form a collective strategy.

In his letter, Stalin criticized the Centre's proposal, calling it an attack on federalism. He emphasized that the delimitation exercise would unfairly penalize states, like Tamil Nadu, that have successfully controlled population growth. The exercise, according to Stalin, would reduce the voice of states that have implemented effective population control measures while benefiting regions with rapidly growing populations, such as BJP-



ruled northern states.

The issue of delimitation is particularly sensitive in Tamil Nadu as the state has been a strong proponent of limiting population growth. Stalin warned that the new exercise, based on current census data, could lead to a reduction in Tamil Nadu's represen-

tation in the Lok Sabha, despite the state's long-standing efforts to manage population control. He cited the 2002 amendment, which froze changes to the number of Lok Sabha seats until at least 2026, and called for this freeze to continue.

Stalin also dismissed Union Home

Minister Amit Shah's assurances that southern states would not lose seats, pointing out that the minister did not address the possibility of northern states gaining more seats. The Chief Minister stressed that Tamil Nadu should not be penalized for its success in controlling population growth. The meeting planned for March 22 aims

to unite political leaders across the country to challenge the delimitation process, which Stalin argues could undermine the federal structure and negatively impact Tamil Nadu's interests. The controversy surrounding the exercise is expected to intensify as the state heads toward elections next year.

# India, China Ties Made Positive Strides After PM Modi-Xi Meet

- China hails progress in India-China relations post-Ladakh resolution
- Wang Yi credits Modi-Xi talks for improved bilateral ties
- Calls for cooperation over competition between 'dragon and elephant'

TPN Correspondent | Beijing

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Friday highlighted the positive progress in India-China relations, noting a series of encouraging developments since the breakthrough agreement last year that ended a four-year-long military standoff in eastern Ladakh.

Wang shared these remarks during his annual press conference, addressing questions about the trajectory of bilateral relations following the resolution of the prolonged standoff. He credited the successful meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping in Kazan, Russia, for providing strategic guidance to improve ties.

"China-India relations have made positive strides over the past year," said Wang, emphasizing that both countries had strengthened exchanges and cooperation at all levels, achieving significant outcomes. The breakthrough in Ladakh followed a pact that facilitated the withdrawal of troops from the last remaining friction points, Depsang and Demchok, marking the conclu-



sion of years of military tension.

Following the agreement, talks between Prime Minister Modi and President Xi in October 2023 led to the revival of various dialogue mechanisms. This was followed by key meetings between National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Wang in December, and a subsequent meeting in January between Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and Chinese officials in Beijing. Wang reiterated that while border issues

were important, they should not define or hinder the overall relationship between the two nations. "As two ancient civilizations, we have enough wisdom to maintain peace and tranquility along the border while seeking a fair and reasonable solution," Wang stated.

He further emphasized that both countries, as large neighbors, should be partners in each other's success, advocating for cooperation instead of competition. "A co-

operative partnership between the dragon and the elephant is the only right choice," he said, adding that both countries should work together to oppose hegemonism and power politics, particularly in the context of global affairs.

Looking ahead, Wang expressed China's readiness to work with India to further strengthen diplomatic ties, especially as 2025 marks the 75th anniversary of their diplomatic relations.

## Saudi Arabia to Host US-Ukraine Talks in Jeddah Next Week



TPN Correspondent | Saudi

Saudi Arabia has expressed its readiness to host a meeting between US and Ukrainian officials in Jeddah next week, reaffirming the kingdom's commitment to facilitating peace efforts in the ongoing Ukraine-Russia conflict. The announcement came on Friday from the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, highlighting the kingdom's continued efforts to achieve a lasting resolution to the crisis.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy confirmed his visit to Saudi Arabia on Thursday, where he will meet with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Monday. Following this, talks between US officials and Ukrainian representatives are scheduled for later in the week. The meeting will take place in the Red Sea city of Jeddah, a key diplomatic hub for the region.

A brief statement from Saudi Arabia's Foreign Ministry underscored the kingdom's commitment to helping resolve the Ukrainian crisis. "The foreign ministry confirms the kingdom's continued efforts to achieve lasting peace to end the Ukrainian crisis," the statement read.

Earlier, Donald Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff, announced that he was in discussions with Ukraine for a potential deal framework to end the war with Russia. He indicated that a meeting with Ukrainian officials would be held next week in Saudi Arabia. This comes after a meeting hosted by Riyadh in February between US and Russian officials to explore possible peace talks, though Ukraine was not involved, raising concerns in Kyiv and among its European allies.

Zelenskyy had previously met with Trump at the White House on February 28, but the encounter took a tense turn, with both leaders clashing over their peacemaking approaches. The fallout from this meeting resulted in Trump suspending military aid and intelligence-sharing with Ukraine.

Meanwhile, on Friday, Russian forces carried out a missile strike on Ukrainian energy and gas infrastructure, marking the first major attack on vital infrastructure since Trump's policy changes. This attack further escalates tensions, underscoring the urgency of continued diplomatic efforts to end the war.

# Trump Criticizes India's High Tariffs, Announces Reciprocal Tariffs Starting April 2

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump has once again criticized India for its high tariffs, reiterating that reciprocal tariffs on countries imposing levies on American goods will begin on April 2. In an Oval Office address on Thursday, Trump highlighted India as a "very high tariff nation" and emphasized that countries like China and Canada also impose hefty tariffs on US products. Trump expressed his frustration with Canada's trade practices, particularly the 250% tariff on American milk products and lumber. He noted that despite such tariffs, the US doesn't rely on Canadian lumber, claiming that the country has more lumber resources than Canada. Trump's remarks came as he signed executive orders in the Oval Office, ahead of the upcoming



tariffs.

Trump clarified that the current tariffs are temporary and relatively small but warned that the new reciprocal tariffs, which will take effect on April 2, will be "a big game changer" for the US. He stressed that under

his administration, the US would no longer allow countries to charge high tariffs while the US charges little to nothing in return. "Whatever they charge us, we're going to charge them," he said, signaling a shift in the US's trade approach.

This is the second time in as many days that Trump has criticized India's tariff policies. During his address to the joint session of Congress, Trump singled out India, calling the high tariffs imposed on US goods "very unfair." He also mentioned that countries like the European Union, China, Brazil, Mexico, and Canada charge the US significantly higher tariffs than what the US imposes on them. Trump has previously labeled India a "tariff king" and a "big abuser." He also noted that India's high auto tariffs are over 100%, making it difficult for American products to enter the Indian market. Last month, during a joint press conference with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Trump acknowledged India's strength on tariffs but hinted at potential trade negotiations to address these issues.

## Court orders South Korean President Yoon released from jail for his criminal trial over martial law

TPN Correspondent | SEOUL, South Korea

On March 7, 2025, a South Korean court ordered the release of impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol from jail, more than a month after his arrest and indictment for his controversial declaration of martial law. The Seoul Central District Court ruled that Yoon should stand trial while not being physically detained, a significant development in his legal battle.

Yoon's impeachment trial hearings concluded in late February, and the court is expected to rule soon on whether to formally remove him from office or reinstate him. The court accepted Yoon's request for release, noting that the legal period of his arrest had expired before his indictment in late January. The court also stated that the investigative agency that detained Yoon before his formal arrest did not have legal grounds to investigate the criminal rebellion charges against him. Yoon's defense team welcomed the ruling and called for



his immediate release. However, South Korean law allows prosecutors to hold a suspect temporarily while they pursue an appeal. Investigators accuse Yoon of inciting rebellion with his martial law decree, which involved deploying troops to the National Assembly. If convicted, Yoon faces severe penalties, including the death penalty or life imprisonment.

The decree, which lasted only six hours, was overturned after enough lawmakers managed to convene and vote against it. The incident has sparked memories of past military rule, which many

South Koreans associate with oppression. Yoon defended his actions, arguing that the decree was intended to highlight the threat posed by the opposition Democratic Party, which had undermined his policies and impeached key officials.

If the Constitutional Court upholds Yoon's impeachment, he will be officially removed from office, and a national election will be held within two months to select his successor. The ongoing legal proceedings and massive public rallies, both for and against Yoon, are intensifying South Korea's already deep political divisions.

## Ukrainian President Zelenskyy to Visit Saudi Arabia for Talks on Ending War with Russia

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is set to visit Saudi Arabia next Monday, March 10, 2025, ahead of planned talks between senior Ukrainian and U.S. officials aimed at seeking a resolution to the ongoing war with Russia.

During his visit, President Zelenskyy will meet with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The discussions are expected to focus on peace efforts amid the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Following the meeting, Zelenskyy's team will remain in Saudi Arabia to collaborate with American officials on further diplomatic steps.

Zelenskyy emphasized Ukraine's strong desire for peace, stating that the visit would be crucial in advancing discussions that could lead to the end of the war. The diplomatic efforts are part of Ukraine's broader strategy to gain international support and seek peaceful solutions to the ongoing conflict, which has been devastating for the country and the region.

The talks in Saudi Arabia are expected to involve high-level discussions on various aspects of the war, with the aim of de-escalating tensions and exploring potential pathways for a peaceful resolution. The



meeting will also highlight the growing international involvement in the conflict, with Ukraine looking to strengthen its alliances and garner support from key global players like the United States and Saudi Arabia.

The visit comes at a critical time as both Ukraine and the U.S. continue to explore diplomatic options to end the war, which has seen widespread devastation in Ukraine since it began. The discussions are likely to have significant implications for the future of the conflict and the broader geopolitical landscape.

Zelenskyy's visit to Saudi Arabia underscores Ukraine's commitment to pursuing peace while strengthening its relationships with influential international partners in the pursuit of a peaceful resolution to the war with Russia.

## Rupee falls 6 paise to settle at 87.12 against U.S. dollar



The Indian rupee ended its three-day rally on Thursday, March 6, 2025, with a loss of 6 paise, settling at 87.12 (provisional) against the U.S. dollar. The decline was attributed to uncertainty surrounding trade tariffs and persistent foreign fund outflows, which caused cautious investor sentiment. Forex traders noted that market participants were waiting for key data, including the U.S. weekly unemployment claims and the European Central Bank's monetary policy decision.

Despite the loss, the local currency was supported by a positive equity market, a weaker U.S. dollar in international markets, and easing crude oil prices. Initially, the rupee gained momentum following news that the U.S. had delayed implementing higher tariffs on Canada and Mexico. Additionally, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) decision to infuse ₹1.9 trillion liquidity into the banking system further bolstered the currency.

During the day, the rupee opened at 86.96 and touched a high of 86.88 against the dollar. However, it became volatile and dropped to a low of 87.16 before settling at 87.12. On Wednesday, March 5, 2025, the rupee had registered its third consecutive gain, closing 13 paise higher at 87.06.

Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan, explained that the rupee's early gains were eroded due to selling pressure by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs). He also noted that the U.S. dollar had fallen to a four-month low, following the U.S. decision to delay higher tariffs on imports from Canada and Mexico. Choudhary added that the rupee is expected to trade within the range of 86.80 to 87.25, with positive domestic markets and U.S. dollar weakness providing support, but FII outflows could cap significant gains.

The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading lower by 0.15% at 104.12, while Brent crude rose slightly by 0.39% to \$69.57 per barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded ₹2,895.04 crore in equities on March 5, 2025, continuing a trend of net outflows. Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy and its measures to ensure liquidity in the system remain crucial for stabilizing the rupee.

## "Markets End Flat: Range-Bound Rally, Sector Strength, and Rupee Recovery Amid Mixed Global Cues"

Domestic stock markets ended flat today. They moved in a range-bound pattern throughout Friday. The markets initially fell due to mixed signals from global markets and investors acting cautiously. Then, they reached highs as sentiment strengthened. Finally, they settled at yesterday's levels due to profit booking. Maintaining consecutive gains for two days is a good sign. Media, Oil and Gas, and Metals indices stood firm. Overall, Nifty settled at 22,552 (7), Sensex settled at 74,332 (-7).

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 74,340 in the previous session, opened at 74,347 on Friday. It touched an intraday low of 74,038. It reached an intraday high of 74,586. It ended at 74,332, down 7 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,508, touched a low of 22,464 and a high of 22,633. It rose 7 points to close at 22,552. The Nifty Bank lost 130 points to settle at 48,497.

In the Nifty50, 20 companies gained and 30 lost. Media, oil and gas, metals, commodities, infra,



auto, energy stocks rose. Realty, consumer durables, IT, PSE, consumption, bank, pharma stocks lost. Reliance, Nestle, Bajaj Auto, BEL, Hindalco were the top gainers. IndusInd Bank, NTPC, Shriram Finance, Infosys, HCL Tech rose the most.



Market breadth on NSE today is in favor of buyers. Out of 2988 stocks traded, 1818 gained. 1093 lost. 17 stocks reached 52-week highs. 37 shares reached 52-week lows. A total of 229 shares touched the upper circuit.

Rupee strengthened by 23 paise to settle at 86.88 against the dollar. Citi has announced that Phoenix Mill is its top pick in real estate. Citi has given a buy rating to Inter-globe Aviation with a target price of Rs. 5200. Nuama has maintained a buy rating for Zee Entertainment with a target price of Rs. 185. Goldman Sachs maintains buy rating on Adani Port with a target price of Rs 1400. Shares tumbled for the third consecutive day after Macquarie gave an outperform rating to Reliance with a target price of Rs 1500. Quality Power acquired 51% stake in Mehru for Rs 120 crore. Laurus Labs board approved an investment of Rs 83.3 crore in KRKA Pharma. JPMorgan gave an overweight rating to BEL with a target price of Rs 343. Data Patterns share price jumped 12.24% today, the highest in 18 weeks. Inox Wind received an order of 153 million watts from Tamil Nadu. Kalpataru Projects won orders worth Rs 2306 crore. Uday chief Neelakanta Mishra said that a ministry like Bharat Dose is needed. Biocon signs strategic partnership with Civica.

## India's Inflation to Ease to 4.1% in February 2025, But Food Prices May Remain High

India's consumer price inflation (CPI) is forecasted to decrease to 4.1% in February 2025, according to a report by Bank of Baroda (BoB). However, the report cautioned that certain factors, including rising global edible oil prices, inflationary tariff policies, and an anticipated hotter summer, could keep food prices elevated.

The BoB report predicts a CPI of 4.1% but also warned of potential upward pressure on food inflation. It noted that global edible oil prices remain volatile and could contribute to increased food prices.

The BoB Essential Commodity Index (ECI), which tracks key household goods, showed a slowdown in February 2025, with the index moderating to 2.4% year-on-year. This decline was largely driven by falling prices of vegetables like tomatoes and potatoes. Additionally, inflation in pulses remained under control, thanks to better supply conditions, while a recent reduction in milk prices further contributed to easing inflation.

Despite these positive trends, several risks remain. Global asset price volatility, particularly in gold and base metals, has yet to significantly impact inflation. Energy prices have remained relatively low, but tariffs on metals could increase prices in the coming months. In February, rising demand pushed up prices for metals like copper and zinc.

A major concern highlighted in the report is the persistent rise in edible oil prices, which could



further drive food inflation. Moreover, extreme heat conditions, which have already been recorded in states like Maharashtra, Odisha, and Bihar—major producers of onions, tomatoes, and potatoes—could lead to supply disruptions for key crops.

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has noted above-normal temperatures in various states, raising concerns about the impact

on wheat crops. However, government measures aimed at improving logistics and stabilizing prices for perishable goods are expected to provide some relief.

While inflation is projected to moderate, uncertainties related to global commodity prices and weather conditions could still influence price trends in the coming months.

## India's Crude Oil Imports from Russia Decline Amid U.S. Sanctions



India's crude oil imports from Russia have dropped to their lowest level in over two years, reflecting the impact of recent U.S. sanctions targeting Russia's oil trade. The sanctions, announced by the Biden administration in January before its departure, have begun to hinder the flow of Russian crude to India. As a result, Indian refiners are being forced to diversify their sources of crude oil, turning to smaller suppliers from regions such as Africa and Latin America to make up for the lost Russian volumes, according to vessel tracking data.

The U.S. sanctions specifically targeted 183 tankers involved in the transport of Russian oil, a significant portion of what is known as the "shadow fleet," which had helped Russia continue its oil exports. Additionally, two Russian oil giants and several insurance companies linked to the Russian oil trade were also sanctioned. These moves have made it increasingly difficult for Indian refiners to

secure the necessary Russian crude cargoes, pushing them to find alternative suppliers.

Apart from Russia, India's key West Asian suppliers—Saudi Arabia and the UAE—also saw a sequential decline in their crude oil exports to India. However, Iraq, which remains India's second-largest crude supplier, did not follow this trend, maintaining a steady supply. This shift in sourcing is part of a broader strategy by Indian refiners to reduce reliance on Russian oil amidst the ongoing sanctions.

In response to the reduced Russian crude volumes, Indian refiners are exploring new avenues and seeking out supplies from less traditional sources, including nations in Africa and Latin America. The move highlights India's growing need to secure its energy supply amidst shifting global dynamics and the effects of international sanctions on Russia's oil industry.

## Bengaluru Restaurant's "No Real Estate, Political Discussions" Rule Goes Viral

A Bengaluru restaurant's unusual rule banning discussions on real estate and politics has gone viral on social media, sparking mixed reactions among users. The rule, displayed on a board inside the eatery, urges diners to refrain from engaging in lengthy conversations about real estate or politics while they dine. "This facility is only for dine-in purposes, not for real estate/political discussions. Please understand and cooperate," the board reads.

The image was shared on X (formerly Twitter) by user Farrago Metiquirke, and it quickly caught the attention of social media users, amassing over 40,000 views and numerous likes. Many users in the comments pointed out that this rule is not unique to this particular restaurant, with several Bengaluru eateries reportedly displaying similar signs discouraging such discussions.

Some users expressed that these discussions, particularly around real estate and politics, can lead to diners lingering for hours, occupying tables without ordering enough food. "Very common sight in Bangalore restaurants," one user wrote, while another added, "Real estate is thriving, but giving restaurants only one-by-two business!!"

Others shared their personal experiences, with one user humorously noting that political discussions tend to drag on for hours, preventing others from finding a place to sit. "Typical BLR restaurant. No real estate discussion as people use it freely as an office..."



They bring parties, lawyers, and lots of papers and sit for hours sipping a Rs. 20 tea," another commented.

Despite the widespread support for the rule, some users disagreed, questioning why a restaurant should monitor what people discuss. One user asked, "Why does he have to police what people are talking? They are paying for the food they eat, no?" In response, the original poster explained that such discussions can become heated and lead to prolonged table occupancy, which can negatively impact business.

While the rule has sparked debate, it highlights a growing concern for restaurant owners in Bengaluru about balancing customer satisfaction with operational efficiency.

## iPhone 17 Pro: Features and Design Changes

As the iPhone 17 series gears up for its official release later this year, the rumor mill is already buzzing with details about what Apple's upcoming flagship phones will bring to the table. While Apple has yet to confirm specifics, leaks and speculations have given us a glimpse into what we can expect from the iPhone 17 Pro.

One of the most significant changes expected is the iPhone 17 Pro's design. Apple has largely stuck to a similar design language since the iPhone 11 launch in 2020, but that could be set to change. According to well-known Apple tipster Jon Prosser, the iPhone 17 Pro will feature a larger camera island that spans the entire width of the device. This change marks a noticeable departure from previous models and could give the device a unique and distinctive look.

The new camera island will also feature rounded corners, which should provide a sleek and modern appearance. As for the camera setup itself, the iPhone 17 Pro will likely include three cameras on the left side of the island. On the right side, users can expect to find an LED flash, a LiDAR scanner, and a microphone. These upgrades are expected to further enhance the phone's photography and videography capabilities, which have been a hallmark of the iPhone lineup in recent years.



In terms of performance, the iPhone 17 Pro is expected to be powered by the A19 Pro chipset. While no official details have been confirmed, the A19 Pro is rumored to offer significant improvements in processing power and efficiency, making it a strong contender for handling the most demanding applications and tasks.

While we'll have to wait a few more months for the official launch, the iPhone 17 Pro is shaping up to be one of the most exciting upgrades in Apple's recent history. With potential design changes, an upgraded camera system, and enhanced performance, it looks like the iPhone 17 Pro will offer a more refined and capable experience for users.

## Reddit Launches New Tools to Enhance Engagement and Content Performance



On Thursday, Reddit introduced a set of new tools designed to help users better adhere to community rules and gain a deeper understanding of content performance. This move is part of Reddit's ongoing efforts to improve user engagement and create a more informed user experience on the platform.

The announcement comes on the heels of a recent slowdown in Reddit's quarterly user growth, which was largely attributed to changes in Google's search algorithm. These changes had a significant impact on the traffic coming from the search engine. However, according to Reddit CEO Steve Huffman, the platform has since seen a recovery in traffic from Google, suggesting that the impact of the algorithm shift may have been temporary.

The new tools aim to address two main concerns: content moderation and content performance. For community rules, Reddit users will now have improved visibility into why certain content may be flagged or removed, allowing them to better understand and follow the platform's guidelines. This feature is particularly helpful for

new users or those unfamiliar with specific subreddit rules.

Additionally, the new tools will offer enhanced analytics for users, giving them insights into how their posts are performing across the platform. This feature will enable content creators to track engagement metrics such as upvotes, comments, and shares, helping them refine their content strategy to increase visibility and interaction with their posts.

These updates reflect Reddit's commitment to fostering a healthy and engaged community while also providing users with the tools they need to succeed. By focusing on both content moderation and performance metrics, Reddit hopes to encourage more active participation and ensure that content is in line with community standards.

Overall, this initiative highlights Reddit's dedication to improving user experience and engagement, especially in light of the recent challenges related to traffic fluctuations. As the platform continues to evolve, these tools may prove vital in sustaining long-term growth and user retention.

## Would You Pay Rs 77 Lakh For A Cheeto? Someone Just Did!

In the world of collectible items, some enthusiasts go after rare Pokémon cards or vintage toys, but one lucky bidder has just secured a truly unique treasure—a Flamin' Hot Cheeto shaped like Charizard. The snack, dubbed "Cheetozard," attracted an astonishing \$88,000 (around 77 lakhs) at an auction, setting off a bidding frenzy that left many amazed.

This rare Cheeto was sold at the February 2025 Pop Culture Elite Auction hosted by Goldin, an online marketplace for rare collectibles. The auction began on February 10 with a modest starting bid of \$250. As the days progressed, the bidding war intensified, and by Sunday, March 2, the price had reached \$72,000. With the addition of Goldin's buyer's premium, the final price soared to \$87,840.



Measuring only three inches in length, the Cheetozard snack stood out for its bizarre dragon-shaped appearance, strikingly similar to the popular Pokémon Charizard. To further enhance its collect-

ability, the snack came with a custom Pokémon card.

The journey of this quirky item began between 2018 and 2022 when it was discovered and preserved by 1st & Goal Collectibles, a shop based in Holly Springs, Georgia. The shop specializes in curating rare and unusual items, and Cheetozard quickly gained popularity online, capturing the imagination of pop culture enthusiasts. Its online fame turned it into a unique piece of history, eventually becoming the subject of the auction that led to its hefty price tag.

While some may question the allure of a Cheeto commanding such a large sum, the Cheetozard's sale is proof that in the world of collectibles, anything—even a snack—can turn into a valuable and coveted item.

## Karnataka bodybuilder flaunts muscles in bridal photoshoot, internet impressed

Karnataka-based bodybuilder and fitness trainer Chitra Purushotham has taken the internet by storm with a stunning bridal photoshoot video. While many initially assumed it was an announcement of her wedding, it was later revealed that the viral moment was simply a creative photoshoot.

In the video that has since gone viral, Purushotham elegantly combined fitness and tradition in a striking yellow and blue Kanjivaram saree. In a bold move, she chose to skip the blouse, allowing her toned physique to take center stage. She completed her bridal look with gold jewelry, including a kamar bandh, maang tikka, earrings, and bangles. Her makeup featured bold winged eyeliner and a deep red lip-



stick, while her hair was neatly plaited and adorned with fragrant jasmine flowers.

Purushotham shared the clip on Instagram, captioning it, "Mindset is everything," a phrase that resonates deeply with her audience. The video quickly gained traction, amassing over 7.5 million

views. Social media users flooded the comments, showering her with admiration for her unique fusion of strength and elegance.

One user praised her by saying, "Strength and beauty in perfect harmony—absolutely stunning!" Another commented, "A bride like no other! This is empowerment at

its finest." A third user remarked, "You've redefined elegance. Who says muscles and grace can't go together?"

While many were impressed by her distinctive take on a bridal look, some were initially surprised, with one person saying, "I genuinely thought this was a wedding announcement! You rocked it." Others applauded her confidence, with one user adding, "This is proof that a woman can be both powerful and graceful at the same time."

Purushotham's photoshoot has become a viral sensation, with people across the internet admiring her confidence, strength, and beauty—showcasing that a woman can embrace both power and grace effortlessly.



## India Ready for Champions Trophy Final Against New Zealand

India, led by Rohit Sharma, is on fire heading into the 2025 Champions Trophy final against New Zealand, after an unbeaten run in the tournament despite losing four consecutive tosses. The team has excelled in all departments, with the bat, Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli in exceptional form, while the bowlers, led by Mohammed Shami and Varun Chakra-

varthy, have been impressive.

However, New Zealand, with their history of defeating India in past ICC knockouts, poses a strong challenge, especially with key players like Mitchell Santner, Kane Williamson, and Rachin Ravindra in form. India's chance to win their first Champions Trophy since 2013 will also be a sig-

nificant achievement for coach Gautam Gambhir, and a win will bolster their preparations for the 2027 ODI World Cup.

Yet, the threat of New Zealand's spinners, including Santner and Bracewell, alongside a potential fit Matt Henry, could prove to be pivotal in India's quest for the trophy.

## Gill, Smith, Phillips Nominated for ICC Player of the Month

The ICC has shortlisted Australian batter Steve Smith, Indian opener Shubman Gill, and New Zealand all-rounder Glenn Phillips for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for February 2025.



Smith's stellar performances during the Test series against Sri Lanka, including two centuries, earned him Player of the Series honors. Gill made a significant impact with 406 runs in five ODIs, including three crucial knocks against England, which helped him claim the number one spot in the

ICC ODI rankings. Phillips, known for his brilliance in the field, contributed 236 runs at a strike rate of 124.21 in the tri-series in Pakistan and the ICC Champions Trophy. The nominations highlight their exceptional contributions across various international formats.

## Sakshi Malik's Empowering Message: "No Fear, Just Give Your Best"

Ahead of International Women's Day, Olympic bronze medalist Sakshi Malik shared an inspiring message on the resilience and strength of women. Reflecting on her own journey, from wrestling with limited facilities to becoming India's first female Olympic medalist in 2016, she stressed that women's achievements should be celebrated every day, not just on March 8.



Sakshi, now a mother and railway employee, emphasized that determination, focus, and discipline are key for women to break barriers. She also highlighted the progress in Haryana, where attitudes towards girls have changed, thanks to her success. Concluding, she urged women to embrace their struggles, giving their best in every field, and revealed her plans to stay connected to sports by teaching wrestling to children.

## Record-Breaking Indian Contingent at WTT Star Contender Chennai 2025

The WTT Star Contender Chennai 2025 is set to feature a record-breaking 13 Indian players, marking the country's strongest-ever presence in the tournament. Scheduled to begin on March 25, the event will see India represented by top players like Sharath Kamal, Manika Batra, Sathiyan Gnanasekaran, and Sreeja Akula, among others. This marks a historic achievement for Indian

table tennis, with players earning direct entry into both men's and women's singles main draws. In-ternational stars like Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto and Hina Hayata will headline the tournament, which offers a prize pool of USD 275,000 and 600 ranking points for the champions. The competition promises an electrifying clash of talent as the Olympic year approaches.



## Paralympic Champions Lead India's Charge at World Para Athletics Grand Prix New Delhi



India's top Paralympic champions, including Praveen Kumar, Navdeep Singh, and Dharambir, will headline the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in New Delhi from March 11 to 13 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. The three-day event will feature over 90 competitions, with participation from over 250 athletes representing 20 countries. Praveen Kumar (Paris Paralympics gold medalist in High Jump, T64), Navdeep Singh

(Javelin, F41), and Dharambir (Club Throw, F51) will lead India's campaign. The event marks a significant milestone for para-athletics in India, as it hosts one of the largest gatherings of para-athletes, including 145 Indian and 105 international competitors. Praveen expressed excitement about competing at home, looking forward to a stellar performance for Indian fans.

## "Indian Shooters are Brilliant, We Must Keep Focus": Manu Bhaker on Life After Olympic Glory

Manu Bhaker, reflecting on life after her historic double-bronze achievement at the Paris Olympics, shared her insights on the journey ahead. Speaking at the Trailblazers 3.0 Conclave in Kolkata, Manu emphasized the importance of maintaining focus, stating, "Indian shooters are brilliant. We are right there at the top, naturally good and



sharp mentally." Despite a longing for a third medal, Manu remains realistic, acknowledging the difficulty of finishing fourth. From her early setbacks at the Tokyo 2021 Olympics to making history in Paris, Manu's journey embodies resilience and the relentless pursuit of excellence. Her message is clear: stay focused and keep striving for greatness.

## Harmanpreet Kaur Fined for Dissent in WPL 2025 Match

Mumbai Indians captain Harmanpreet Kaur has been fined 10% of her match fee for breaching the WPL Code of Conduct after showing dissent at an umpire's decision during the match against UP Warriorz. The incident occurred in the final over when MI was penalized for a slow over rate, enforcing fielding restrictions. Harmanpreet confronted umpire Ajitesh Argal, visibly displeased with the

call. This led to a heated exchange between her and England's Sophie Ecclestone. The situation was quickly de-escalated by the umpires. Harmanpreet admitted to the Level 1 offense under Article 2.8, which relates to showing dissent. Despite the incident, MI secured a six-wicket victory, with Amelia Kerr's five-wicket haul and Hayley Mathews' fiery 68 leading the charge.





## Special Poster Released on Janhvi Kapoor's Birthday for RC16

On March 6, marking Janhvi Kapoor's birthday, the team of RC16 released a special behind-the-scenes poster featuring the actress alongside global star Ram Charan. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, the film has already generated excitement with its star-studded cast, including Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and Divyendu from Mirzapur. The poster, clicked during the first

schedule in Mysore, is not an official look but a casual shot from the set. Janhvi is set to continue filming the movie in Hyderabad, where key scenes will be shot over the next 12 days. Music by AR Rahman and visuals by cinematographer Ratnavelu are adding to the anticipation. RC16 is produced by Venkata Satish Kilari under the banner of Vrudhi Cinemas.

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
JANHVI  
KAPOOR

TEAM  
RC  
16  
BUCHI BABU SANA

## Movie Review: Baapu - A Tale of Family, Struggles, and Greed

Release Date: March 7, 2025

Platform: Jio Hotstar  
Rating: 2.5/5

Baapu explores the dynamics of a rural family entangled in financial struggles and greed. Directed by Daya, the film is set in a village, where Mallanna (Brahmaji) and his wife Saroj (Aamani)



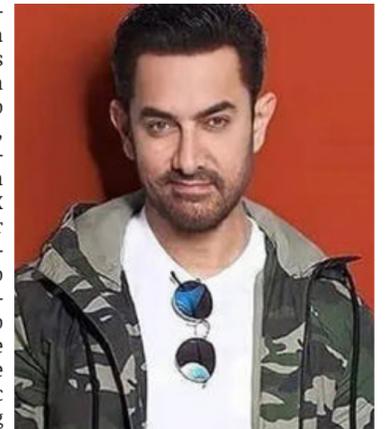
face dire circumstances. Mallanna contemplates a desperate act after accumulating debt, with his wife's suggestion leading them down a dark path. Meanwhile, the discovery of an ancient gold statue creates complications.

The film touches on themes of sacrifice, desperation, and the lengths one would go to for financial relief. Although the golden statue plot loses steam halfway, the family drama and the father's moral dilemma are compelling. Strong performances by Brahmaji and Aamani elevate the narrative. The film's portrayal of rural life and human emotions is commendable. However, the pacing and structure could have been better. Baapu is a thoughtful commentary on modern society's greed, though it may not resonate with everyone.

Verdict: A film about love, loss, and the darkness of greed, Baapu succeeds in some areas but falters in others. It's a reflective watch but lacks the depth to leave a lasting impact.

## Aamir Khan to Be Honored with Special Film Festival on His 60th Birthday

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan will celebrate his 60th birthday on March 14, and to mark this milestone, a special film festival will be held in his honor. PVR INOX is presenting "Aamir Khan: Cinema Ka Jadugar," a tribute to the actor's remarkable contributions to Indian cinema. The festival will feature some of his iconic films, showcasing his impactful journey in the industry.



marked.

Ajay Bijli, MD of PVR INOX, praised Aamir for his courage in choosing bold scripts and shaping the modern film industry. "Aamir's films convey powerful messages, and his success at the box office has set new benchmarks," he re-

Khan will also host a star-studded birthday party, with close friends Salman Khan, Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone, and other A-list celebrities. This marks Aamir's first large-scale celebration of his career.

## L2: Empuraan Gets U/A Certificate Ahead of March 27 Release



The much-awaited political thriller L2: Empuraan, starring Prithviraj Sukumaran and directed by Prithviraj Sukumaran, has received a U/A certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). The sequel to the hit film Lucifer, Empuraan delves deeper into the complex world of crime and power, expanding on the characters

and locations introduced in the first film. With Prithviraj reprising his role as Zayed Masood, the film is set to hit theatres on March 27. Produced by Antony Perumbavoor and Subaskaran, the film also features a screenplay by Murali Gopy, music by Deepak Dev, and cinematography by Sujith Vaassudev.

## Rajinikanth's 'Jailer 2' Set to Begin Production Next Week

The highly anticipated sequel to the blockbuster Jailer, featuring Rajinikanth, is all set to kick off production next week. Directed by Nelson, Jailer 2 has created immense buzz, with rumors suggesting that the shooting will begin in Chennai, followed by locations in Goa and Theni.

There are also speculations about the involvement of Kannada superstar Dr. Shiva Rajkumar and Malayalam icon Mohanlal,

though no official confirmation has been made. The film's expectations have soared following the massive success of Jailer, which grossed around Rs 650 crores.

The excitement reached new heights when Sun Pictures released an intriguing teaser, blending humor with explosive action, and featuring a glimpse of Rajinikanth's iconic entrance. Fans are eagerly awaiting the next chapter of this thrilling saga.



## Ranveer Singh Praises Deepika Padukone's Stunning Golden Look

Bollywood's power couple, Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone, have always shared adorable moments on social media, delighting their fans. Deepika recently posted a series of glamorous pictures, donning an oversized golden shimmery dress with black boots and subtle golden accessories. Her minimal makeup completed the striking look.



Ranveer couldn't hold back his admiration and com-

mented, "Phew!" Fans quickly joined the conversa-

tion, praising Deepika with titles like 'Empress,' 'Queen,'

and 'Golden Energy.' Some even said, "Face card never declines, Mother," and "She came, she saw, she conquered." The couple, who welcomed their daughter Dua in September 2024, are back to their work schedules. Deepika recently made an appearance at Sabyasachi's 25th Anniversary gala and starred in Kalki 2898 AD, while Ranveer is currently working on Aditya Dhar's Dhurandhar.