

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 33 °C L 25 °C	H 35 °C L 26 °C	H 36 °C L 26 °C

CM Revanth Reddy to Launch “Indira Mahila Shakti Mission-2025” at Parade Grounds

CM Revanth Reddy Launches Indira Mahila Shakti Mission.

One Lakh Women Attend Rally at Parade Grounds.

Loan & Insurance Cheques Given to Women.

150 Women-Operated Buses Inaugurated.

Focus on Women’s Empowerment for Economic Growth.

CM Criticizes BRS Leaders’ Exploitation of Public Misfortunes.



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 :
Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is set to address a grand gathering of over one lakh women today at Parade Grounds, Secunderabad. The event will feature the launch of the “Indira Mahila Shakti Mission-2025,” aimed at empowering women across the state. CM Revanth Reddy will also distribute loan, insurance, and accident insurance cheques to women’s self-help

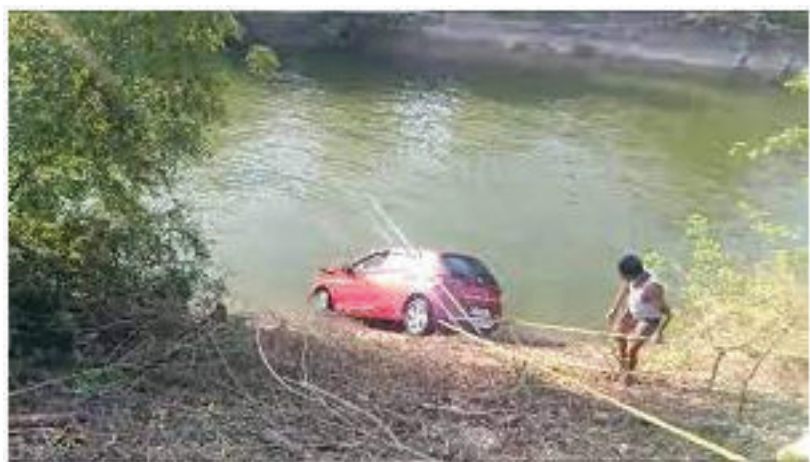
groups. Additionally, 150 rented buses, operated by women’s groups, will be inaugurated as part of the mission. During his speech, CM Revanth Reddy highlighted the progress made in women’s empowerment, pointing out that under the previous government, women had been stifled and their opportunities limited. He emphasized the importance of empowering women economically to achieve a 1 trillion-dollar economy for the

state. Revanth expressed that with the continued support of women, the state could reach this goal, and noted that several women had already succeeded in education and business. The Chief Minister also remarked that the state’s economic and social transformation was due to the active participation of women. He cited the removal of the “Chandragrahan” (a metaphor used to describe the stifling period under the previous govern-

ment) and the rise of women in leadership positions as signs of positive change. Further, CM Revanth Reddy criticized BRS leaders for their “sadistic pleasure” over any misfortune that befalls the public and called for collabora-

tive efforts in governance. He expressed confidence that Telangana’s women could achieve any goal, including making the state a 1 trillion-dollar economy. The event also saw discussions on the party’s com-

mitment to developing infrastructure and providing self-employment opportunities to women through various initiatives like the establishment of women’s empowerment centers and the supply of school uniforms to children.



Bodies of Man and Daughter Found in SRSP Canal in Warangal

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : The bodies of Somarapu Praveen Kumar (30), an LIC development officer, and his 4-year-old daughter, Chaitra Sai, were found in the SRSP canal near Theegarajupalli village in Sangem mandal, Warangal, on Saturday. Praveen Kumar was

traveling with his wife, Krishnaveni, and children, Chaitra Sai and Saivardhan (2), when he suddenly experienced chest pain, leading to the car accident. While Krishnaveni was rescued by locals, the car plunged into the canal. Search operations were launched by >> PAGE 2

Kishan Reddy Announces Major Infrastructure Developments in Telangana

- Completion of 10 national highways worth ₹6,280 crore.
- Aaramghar to Shamshabad six-lane highway completed.
- Signal-free road to Shamshabad Airport completed.
- BHEL flyover set to finish next month.
- Improved traffic control for Kukatpally-Patancheru route.



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Union Minister Kishan Reddy recently announced significant infrastructure progress for Telangana, aimed at enhancing the state’s connectivity. Speaking at the BJP state headquarters in Hyderabad, Reddy revealed that 10 national highways have been completed across Telangana, with an investment of

₹6,280 crore, covering 285 kilometers. These highways are expected to ease traffic congestion and boost the region’s economic growth. Reddy also discussed the much-anticipated Regional Ring Road (RRR), noting that a tri-party agreement regarding the project’s financial aspects is pending. He further elaborated that the northern section of the RRR will cost an estimated

₹18,772 crore, with the Cabinet note for the project preparation underway. Additionally, the minister highlighted several completed projects, including a six-lane highway connecting Aaramghar to Shamshabad, and a signal-free road leading to Shamshabad Airport, aimed at reducing travel time. He also mentioned that the BHEL

flyover will be completed next month, which will help manage traffic between Kukatpally and Patancheru, easing congestion significantly. These developments underscore the central government’s commitment to improving Telangana’s infrastructure, with the focus now on expediting the remaining projects for further growth in the region.



Telangana CM Inaugurates Chakali Ilamma University on Women’s Day

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : On March 8, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy laid the foundation for the Chakali Ilamma University in Hyderabad, marking a significant milestone on International Women’s Day. The university, named after the courageous leader Chakali Ilamma, will focus on empowering women and fostering leadership qualities. The infrastructure development, estimated at ₹535

crore, will include academic blocks, an auditorium, sports grounds, and other facilities, with an expected completion timeline of 30 months. Addressing the gathering, CM Revanth highlighted the contributions of strong women from history, including Chakali Ilamma, who fought against feudal landlords. He urged female students to draw inspiration from successful women leaders like Chief Secretary A. Santhi Kumari and others in

the state. He expressed confidence that 33% reservation for women in the Assembly and Parliament will be implemented soon. The CM encouraged girls to develop leadership skills and aim high, urging them to compete with top international universities like Stanford and Oxford. “This is a great opportunity for you all. Study well, and achieve great things,” he said, inspiring the next generation of leaders.



Bodies of Man and Daughter Found in SRSP Canal in Warangal

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expert swimmers, police, and fire department personnel. The bodies were located 200 meters from the accident site after the car was pulled from the water. Due to heavy water flow in the canal, irrigation officials stopped the release of SRSP water and diverted it to Mahabubabad to aid in the search. Parvatagiri Inspector of Police, B Rajagopal, oversaw the rescue efforts. The local police have registered a case and are investigating the incident. Tragically, this spot had seen a similar accident in the past. The deaths of Praveen Kumar and his children have left the Mecharamjupalli community in mourning.

Harish Rao Criticizes CM Revanth Reddy's Government on Women's Day Celebrations

1. Harish Rao criticized unfulfilled promises.
2. Government failed on loan disbursements.
3. Inaction on women's safety issues.
4. Rao demanded an apology from CM.



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : In a scathing attack on the current government, former Minister and Siddipet MLA Harish Rao accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of failing to fulfill his promises to women in Telangana. Speaking at a Women's Day event, Harish Rao highlighted the government's broken promises, particularly the scheme to make women "crorepatis." He claimed that the CM had misled the people with lofty promises and that, under the current administration, women had been deceived, rather than empowered.

Harish Rao pointed out that during the election campaign, the Congress promised interest-free loans worth Rs. 1 lakh crore over five years, but the government had failed to deliver even Rs. 5,000 crore in loan disbursements. He questioned the government's inability to fulfill these basic commitments, accusing them of offering hollow assurances without any actual action. Additionally, he criticized the government's failure to implement key promises such as the Rs. 2,500 monthly financial assistance for women, as well as the lack of concrete actions on crime and safety for women.

Furthermore, Harish Rao demanded that CM Revanth Reddy apologize for the Congress party's failure to uphold its promises. He emphasized that instead of celebrating empty rhetoric, the government should focus on delivering on its commitments. He concluded by describing the current regime's approach as a mixture of false promises and ineffective governance that failed to improve the lives of women in the state.

Rescue Operation Ongoing at SLBC Tunnel Amid Danger

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Rescue operations are continuing for eight workers trapped in the Sri Shailam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel. The incident occurred in the last 50 meters of the tunnel, about 14 kilometers long. Water Resources Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy shared that the region is highly dangerous, and conducting excavation work poses risks to the rescue teams. To ensure the safety of the rescue workers, robots will be deployed for assistance. Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, after reviewing the progress of the rescue efforts, stated that this type of complex incident has not occurred in tunnels across the country. He also mentioned that the teams had reached up to 13.950 kilometers of the 14-kilometer tunnel, but the last stretch of 50 meters was proving to be extremely hazardous. Rescue operations have been ongoing for the past few days, and the teams are relying on the expertise of professionals and advice from specialists involved in tunnel construction and rescue operations across the nation. Minister Uttam confirmed that search dogs from Kerala have identified areas in the tunnel where three workers may be located. The minister also assured that the families of the victims would receive support, and efforts such as dewatering and desilting are ongoing. A follow-up announcement will be made after a review on March 11.



DCM Bhatti Vikramarka Praises CM Revanth Reddy's Vision for Women Empowerment

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's vision of making one crore women millionaires, calling it a commendable thought. Speaking at the Women's Day celebrations held at the Parade Ground in Secunderabad, Bhatti expressed his happiness about the grand event organized by CM Revanth Reddy. He recalled that the Congress government had focused on DWCR (Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas) societies from 2004 to 2014 but criticized the BRS government for neglecting women's issues over the last decade. He highlighted that during the past 10 years, women's concerns were ignored in

the state assembly, and the funds meant for women's welfare were misused for other purposes. Bhatti emphasized that the promises made under the Indiramma regime were slowly becoming a reality, and despite challenges, the government would allocate ₹20,000 crore in interest-free loans to women.

The Deputy CM further pointed out that despite mockery from BRS leaders, they had made a substantial commitment, announcing ₹21,000 crore in interest-free loans, which would bring real benefits to women in the state.

Bhatti concluded by assuring that the current government would ensure substantial progress for women's welfare and empowerment in the coming years.



Bandi Sanjay Criticizes Government's Women's Day Promises

1. Bandi Sanjay criticizes govt. for unmet promises to women.
2. Claims failure to deliver ₹2,500/month and gold/scooters.
3. Questions lack of budget for women's welfare.
4. Accuses govt. of prioritizing publicity over action.

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Central Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar criticized the Telangana government for its failure to fulfill promises made to women, especially on Women's Day. Speaking at an event on Saturday, Bandi Sanjay pointed out that the government's efforts to spend crores on publicity during Women's Day celebrations did not reflect true action. He accused the government of not delivering on promises made during the previous assembly elections, including providing ₹2,500 every month to women, which has yet to be im-

plemented even after 15 months. He further criticized the government for failing to provide the promised gold, scooters, and adequate budget allocation for women's welfare. Bandi Sanjay also condemned the government's inaction on the increasing alcohol-related issues that are negatively impacting women's lives. The BJP leader also mentioned that the government had abandoned its commitment to shut down belt shops, which was another promise made to the public. He expressed his dissatisfaction with the government's reliance on speeches, ads, and



events rather than actual action. He emphasized that the women of Telangana, heirs to the legacy of Rani Rudrama Devi, are conscious and empowered, and no amount of empty promises would deceive them.

Telangana to Set Up Three Electric Vehicle Clusters for Battery Manufacturing



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw an-

nounced that Telangana will set up three clusters for manufacturing electric vehicle (EV) batteries.

The announcement came on Saturday during the ground-breaking ceremony for the Amar Raja Battery Company's 'Giga' industry in Duvitipally, Mahabubnagar district.

Minister Vaishnaw shared that the central government, in collaboration with the state government, is working to establish large-scale manufacturing units for the EV sector. As part of this initiative, the government is providing support to set up manufacturing clusters, including the battery unit in Duvitipally.

He also mentioned that Prime Minister Modi's vision is to create

substantial manufacturing units across the country, and the electric vehicle industry is central to that goal. The government aims to enhance the production of EV batteries to support the growing demand for electric vehicles.

The central and state governments are actively working together to ensure the success of these clusters, which will play a key role in accelerating India's transition to cleaner energy and promote local manufacturing in the EV sector. This initiative will not only boost the electric vehicle market but also create numerous job opportunities in the state.

Meeting of All-Party MPs Concludes: DCM Bhatti Vikramarka Calls for Unity

1. Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka chaired an all-party MPs meeting.
2. Focused on pending issues and strategies to secure state funds.
3. BJP and BRS MPs were absent due to scheduling conflicts.
4. Bhatti emphasized unity for the state's benefit.

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : The meeting of All-Party Members of Parliament (MPs), led by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, concluded at Praja Bhavan. The meeting focused on unresolved issues with the central government, with discussions revolving around pending matters and strategies to address them. Bhatti Vikramarka briefed the media, explaining that the agenda centered on how to effectively fight for funds in Parliament and resolving issues related to the state's interests.

During the session, nearly 28 topics were discussed, including important state-related matters



and the presentation of a Power-Point on division-related issues. Bhatti Vikramarka urged all MPs

to unite for the welfare of the state, emphasizing the importance of collective effort in secur-

ing state benefits.

However, BJP and BRS MPs were absent from the meeting. In a late development, BJP MPs sent a letter to Bhatti Vikramarka, explaining their absence due to delayed invitations. They mentioned that their party had prior commitments and insufficient time for discussions before the meeting, requesting that future meetings be announced earlier for better participation.

Despite the absence of some party members, the meeting was seen as a crucial step towards ensuring the state's interests are collectively addressed in Parliament.

MP Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy Highlights Key Railway Projects for Telangana

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : In a media interaction on Saturday, Bhuvanagiri Congress MP Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy expressed confidence in the Congress government's honest governance and discussed critical issues related to Telangana's development. He emphasized that the lack of funds in the past was due to the lack of strong relations with the central government under the previous regime. Reddy highlighted a recent meeting with Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, where he, along with three state ministers and Warangal MP Kavya, discussed several key railway projects for Telangana. He specifically pointed out the request for the Kajeepet Railway Division and the need to fulfill the promises made during the bifurcation of the state, such as establishing a railway coach factory. Additionally, Reddy called for the



completion of railway projects like the construction of a railway line from Dornakal to Gadwal and the development of a railway line around the upcoming Regional Ring Road (RRR). He confirmed that discussions on these projects were held with the Union Minister and expressed hope for swift action to meet the state's transportation needs.

MP Dharmapuri Arvind Criticizes Congress Government on Key Issues

1. MP Arvind criticizes Sudarshan Reddy's opposition.
2. Congress MLAs accused of inefficiency.
3. Criticizes Congress for poor Women's Day event.
4. BJP's success in MLC, local elections.

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : In a media interaction, MP Dharmapuri Arvind voiced his concerns on several issues, particularly criticizing the Congress government in Telangana for its mismanagement and lack of initiative. He condemned the opposition led by former minister Sudarshan Reddy, who opposed the setting up of a Navodaya Vidyalaya in rural areas, specifically in Bhodhan on Nizam Sugars land. Arvind described Reddy's objection as "shameful," calling it an unnecessary hurdle in the state's development. Arvind also lambasted Congress MLAs, labeling them as "ineffective" and stating that he was forced to take charge of their responsibilities. He expressed frustration that the Revanth Reddy-led

government had not allocated sufficient funds to BJP MLAs for various development projects. He pointed out that while efforts were being made to establish an airport, Congress's political interference was hindering progress. Referring to the recent Women's Day celebrations, Arvind criticized the Congress government for its poor organization and questioned how such an event could be planned without properly acknowledging the occasion. He emphasized that, despite knowing about the event, he chose not to attend due to these organizational failures. Arvind also expressed his disappointment with the Chief Minister's treatment of Dalits, asserting that true love for Dalits would be demonstrated by



giving them leadership roles. He further questioned the Congress party's handling of the BC reservation law, accusing them of manipulating data for political gain. Concluding, he stressed the success of BJP's hard-working cadres in securing victories in the MLC and local body elections, and dismissed claims about a decline in BJP's influence in South India as mere regional party propaganda.

Etala Rajender Criticizes Congress Government Over Temple Notices

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Malakajiri MP Etala Rajender has expressed strong dissatisfaction with the Congress government, accusing them of targeting religious institutions in the state. Speaking at a recent event, he claimed that the Congress government was nearing its "end" and cited the issuance of notices to temples near the Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Swamy Temple in Jagadgirigutta, Hyderabad, as an example of its oppressive actions. Rajender revealed that the Tahsildar of Kuthbullapur had issued notices to the management of 15 temples, a dairy farm, and a Christian missionary, instructing them to demolish illegal constructions. This move followed an inspection by the Hyderabad Commissioner, who had been investigating the issue of encroachments on the hill near the Jagadgirigutta temple. Rajender criticized the government for disrespecting religious sentiments and the long-standing practices of the local communities, which had been conducting religious ceremonies for years. He accused the Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's administration of causing hardships to the public



and playing a "drama" under the pretext of administrative action. Rajender emphasized that issuing such notices was not only an attack on religious freedom but also an unjust and unwarranted action by the state government.

MLC Kavitha Criticizes Lack of Women's Political Empowerment

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : In a significant statement, Jagruthi President and MLC Kavitha spoke out about the political challenges women face, particularly in light of the lack of implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill. Speaking at the International Women's Day celebrations held at Telangana Bhavan on Saturday, Kavitha, who was the chief guest, highlighted that women were suffering politically due to the unfulfilled promise of reservation. She criticized the central government for not implementing the Women's Reservation Bill, associating it with the delay in the ongoing population census. Kavitha pointed out that due to the absence of reservations, states like Maharashtra, Delhi, and Haryana had witnessed severe setbacks for women in elections. She also questioned why funds had not been allocated for the census in the budget. Kavitha further emphasized that if the census was completed swiftly, states like Bihar and Tamil Nadu would see a significant increase in the number of women elected as MLAs. She urged the government to prioritize the implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill to ensure that women receive equal representation in politics.



Minister Konda Surakha Calls for Unified Effort in Warangal's Development



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Minister Konda Surakha made sig-

nificant comments regarding the development of Warangal, emphasizing the importance of moving forward with progress regardless of political affiliation. She revealed that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is working towards making Warangal the second-largest capital of Telangana. Speaking to the media on Saturday, Surakha highlighted that the CM is making efforts to elevate Warangal's development on a significant level. She called for collective efforts from all political parties and individuals, urging them to work together for the district's growth. In addition, Surakha spoke about the ongoing process of land acquisition for the establishment of an airport in Mamunur, Warangal, for which the central government has already granted permission. She mentioned that the survey for land acquisition is currently in progress, and the project is expected to bring substantial growth and opportunities to the region.

CM Revanth Reddy Emphasizes Women's Role in National Development



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : CM Revanth Reddy stressed the importance of women's participation in the country's development during the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Chakali Ailamma Women's University in Hyderabad. Speaking at the event, he praised naming the university after the courageous Chakali Ailamma, which he believed would bring great honor to Telangana. He urged students and professors to ensure that the university competes with international institutions. Reddy also expressed his hope for the eventual implementation of a 33% reservation for

women in elections, emphasizing the need for student representation in this process. He further remarked that women, when given opportunities, prove their capabilities and become an example for the nation. Additionally, Reddy highlighted the Mahalakshmi scheme, which provides free bus travel for women in Telangana, and mentioned the state government's support for self-help groups, entrusting them with the responsibility of managing schools. He concluded by stressing that studying at Chakali Ailamma University is a significant opportunity for students in the region.

Ex-Minister Jagadish Reddy Accuses Ministers of Commission Scams

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Senior BRS leader and former Minister Jagadish Reddy has accused the state ministers of indulging in commission scams, claiming that such activities have increased over the past 15 months. Speaking to the media on Saturday, he demanded the government reveal how much money has been given to contractors during this period. Reddy criticized the government for filling contractors' pockets despite a deficit budget, alleging that the administration has been mismanaging public funds. He also pointed out the lack of progress in crucial projects, such as the SLBC tunnel support measures, claiming there has been no development in those areas. The former minister strongly criticized the ministers for merely posing for photographs rather than focusing on actual governance. He expressed concerns about ministers downplaying the seriousness of issues affecting victims, especially those from other states. Reddy blamed the government's incompetence for the SLBC disaster, emphasizing that the situation arose due to the administration's failure to act properly.



Bondada Group Celebrates International Women's Day with Empowering Leadership

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Bondada Group celebrated International Women's Day at Bondada House with a grand event that honored the achievements, strength, and contributions of women in the workplace. The occasion was graced by Shri Smt. Santhi G. Jaidev Garu, Hon'ble Inspector General, CISF ES HQ Ranchi (Jharkhand), who was the Chief Guest, alongside CMD Shri Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao Garu, Director Smt. Bondada Neelima Garu, and CFO Shri Satyanarayana Baratam Garu.

During her speech, Shri Smt. Santhi G. Jaidev Garu shared her inspiring journey in the male-dominated field of security services, emphasizing perseverance and leadership. She encouraged the women at Bondada Group to fearlessly pursue their ambitions and continue breaking barriers.

Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao Garu also spoke on the occasion, remarking, "A woman doesn't need a special day to be celebrated—she is celebrated every day through her strength, wisdom, and unwavering spirit." He high-



lighted Bondada Group's commitment to empowering women, creating an inclusive workplace, and supporting their growth both professionally and personally.

The event featured enriching discussions, recognition of outstanding achievements, and interactive sessions that reinforced the company's dedication to gender equality.

Bondada Group continues to prioritize the empowerment of women, fostering an environment where they are celebrated every day for their immense contributions and potential.



Hyderabad Emerges as Global Medical Hub: Minister Damodar Rajnarsimha

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Minister Damodar Rajnarsimha inaugurated the newly established Conceive Fertility Center in Kondapur, near Sherilingampally, emphasizing the city's growing stature as a global medical hub. Speaking at the event, he highlighted the city's transformation into a center for medical excellence, thanks to the state government's policies promoting the pharma, vaccine, and IT sectors. He also pointed out that Hyderabad now caters to both domestic and international patients, offering high-quality medical services with state-of-the-art technology.

The minister expressed confidence that medical tourism in the state will continue to flourish, with government hospitals being developed to corporate standards to provide better healthcare. He also mentioned the upcoming IVF centers to be set up in Warangal, Hyderabad, and Kondapur, further expanding the state's healthcare infrastructure.

Minister Rajnarsimha commended the management of the newly opened hospital for its modern design and advanced facilities. The event underscored Hyderabad's growing reputation as a preferred destination for world-class medical care, attracting patients from all over the globe seeking treatment at international standards. The state's focus on healthcare infrastructure aims to provide accessible and advanced medical services to people from various regions.



Minister Seethakka Flags Off 'Run for Action 2025' on Women's Day

- Run for Action 2025 launched on Women's Day.
- 5k & 2k runs with youth participation.
- Focus on women's safety & empowerment.
- Increased women's representation in Hyderabad Police.

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : On the occasion of International Women's Day, Minister Seethakka flagged off the highly anticipated Run for Action-2025, organized by the Hyderabad Police. The event, which began at People's Plaza, saw enthusiastic participation from a large number of youth. Along with Minister Seethakka, other dignitaries such as MLC Balmuri Venkat, CP CV Anand, Additional CP Vikram Man, Additional CP Crimes Vishwaprasad, and other senior police officials graced the event.

The race featured participants competing in 5k and 2k categories, with winners receiving awards for their efforts. Minister Seethakka, in her address, praised the initiative and expressed her congratulations to the organizers for empowering women through such events. She highlighted

the importance of mental and physical strength and emphasized the need for equality between men and women in society.

"Women have long faced societal discrimination, but today, we celebrate women's strength and progress. International Women's Day marks the ongoing fight for equal rights, equal pay, and gender equality," said Seethakka. She also acknowledged the role of police in ensuring women's safety in the city, especially with the increasing number of women taking up roles in law enforcement.

Hyderabad Police Commissioner CV Anand also expressed his happiness at the growing number of women in law enforcement, noting that 30% of the 18,000 police personnel in the city's Commissionerate are women. He also lauded the appointment of women as SHOs in various police



stations, highlighting their progress in the force.

The event was a massive success, reflecting the progress of women in various spheres and reinforcing the importance of celebrating their strength and achievements.

Inspiration Hands Celebrates Women's Day with Empowerment and Support

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : In celebration of International Women's Day, the ARJ Inspiration Hands organization, led by founder Uma Karthik, hosted a grand event to honor and uplift women. The event saw the presence of the Chief Guest, Sucharita Reddy, daughter of Armaru MLA Paidi Rakesh Reddy, who was felicitated for her inspiring contributions.

Uma Karthik shared the organization's commitment to supporting widowed women, helping them discover their skills and providing them with livelihood opportunities. She emphasized that the primary objective of the organization is to empower these women, many of whom face the challenges of raising children alone after losing their husbands. Uma stressed the importance of encouraging these women, offering them the courage and skills needed to lead a dignified life.

Sucharita Reddy, the chief guest, expressed her admiration for the initiative and interacted with the women, offering them emotional support and encouragement. In addition to the speeches, the event featured cultural performances and fun-filled activities, bringing women from various towns together to celebrate the occasion.

The event not only marked a celebration of women's strength but also focused on providing them with the necessary tools for a better future.



Former Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy Hospitalized Due to Food Poisoning

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Telangana's former minister, Sabitha Indra Reddy, faced an unexpected health setback after reportedly suffering from food poisoning. The incident occurred following her attendance at a meeting held at Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's farmhouse. After the meeting, Sabitha's health deteriorated, and it was confirmed that she had been affected by food poisoning.

She was immediately admitted to RVSM Hospital in Siddipet for treatment. After receiving medical care and her condition stabilizing, Sabitha reportedly left for Hyderabad once she regained her health. Sources suggest that Sabitha had also been affected by the heat during the meeting, although food poisoning was identified as the primary cause of her discomfort.

Despite her ill health, Sabitha had attended the meeting at CM KCR's farmhouse, which had been an important engagement. The former minister's health issue has raised concern among her supporters and the public, but it is understood that she is recovering well.

Contractors Protest Outside Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka's Chamber



TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Protests continue in Telangana as contractors gathered outside the chamber of Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka. Around 200 contractors from various districts participated in the protest, raising concerns over pending bills. They alleged that officials were demanding a 20% commission to clear these pending payments.

The contractors, who came to meet with the Deputy CM, were stopped by the SPFS security personnel, leading to their decision to stage a protest. As the protest intensified, Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka reportedly left the Secretariat, creating a stir among the contractors.

The contractors' protest sheds light on the ongoing issues related to delayed payments and alleged corruption, calling for the intervention of authorities to resolve the matter. The protest outside the Deputy CM's office highlights growing dissatisfaction among contractors over unresolved financial matters.

Government Prioritizes Women's Welfare: Minister Ponnam Prabhakar

TPN , Correspondent

Hyderabad , Mar 09 : On the occasion of International Women's Day, State BC and Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized the Telangana government's strong commitment to women's welfare. The minister, along with Hyderabad District Collector Anudeep Durishetty, visited the Mahatma Gandhi Bus Station and extended warm greetings to female commuters.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar highlighted that the state government has been designing welfare programs specifically aimed at empowering women in various sectors. He pointed out the government's initiative through the Rural Poverty Eradication Cor-

poration, which aims to make one crore women financially independent.

The minister also noted that since the inception of free travel for women on RTC buses, over 150 crore women have benefited from free travel, amounting to approximately ₹5,000 crore in value. At the MGBS station, Ponnam Prabhakar interacted with women officials and staff, honoring them with shawls and distributing flowers and sweets to the passengers in celebration of the day.

The event underscored the government's ongoing efforts to empower women and make their lives better, ensuring they have equal opportunities to thrive in all aspects of society.



Telangana Govt Must Explain RTI Delays on Phone Tapping Case: HC



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : The Telangana High Court has directed the state government to provide explanations for the delays in responding to an RTI query regarding a phone tapping complaint filed in 2015. The complaint alleged unauthorized surveillance during the previous government's tenure. Farhat Ibrahim, the complainant, had submitted RTI requests seeking details about the phone tapping of his and others' calls but received no response from the authorities. Despite approaching the Home Department and the Chief Sec-

retary, Ibrahim claimed that his complaints went unaddressed, and his appeals were dismissed with exemptions claimed by the authorities. Ibrahim's lawyer, P Mahesh, argued that repeated requests for information were ignored. As a result, Ibrahim approached the High Court after the Information Commission failed to facilitate his appeal process. Justice B Vijaysen Reddy heard the case and ordered the Telangana government to provide a detailed explanation. The case has been adjourned until March 21 for further hearing.

BRS to Hold Public Meeting in Warangal on April 27 for 25th Anniversary

TPN , Correspondent
Warangal , Mar 09 : The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a grand public meeting in Warangal on April 27. Party chief K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) has announced the event as part of the silver jubilee celebrations, aimed at showcasing the pride of Telangana society. KCR has tasked senior party leader and former minister Harish Rao with organizing the event, while former minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy will assist in coordinating efforts. Organizing committees for the event will be formed soon to ensure smooth execution. The

venue for the meeting will be finalized after considering suitable locations near Warangal. KCR emphasized that the event will not only commemorate the party's milestone but also focus on addressing critical issues, particularly those faced by women in Telangana. He reiterated the need for BRS to be perceived as the "home party" of Telangana and underscored the importance of fighting for public issues more vigorously. The party aims to mark this significant milestone.



Rural Farmer's Outrage Against MLA Beerla Illayya for Neglecting Irrigation Needs



TPN , Correspondent
Bhuvanagiri , Mar 09 : A farmer from Masayipet village in Yadagirigutta Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district, has expressed his anger towards local MLA Beerla Illayya for failing to address his irrigation issues. The farmer, identified as M. Balraju, who owns six acres of land, has been facing severe drought conditions and power outages

that have caused his crops to dry up. In a heated outburst, Balraju claimed that despite being a senior Congress worker and a relative of MLA Beerla Illayya, his pleas for water and help had been ignored. He pointed out that Illayya, who had promised to bring water from the Kaleshwaram project during his election campaign, had not delivered any assistance after winning the election. Balraju criticized the MLA for not visiting his farm or addressing the issue, saying that while his crops withered, Illayya did not fulfill his promises, leaving the farmers in distress. This incident highlights the growing frustration among farmers regarding unmet promises and the lack of support for their livelihood.

BRS MLC K Kavitha Calls for Immediate Implementation of Women's Reservation Law

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Telangana BRS MLC K Kavitha demanded the immediate implementation of the Women's Reservation Law, urging the central government to implement it without linking it to the population census. During her speech at the International Women's Day celebrations organized by the BRS party at Telangana Bhavan, Kavitha expressed concern over the political losses suffered by women due to the delayed implementation of this law. She pointed out that despite being passed by Parliament in 2023, the law has not been implemented, and women have been politically marginalized due to the lack of reservations in legislative bodies. Kavitha highlighted that in recent elections in Maharashtra, Delhi, and Haryana, several women failed to win seats due to the absence of such provisions. She also pointed out that states like Bihar and Tamil Nadu could see more women elected if the census is conducted quickly. Further, she urged Congress to fulfill its promises made to women during the elections, including the provision of ₹2500 per woman. Kavitha also demanded a clear plan from the government on how women would be made "crorepatis" and called for wage increases for Anganwadi and Asha workers. She praised Former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao for centralizing women's welfare in the state's governance and emphasized that the government should provide better facilities for women in workplaces and address the barriers women still face.

AI to Train Government School Students in Skill Development: Minister Sridhar Babu



TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Telangana's IT and Industries Minister, K.T. Sridhar Babu, announced that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be used to provide skill development training to students in government schools. The initiative aims to equip students with necessary skills aligned with emerging technologies, preparing them for future challenges. During a meeting with Sandeep Kumar, the founder of KONA Foundation, at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, the minister shared details of the plan to enhance the teaching capabilities of government school teachers. He emphasized the state government's commitment to leveraging AI in education to stay in line with changing technological advancements. Minister Sridhar Babu further revealed plans to set up an "AI City" through a public-private partnership (PPP) model, which will also house an AI University of international standards. The government is working on expanding AI-based skill development training, currently being provided to students in Nalgonda district, to all government schools across the state. The foundation's efforts were praised for providing free training to students and engaging in several social service programs, particularly in Sandeep Kumar's hometown. The event also saw participation from government IT advisor, Sai Krishna.

Amararaja Giga Factory" Groundbreaking Ceremony in Divitipalli

TPN , Correspondent
Divitipalli , Mar 09 : In a major industrial development move, a groundbreaking ceremony for the "Amararaja Giga Factory-1," along with plants from Altiminn Private Limited, Loham Materials Private Limited, and SSEL Energy Private Limited, was conducted in Divitipalli, Mahabubnagar district, with Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Telangana IT and Industries Minister K. T. Sridhar Babu. Minister Sridhar Babu highlighted that Amararaja Advanced Cell Technologies Private Limited plans to invest ₹9,852 crores over the next 10 years across 262 acres in Telangana. This project will create direct employment for approximately 4,500 people. The third unit of the plant, costing ₹1,900 crores, broke ground during the ceremony, alongside two existing units under construction. Other key projects include:

- Altiminn Private Limited, which will produce batteries and critical materials based on lithium ferro phosphate (LFP) technology, planned for completion over two phases in 3 years, with an investment of ₹800 crores on 20 acres, generating 300 jobs.
 - Loham Materials Private Limited will establish a waste processing plant with an investment of ₹502 crores on 20 acres, capable of processing 12.5 lakh tonnes of waste annually, offering employment to 120 people.
 - SSEL Energy Private Limited will manufacture steel cans and caps for lithium-ion cells with an investment of ₹23 crores on 6 acres, creating 150 jobs.
- Minister Sridhar Babu expressed gratitude to industrialists for their trust in the government, led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, and assured continued support. He also called for greater support from the central government for industrial growth in Telangana. He further mentioned the development of policies such as the Telangana Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy and the Clean & Green Energy Policy, aimed at boosting the state's industrial sector. Additionally, he acknowledged the contribution of farmers who sacrificed land for the Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) in Divitipalli and promised further development to enhance the Telangana brand globally. The state's goal is to provide employment opportunities to youth, expanding industries across various regions, not just confined to one area.

Spy Camera Found at Girls' Hostel in Sangareddy

TPN , Correspondent
Sangareddy , Mar 09 : A shocking incident occurred at a girls' hostel in Sangareddy when an inmate discovered a spy camera hidden in her room. The camera, disguised as an adaptor, was found with an SD card to store footage. The hostel, located in Kishoreddypeta, became the center of a commotion as other inmates became aware of the incident. Upon receiving the information, the Ameenpur police arrived at the scene and took one individual into custody. The police seized several gadgets from the hostel for further investigation. Authorities are now working to determine the purpose behind the camera and investigate how it was installed without the knowledge of the hostel management. The incident has raised concerns about privacy and security in such accommodations.

Man Electrocuted During Film Shooting at Shankarpalli

TPN , Correspondent
Shankarpalli , Mar 09 : A tragic incident occurred at a film shooting location in Shankarpalli, Hyderabad, on Friday night when a man was electrocuted. The victim, identified as B Shambhareddy (50), a former AMC director from Shankarpalli, was at the shooting spot in Tangatur village when the accident took place. According to Mokila Sub-Inspector Koteswar Rao, Shambhareddy accidentally came into contact with an electric transformer during the shooting and died from electrocution. Following the incident, mild tension prevailed as Shambhareddy's family and relatives staged a protest demanding compensation. The police intervened and pacified the protesters. The situation was brought under control only after the film unit assured compensation for the victim's family. The Mokila police have registered a case and have initiated an investigation into the matter.

Minister Ponguleti Announces Indiramma Houses to Begin Next Week

TPN , Correspondent
Hyderabad , Mar 09 : Telangana Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy made an important announcement regarding the Indiramma housing scheme. He confirmed that the construction of Indiramma houses will begin next week, with plans to initiate the program in every constituency. According to his statement, around 3,500 Indiramma houses will be constructed in each constituency, and eligible beneficiaries will be selected to commence the work. This announcement marks a shift from the earlier timeline provided by the Minister, who had previously stated that the selection of beneficiaries for Indiramma houses would happen after Sankranti. However, the delay in the process led to frustration among the public as the survey for the houses had been reported as only 74% complete by then. Earlier statements from the Minister had set expectations for action by October, then December, and later after Sankranti, causing unrest among the people. Now, with a clear statement of starting the project in just a week, the Minister has aimed to quell the growing discontent.





1953 Revisited

Andhra's Unhealed Wounds-Stalin Must Answer

The Madras State was divided in 1953 when the Telugu-speaking regions were separated to form the new Andhra State, primarily due to the demands of the Andhra people who felt they were being neglected and treated unfairly within the larger Madras state, leading to accusations of "ill treatment" towards the Andhras by the Tamil dominated government of Madras; this division was a result of the strong linguistic state movement in India at the time.

Mr. Stalin is advocating for a united front among seven states where the majority of the population adheres to Sanatana Dharma. However, he, along with his son and political allies, is firmly opposed to Sanatana Dharma. It is essential for him to clarify his party's position on this matter.

1953 Madras state division Andhra's Unhealed Wounds—Stalin Must Answer and Apologise before asking for southern states unity .



ment gained momentum with the sacrifices of leaders like Potti Sriramulu, who undertook a fast unto death, ultimately leading to the creation of Andhra state in 1953. However, the manner in which the Telugu people were forced to leave Madras city added insult to injury. They were given a strict deadline to vacate, leaving many families and businesses in turmoil. This bitter memory has persisted through generations, serving as a reminder of the discrimination and disregard they faced. In light of this historical context, it is imperative for Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister, Mr. M.K. Stalin, to acknowledge this painful past and extend a formal apology to the people of Andhra Pradesh before advocating for unity among the southern states. Unity cannot be built on the foundation of

unresolved historical injustices; it requires mutual respect and understanding. An official apology would not only serve as an act of reconciliation but also help foster genuine cooperation between the two states. Without addressing these grievances, any call for unity remains superficial and lacks the emotional and moral foundation necessary for true solidarity. Furthermore, it is essential for Andhra Pradesh to remain vigilant and not fall under the influence of Tamil interests that may seek to overshadow its own cultural and political identity. Over the years, there have been instances where Andhra's interests have been sidelined in broader regional discussions, whether in matters of resource allocation, political representation, or economic collaborations. The

rich heritage and aspirations of the Telugu people must be preserved and prioritized in any discussions of regional cooperation. True unity among the southern states can only be achieved through a balanced partnership where each state's identity and interests are safeguarded. Mr. Stalin's recent actions and rhetoric raise concerns about his commitment to national integration. His apparent alignment with foreign entities and his stance on regional issues suggest a potential divergence from the broader goals of unity and cooperation that are vital for the progress of all southern states. While regional alliances can be beneficial, they should not come at the cost of national integrity or the marginalization of any state's interests. It is crucial for leaders to prioritize

the well-being of their own communities while fostering a spirit of collaboration that respects the unique identities of each state. Hence, the Telugu-speaking population of Andhra Pradesh deserves recognition and respect for their historical experiences. An apology from Mr. Stalin would be a significant step towards reconciliation, and it is essential for Andhra Pradesh to assert its identity and interests in the face of external influences. The scars of the past cannot be ignored, but they can be addressed through sincere gestures of acknowledgment and respect. True unity among southern states will only be possible when there is a genuine commitment to addressing past grievances and fostering a relationship based on equality, understanding, and mutual respect.

YS Family Feud A Battle Beyond Business

Avinash | TPN
Hyderabad, Mar 09: Family disputes over wealth and inheritance are not uncommon, but when such conflicts involve powerful political figures, they become matters of public debate. The ongoing legal battle between former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and his sister, YS Sharmila, over Saraswati Power shares is not just a family disagreement—it is a spectacle that reflects the deepening cracks within the YS family and the political ambitions that might be fueling the conflict. A Family Torn Apart by Wealth and Power
At the heart of the issue is the alleged illegal transfer of shares, with Jagan accusing his sister of fraudulently seizing control of company assets. What makes this case even more sensational

is the claim that their mother, YS Vijayamma, is being used as a tool in this dispute. The involvement of a mother in a legal fight between her own children makes this conflict even more tragic. Jagan, who has always presented himself as a strong leader with full control over his political and financial empire, is now openly admitting that even within his own family, he is facing betrayal and opposition. On the other hand, Sharmila, who has long struggled to find her own political identity separate from her brother's influence, is now fighting back, showing that she is no longer willing to remain in his shadow. Political Rivalry or Business Dispute? While Jagan insists that the case is purely about financial transactions and not a family



dispute, the larger political context cannot be ignored. Sharmila's growing political ambitions and her strained relationship with Jagan have been evident for years. She has openly criticized her brother's leadership style, and her political moves—first in Telangana and now in Andhra Pradesh—suggest that she is carving her own path, independent of the YSR Congress Party.

Jagan's petition highlights the extent to which their relationship has soured. He has gone from once expressing affection for his sister and planning to transfer assets to her in the future to now calling her actions fraudulent and illegal. The dramatic shift raises questions—was the sibling bond always fragile, or did political and financial differences break it beyond repair? The Emotional Toll on Vijayamma
Amidst this fierce battle, the role of YS Vijayamma is deeply unfortunate. As the widow of YS Rajasekhara Reddy, she was once the unifying force of the family, standing by both Jagan and Sharmila. But today, she

finds herself in a difficult position, caught between her son and daughter. Jagan's claim that Vijayamma is being used as a front by Sharmila to justify the alleged illegal share transfers is disturbing. If true, it points to a manipulation of family relationships for financial gain. If false, it suggests that Jagan himself is willing to bring his mother into a bitter legal fight to protect his assets. Either way, Vijayamma's position in this dispute is painful to witness. The Public Perception and the Legal Battle Ahead
The case, now before the National Company Law Tribunal, is set for its next hearing on April 3. However, regardless of the legal outcome, the damage to the YS family's public image is already done. The YS family has always relied on the legacy

of YSR to maintain its political credibility. But now, with Jagan and Sharmila openly fighting over wealth, the idealized image of YSR's united family is quickly crumbling. For the people of Andhra Pradesh, this feud raises important questions—if a leader cannot keep his own family united, how can he be expected to manage a state? If political ambitions and financial greed can tear apart the most influential political dynasty in Andhra Pradesh, what does it say about the future of leadership in the state? As this legal battle unfolds, one thing is clear: this is not just about Saraswati Power shares. It is about power, political positioning, and the irreversible breakdown of a once-unbreakable family bond.



Kambala Srinivasa Rao's Service Continues Uninterrupted After Political Entry

TPN | SK Ghani
East Godavari, Mar 9: Kambala Srinivasa Rao, known for his unwavering service to the people and dedication to Hindu Dharma, has officially stepped into politics. Despite his political debut, his commitment to social service remains strong. A massive public meeting was held in Gokavaram, where BJP

leaders, including state BJP president and Rajahmundry MP Daggubati Purandeswari, welcomed him into the party by draping him with the BJP scarf. Over ten thousand people, including a significant number of Dalits, joined the party under his leadership, believing in his ideology and service-oriented approach. A Life Dedicated to Service

Hailing from Gokavaram in East Godavari district, Kambala Srinivasa Rao has always been at the forefront of humanitarian efforts. Unlike many political entrants, he is neither an industrialist nor from a political family. His journey has been one of pure service, focusing on the protection of Hindu Dharma and the welfare of society.

As the founder of the Vishwa Hindu Dharma Parirakshan Rama Sena, he has led various spiritual and welfare programs. He has actively contributed to temple development, renovating neglected temples and ensuring their maintenance. His contributions extend beyond religion, as he provides financial and material assistance to those in

need, regardless of caste or community. Unstoppable Service Programs
Srinivasa Rao has launched numerous service programs that have positively impacted thousands of people. He regularly organizes fruit and roti distribution drives for patients in government hospitals and provides 25 kg of rice every month to widows and elderly individuals in need. His commitment to spiritual activities is evident through his prasad distribution at Kanakadurga Ammavari Temple in Vijayawada every Friday.

Happy Women's Day, We bow to our Nari Shakti: PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

On International Women's Day, March 8, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended heartfelt wishes to women across the nation, praising their contributions and empowerment. To mark this significant day, PM Modi took a unique step by allowing women to take over his social media accounts, an initiative aimed at highlighting their achievements and inspiring others.

"Today, as promised, my social media properties will be taken over by women who are making a mark in diverse fields!" PM Modi announced on X. He further expressed his gratitude to the nation's "Nari Shakti," saying, "We bow to our Nari Shakti on Women's Day! Our Government has always worked to empower women, reflected in our schemes and programs."

The initiative, which was first announced on March 3, 2025, encouraged women from



all walks of life to share their inspiring journeys of empowerment, perseverance, and success on PM Modi's social media platforms. The aim is to shine a light on women who have overcome challenges and made

remarkable strides in their respective fields.

The first story shared on PM Modi's X handle was from Indian chess player Vaishali Rameshbabu, who expressed her excitement about being

part of the initiative. "Vanakkam! I am @chessvaishali and I am thrilled to be taking over our PM Thiru @narendramodi Ji's social media properties on #WomensDay," she wrote. As a proud representative of India

Move highlights women's achievements on Women's Day

Chess player Vaishali Rameshbabu shares first story

PM praises 'Nari Shakti' and government's empowerment efforts

Initiative aims to inspire women across all fields

in international chess tournaments, Vaishali encouraged women, particularly young girls, to follow their dreams and break barriers, regardless of the challenges they may face.

She also praised the growing support for women athletes in India, noting that the country is making significant progress in providing women with the

necessary training, exposure, and encouragement to succeed in sports.

This gesture from PM Modi underscores the importance of celebrating and empowering women across India, and it serves as a reminder of the country's commitment to creating opportunities for women in all spheres of life.

Maiya Samman scheme starts reaching beneficiaries' accounts: Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren

TPN Correspondent | Ranchi

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren announced that Rs 7,500 would be credited to the accounts of women beneficiaries under the Maiyan Samman Yojana. The move is part of the state government's continued efforts to empower women and provide them with financial support.

The Maiyan Samman Yojana, a flagship initiative by the Jharkhand government, offers Rs 2,500 per month to over 50 lakh women across the state. This direct financial assistance is designed to alleviate financial burdens, particularly for women from economically disadvantaged sections, by providing them with consistent support.

In his statement, CM



Hemant Soren emphasized the significance of International Women's Day in highlighting women's contributions to society and reiterated the state government's commitment to ensuring their welfare. He also mentioned that the additional Rs 7,500 credited on this special

day is a token of appreciation for the efforts and resilience shown by women in the state.

The Maiyan Samman Yojana is aimed at providing financial security to women, encouraging them to contribute more actively to both household and community welfare.

By extending this support, the Jharkhand government aims to ensure that women are financially independent and empowered, thus fostering gender equality in the state.

The initiative also aligns with broader national goals of promoting women's economic participation and social inclusion. As the state celebrates Women's Day, the financial aid serves as a timely reminder of the importance of women's empowerment and the steps needed to bridge gender gaps in various sectors.

The move has been welcomed by the beneficiaries and local communities, who view it as a positive step toward addressing the needs and concerns of women, particularly in rural and underprivileged areas.

DMK govt has failed to ensure safety of women in T.N: alleges TVK chief Vijay

TPN Correspondent | CHENNAI

Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) president Vijay on Saturday (March 8, 2025) strongly criticized the DMK-led government in Tamil Nadu for its alleged failure to ensure the safety of women in the state. On the occasion of International Women's Day, Vijay expressed his concern over the growing insecurity faced by women in Tamil Nadu and vowed to challenge the ruling party in the upcoming 2026 Assembly elections.

In a video message, Vijay extended his greetings to women on International Women's Day and emphasized the importance of safety for women to

lead a happy and secure life. He stated, "Women can realize happiness only if they feel safe. When there is no safety for women, it is unlikely they will be happy. I can understand the feelings of women in Tamil Nadu." He further criticized the DMK government for what he described as a betrayal, noting that the people of Tamil Nadu had initially elected the government with high hopes, but now realized they had been "cheated."

Vijay called for change and urged the public to unite in removing the DMK government from power in the 2026 Assembly elections. He said, "Change is the only constant."

India most likely undercounting heat-related deaths: former WHO Chief Soumya

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India is likely undercounting the number of heat-related deaths, a problem that hampers the country's ability to effectively respond to the impact of extreme heat waves, according to Soumya Swaminathan, former WHO chief scientist and Health Ministry advisor. Swaminathan emphasized the urgent need for improved tracking, preparedness, and policy interventions as India braces for another extreme summer.

In an interview on the sidelines of TERI's World Sustainable Development Summit, Swaminathan explained that while official data suggests only a fraction of heatstroke cases result in fatalities, the real numbers are likely much higher. "For every death, there are probably 20 people suffering from heat-related illnesses like high blood pressure, exacerbated cardiac diseases, or heat exhaustion," she said. These illnesses can have significant long-term impacts, including economic losses and productivity reduction.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recorded



536 heatwave days last year, the highest in 14 years, and forecasts above-normal temperatures for the upcoming summer season. Last year, the country documented 41,789 suspected heatstroke cases and 143 heat-related deaths, but public health experts believe this underrepresents the true toll.

Swaminathan highlighted that heat impacts go beyond fatalities. Prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures leads to mental health issues, such as increased suicides, psychiatric illnesses, and domestic violence. She stressed the need for a coordinated response involving various sectors, including labor, housing, and urban planning, to address the chal-

lenges posed by heat.

Swaminathan also advocated for vulnerability mapping using technology to identify areas most affected by heat. She suggested low-cost solutions like shaded waiting areas at traffic signals, which many cities have already begun implementing.

As the country faces another sweltering summer, Swaminathan urged local governments, hospitals, and employers to take proactive measures to minimize heat-related health impacts. She called for better awareness, training, and preparation to ensure people can remain productive and safe during extreme heat.

Omar Abdullah unveils J&K Budget: 200 units free power, other benefits

TPN Correspondent | Jammu

On Friday, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah presented the Union Territory's first budget following its reorganization in 2019. The budget for 2025-2026 is a zero-deficit budget with a total outlay of ₹1.12 lakh crore. Aimed at addressing the needs of vulnerable sections of society, the budget includes several welfare initiatives designed to uplift the most disadvantaged.

One of the key proposals in the budget is the provision of 200 units of free electricity per month to all Antyodaya families, ensuring that the most marginalized groups in society can access basic utilities without financial strain.

Additionally, beneficiaries of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) will receive 10 kg of free ration each month, further bolstering food security for those in need.

The CM also announced free travel for women on all government-owned public transport, a move aimed at enhancing mobility and em-



powering women, particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. This initiative is expected to have a significant impact on the daily lives of women, especially in rural and underserved areas.

Furthermore, the budget outlines an enhanced pension scheme that will benefit over 10 lakh individuals belonging to the most vulnerable sections of society. This measure will help provide financial stability to senior citizens, widows, and differently-abled individuals.

Omar Abdullah highlighted that this budget, the first to be presented by a democrat-

ically elected government in Jammu and Kashmir post-reorganization, reflects the administration's commitment to the welfare of its citizens. The proposed budget emphasizes inclusivity and equitable development, with a strong focus on social security and basic services for those in need.

The government's fiscal responsibility and efforts to balance the budget with welfare provisions aim to ensure the continued growth and stability of the Union Territory, while addressing the needs of its most vulnerable populations.

A Europe In Emotional Shock Grapples with a New Era

TPN Correspondent | Paris

For decades, the Soviet Union's primary goal was to "decouple" the United States from Europe, hoping to break the Western alliance that kept Soviet forces from advancing into Europe. Now, under President Donald Trump, the U.S. has seemingly achieved what the Soviets could not, aligning itself with Russian President Vladimir Putin and leaving Europe grappling with a sense of abandonment and alarm.

Europe, shocked and bewildered by this shift, finds itself in a precarious position. For generations, the United States was a foundational ally in defending democracy and liberty against tyranny. Trump's embrace of Putin has left the continent uncertain and fearful of what comes next. European leaders are now questioning their security and the future of the Western alliance that once symbolized unity against oppression.

Valérie Hayer, president of the centrist Renew Europe group in the European Parliament, expressed concern over this transformation, saying, "Trump mouths the propaganda of Putin. We have entered a new epoch." This marked change is deeply unsettling for a continent that has long depended on the U.S. as a cornerstone of peace and stability.

The emotional impact on Europe is profound, as the historical ties between Europe

Trump's stance shifts U.S.-Europe ties
Europe fears U.S. abandonment
Leaders alarmed by Trump's Putin alignment
Historical U.S.-Europe unity now uncertain
Europe faces geopolitical isolation

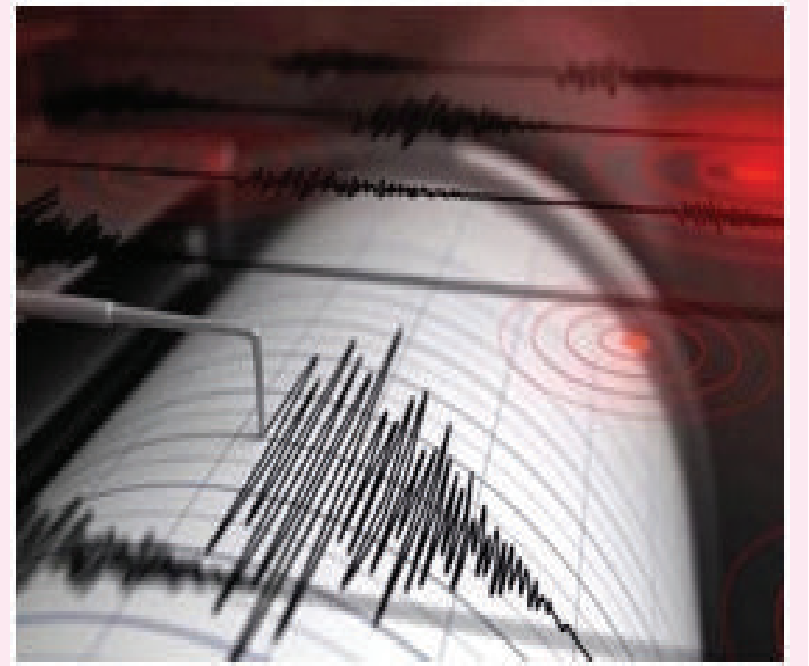


and America have shaped the continent's journey from the devastation of World War II to a prosperous and united entity. Iconic moments such as John F. Kennedy's 1963 "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech and Ronald Reagan's challenge in 1987 to "tear down this wall" at the

Brandenburg Gate, highlighted the shared ideals between Europe and the U.S. in promoting freedom and democracy.

However, the meaning of "the West" now appears uncertain. With the U.S. aligning more closely with Russia and China asserting its own influ-

ence, Europe finds itself increasingly isolated, unsure of its role in this reshaped geopolitical landscape. The future of Europe's relationship with both the U.S. and Russia remains uncertain, as the continent navigates a new, unfamiliar epoch in global politics.



Twin earthquakes hit Nepal, no casualties reported

TPN Correspondent | Kathmandu

Nepal experienced two mild earthquakes on Saturday morning, with tremors reported in Baglung and Myagdi districts, according to the National Earthquake Monitoring Centre. Thankfully, no immediate damage or casualties have been reported from either of the tremors.

The first earthquake, measuring 4.1 on the Richter scale, struck Baglung district at 6:20 AM. The epicenter of the tremor was located in the Khukhani area, situated approximately 300 kilometers west of Kathmandu.

Earlier, at 3:14 AM, a second earthquake with a magnitude of 4.0 was recorded in Myagdi

district, around 40 kilometers from Baglung. The epicenter of this tremor was in the Muri area of Myagdi.

Authorities and local residents in both districts have reported no significant damage or injuries at this time. However, the situation is still being monitored, and further updates may follow. Nepal, which lies in a seismically active zone, frequently experiences mild to moderate earthquakes, but large-scale earthquakes like the devastating 2015 quake remain a concern for the region. The National Earthquake Monitoring Centre has urged residents in affected areas to stay alert and follow safety protocols in case of aftershocks.

Major Terror Attack Foiled in Pakistan with Arrest of 10 TTP Militants

TPN Correspondent | Lahore

A significant terror attack was thwarted by Pakistan's Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) with the arrest of 10 terrorists from the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), including two of its most dangerous members. The arrests were made during a series of operations conducted across Punjab province, according to a CTD spokesperson on Saturday.

The two TTP terrorists identified as Riaz and Rashid were captured in Khushab and Rawalpindi. Along with the two terrorists, authorities seized explosives, including 2.69 kilograms of explosives, 19 detonators, 35 feet of safety fuse wire, and an IED bomb. Banned literature was also recovered from their possession.

The CTD Punjab carried out 73 intelligence-based operations across various districts of the province over the past few days. These operations led to the arrest of 10 militants who were reportedly planning to



target important buildings in Lahore. The spokesperson confirmed that cases have been registered against the arrested individuals, and further investigations are underway.

This operation comes amid an intensification of efforts by law enforcement agencies to combat the TTP, especially after the group launched several attacks on security forces. Just days before, the CTD announced the arrest of 20 terrorists in early March, including a Sikh militant, during 162 intelligence-based operations. Among those arrested were

three other highly dangerous TTP members: Manmohan Singh, Naqeebullah, and Riyaz, who were captured in Rawalpindi, Lahore, and Rahim Yar Khan.

The arrests of these militants have been hailed as a major success in the ongoing fight against terrorism in the region, with authorities focusing on dismantling the TTP's network in Pakistan. The investigation continues, as Pakistan's security agencies remain on high alert to prevent further terrorist activities.

South Korea's Impeached President Yoon Released From Detention

TPN Correspondent | Seoul

Impeached South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was released from detention on Saturday after a court annulled his arrest on procedural grounds. However, he remains under investigation for declaring martial law in December 2023, a move that led to charges of insurrection.

Yoon, who was detained in January following a raid on his residence, smiled and bowed deeply to a crowd of supporters as he walked out of the detention center. "I bow my head in gratitude to the people of this nation," Yoon said in a statement released by his lawyers.

A day earlier, a court had canceled his arrest warrant on technical and legal grounds. Prosecutors expressed dissatisfaction with the ruling, calling it "unjust." They chose not to appeal the decision, which focused solely on the procedural aspects of his detention, rather than the criminal charges he faces.

Yoon, who was impeached



in December 2023 over his declaration of martial law, faces a separate ruling from South Korea's Constitutional Court, which will decide whether to uphold his impeachment and officially remove him from office. The court's decision is expected soon, and should Yoon be removed, a new presidential election must be held within 60 days.

Yoon's legal team celebrated his release, claiming it marked a "restoration of the rule of law." The former prosecutor, who briefly suspended civilian rule and sent soldiers into par-

liament in a bid to assert control, has been charged with insurrection for his actions. The opposition, however, sharply criticized the court's decision, with Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung vowing to continue fighting "until the insurrection is over."

Despite his release, Yoon's legal battles continue. Even if the Constitutional Court upholds his impeachment, the criminal case against him will proceed, further intensifying the political turmoil in South Korea.

Kamala Harris Mulls Run for California Governor in 2026 Election

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former US Vice President Kamala Harris is reportedly considering a run for California governor in the upcoming 2026 election. According to sources, Harris, 60, is expected to make a final decision on her candidacy by the end of this summer.

Harris, who attended a pre-Oscars party last weekend, expressed her determination to "stay in this fight" during

the event, where she met with influential figures within the Democratic Party. Her comments have fueled speculation about her potential political future in California.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, who spoke to Politico about the prospect of Harris running, indicated that her candidacy would be a powerful force in the race. He made it clear that he would not ask other Democrats to step aside if Harris decides to run but em-

phasized his support for her, stating, "They can run. I think they'll lose, and I will support her."

Kamala Harris's political career in California has been marked by significant achievements. She served as the state's attorney general from 2011 to 2017, after winning three state elections. In 2016, she transitioned to the role of U.S. Senator for California.

If Harris decides to run, she would seek to succeed current

Governor Gavin Newsom in the 2026 election. Other prominent Democrats have already announced their candidacy for the position, including Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, former California Senate leader Toni Atkins, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and California schools director Tony Thurmond. The election is set for November 3, 2026, with the primary race scheduled for June of the same year.

Harris, who previously



served as Vice President under President Joe Biden, lost her bid in the 2024 presidential elec-

tion to former President Donald Trump.

Nifty valuations align with historical averages; HSBC MF bullish on India's growth outlook

Following the recent market correction, Nifty's valuations have returned to levels consistent with its 5-year and 10-year averages, according to a new report from HSBC Mutual Fund. Despite facing short-term challenges, the report maintains a positive outlook for Indian equities, supported by strong medium-term growth potential.

The report notes that Nifty valuations are now aligned with historical averages, which provides a more favorable environment for long-term investors. "Nifty valuations are now in-line with its 5/10-year average. We remain constructive on Indian equities, supported by the more robust medium-term growth outlook," the report stated.

While acknowledging a temporary slowdown in India's economic momentum, the report highlights that the long-term outlook remains promising. A key factor contributing to this optimism is the anticipated rise in India's investment cycle. The government's continued focus on infrastructure and manufacturing investments is expected to drive significant economic growth over the medium term.



Furthermore, the report forecasts an increase in private sector investments, which will likely provide an additional boost to economic activity. These factors collectively contribute to HSBC's positive outlook on Indian equities, despite short-term market fluctuations.

In conclusion, while the market has recently experienced a correction, the underlying fundamentals of the Indian economy remain strong. With a favorable valuation backdrop and robust growth prospects driven by infrastructure development and increasing private sector investments, Indian equities are poised to perform well over the medium to long term.

Women's employment in India up, yet 89 mn urban women remain out of work

India's urban employment landscape has undergone notable changes in recent years, with women's employment rising by 10 percent, reaching 28 percent among working-age women in 2023-24, according to a new report. However, despite this growth, over 89 million urban women remained outside the labor market in the same year, a number greater than the combined populations of Germany, France, and the UK, and three times that of Australia.



The report, titled India's Gender Employment Paradox and released just before International Women's Day by the Great Lakes Institute of Management in Chennai, examines the visible progress in women's workforce participation alongside persistent systemic barriers. The analysis reveals that while some women have made strides in the labor market, many continue to face significant challenges.

The key obstacles hindering women's employment in urban areas include spousal violence, the need to relocate after marriage, and limited access to convenient transportation. The report highlights that in 2023-24, India failed to leverage the skills of over 19 million graduate-educated urban women due to personal constraints or social norms related to childcare, commuting, and demanding job requirements.

The report also sheds light on the gender disparity in employment, noting that 97 percent of urban men in the 30-49 age group were employed, indicating a strong "male breadwinner" norm. It further points out that highly educated women are less likely to face spousal violence, but those who are employed are paradoxically more likely to justify domestic violence compared to non-working women, suggesting internalized patriarchal norms.

Prof. Vidya Mahambare, an economics professor at the institute, noted that while wage disparity still exists, it is crucial to consider multiple factors like performance, experience, and age before drawing broad conclusions. She highlighted the issue of reverse discrimination, where women's employment can lead to the rejection of equally qualified men, a trend that may create challenges in the coming years as more women join the workforce but may leave due to marriage or children.

India's industrial production growth likely at 3.7% in Jan, surge from 3.2% in Dec 24

India's industrial production, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), is expected to increase by 3.7 percent year-on-year in January 2025, up from 3.2 percent in December 2024, according to a report by Union Bank of India. The rise in industrial activity is seen as the primary factor behind this improvement.

However, despite the monthly increase, the report notes that IIP growth in January 2025 is still likely to be lower than the 4.2 percent recorded in the same month last year, indicating a year-on-year decline. The report points out that although industrial production has shown some recovery, it remains below last year's

performance.

The report attributes the expected growth to the broad-based optimism observed across various industrial sectors in January. High-frequency indicators such as E-way bill generation, which tracks the movement of goods across states, rose by 23.1 percent compared to January 2024, signaling increased economic activity. Toll collections also saw significant growth in both volume and value, further supporting the positive



momentum in industrial activities.

While India's merchandise exports contracted by 2.4 percent on a year-on-year basis in January, the 10.3 percent growth in merchandise imports suggests strong domestic demand. The automobile sector showed signs of recovery as well, with wholesale vehicle sales growing by 2.5 percent year-on-year. The two-wheeler segment particularly saw a rebound, and tractor sales continued to post double-digit growth

for the second consecutive month. Additionally, vehicle registrations also increased in January.

Petroleum consumption, another crucial indicator of industrial activity, rose by 3.1 percent in January 2025 compared to the previous year, reflecting higher fuel demand linked to transportation and manufacturing.

In conclusion, while India's industrial production is expected to grow in January 2025 compared to December, the year-on-year growth remains lower than January 2024. Nevertheless, key economic indicators suggest strengthening industrial activity and provide optimism for future months.

Good News For Zomato Investors: Blinkit Hikes Commission On Orders, Zepto Follows Suit Ahead Of IPO

Quick commerce companies Zepto and Blinkit are taking steps to improve their profitability by raising commissions on orders. According to a report by The Economic Times, Blinkit (owned by Zomato) has shifted to a variable commission model for brands and sellers, while Zepto is gradually increasing commissions on users and brands to lift its earnings.



The move comes as both companies aim to enhance investor sentiment amid challenges in the e-commerce sector. Zepto, which is preparing for an IPO later this year, has seen its valuations rise, currently standing at \$5 billion. Blinkit, on the other hand, is trying to boost investor confidence after experiencing a decline in its market capitalization over the past few months. Zomato's share price has also fallen from Rs 302 in December 2024 to Rs 223 by March 7, 2025.

In response to rising cash burns and market conditions, Zepto has increased its take rate to 22-23%, with expectations of further growth as it nears \$4 billion in annualized gross sales. Blinkit will introduce a new commission structure starting March 13, with rates now varying based on the selling price of items, even within the same category.

Despite these commission hikes, both companies remain aggressive in their pursuit of market share. "Zepto has secured the No. 2 rank, but Blinkit still holds the top spot and continues to be aggressive," the report stated.

However, their strategies have attracted attention. The All India Consumer Products Distributors Federation (AICPDF) has filed an antitrust case against major fast-delivery players like Zomato, Swiggy, and Zepto for alleged deep discounting practices. The investigation into such practices is ongoing, following scrutiny of e-commerce giants like Amazon and Flipkart in the past.

As the competition intensifies, both Zepto and Blinkit are adjusting their financial strategies to stay competitive while managing cash burn in a challenging market environment.

Nestle India Receives Warning from SEBI Over Insider Trading Breach

Nestle India announced on Friday that it had received a warning from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a breach of insider trading regulations involving a designated person within the company.

The Indian subsidiary of the Swiss food giant revealed that its compliance officer had received an administrative warning letter from SEBI on Thursday. However, the company did not disclose specific details about the findings of the letter or the identity of the individual involved.

Nestle India, known for its popular Maggi noodles, emphasized that the incident had no material impact on its financials, operations, or other business activities. The company reassured investors and stakeholders that the breach did not disrupt its day-to-day functions or cause any harm to its financial standing.

Insider trading violations have significant legal and regulatory implications in India, and SEBI has been increasingly vigilant in enforcing compliance with market conduct regulations.



Insider trading involves the buying or selling of securities based on confidential, non-public information, which can distort the fairness and transparency of financial markets.

Nestle India's prompt acknowledgment of the warning and assurance that operations were unaffected reflects the company's commitment to regulatory compliance. Despite the warning, Nestle India continues to operate as usual, with no visible disruption in its business activities.

Bigger Bodies, Bigger Cancer Risk? New Study Challenges Decades-Old Assumption

For decades, scientists believed that large animals were no more likely to develop cancer than smaller ones, a theory grounded in Peto's Paradox, a concept from 1977. However, recent research has upended this long-standing idea. A team of researchers from the University of Reading, University College London, and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine conducted an extensive study involving 263 species from mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. The study, published on February 24 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), revealed a surprising finding: larger animals tend to have higher rates of cancer.



The research showed that, despite their larger size, some species—like elephants—have developed exceptional natural defenses against cancer. This challenges the earlier assumption that size had no impact on cancer risk. According to Professor Chris Venditti of the University of Reading, larger animals like elephants are more susceptible to cancer because they have more cells, which increases the chances of mutations. However, these animals, such as elephants, have evolved sophisticated mechanisms to keep their cancer risk in check.

The study analyzed the largest dataset of its kind, including veterinary autopsy records from 31 amphibians, 79 birds, 90 mammals,

and 63 reptiles. The findings consistently showed that larger species had higher cancer rates, yet species like elephants—who evolved to grow to large sizes—have developed stronger biological defenses.

Dr. Joanna Baker, co-author of the study, emphasized that as species grew larger, they also developed remarkable mechanisms to suppress tumors. This raises hope that by studying these species, scientists may be able to discover new methods to prevent or treat cancer in humans.

The research also uncovered unexpected exceptions, such as the common budgie, which had cancer rates 40 times higher than expected, and the naked mole rat, which seems almost immune to cancer. By understanding how certain animals manage to evade cancer, scientists are opening exciting possibilities for new treatments.

iPhone 17 Pro: Features and Design Changes



Maggi noodles, a go-to comfort food for many in India, have long been a versatile snack, perfect for satisfying hunger quickly. Over the years, it has become the subject of some unusual culinary experiments, with foodies pushing the boundaries of what you can do with instant noodles. From Maggi milkshakes to coffee-infused Maggi, these wild concoctions have always stirred curiosity, but the latest trend has truly taken things to another level—Maggi chai.

Yes, you read that right—Maggi chai is the new food experiment taking social media by storm. The unusual pairing has caught the attention of food enthusiasts and the internet alike. Recently, food delivery platform Swiggy shared a post on X (formerly Twitter), featuring two images: one of a plate of Maggi with a cup of chai, and another of Maggi noodles dipped directly into the tea. The sight was nothing short of bizarre, leaving many to question if this combination was a culinary genius or just a bizarre mistake.

Swiggy's post sparked a flurry of reactions, with the company asking, "Maggi with chai or Maggi in chai?" The internet had a field day, with many foodies sharing their shock and disbelief at the new trend. Some found the idea intriguing and even entertaining, while others pointed out the potential waste of food and questioned whether these experiments were taking the love for Maggi a bit too far.

As more food enthusiasts experiment with new ways to enjoy Maggi, the combination of noodles and tea has divided opinions. Some users argue that the pairing is nothing more than a marketing gimmick, while others wonder if it could become the next big trend in the world of unconventional food pairings. Regardless of the outcome, Maggi chai is definitely causing a stir and leaving people talking about this unexpected mashup of flavors.

Could Cockroach Milk Be the Future of Nutrition? Scientists Say It's More Nutritious Than Cow's Milk

The term "superfood" is typically associated with nutrient-rich foods like dark leafy greens, berries, and nuts, which are known to offer a variety of health benefits. However, a surprising contender has recently emerged in the world of superfoods: cockroach milk.



Though the idea may sound unappealing, scientists have discovered that the milk produced by the *Diploptera punctata* species of cockroach could be three times more nutritious than cow's milk. This revelation has sparked interest among nutritionists and researchers, who are intrigued by the potential health benefits of this unconventional substance. The milk, which is actually a nutrient-rich fluid produced by female cockroaches to feed their young, is found to be packed with proteins, fats, and sugars, making it one of the most nutrient-dense substances on Earth.

The discovery was first highlighted in a 2016 study published in the *Journal of Crystallography*, which analyzed the milk-like substance. Researchers found that it contains a balanced combination of macronutrients, which are essential for energy and growth, along with other compounds that make it an attractive option for sustainable food sources.

While cockroach milk is not yet available for human consumption, its potential has sparked growing interest in the food science community. The idea of using insects for food, particularly as a source of protein, has gained traction in recent years as people look for alternative, more sustainable sources of nutrition. Insects, being rich in essential nutrients and requiring fewer resources to produce, could play a significant role in addressing global food security challenges.

Although the research on cockroach milk is still in its early stages, this discovery paves the way for future innovations in alternative nutrition. As scientists continue to study its benefits and develop methods for harvesting it, cockroach milk could soon find a place in the future of food science, offering a sustainable and highly nutritious option for the world's growing population.

Can Soil from Banks Unlock Hidden Wealth? Chinese Vendors Claim It's the Key to Prosperity



A strange new trend in China has captured the public's attention, with vendors selling soil supposedly collected from outside major banks, claiming it can bring wealth and good fortune to those who purchase it. According to a report from the South China Morning Post, this "bank soil" can be priced as high as 888 yuan (approximately Rs 10,200) for a chunk, while smaller portions start at 24 yuan (around Rs 275). Sellers claim that the soil is collected from green spaces around financial institutions, potted plants in bank lobbies, and even dust from money counting machines.

The vendors offer various types of soil, which they assert are gathered from five of China's largest banks: Bank of China, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, Agricultural Bank of China, China Construction Bank, and Bank of Communications. One seller explained that the soil is manually collected at night, with different merchants emphasizing unique selling points—some claim to only gather it at midday, while others boast a higher success rate in bringing financial prosperity.

To further build trust, some vendors share videos of soil being dug up from bank entrances to ensure authenticity. The soil is presented on golden plates, with paper slips attached containing the contact details of previous buyers. Many customers, including business owners, are purchasing the soil with hopes of boosting their fortunes, and some even claim that their friends are also buying into the trend.

Despite the growing popularity of this unusual product, the trend has raised legal concerns. Fu Jian, a lawyer from Zejin Law Firm, pointed out that selling soil with unfounded claims about its financial benefits could result in fraud charges. Furthermore, digging up soil from public spaces, including green zones around banks, is illegal in China, as it can lead to the degradation of urban environments. According to Fu, customers have the right to demand refunds from these sellers if the promises are not backed by proof.

Interestingly, the soil is also being sold online, expanding its reach to a wider audience across the country.

Ghosts And Spirits, Scary Sounds': This Science College Is Hyderabad's Most Haunted Spot

Every city has its share of eerie locations, places shrouded in mystery and believed to be haunted. In Hyderabad, one such spot is the infamous Khairatabad Science College, a place that locals believe should be avoided, especially after dark. Once a vibrant institution where science was taught, the college is now regarded as one of the city's scariest and most unsettling places.



Local resident Umer shared with Local18 that many eerie tales surround the reputation of Khairatabad Science College. One of the most well-known stories claims that a part of the building collapsed while it was still operational, leading to the institution's eventual closure. Since then, the college has remained abandoned, with no one daring to step foot inside.

As night falls, locals claim that strange and eerie sounds can be heard emanating from the college, making it seem as though someone—or something—still resides within its walls.

Another chilling rumor about the college is linked to a disturbing practice that allegedly occurred when it was still functioning. It's said that unauthorized experiments were conducted on dead bodies in the college's science lab, a practice that was both illegal and unethical.

When the government discovered this, the lab was shut down, and the entire college was sealed. The unsettling belief is that the improperly disposed of bodies may have resulted in restless spirits that still haunt the area to this day.

Further adding to the spine-chilling atmosphere is the tragic tale of a security guard assigned to watch over the closed college. After the building was shut down, the guard was stationed at the site to ensure it remained undisturbed. However, one night, after hearing strange noises, he went inside to investigate but never returned. His lifeless body was discovered the following morning. This incident solidified the college's reputation as a place that should be avoided, and since then, Khairatabad Science College has become one of Hyderabad's most haunted locations.



India Aims to Overcome New Zealand's Resilience in Champions Trophy Final

India faces a tough challenge in the Champions Trophy final against New Zealand, who have a 3-1 edge in ICC knockout matches. While India has the advantage of familiarity with conditions, New Zealand's extended stay in Dubai makes them a formidable opponent. India's spin quartet—

Varun Chakravarthy, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, and Axar Patel—will play a crucial role in countering New Zealand's batting, with Kane Williamson and Rachin Ravindra as their biggest threats.

The spotlight also shines on Virat

Kohli and Rohit Sharma, key figures in India's previous T20 World Cup win. India aims for a complete team effort, relying on support from players like Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, and Hardik Pandya to seal the title. The match begins at 2:30 pm IST.

Gukesh Emphasizes Classical Chess, Reflects on Personal Journey

Reigning World Chess Champion, D. Gukesh, shared his thoughts on the evolving chess landscape during the 'India Today Conclave 2025.' While open to all formats, Gukesh asserted that classical chess, with its deep history, will always hold the greatest significance. He acknowledged the rise of freestyle chess but emphasized it wouldn't overtake traditional chess. Reflecting on his journey, Gukesh recalled the financial struggles his family faced in his early career, relying on friends to fund his tournaments. However, his recent success has alleviated these concerns, providing a comfortable life for his family. He credited India's growing



chess prominence to the legacy of Viswanathan Anand and the support from the government and sponsors. Gukesh's success marks a new era for Indian chess.

Cadillac Receives Approval to Join F1 as 11th Team Starting 2026

Formula 1 and the FIA have granted final approval for Cadillac to join the sport as the 11th team, starting from the 2026 season. The US team, backed by TWG Motorsports and General Motors (GM), received the green light after securing a deal with F1 earlier this year. Cadillac's engines will initially be supplied by Ferrari, but GM plans to develop its own engine in the future.

This announcement comes after F1 previously rejected a bid from Andretti, which was linked to Cadillac, but GM's increased commitment to the venture helped sway F1 and the FIA. Stefano Domenicali, President and CEO of Formula 1, welcomed the team, highlighting their involvement as a significant step for



the sport. The new team will be a joint venture between GM and Dan Towriss, owner of Andretti Global, with Mario Andretti, the 1978 F1 World Champion, taking an advisory role.

IPL 2025: Ticket Sales for Punjab Kings' First Home Match Begin on March 9

The Punjab Kings have announced that tickets for their first home match of IPL 2025 against Rajasthan Royals will go live on March 9 at 1:00 pm. The match is scheduled for April 5 at the New PCA stadium in New Chandigarh. Fans can purchase tickets via the District app, Punjab Kings app, and websites.

Punjab Kings will host seven home games, with four at the New PCA stadium and three at the HPCA stadium, Dharamsala. The New PCA stadium, with a seating capacity of 31,500, features 50 corporate boxes, three hospitality lounges, and 20 general stands. Ticket prices start at Rs 1,250 and can go up to Rs 6,500 for hospitality lounges.

Punjab Kings' IPL 2025 campaign begins with away matches on March 25 and April 1.



Mainz Defeat Borussia Moenchengladbach 3-1 to Move to Third in Bundesliga

Mainz surged into third place in the Bundesliga with a 3-1 victory over Borussia Moenchengladbach on Friday. The win lifted Bo Henriksen's team to 44 points, two ahead of Eintracht Frankfurt, who are in fourth. Paul Nebel and Dominik Kohr scored before and after halftime to give Mainz a commanding lead. Despite Stefan Lain-

er pulling one back for Moenchengladbach, Nadiem Amiri quickly restored Mainz's two-goal advantage, securing their fourth win in the last five matches.

Kohr expressed satisfaction with the team's performance, saying, "We have 44 points, what a feeling. The way we play football, we be-

long up there."

With nine games remaining, Mainz is aiming to qualify for European football for the first time since the 2016-17 Europa League group stage. The defeat left Moenchengladbach in eighth place with 37 points, just behind Leipzig in the final European spot.



Shubman Gill Dismisses Retirement Talks Ahead of Champions Trophy Final



Speculation has been swirling about the ODI future of India's veterans, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, after the Champions Trophy, but vice-captain Shubman Gill has dismissed any retirement talk in the dressing room. Speaking ahead of the final against New Zealand, Gill emphasized that the topic of retirement has not been discussed. "There is no talk about retirement in the dressing room, now," Gill

said during the pre-match press conference. Gill, who has been in stellar form in ODIs, praised India's batting depth, calling it the best lineup he has ever been a part of, which gives the top order more freedom. On the pressure of the final, he expressed confidence in the team's ability to perform under pressure, aiming to secure the trophy after missing out on the 2023 ODI World Cup.



Madhuri Dixit Discusses Pay Disparity and Gender Inequality in Bollywood

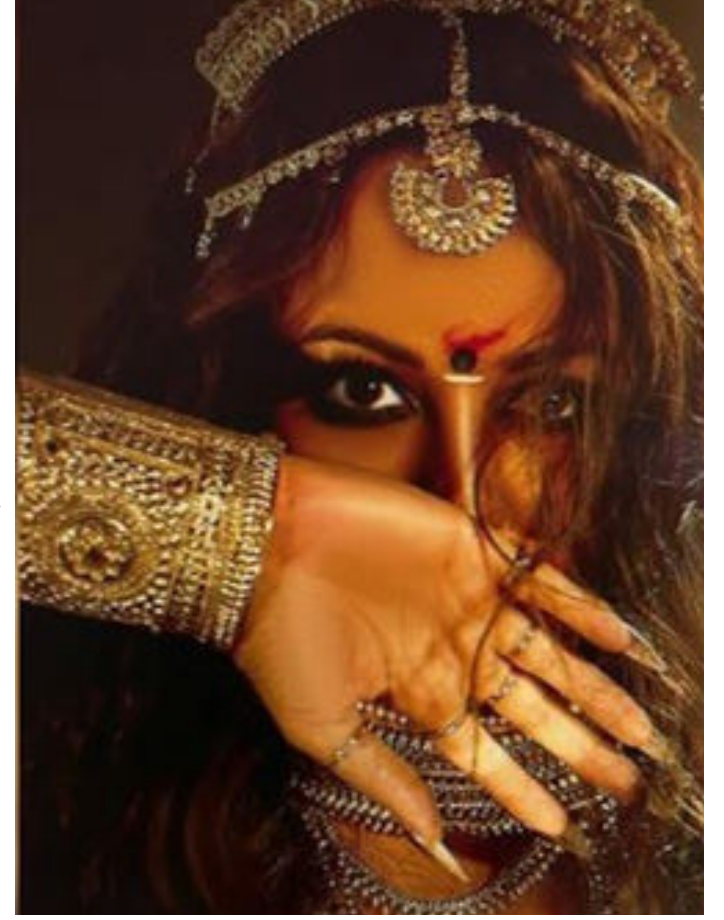
Bollywood actress Madhuri Dixit highlighted the ongoing pay disparity in the film industry, stating that women continue to prove their worth in every project. During the session titled The Journey of Women in Cinema at the 2025 IIFA Weekend, Dixit shared that women actors must constantly demonstrate their ability to draw audiences, unlike their male counterparts. She stressed the need for progress toward parity in Bollywood, though admitting the road is long. Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga echoed these views, pointing out the significant challenges women face in the industry. Both emphasized the importance of providing more opportunities and breaking through gender biases to achieve real change. Dixit also discussed her strong roles in films like Mrityudand and the growing presence of women in all departments of filmmaking.

Sonakshi Sinha's First-Look from Telugu Debut Film Jatadhara Unveiled

Sonakshi Sinha is set to make her Telugu debut with the supernatural fantasy thriller Jatadhara, directed by Venkat Kalyan. On the occasion of International Women's Day, the makers revealed her intense first-look poster on Instagram. In the captivating image, Sonakshi exudes goddess-like energy, adorned in heavy golden jewelry, with her face partially covered, revealing only her kajal-smudged eyes. Her fiery gaze adds a powerful depth to her character. The tagline reads, "Welcome aboard Sonakshi Sinha," while the caption states, "This Women's Day, a beacon of strength and power rises in Jatadhara."

The film, also starring Sudheer Babu, is produced by Zee Studios under the banner of Umesh KR Bansal, Prerna Arora, Aruna Agarwal, and Shivin Narang. The shoot is set to begin soon after a grand muhurat ceremony in Hyderabad.

Sonakshi was last seen in the Zee5 horror-comedy Kakuda and the Netflix period drama Heeramandi.



Katrina Kaif, Sister Isabelle Turn Perfect Bridesmaids For BFF Karishma Kohli



Katrina Kaif shared beautiful moments from her best friend Karishma Kohli's wedding, looking as stunning as ever. In a heartfelt post, she expressed her admiration for Karishma, reminiscing about their 16-year-long friendship. Katrina wrote, "From the first day we met, your joy and madness grabbed my attention, and there's been no looking back since then. You've been by my side through thick and thin." The actress praised Karishma's kind and courageous soul, saying, "You truly are a gem of a person, always shining bright no matter what is

happening in your life." She also expressed her happiness for Karishma and her new husband Mikhail, saying, "In him, you have the most amazing life partner ever." The wedding, an intimate celebration, was attended by close friends and family. A viral video from Karishma's sangeet ceremony showed Katrina dancing to the iconic AR Rahman track "Sasural Genda Phool." Katrina and her sister Isabelle were the perfect bridesmaids, adding grace and charm to both the sangeet and wedding celebrations.

Women's Day 2025: 5 Iconic Female-Centric Films To Watch

This Women's Day, celebrate the strength and resilience of women through these must-see, iconic female-centric films. Grab some popcorn and enjoy these cinematic gems:

1. Mother India - Prime Video

A classic in Indian cinema, this film tells the story of a mother's sacrifices to raise her sons amidst poverty. Nargis' unforgettable performance in this epic drama makes it a must-watch.

2. Arth - YouTube

This 1982 Hindi film follows Pooja (Shabana Azmi), who faces heartbreak and betrayal when her husband leaves her. As she navigates through personal challenges, she embarks on a journey of self-reliance and empowerment. A classic for the ages.

3. Kahaani - Prime Video

Starring Vidya Balan, this thriller delves into feminism and motherhood in a male-dominated society. The film won multiple National Awards and is a gripping portrayal of a woman's quest for justice.

4. Queen - Netflix

Kangana Ranaut delivers a career-defining performance as Rani Mehra, a woman who embarks on a solo journey of self-discovery after her wedding falls apart. This film is both empowering and entertaining.

5. Pink - JioHotstar

A hard-hitting film on consent and women's rights, Pink features Taapsee Pannu in a standout role. Amitabh Bachchan's powerful portrayal as a lawyer reinforces the film's vital message: "No means no." These films offer compelling portrayals of women's strength, independence, and resilience - perfect for celebrating Women's Day 2025.



Shah Rukh Khan as Rajasthani Cop, Fans Go Gaga

Shah Rukh Khan's latest ad, where he plays a Rajasthani police officer, has taken the internet by storm. In the video for an engine oil brand, SRK dons the role of a stylish cop, chasing robbers on a bike. His swag is undeniable with his shirt unbuttoned, aviators on, and a fun Rajasthani accent, which has captivated fans across social media.

The ad has gone viral, with fans praising his performance and comparing it to his iconic roles in films like Shakti and Jawan. Many have even suggested he should be cast in Dhoom 4, as they believe he excels in action sequences. His effortless charm and screen presence continue to shine, even in a short advertisement. SRK's ability to make a simple com-



mercial feel like a blockbuster reaffirms why he remains the undisputed King of Bollywood. Looking ahead, SRK is set to star in King, an action film alongside his daughter Suhana Khan, and Pathaan 2. Fans are eagerly waiting for his appearance at the IIFA awards in Jaipur.

Kajol Decides to Meet Her Younger Self This Women's Day

Kajol celebrated Women's Day 2025 in a truly heartfelt way by deciding to meet her younger self. The actress shared an adorable video compilation of herself on Instagram, narrating a beautiful conversation with her younger self. She wrote, "Met my younger self for coffee today...She ordered a latte, I ordered an americano...She had a book in her hand and one in her bag... I had a Kindle..." Kajol reflected on how she has grown over the years, emphasizing how

her younger self's loud and strong personality has evolved into a gentler version. The post highlighted her journey of self-realization and how, over time, she learned to appreciate herself.

A few days earlier, Kajol had also shared a loving birthday post for her sister Tanishaa Mukerji, wishing her the best for the future. On the work front, Kajol is set to star in Kayoze Irani's Sarzameen and Maharagnish she has grown over the years, anticipating projects.

