



Weather Forecast

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



- Land retrieved from private hands and given to TGIIC.
- Previous govt failed to reclaim the land.
- Congress-led government secured land worth crores.
- Natural rock formations to be protected.
- Opposition spreading misinformation.
- Government aims to create jobs and wealth with the land.
- Hyderabad's development plans include environmental protection.



German Tourist Raped Inside Car In Hyderabad, Accused Arrested

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A 22-year-old German tourist was allegedly raped inside a rented car in Hyderabad by a 24-year-old man, who has since been arrested, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place on Monday near the Mamidipally area in Pahladi Shareef.

According to the complaint, the survivor and another German national arrived in Hyderabad on March 4 to visit a friend who had previously studied with >> PAGE 2

400 Acres Retrieved for Public Use, Not HCU Land: Deputy CM

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu clarified that the Telangana government has not taken even

an inch of land belonging to Hyderabad Central University (HCU). He stated that the 400 acres of land in Survey No. 25 of Kancha Gachibowli does not belong to HCU but was

retrieved from private hands and handed over to the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC) to create wealth and employment opportunities for the

people.

Speaking at a media conference at the State Secretariat on Tuesday, alongside Ministers Dudilla Sridhar Babu and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy,

Bhatti Vikramarka said that the government fought a legal battle to reclaim this land, which was previously allotted to IMG Bharat, a sports management company. He emphasized that the former rulers, despite being in power for ten years, failed to secure this land for public use.

He explained that HCU was originally allotted 534.28 acres, of which 191.36 acres in Survey No. 36 and 205.20 acres in Survey No. 37 >> PAGE 2

Petition Filed in High Court Over Kanchegachibowli Land Issue

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

A petition has been filed in the Telangana High Court regarding the Kanchegachibowli land issue. The petition, filed by the non-profit organization Vat Foundation on Tuesday, requests the court to declare the land as a national botanical garden.



The Kanchegachibowli land issue, which was initially associated with Hyderabad Central University (HCU), has now taken a political turn. The Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) had announced that the land was under government ownership. The HCU Registrar also

stated that no survey had been conducted regarding the land.

The 400-acre plot of land, originally allotted to the company IMG Bharath by the then united Andhra Pradesh government in 2003, has been the subject of a legal battle. Recently, CM Revanth Reddy announced that the land had been regained through legal action.

However, the government denies any connection between the land and HCU, >> PAGE 2

Congress Rule is Very Strange: KCR

TPN Correspondent | Warangal

Former Chief Minister and BRS chief K. Chandrasekhar Rao has strongly criticized the Congress-led government, calling its rule "strange" and ineffective. He made these remarks during a meeting with party leaders from the joint Warangal district, where discussions were held regarding the party's future course of action and preparations for the upcoming silver jubilee celebrations.



KCR stated that people are eagerly awaiting the BRS silver jubilee meeting, which will be a grand event showcasing the party's strength and achievements. He expressed confidence that people will vol-

untarily attend the open gathering, as they are frustrated with the current government and looking for a change. He also emphasized that the meeting would serve as a platform to discuss the party's vision for the future and its commitment

- KCR says people are eagerly awaiting the BRS silver jubilee meeting.
- Open meeting groundwork to be done in Elkathurthi at 1 PM tomorrow.
- Directs party ranks to make extensive arrangements for the large public gathering.
- Expresses concern over farmers' hardships, says people losing morale under the current govt.
- Assures that BRS will continue to fight for the welfare of Telangana's people.

to the welfare of Telangana's people.

He revealed that the groundwork for the open meeting will be carried out in Elkathurthi tomorrow at 1 PM. He directed the party ranks to ensure meticulous arrangements, consid-

ering the expected large turnout. He urged party workers to mobilize public support and create awareness about the significance of the event.

Expressing deep concern over the plight of farmers, KCR said that their >> PAGE 2

KTR Slams Telangana Government Over HCU Land Auction

- 1. Accuses government of harming people, wildlife.
- 2. Describes actions as authoritarian, undemocratic.
- 3. Compares current rule to Indira Gandhi's emergency.

the social media platform X. KTR attached a video to his post, highlighting the government's actions and calling them an assault on the people.

KTR condemned the government's actions, describing it as "not public governance, but a governance that harms the public." He used a vivid metaphor to describe the situation, stating, "Under the names of Musi and Hyderabad, people's homes are being bulldozed, while in HCU, bird nests are destroyed." He also compared the government's actions to the destruction of nature, mentioning that bulldozers were being used not only to destroy people's properties but also to harm wildlife.



He raised concerns about farmers, who were already suffering from water scarcity, and the impact of the government's actions on their livelihood. KTR questioned whether the government was run by leaders who played real estate games or leaders who genuinely cared for the people.

In his strong criticism, he accused the government of implementing an "undeclared emergency" and likened it to the authoritarian rule of Indira Gandhi's time, calling it a "reign of terror" rather than democracy.

BJP MPs Meet Union Minister Over gachibowli Land Issue

- MPs urge protection of gachibowli land.
- Land home to rare medicinal plants.
- Concerns raised about real estate projects.
- HCU students and public oppose government move.
- BJP demands immediate intervention for preservation.



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

BJP Telangana State President Kishan Reddy and BJP MP Bandi Sanjay, along with other MPs, met Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, the Minister for Human Resource Development, to raise concerns about the Kanchegachibowli land issue. The BJP MPs, including Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Etela Rajender, Dharmapuri Aravind, and Nagesh, brought

the issue to the minister's attention, requesting his intervention.

The MPs urged the central minister to intervene in the matter, emphasizing the need to protect the environmental and heritage value of the Kanchegachibowli land. They stressed that this area was of immense importance to Hyderabad's environmental balance, with a rich biodiversity. The land is home to >> PAGE 2



1st Page Cont..

400 Acres Retrieved for Public Use, Not HCU Land: Deputy CM

of Gopanpalli village were officially transferred to the university on February 3, 2024. However, the 400 acres in Survey No. 25 was allocated to IMG Bharat during the previous government's tenure. When no developmental activities took place, then Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy canceled the allocation, leading IMG Bharat to file a writ petition in the High Court. Successive Congress Chief Ministers Rajasekhara Reddy, Rosaiah, and Kiran Kumar Reddy appointed strong legal teams to defend the government's decision in court.

Bhatti Vikramarka criticized the previous Telangana government, stating that it neglected efforts to reclaim the land and allowed it to remain in private hands. He accused them of deliberately weakening the legal battle, enabling the land to be controlled by vested interests.

He asserted that the current Congress-led government, under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, made a decisive effort to reclaim the land as state property and for the welfare of the people. The entire Council of Ministers collectively decided that the land should be utilized for wealth generation rather than be handed over to private individuals. He credited the government's legal efforts in securing land worth thousands of crores for the state.

Lashing out at the opposition, Bhatti Vikramarka said that instead of appreciating the government's success in retrieving valuable land, they were resorting to baseless criticism. He questioned whether they would have remained silent if the land had been permanently lost to private hands. He reiterated that the land was handed over to TGIC with the sole objective of creating employment opportunities for lakhs of youth and boosting the state's economy.

He cited the example of former Congress Chief Minister Nedurumalli Janardhan Reddy, under whose leadership Hyderabad's transformation into a global IT hub began with the establishment of Hi-Tech City. Similarly, he assured that the government's plan for Kancha Gachibowli was aimed at creating wealth and jobs for the youth, with no vested interests involved.

To address environmental concerns, Bhatti Vikramarka mentioned that the draft layout prepared by TGIC included special provisions to protect natural rock formations, including the mushroom rock formations in the area. He assured that the government is committed to maintaining ecological balance and ensuring that Hyderabad remains a pollution-free city.

He urged people to reject the misinformation being spread by certain political groups and media outlets on social media. He stressed that the government is working to protect public property and not allow valuable state assets to be controlled by private entities. He concluded by reaffirming his personal bond with Hyderabad Central University and his commitment to supporting its development.

Petition Filed in High Court Over Kanchegachibowli Land Issue

stating that it is not related to the university. Opposition parties have accused the government of attempting to sell the land, and student unions at HCU have staged protests demanding an end to any potential land sale. They are calling for immediate action to halt the sale and protect the land for public use.

German Tourist Raped Inside Car In Hyderabad, Accused Arrested

them in Italy. On Monday, the two foreigners were exploring the city and witnessing Eid celebrations in the Meerpet area when the accused, accompanied by four to five children, offered them a ride.

The tourists, unaware of his intentions, accepted the offer and traveled around the city for an hour, stopping at several locations to take photographs. Later, when the woman's friend and the children got out of the vehicle to take more photos, the accused drove about 100 meters away under the pretext of taking the survivor to a better spot.

Police said the accused then threatened the woman inside the car and allegedly raped her before fleeing the scene. The survivor immediately informed her German friend, and the duo reported the incident to the police.

The accused had rented the vehicle from an app-based service provider for a long drive with the children from his locality. During the ride, they stopped at a fuel station, where a receipt obtained from the pump helped investigators track and arrest him.

A case has been registered, and a detailed investigation is underway, police added.

Congress Rule is Very Strange: KCR

eyes are filled with tears as they struggle under the current government's policies. He stated that he never imagined a situation where farmers would face such severe hardships, adding that the government's negligence is crushing their hopes. He further pointed out that not just farmers, but various sections of society, including laborers and small traders, are losing morale due to the ruling party's inefficiency and lack of proper governance.

He reiterated that the people of Telangana are looking for a strong leadership that understands their problems and delivers real solutions. He assured that BRS will continue its fight for the welfare of farmers, workers, and all sections of society.

BJP MPs Meet Union Minister Over gachibowli Land Issue

700 species of medicinal plants and 220 species of birds, making it an ecological treasure.

However, the MPs expressed concern that the land was at risk of being converted into real estate projects, potentially leading to the loss of its environmental and heritage value. They pointed out that such developments could result in massive profits for a few while causing irreversible harm to the environment.

The MPs also highlighted the strong opposition from HCU students and the general public in Hyderabad to any move that would compromise the integrity of this land. They called on the Union Minister to take immediate action, requesting that the central government step in and ensure that the Kanchegachibowli land is preserved for future generations.

Union Law Minister Approves Law College for Sathavahana University

TPN, Correspondent|Hyderabad

In a significant development, Union Law Minister Arjun Meghwal has responded positively to the request for establishing a Law College (Law School) under Sathavahana University in Karimnagar. The request was made by Union Home Minister's assistant, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, who met with the Union Minister in New Delhi today, accompanied by Sathavahana University Vice-Chancellor Professor Umesh Kumar and former Karimnagar Municipal Corporation Mayor Yadagiri Sunil Rao.

Bandi Sanjay had earlier submitted a petition to the government, requesting permission to start a Law College with 120 students in two sections for the upcoming academic year. During a virtual inspection, the Bar Council of India had sought a detailed report. Following this, a comprehensive response was submitted to the Bar Council's queries.

Arjun Meghwal assured the delegation that Sathavahana University would be granted approval for the Law College as soon as possible. He directed the concerned authorities to ensure that the college begins operations in the 2025-26 academic year.



This development is expected to provide significant opportunities for legal education in the region and enhance the academic offerings at Sathavahana University.

Bandi Sanjay Requests Funding for Dr. Ambedkar Stadium Development

TPN, Correspondent|Hyderabad

Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has been urged by Union Home Minister's Assistant Bandi Sanjay Kumar to allocate special funds for the development of sports facilities at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Stadium in Karimnagar under the Khelo India scheme. Bandi Sanjay, along with former Mayor Yadagiri Sunil Rao and Sathavahana University Vice-Chancellor Professor Umesh Kumar, submitted a petition to the Minister in New Delhi today.

Sanjay emphasized that

Karimnagar, one of Telangana's largest cities, has earned recognition in education and sports. Notably, the city is home to Arjuna Awardee Madasu Srinivas Rao. Highlighting the significance of sports in the region, Sanjay requested the government to fund the development of Ambedkar Stadium, a key sporting hub.

The stadium, spread across 22.20 acres, was allocated in 1986. Between 1998 and 2000, various developmental works, including an 8-lane, 400-meter athletics track, were carried out with the help of MP LADS,

Singareni Collieries, NTPC, and other private organizations. However, due to the increasing number of athletes, the current dirt track has led to injuries. Sanjay requested a synthetic track to replace the dirt track, installation of floodlights for nighttime training, and protective canopies for open galleries to ensure safety during events.

With these improvements, Karimnagar athletes will have greater opportunities for national and international competitions, bringing pride to the nation.



Phone Tapping Case: Police Issue Fresh Notice to Shравan Rao

TPN, Correspondent|Hyderabad

In the ongoing phone tapping case, the police have issued another notice to Shравan Rao, who is a prime suspect in the investigation. The notice, issued by the Jubilee Hills ACP, instructs Shравan Rao to appear for questioning again on April 2.

The SIT team had earlier questioned him for over six and a half hours, but they were unable to gather the desired information. As a result, the SIT has



decided to issue fresh notices for his appearance to probe the case further.

Based on the information provided by police officials already arrested in connection

with the case, investigators have concluded that Shравan Rao's role is crucial to the ongoing investigation.

The police believe that his involvement in the phone tapping operations is significant, and they are hopeful that this next round of questioning will yield important details.

The investigation continues, and the authorities are determined to get to the bottom of the case to ensure justice is served.

PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud Urges CM for Survey of University Lands

- Allegations of illegal land encroachments rise.
- KTR accused of political manipulation tactics.
- "My Home Vihang" built on HCU land.
- Cabinet expansion decisions influenced by AICC.

TPN, Correspondent|Hyderabad

PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud has requested Former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao to conduct a survey of the lands of all uni-

versities in the state and take necessary measures to protect them. In a recent statement, Mahesh Kumar Goud raised concerns about the illegal encroachment and misuse of university lands. He pointed out that if a detailed survey is conducted, the discrepancies would be glaring.

Referring to the lands allocated to the University of Hyderabad (HCU), he reminded that Indira Gandhi had granted 2500 acres to the university. However, he alleged that key political figures like KTR and Kishan Reddy are treating the situation as a mere political game, behaving in a dismissive manner. Mahesh Kumar Goud also accused BJP leaders of remaining silent when construction activities on university land were taking place, particularly the building of "My Home Vihang" on HCU land.

He criticized the BRS leaders, accusing them of illegally encroaching on several acres of land, including the HCU cam-



pus. "During the previous government's tenure, roads were laid on these lands, but why didn't BJP leaders speak out then?" he asked.

In reference to the land in Gopanpally, he mentioned that 534 acres of land had been taken by the government, and 397 acres were allotted to the university. He claimed that KTR is trying to gain political mileage by inciting students and creating unrest.

Mahesh Kumar Goud fur-

ther alleged that BRS leaders were responsible for the illegal sale and encroachment of valuable lands, leading to the government's deteriorating stance on land management. He concluded by stating that the upcoming cabinet expansion would reflect the decision of the All India Congress Committee (AICC), which had also taken into account the views of the Kisan Congress executive meeting.



Congress MLC Balmoor Venkat Criticizes KTR Over HCU Land Issue

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Congress MLC Balmoor Venkat has strongly criticized KTR and other BRS leaders over the ongoing Hyderabad Central University (HCU) land issue. Speaking during a protest with student leaders at the My Home Vihanga, Venkat accused the BRS and BJP leaders of pretending to care about the university while being involved in the land controversy.

Venkat recalled that in 2004, 534 acres of land in Survey No. 25, located in Kanchegachibowli, was allocated to the government, as signed by the HCU registrar. However, in return, the government later signed to allocate only 397 acres, he added. He further explained that out of the 534 acres, 400 acres were given to IMG Bharath and 120 acres were allocated to employee unions.

Venkat stressed that the IMG Bharath deal was not carried out as per the agreement, and the government fought legal battles to prevent the land from falling into private hands. He lauded the government's legal efforts that led to 400 acres being declared government land in the courts. Venkat's comments shed light on the ongoing controversy and the state's role in securing HCU land.



Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy Criticizes BRS and BJP

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has stated that the BRS party is fading away in the state, and also predicted that the BJP's hopes of coming to power will not materialize. He criticized BJP leaders for making baseless allegations about their involvement in the Sanna Biyyam (fine rice) distribution scheme, calling their claims meaningless.

He further accused BRS leaders of causing the collapse of the Kaleshwaram project due to their alleged corruption. Minister Komatireddy emphasized the government's commitment to completing the SLBC underground tunnel project. Speaking at the Fine rice distribution event in Nalgonda district, Komatireddy highlighted that the Telangana government's initiative to distribute Sanna Biyyam was a bold decision aimed at improving food security for the poor. He stressed that the program not only addresses hunger but also enhances the self-respect of the underprivileged. He added that the government's aim is to provide better food to the poor, and the recent decision will benefit them greatly. Minister Komatireddy concluded by stating that the Telangana government is dedicated to the welfare of the poor and is taking all necessary steps to ensure the success of the program.



Harish Rao Criticizes CM Revanth Reddy Over 'Rythu Bharosa' Delay

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BRS leader and former minister Harish Rao has strongly criticized Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for failing to implement the "Rythu Bharosa" scheme as promised. Harish Rao took to social media to express his anger, accusing Revanth Reddy of breaking his word and deceiving farmers.

He reminded the public that CM Revanth Reddy had announced in January that funds under the "Rythu Bharosa" scheme would be credited to farmers' accounts by March 31. However, as of April 1, there was no update or announcement regarding the disbursement of funds. Harish Rao pointed out that Revanth Reddy had also promised during the budget session of the assembly that the funds would be distributed by the end of March, but the deadline passed without any action.

Harish Rao further criticized the CM for failing to fulfill his promise, especially during the festive season of Ugadi, when farmers were eagerly waiting for the financial assistance. He stated that the government's failure to deliver has left farmers disappointed and frustrated. The delay in the implementation of the "Rythu Bharosa" scheme has become a major point of contention, with farmers and opposition leaders raising serious concerns about the government's commitment to their welfare.



MP Arvind Slams CM Over HCU Land Controversy

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BJP MP Dharmapuri Arvind made scathing remarks against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in connection with the ongoing protests over the land dispute at Hyderabad Central University (HCU). Arvind alleged that CM Revanth Reddy was more focused on real estate than governance, stating that "the Chief Minister knows nothing other than real estate." He accused the government of auctioning the HCU land for personal gains and criticized the ruling party's handling of the situation.

Arvind also pointed out that even the Congress party's student wing, NSUI, opposed the government's decision

on the land sale. He demanded that CM Revanth stop the auction of the land unless he is willing to reveal the commission his party is receiving from the deal. The MP also raised concerns about the environmental impact, claiming that the wildlife, including deer and peacocks, in the area are being harmed due to the government's actions.

In response to the ongoing student protests, which led to several arrests by the police, Arvind called for the immediate release of the detained students. He demanded that the government reconsider its stance on the HCU land issue and stop the ongoing controversy.



Twist in Telangana Cabinet Expansion: Jana Reddy Writes Letter to Kharge

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Amid rumors of an impending cabinet expansion in Telangana, a key twist has emerged. Senior Congress leader Jana Reddy has written a letter to Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge, urging that leaders from the unified Rangareddy district be represented in the cabinet. In his letter, Jana Reddy emphasized that including leaders from this region would benefit both the party and the public.

This letter, requesting the party leadership to consider representation from Rangareddy district, has sparked significant discussion within Congress circles. It is well-known that

MLAs from the Ibrahimpatnam constituency, such as Mall Reddy, have frequently raised concerns about the lack of representation from their districts in the cabinet. Mall Reddy, in particular, has voiced his hope of securing a ministerial position.

However, the question remains whether he will be accommodated in this cabinet expansion, given the social equations and balancing needed within the new cabinet. The decision on whether Mall Reddy will get a cabinet berth or not remains uncertain, and the suspense surrounding this issue continues to fuel political discussions.



Kavitha Criticizes CM's Silence on Women's Safety Issues

MLC Kavitha Slams CM Revanth Reddy for Silence on Women's Safety

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana's Congress government is facing severe criticism from BRS leader and MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha over the rising incidents of crimes against women in the state. Kavitha expressed her concerns on social media, accusing the Congress-led administration of failing to provide security to women. She highlighted the recent horrific crimes in Nagar Kurnool district and Hyderabad, where a German tourist was assaulted and a woman in Nagar Kurnool was subjected to a gang rape near a temple. Kavitha pointed out that official statistics show a 22% increase in crimes against women,

but CM Revanth Reddy has remained silent on the matter.

Kavitha raised a pressing question regarding the chief minister's silence on such grave issues, asking, "What is his silence a sign of?" She demanded immediate action from the government, urging it to wake up from its negligence and take effective steps to ensure women's safety in the state.

In a disturbing incident, eight men assaulted a young woman at the Anjaneyaswamy temple in Nagar Kurnool district before taking her to a secluded area and gang-raping her. Police have registered a case and are actively searching for the accused.



BJP MLA Accuses CM Revanth Reddy of Selling State Assets

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana BJP leader and MLA Payal Shankar has leveled serious accusations against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Congress government in the state. Speaking to the media on Tuesday, Payal questioned how Hyderabad could transform into a world-class city when the government is selling off state-owned lands and assets. He criticized Revanth Reddy for following in the footsteps of former Chief Minister KCR, alleging that there was no change in leadership.

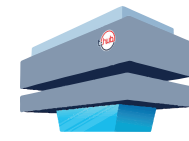
Payal Shankar pointed out that while Revanth Reddy used to criticize KCR when in the opposition, he is now following the same practices. He accused the Congress of looting the remaining wealth of the

state, while BRS continues to plunder it.

The MLA stressed that protecting government land should be a priority, not selling it. He demanded that the government immediately halt any plans to sell state land. Payal also expressed concern over the obstruction faced by students from the Hyderabad Central University (HCU) while they were attempting to meet with the CM, questioning whether this was democratic governance or authoritarian rule.

BJP MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana further added that he believed Revanth Reddy would eventually sell all the state's assets and flee to Italy. He also called for a thorough investigation into the HCU incident.





Revanth Reddy Furious Over SRH-HCA Dispute: Orders Vigilance Probe

1. SRH accuses HCA of blackmail.
2. Threats over free tickets controversy.
3. SRH considers moving to another venue.
4. HCA criticized for unethical practices.
5. Telangana government demands strict action.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The ongoing controversy between Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) and the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) has escalated, drawing the attention of Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. The matter took a serious turn after SRH representatives reportedly sent a strongly-worded email to the HCA, accusing them of blackmailing for free tickets. The email allegedly stated, "These unprofessional threats

and blackmailing by HCA, especially by the HCA president, make it evident that you don't want Sunrisers to play at your stadium. If that is the case, please let us know in writing so that we can inform BCCI, the Telangana government, and our top management. We will move to another venue." Following this revelation, Revanth Reddy has ordered a vigilance probe into the matter, demanding a detailed report on the issue. Reports suggest that he has

instructed officials to take strict action against those found guilty of misconduct. The primary complaint from Sunrisers Hyderabad is that HCA officials have been pressuring them for extra complimentary tickets, creating unnecessary complications. Frustrated by the demands, SRH has even threatened to shift their matches to another venue if the harassment continues. Given that the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad is a major sporting hub

and holds cultural significance for the city, the controversy has sparked widespread debate. The HCA has often faced criticism for lack of transparency and unethical practices, making this case even more serious. If Revanth Reddy successfully tackles this issue and takes action against corrupt practices in HCA, it could significantly boost his political image and restore faith in cricket administration in Telangana.



Telangana Governor Attends Odisha Foundation Day Celebrations



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, graced the Odisha Foundation Day celebrations as the Chief Guest at Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad, on Tuesday. In his address, the Governor lauded Odisha's rich cultural heritage, vibrant traditions, and stunning natural beauty. He referred to Odisha as the "Temple State of India" due to its renowned temples, including the iconic Jagannath Temple in Puri. Highlighting the

deep-rooted historical and cultural ties between Odisha and Telangana, he spoke about the influence of the Vijayanagara Empire in Odisha, which facilitated cultural exchanges. He also emphasized the shared artistic heritage reflected in the classical dance forms of Odissi and Kuchipudi. Shri Jishnu Dev Varma underscored the significance of the Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat initiative by the Government of India, which aims to strengthen cultural bonds across states and fos-

ter national integration. He expressed confidence that such programs would enhance unity and harmony among diverse communities. The event saw the presence of Shri M. Dana Kishore, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to the Governor, Smt. G. Pallavi, Deputy Secretary to the Governor, and other Raj Bhavan officials. Members of the Odia community in Hyderabad participated enthusiastically, making the celebration a memorable occasion.

Minister Seethakka Expresses Anger Over Gang Rape Incidents, Demands Swift Action



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana Minister for Women and Child Welfare, Seethakka, expressed her strong discontent over the recent gang rape incidents in MTTs and Urkondapet. The Minister, visibly upset, held discussions with police and women's welfare officials regarding the progress of the cases and the health conditions of the victims. She instructed authorities to ensure all necessary support and assistance for the victims in both cases. Meanwhile, IG Satyanarayana visited the crime scene in Urkondapet and confirmed that seven accused have been arrested in connection with the assault. The police are tightening their grip on the culprits and promising stringent measures. In a separate case, a man named

Aslam was arrested for raping a German woman in Meerpet. The incident occurred earlier this month when the young German woman, along with a male friend, visited Hyderabad. Aslam lured them by offering to show them the city, but once they were in a secluded area, he forced the woman into the car and sexually assaulted her while her male companion was asked to step out to take photographs. Seethakka emphasized the importance of strict action against such perpetrators and reassured that the state government will provide complete support to the victims. Both incidents have sparked outrage, with authorities promising swift justice and stringent punishment for the offenders.

Star Music Director Manisharma Supports HCU Students' Protest



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A major controversy has erupted over the 400-acre land issue at Hyderabad Cen-

tral University (HCU), where the state government plans to auction the land, drawing strong opposition from students and the university

registrar. The students have been protesting the government's decision, with large-scale demonstrations taking place across the campus.

In a show of solidarity, renowned music director Manisharma recently joined the protest. On Tuesday, he participated in the protest near KBR Park by holding a placard reading "Save Trees" to voice his support for the students' cause. The protest was organized by the BRSV (Bharatiya Rastra Samithi

Students' Wing), with Manisharma standing alongside the students who are fighting against the government's land auction proposal. The controversy has also attracted strong criticism from several political leaders, particularly from the Congress party, who have vehemently opposed the decision made by the state government. The issue remains contentious, with both students and political leaders united in their resistance to the government's move.

Police Make Key Announcement on Lathi Charge Incident at HCU



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a crucial development regarding the recent events at Hyderabad Central University (HCU), the Madhapur DCP made an official statement clarifying that no lathi charge took place on the students. The DCP revealed that some external individuals had instigated the students, leading to a disturbance. On the afternoon of the incident, at Kanch Gachibowli, while work was ongoing, outsiders allegedly launched attacks, prompting a response from the police. The police also confirmed that the

individuals had targeted Telangana government officials with stones and sticks. In response, 53 individuals were detained, with many being released on personal bonds. Among the arrested were two youths, Rohith and Naveen Kumar, who were charged and remanded to judicial custody. The police clarified that the situation was tense but stressed that the authorities acted within the law. The matter continues to be under investigation, and authorities assured swift action against those involved in inciting violence.

KTR Placed Under House Arrest Amid HCU Land Protest

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a dramatic turn of events, BRS Working President and former Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) was placed under house arrest as a precautionary measure by the police. A large deployment of police forces was seen outside his residence, preventing him from joining student protests against the auctioning of Hyderabad Central University (HCU) lands. Reports suggest that KTR had extended his support to the protesting students, who have been opposing the Telangana government's decision to clear 400 acres of forested land using JCB machines. On Monday evening, HCU students met KTR at Telangana Bhavan, where he assured them of his support. The Revanth Reddy-led Congress government has faced severe backlash from students, environ-

mentalists, and opposition leaders over its decision to auction the land. Concerns over environmental destruction have fueled widespread protests across the university campus. Fearing KTR's participation in the agitation, police took precautionary steps by placing him under house arrest, leading to political tensions in the state. The BRS party and student groups continue to demand a rollback of the government's land auction plan.



Chaitanyapuri POCSO Case

Accused Sentenced to 20 Years Imprisonment

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
In a significant verdict, the Ranga Reddy District Fast Track Special Court in LB Nagar sentenced 19-year-old Kasarla Mahesh @ Bunny to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹5,00,000 for his involvement in a POCSO case under Chaitanyapuri Police Station limits. The court also directed a compensation of ₹5,00,000 to be provided to the victim. The incident, registered under Cr. No. 146/2023, involved Mahesh confining a minor girl in his neighbor's house and engaging in inappropriate behavior while her parents were away. He was found guilty under Sections 376(AB), 376(2)(f), 324 IPC & Sections 5 & 6 of the POCSO Act. After a thorough investigation, the court found Mahesh guilty in SC No. 241/2023 and announced the verdict on April 1, 2025. The prosecution was led by Additional Public Prosecutors Smt. Sunitha and D. Raghu, who effectively argued the case. The ruling marks a significant step in ensuring justice for victims of sexual offenses, reinforcing strict punishment for crimes against minors.

Telangana Becomes First State to Distribute Fine Rice in Ration Shops Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Launches the Scheme in Sircilla

1. Minister Ponnam launches scheme in Sircilla.
2. 2.91 lakh families to benefit.
3. Free bus travel, electricity for women.
4. ₹20,000 crore farm loan waiver.

TPN Correspondent | SIRICILLA
Telangana has become the first state in the country to distribute fine rice through ration shops, said State BC Welfare and Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar. He officially launched the scheme at a ration shop near the new bus stand in Sircilla, accompanied by Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas, Collector Sandeep Kumar Jha, and SP Mahesh Bhagwat Gite. The dignitaries distributed fine rice to beneficiaries during the event.

Minister Prabhakar highlighted that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy inaugurated the scheme on Ugadi, fulfilling an electoral promise. The government aims to supply fine rice to 2.91 lakh families through 17,263 ration shops across the state. He urged beneficiaries to make the most of this initiative. The minister reiterated the government's commitment to welfare schemes benefiting all sections of society. He mentioned that nearly 60,000 government jobs have been filled, and initiatives such as free bus travel for



women, 200 units of free electricity, and ₹500 LPG cylinders have been introduced. He also discussed programs like Indra Mahila Shakti, solar unit distribution to women's groups, and additional ₹500 per quintal incentives for farmers growing fine rice.

Government Whip Adi Srinivas emphasized the recent socio-economic survey and the implementation of 42% reservations for BCs. He noted that ₹20,000 crore in farm loans had been waived and that pension distribution would commence soon.

Collector Sandeep Kumar Jha assured smooth distribution of fine rice through 345 ration shops, benefiting 1.7 lakh ration cardholders with 3,275 metric tons of rice. The event saw the participation of several key officials and representatives.

Police Conduct Inspections at Tandur Railway Station Crackdown on Drug and Illegal Goods Transport

TPN Correspondent | Tandur
Following the orders of District SP Narayana Reddy, police inspections were conducted at Tandur Railway Station under the supervision of DSP Balakrishna Reddy. The operation aimed to curb the illegal transport of narcotics and prohibited goods. During the inspection, DSP Balakrishna Reddy stated that passengers arriving by train were checked to prevent the smuggling of banned substances. He emphasized that these inspections are part of a broader effort to ensure security and curb illegal activities in the region.



Authorities urged the public to report any suspicious individuals or activities to the police or dial 100 for immediate assistance. The police team

thoroughly examined the station premises and closely monitored luggage and passenger movements. The operation involved officers from Tandur Town CI, Tandur Rural CI, and Rural Sis, along with other police personnel. Officials reiterated their commitment to maintaining law and order while ensuring that the railway station remains free from unlawful activities. Such inspections will be conducted regularly to deter criminal activities and ensure the safety of passengers and the general public.

Telangana Rythu Mahotsavam from April 11 to 14



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Telangana Rythu Mahotsavam will be held from April 11 to 14 to address the challenges faced by farmers in agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and aquaculture sectors, announced State Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Commission Chairman Kodandareddy. Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Kodandareddy stated that the event will take place at the Agri-Culture Society, Nampally Exhibition Grounds. The Mahotsavam aims to drive innovative solutions and technological advancements for the holistic development of farmers. Farmers from across Telangana have been invited to participate in this

comprehensive agricultural exhibition. Experts from various fields, including agriculture, animal husbandry, poultry, and fisheries, along with government officials, scientists, and representatives of related organizations, will be attending. Additionally, representatives from seed, fertilizer, and pesticide companies, industrialists, NGOs, and students will take part. The exhibition will feature approximately 400 stalls, showcasing advancements in the farming sector. Key members including KVN Reddy, Bhavani Reddy, Gopal Reddy, and other officials participated in the announcement meeting.

Bhadradi Ramulori Kalyanam on April 6th

TPN Correspondent | Bhadradi
The much-awaited Sri Ramanavami festival is approaching, with celebrations scheduled across the country on April 6th. The Bhadradi Sri Seetarama Chandra Swamy Temple has been beautifully decorated for the occasion. The Sri Ramanavami Brahmotsavams have already commenced at the temple, and on April 6th, the grand Seetaram Kalyanam (wedding) of Lord Rama and Goddess Sita will take place. As part of the event, Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao will present traditional garments, including pattavastrams and talambas, on behalf of the government. The temple anticipates



a large influx of devotees from all corners of the state, and special arrangements have been made to ensure their comfort. Given the summer season, authorities are focusing on providing cool water and cooling stations to avoid any inconvenience to the pilgrims. Additionally, the details of all the rituals and pujas conducted during the Sri Ramanavami celebrations, including the special Mukkoti Ekadashi and Brahmotsav, are available online at bhadradritemple.telangana.gov.in. Devotees can also

book their tickets for these services online for a hassle-free experience.

Gang War in Pargi, Vikarabad District

TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
A shocking incident occurred in Pargi, Vikarabad district, where a violent gang war broke out among a group of youths. The altercation took place suddenly in a public space, causing widespread panic among the onlookers. The fight escalated as the group split into two factions and began clashing in the midst of the crowd. Reports indicate that the gang war happened near the Pargi police station, a short distance away. Around 100 individuals were involved in the brawl, using their fists and cool drink bottles to attack each other. The entire incident was captured on CCTV cameras installed in local shops. The violent clash continued as the groups moved into a nearby tea shop, continuing their fight there. The chaotic scene left the local residents terrified, causing many to flee the area in fear. The police have launched an investigation into the matter, and efforts are underway to identify the individuals involved. The disturbing event has raised concerns about public safety in the area, with authorities promising to take strict action against the perpetrators.



Telangana to Experience Rain for Next Five Days

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana residents, who have been enduring intense heat in recent days, can expect some relief with the forecast of rain over the next five days. According to the Hyderabad Meteorological Center, light to moderate rainfall is expected across the state. The rains are anticipated due to the combined effects of increased surface heat and the impact of a weather system. On Wednesday and Thursday, the northern and western regions of Telangana are likely to experience thunderstorm conditions, with



gusty winds, lightning, and possible heavy

rain. Winds are expected to blow at speeds of 40 to 50 km/h during the next two days. The areas of Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, and Mahbubnagar are likely to face strong winds and thunderstorms, prompting authorities to issue warnings for residents to remain cautious. The rains are expected to provide some respite from the ongoing heat wave, offering a much-needed break to the people of Telangana. Local authorities have urged residents to stay alert and take necessary precautions during the adverse weather conditions.

Gold Prices Surge by ₹1000 in a Single Day

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Gold prices have witnessed a significant rise, shocking buyers. Gold, being one of the most valuable commodities globally, continues to see high demand, especially in India, where it holds immense cultural significance. During festivals and special occasions, women often show keen interest in purchasing gold and silver. In the Hyderabad market today, the price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold rose by ₹930, reaching ₹92,840. Similarly, 10 grams of 22-carat gold saw a price increase of ₹850, now priced at ₹85,100. Silver also saw a notable increase, with the price of one kilogram rising by ₹1000 to ₹1,14,000. Reports suggest that within the next month, gold prices might even touch ₹1 lakh per gram, adding further pressure on buyers. This surge in prices comes as the demand for gold remains high, keeping the market volatile.

RS Praveen Kumar's Outrage Over Guru Kula Incident

TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad
In a shocking incident, three female students from the Kothagadi Girls Gurukul School in Vikarabad were severely beaten by the principal, Sailetha, for leaving the hostel. The students were reportedly subjected to abusive language and physical violence. Reacting strongly to this incident, BRS leader and former secretary of Gurukulas, RS Praveen Kumar, voiced his anger on social media. On Tuesday morning, through a tweet on X (formerly Twitter), he questioned, "Is this how you raise our children in Gurukulas? Can you call children 'leki munda' (bad children) and mothers 'donga munda' (thieves)? Can you beat them

like this? Would you treat children this way in your own homes? Would you remain silent if anyone beat them at their school?" He further tagged the Chief Minister of Telangana, the Chief Minister's Office (CMO), the Chief Secretary (CS), the Director-General of Police (DGP), and the Social Welfare Department, demanding action. Praveen Kumar emphasized that while the students might not be blameless, their mistake should have been addressed with care and counseling, not through physical violence. He also questioned the officials responsible for oversight, specifically asking what the office of Revanth Reddy and his officers were doing in this situation.





INDIA bloc as a beginning of democratic renewal

The fight to preserve India's democracy and constitutional ethos demands a departure from conventional politics, as the ruling party thrives on centralization and the erosion of institutions, narratives, and decision-making processes. To counter this, the Opposition must champion decentralization, foster open dialogue, uphold norms, and prioritize listening over dictating, argues a fresh perspective on India's political landscape as of April 1, 2025.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra and Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, spearheaded by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi—now the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha—exemplified this alternative. Unlike the ruling party's tightly controlled campaigns, these yatras embraced a fluid, participatory model. Leaders engaged directly with communities, listening as much as they spoke, allowing citi-

zens to co-shape the narrative rather than passively absorb pre-packaged pledges. This stood in sharp contrast to the centralized, top-down approach of the ruling dispensation, which leans on subversion and narrative dominance.

The yatras demonstrated that a politics of empathy and inclusion can resonate, cutting through the noise of orchestrated propaganda. They offered a glimpse of how decentralization—giving voice to the grassroots—could challenge the ruling party's grip. Yet, despite their impact, the Opposition has been slow to fully adopt this blueprint. Traditional politicking—marked by reactive rhetoric and insular strategies—persists, diluting the potential of such transformative experiments.

To win, the Opposition must internalize this

lesson: democracy's defense lies in mirroring its values—openness, plurality, and respect for institutions—rather than mimicking the ruling party's playbook. The yatras' success wasn't just in mileage covered but in trust rebuilt, showing that people crave dialogue over diktats. This requires a shift from leader-centric campaigns to a movement where communities drive discourse, a stark pivot from the ruling party's reliance on centralized authority.

As of April 1, 2025, the stakes are high. The ruling party's model thrives on control; the Opposition's strength lies in relinquishing it. Embracing this paradox—listening before speaking, decentralizing before commanding—could redefine the battle for India's soul, ensuring constitutional values endure not through politics as usual, but through a reimagined, people-first approach.



\$1.7 Trillion: Why Investors Are Betting Big On US Despite Recession Fears

Despite recession whispers and President Donald Trump's tariff turbulence, the US has secured \$1.7 trillion in investment commitments since his second term began on January 20, 2025, signaling robust faith in its economic future as of April 1. Giants like Apple, TSMC, and Saudi Arabia are driving this influx, betting on long-term gains despite short-term chaos. Syed Zubair Ahmed explores why investors remain bullish.

In under three months, standout pledges include Saudi Arabia's \$600 billion (potentially \$1 trillion) over four years, Apple's \$500 billion for AI infrastructure and 20,000 jobs, and a \$500 billion StarGate project by OpenAI, Oracle, and SoftBank to dominate AI. TSMC's \$100 billion adds to its \$165 billion US total, while Eli Lilly (\$27 billion) and Hyundai (\$21 billion) bolster manufacturing. These moves, tied to Trump's "America First Investment Policy," aim to secure semiconductors and tech supremacy, countering China.

Trump's tariff bravado—set to escalate April 2—has rattled markets, yet his knack for luring capital shines. Infrastructure, AI, and chip production could cushion a downturn, reinforcing the US as an innovation hub. Critics, however, question if these billions will materialize, recalling unfulfilled Saudi promises from his first term. FDI has historically wavered, and lofty announcements often shrink under scrutiny.

Economic headwinds loom: inflation persists, interest rates bite, and the dollar recently slumped 3.4%. Germany's spending surge and Trump's "transition" talk—echoed by Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent's "detox" warning—add uncertainty. Investors love tax cuts but hate unpredictability, and Trump's trade flux keeps them guessing.

Still, Trump 2.0 exudes aggression. His "economic nationalism" pushes onshoring and tariffs, pressuring allies into deals. Supporters see a strongman delivering results; skeptics see hype. Will Apple's factories rise in Houston? Will TSMC's chips roll out of Texas? Or is this another mirage? As of April 1, 2025, \$1.7 trillion hangs on Trump's ability to turn pledges into reality amid a jittery global landscape. Time will tell if this gamble pays off—or fizzles like before.

Yunus' Remarks on Chicken's Neck Ignite Fury in India



Bangladesh's interim leader Muhammad Yunus stirred outrage in India with comments spotlighting the landlocked Northeast and the strategic Chicken's Neck corridor. Speaking during a visit to China, Yunus called the seven Northeastern states—termed the "Seven Sisters"—a landlocked region, positioning Bangladesh as their "guardian of the ocean." He suggested this could extend China's economic reach, a remark that has inflamed tensions given Delhi's fraught ties with Beijing post-Doklam and cooling relations with Dhaka since Sheikh Hasina's ouster. The Chicken's Neck, or Siliguri Corridor, is a slender 20-km-wide strip in West Bengal linking India's Northeast to the mainland. Flanked by Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, it's the sole land route for road and rail to the region. Its vulnerability was laid bare in the 1962 Sino-Indian War, when China's advance underscored the risk of a chokehold isolating the Northeast. The 2017 Doklam standoff, where India halted China's road-building near Bhutan, further highlighted its sensitivity, ending in a tense disengagement. Yunus' remarks come as Bangladesh's in-

terim government, in power since Hasina's exit last year, pivots toward China, unsettling India. Historically, Delhi enjoyed warm ties with Dhaka, rooted in the 1971 Liberation War, but recent minority attacks and Bangladesh's outreach to Beijing have strained this bond. Yunus' China trip, including a meeting with Xi Jinping, amplifies India's security concerns over the Chicken's Neck, a lifeline now under geopolitical scrutiny. Indian leaders reacted swiftly. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma slammed the comments as "offensive," urging robust rail and road upgrades to bolster the corridor, warning of its persistent vulnerability. Congress leader Pawan Khera accused Bangladesh of inviting China to encircle India, blasting the BJP's "deplorable" foreign policy for failing the Northeast. "A country we helped create is now trying to surround us," he said. As of April 1, 2025, Yunus' words have thrust the Chicken's Neck into focus, exposing India's strategic anxieties amid shifting regional dynamics and an emboldened Sino-Bangladesh axis.



Salman Khan's Stardom: The Body That Built a Mythos

Salman Khan's allure as a Bollywood icon hinges on his chiseled physique, a symbol of cinematic masculinity that fans worship as the essence of stardom. As Yvonne Tasker notes in *Spectacular Bodies*, an action hero's frame is more than flesh—it's a layered emblem of power and contradiction. Khan embodies this, his brawn eclipsing dialogue, his blue bracelet a style hallmark. From his debut, he turned gyms into shrines, his body outshining his acting, a true-blue star serving and served by his physicality. The 2014 documentary *Being Bhaijaan* captures this reverence, opening with Khan's sculpted form dominating the screen. It shifts to Shan, a fan from Chhindwara, sweating in a gym, dreaming of mirroring his idol. The film subtly elevates Shan, blurring the star-fan divide, as devotees like him reflect Khan's myth through their own fixation. Unlike Shah Rukh's urban charm or Aamir's cerebral appeal, Khan's kingdom thrives in India's hinterlands—small towns, slums, and mohallas—where his rugged hope resonates with the marginalized, especially working-class Muslims sidelined by post-lib-

eralization dreams. Shohini Ghosh ties Khan's 1990s rise to communal tensions, as Muslims faced alienation amid the Hindu Right's ascent. His "bad boy" image—marred by legal woes—mirrored their vulnerability, forging a visceral bond. Eid releases transcend films; they're communal affirmations, his body a canvas of defiance and triumph. *Being Bhaijaan* probes this masculinity, with fans like Shan and Balram internalizing Khan's macho ideals—protection, stoicism—shaping their gender views, sometimes conservatively. Yet, this devotion carries a homoerotic edge, a "Bhai-code" where fans' intense loyalty—chanting "Jai Salman"—binds them in brotherhood. Khan's body, not the heroine, holds their gaze. This fandom, though fierce, falters when his actions—like his 2014 Modi tie-up—jar their ideals, as seen in Jai Ho's tepid response. Richard Dyer's lens on stardom's fragility fits here: Khan's image, built on muscle and myth, shifts with time. His latest Eid flop, *Sikandar* (April 2025), underscores a fading vigor, his once-unstoppable frame now hinting at decline—a true-blue star whose descent is as iconic as his rise.

India and Chile Strengthen Ties on Critical Minerals and Trade

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a joint press address with Chilean President Gabriel Boric Font at Hyderabad House on Tuesday, announced that India and Chile would initiate discussions on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), with a significant focus on critical minerals, trade, and economic cooperation. Emphasizing the importance of resilient supply and value chains, PM Modi highlighted that both nations are committed to forming a mutually beneficial economic partnership. He further stated that India is ready to share its expertise in digital public infrastructure, renewable energy, railways, space, and other sectors with Chile.

As part of their collaboration, India and Chile signed a Letter of Intent recognizing Chile's strategic role as a gateway to Antarctica. Given its geographic proximity and the presence of key cities like Punta Arenas, Chile serves as a major departure point for expeditions and scientific research in Antarctica. PM Modi welcomed the agreement and expressed confidence that it would enhance bilateral cooperation in this critical area.

Health security also featured prominently in discussions, with both leaders acknowledging India's role as a reliable partner in providing medical support to Chile. PM Modi expressed happiness over the growing adoption of yoga in Chile and praised the country's decision to declare November 4 as National Yoga Day. He also highlighted the importance of Ayurveda and traditional medicine, calling for greater collaboration in these fields. The deepening of defence cooperation between the two countries, which



symbolizes mutual trust, was also discussed. Welcoming President Boric on his first visit to India, PM Modi lauded his commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and described Chile as an important partner in Latin America. During their discussions, the leaders explored new opportunities for investment and trade, recognizing that there is untapped potential for collaboration in various sectors. PM Modi noted the steady growth in mutual trade and emphasized that further strengthening economic ties

would be beneficial for both nations. In the agricultural sector, both countries agreed to collaborate on ensuring food security by leveraging their respective strengths. India committed to sharing its experience and technological advancements to support Chile's agricultural industry. The discussions also focused on expanding cooperation in renewable energy, railways, space, and digital public infrastructure, reflecting India's commitment to fostering innovation and economic growth in Chile.



Himanta Slams Yunus' Remarks, Calls for NE Bypass

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has strongly condemned Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus' recent remarks on India's Northeast, calling them "offensive and strongly condemnable." Yunus, during a recent four-day visit to China, reportedly described Bangladesh as the "only guardian of the ocean" in the region and suggested that India's northeastern states being landlocked could be an opportunity for Chinese economic expansion. Taking to social media on Tuesday, Sarma lashed out at Yunus' statement, emphasizing that such comments should not be taken lightly as they reflect "deeper strategic considerations and longstanding agendas." Sarma further pointed out that this narrative reinforces the strategic vulnerability of India's 'Chicken's Neck' corridor—the narrow Siliguri Corridor that connects the Northeast to the Indian mainland.

Yunus' comments, which surfaced on social media, implied that the northeastern states lack direct ocean access, making Bangladesh a key maritime link for them. "The seven states of India, the eastern part of India, are called the seven sisters. They are a landlocked region of India. They have no way to reach out to the ocean," Yunus reportedly stated. He also suggested that Bangladesh's role in the region could be leveraged for economic expansion with China's involvement.

Sarma responded sharply, highlighting the historical vulnerability of the 'Chicken's Neck' corridor and warning against narratives that could fuel separatist ideas. He noted that even within India, there have been dangerous discussions about isolating the Northeast from the rest of the country, making it essential to strengthen transport infrastructure.

To counter this strategic concern, Sarma advocated for the development of alternative railway and road networks bypassing the Chicken's Neck corridor. Despite significant engineering challenges, he urged that India must push for innovative and determined efforts to enhance connectivity between the Northeast and the mainland.

NHAI Hikes Toll Charges by 4-5% Across India



Commuters using national highways and expressways in India will now have to pay higher toll fees, with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) announcing an increase of 4-5% in toll charges. This revision, which came into effect on April 1, 2025, is part

of the NHAI's annual process of adjusting toll rates in response to changes in the wholesale price index-based inflation. The toll fee hike will apply to various highway sections across the country, impacting a significant number of road users. This increase in

toll charges aims to account for rising operational and maintenance costs associated with the upkeep of the national highway network. As per NHAI officials, the revised toll rates will help sustain the infrastructure, ensure road safety, and support ongoing and future highway development projects.

The toll fee adjustment is a routine exercise conducted by the NHAI, and the revised rates reflect the current economic conditions, especially inflationary trends. The NHAI has clarified that the adjustments are necessary to maintain and upgrade India's national highway system, which is crucial for the transportation of goods and people across the country. For many road users, this hike may come as an additional financial burden, especially for frequent travelers. The increase is expected to affect commercial vehicles, daily commuters, and long-distance travelers who rely on the extensive highway network for their journeys. Despite the hike, the NHAI emphasized that the toll rates remain competitive and are in line with inflation adjustments to ensure the sustainable development of India's road infrastructure.



Netherlands FM Veldkamp Visits India to Boost Ties

Caspar Veldkamp, the Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, is on his first official visit to India from March 31 to April 1, 2025, aiming to strengthen bilateral relations across multiple sectors, including trade, innovation, and security. His discussions with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar focused on expanding cooperation in emerging fields like semiconductors, green hydrogen, and digital technologies, alongside traditional areas such as water management, agriculture, and health.

The two leaders held delegation-level talks on March 31, where they reviewed the growing political, cultural, and economic ties between India and the Netherlands. Both countries have maintained a strong partnership for over 75 years, and this visit is expected to further enhance economic and strategic cooperation. The discussions also covered key global and regional developments, reflecting the evolving geopolitical landscape and the importance of multipolarity in international relations.

Jaishankar welcomed Veldkamp and emphasized the depth of India-Netherlands collaboration, stating, "Delighted to meet FM Caspar Veldkamp of the Netherlands. We discussed our growing cooperation in trade, investments, innovation, water, agriculture, health, security, and people-to-people ties. We also explored new possibilities in semiconductors, green hydrogen, education, and talent flows." Foreign Minister Veldkamp, ahead of his visit, expressed enthusiasm about enhancing collaboration with India, particularly in the context of today's complex geopolitical challenges. "Considering today's geopolitical reality, it is important for both the Netherlands and India to strengthen our cooperation and deepen our relationship," he posted on social media.

India's 'Operation Brahma' Delivers Aid to Myanmar

India has launched a massive humanitarian relief effort, sending 440 tonnes of essential supplies to earthquake-hit Myanmar as part of 'Operation Brahma.' On Tuesday, the Indian Navy's INS Gharial departed from Visakhapatnam for Yangon, carrying a large consignment of relief materials, including rice, edible oils, and medicines. The shipment is equivalent to nearly 45-48 truckloads of aid, reinforcing India's commitment to assisting its neighbor in the wake of the devastating March 28 earthquake.

In addition to INS Gharial, two other Indian Navy warships, INS Karmuk and LCU 52, arrived in Yangon earlier the same day with approximately 30 tonnes of relief supplies. These ships joined the ongoing relief mission, which had already seen INS Satpura and INS Savitri deliver 40 tonnes of humanitarian aid to Myanmar on Monday. Apart from naval support, an Indian Air Force C-130 aircraft also landed in Mandalay, transporting essential medical supplies, water, and diesel generators to assist in the recovery efforts.

The Indian Embassy in Myanmar confirmed on social media that 'Operation Brahma' was launched immediately after the earthquake



struck, with a focus on providing emergency assistance to the hardest-hit regions, including Sagaing, Mandalay, Naypyidaw, Shan, and Bago. India's rapid response included deploying search and rescue teams, medical professionals, and emergency supplies such as food, water, tents, and medicines.

The relief efforts began on March 29, when an Indian Air Force aircraft delivered the first batch of 15 tonnes of humanitarian assistance to Yangon. The supplies were officially hand-

ed over by Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, Abhay Thakur, in the presence of Myanmar's Chief Minister U Soe Thein. On the same day, two more C-130 and two C-17 aircraft flew into Naypyidaw, carrying an 80-member National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team, a 120-member Indian Army medical team, and an additional 85 tonnes of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) aid. Notably, these were the first international aid flights to arrive in Myanmar's capital, Naypyidaw.

'Time for reciprocity': US flags India's 100% tariff on agri goods ahead of April 2 deadline

- **New tariffs aim to ensure fairness, details due Wednesday, says White House.**
- **Trump calls April 2 "Liberation Day," vows to fix unfair trade practices**
- **Advisors like Lutnick, Bessent, and Vance back Trump's trade overhaul plan.**



TPN Correspondent | Kathmandu

The White House has spotlighted India's 100% tariff on American agricultural products as a key grievance, accusing New Delhi and other nations of stifling U.S. exports with exorbitant levies. With a deadline looming on April 2, 2025, President Donald Trump has vowed to implement reciprocal tariffs, dubbing the date "Liberation Day" for the U.S. economy. The move, flagged as a "big game-changer," aims

to counter what Trump calls unfair trade practices that have long disadvantaged American workers. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, speaking on Monday, April 1, criticized the steep tariffs imposed by multiple countries, including India's 100% duty on U.S. agri-goods, Japan's 700% on American rice, the EU's 50% on dairy, and Canada's nearly 300% on butter and cheese. "These countries have been ripping off our nation for far too long," Leavitt said, display-

ing a chart with India's tariffs highlighted in tricolor circles. She argued that such barriers make it "virtually impossible" for U.S. products to penetrate these markets, costing American jobs and businesses over decades.

Trump has described current U.S. tariffs as "temporary" and "small," promising that the new, reciprocal tariffs—set to roll out on April 2—will level the playing field. While specifics remain under wraps, Leavitt emphasized that

the policy would ensure fairness for Americans, with the President slated to unveil details on Wednesday. "It's time for reciprocity," she declared, framing the shift as a historic correction championed by Trump. The initiative is backed by a robust team of advisors, including Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, and others like Peter Navarro and Kevin Hassett, with Vice President J.D. Vance also deeply engaged. Leavitt sidestepped questions on which nations would face the new tariffs, leaving that to Trump's forthcoming announcement. As tensions simmer ahead of the deadline, the U.S. stance underscores a broader push to rebalance trade dynamics, with India's agricultural tariffs now a flashpoint in the escalating rhetoric. The clock is ticking toward a policy shift that could reshape global trade ties as of April 1, 2025.

Imran Khan Nominated for Nobel Peace Prize Amid Incarceration



TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Imran Khan, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan and founder of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, has received a second nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize. Khan, who has been imprisoned since August 2023, was put forward for the prestigious award due to his contributions to human rights and democracy in Pakistan. The nomination was announced by Partiet Sentrum, a Norwegian advocacy group, which collaborated with an individual authorized to nominate candidates for the prize.

In a statement shared on X on Sunday, Partiet Sentrum expressed pride in nominating Khan, emphasizing his efforts to advance democratic principles and protect human rights in his home country. "We are pleased to announce on behalf of Partiet Sentrum that in alliance with somebody with the right to nominate, we have nominated Imran Khan, the former prime minister of Pakistan, to the Nobel Peace Prize for his work with human rights and democracy in Pakistan," the group declared. This marks the second time Khan has been recognized as a contender for the award, highlighting his enduring influence despite his current legal challenges.

The Nobel Peace Prize nomination process allows submissions from a wide range of "qualified nominators," including members of national assemblies, government officials, and other designated individuals or organizations. This broad eligibility ensures that diverse voices can propose candidates they believe have made significant contributions to peace and justice. Khan's nomination reflects his reputation as a leader who championed political reform and social equity during his tenure, even as his incarceration has sparked debate about the state of democracy in Pakistan.

Yunus Courts China, Stirs Tensions with India Over Northeastern States



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Bangladesh's interim government adviser, Muhammad Yunus, sparked controversy during a recent four-day visit to Beijing by subtly urging China to "extend" its influence in the region, leveraging the landlocked status of India's northeastern "seven sister states." In a video that surfaced on social media upon his return, Yunus suggested that Bangladesh, as the "guardian of the ocean" for India's northeast, could serve as a strategic base for China. He framed this as an economic opportunity, encouraging Beijing to build infrastructure, market goods, and export through Bangladesh, indirectly pressuring India's isolated states.

"The seven states of India... are completely landlocked. They have no way to reach the ocean. We are the only guardian of the region," Yunus stated, adding that this "opens up a huge possibility for China." Defence analysts criticized the remarks as provocative, while Sanjeev Sanyal, a member of PM Modi's economic advisory council, questioned their intent on X, asking, "What exactly is the significance of 7 Indian states being landlocked?"

During his Beijing visit, Yunus held talks with Xi Jinping, securing agreements to deepen China-Bangladesh ties. These include Chinese investment in modernizing Mongla Port with \$400 million, expanding the China Economic and Industrial Zone in Chattogram with \$350 million, and \$150 million for technical assistance. Yunus also sought a 50-year partnership on river water management, praising China as a "master" in the field. Bangladesh requested aid for managing the Teesta River, shared with India, shifting away from previous direct cooperation with New Delhi, and signed a hydrological data-sharing deal for the Yarlung Zangbo-Jamuna River.

The remarks and agreements signal a strategic pivot toward China, raising eyebrows in India. While Yunus thanked Beijing for enhancing maritime and economic collaboration, his comments about India's northeast have drawn scrutiny. As of April 1, 2025, this development underscores Bangladesh's balancing act between its powerful neighbors, with Yunus seemingly testing New Delhi's patience while courting Chinese investment to bolster Dhaka's regional clout.



Chile's President Boric Highlights Expanding Ties with India During Visit

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

During his visit to India, Chilean President Gabriel Boric underscored the burgeoning potential for deepening bilateral ties with India, spotlighting trade, investment, and joint efforts on global issues like climate change. Speaking alongside Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Hyderabad House on April 1, 2025, Boric expressed gratitude for the invitation extended during the G20 summit in Rio last November, emphasizing the untapped possibilities in the seven-decade-long relationship between the two nations.

Boric, the third Chilean president to visit India in 16 years, hailed the visit as a milestone in consolidating ties. "We have come to strengthen seven decades of relations with India," he said, noting India's rise as Chile's seventh-largest trading partner. He urged further collaboration, particularly in commercial ties and critical minerals like lithium and copper, vital for sustainability and combating climate change. "We discussed investment opportunities and the role of critical minerals in facing global challenges," Boric remarked, framing these as key to a sustainable future.

The leaders also explored cooperation in technology and innovation, with Boric positioning Chile as a reliable partner. "We want to consolidate Chile as a trusted ally in sustainable technology and innovation, where we see immense potential with India," he said. He highlighted cultural exchanges too, citing the "Shoot in Chile" program to attract India's Bollywood industry, adding, "What India has done with Bollywood is tremendously important."

Boric praised Chile's international standing as a respected democracy, a foundation for attracting investment and fostering ties. Beyond economics, he emphasized the cultural and spiritual dimensions of the partnership. "It's not just about commerce but also culture and spirituality. India's ancient civilization offers lessons for the world," he noted.

The visit reflects a shared vision for a multifaceted relationship, blending economic goals with sustainability and cultural synergy. Boric's remarks signal a forward-looking agenda, leveraging India's global influence and Chile's strategic resources to address modern challenges while deepening a historic bond as of April 1, 2025.

Netanyahu Retracts Shin Bet Nominee Amid Coalition Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reversed his decision to appoint ex-admiral Eli Sharvit as director of the Shin Bet security service on April 1, 2025, just 24 hours after announcing it. Netanyahu's office stated that, "after further thought," he informed Sharvit of plans to consider other candidates to succeed Ronen Bar, whose dismissal last month awaits court approval. No specific reason was provided for the abrupt shift, though it follows unease within Netanyahu's religious-right coalition. Some coalition members had opposed Sharvit's nomination, pointing to his alleged presence at a 2023 protest against the government's judicial overhaul—a move that sparked controversy. The Shin Bet, akin to the FBI or MI5, handles



internal security, distinct from Mossad's external intelligence role. Netanyahu's decision to sack Bar had already fueled backlash, with critics accusing him and his allies of purging officials who challenge their stance, particularly on the Gaza war against Hamas. The reversal coincides with brewing discord in Netanyahu's multi-party coalition. Finance

Minister Bezalel Smotrich staged a temporary resignation, a procedural tactic to reclaim his Knesset seat and edge out a member of National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir's party. Israeli media reports suggest Smotrich expects Netanyahu to reappoint him once his parliamentary status is restored. His move protests Ben-Gvir's push for additional ministerial roles after rejoining the government last month, according to Reuters, citing Smotrich's party spokesperson.

The Shin Bet leadership shuffle and coalition friction highlight deepening instability within Netanyahu's administration as of April 1, 2025. The backtrack on Sharvit's nomination reflects sensitivity to internal dissent, while Smotrich's maneuver underscores strategic jockeying among coalition partners.

RBI Announces ₹80,000 Crore OMO to Boost Banking Liquidity

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) unveiled plans for an open market operation (OMO) to inject ₹80,000 crore into the banking system, a strategic move just days before the April monetary policy committee (MPC) review. Bankers say the infusion aims to enhance the transmission of policy rate cuts, ensuring they effectively influence lending rates and stimulate economic activity. The announcement follows a notable shift in banking liquidity, which turned surplus on Saturday and Sunday—the first time in over four months—after persistent deficits. Measured via the RBI's liquidity adjustment facility, this surplus provides a cushion for smoother policy rate transmission during an easing cycle.

By pumping in ₹80,000 crore, the RBI seeks to sustain this momentum, addressing liquidity tightness that had previously hampered rate cut impacts. The timing is critical, with the MPC meeting looming. Analysts view the OMO as a preemptive strike to bolster system liquidity, supporting banks in passing on prior and potential future rate reductions to borrowers. Surplus liquidity typically lowers short-term interest rates, aligning them with the RBI's repo rate, a key policy tool. This move signals the central bank's intent to maintain accommodative conditions amid evolving economic pressures. Bankers note that the RBI's action reflects a proactive stance after months of managing liquidity shortfalls, which had con-

strained monetary policy effectiveness. The surplus over the weekend, though modest, hints at easing strains, possibly from government spending or reduced cash demand. The ₹80,000 crore injection aims to lock in this shift, ensuring banks have ample funds to lend and support growth. As of April 1, 2025, the OMO underscores the RBI's balancing act—fostering growth while guarding against inflation. With the MPC review on the horizon, this liquidity boost could set the stage for further easing, depending on economic data. For now, it's a clear bid to grease the wheels of monetary transmission, reinforcing the RBI's commitment to a responsive and fluid banking system.



GST Collections Surge 9.9% to Over ₹1.96 Lakh Crore in March 2025

India's gross GST collections for March 2025 climbed 9.9% to exceed ₹1.96 lakh crore, according to government data released on April 1, 2025. The robust growth reflects a steady rise in economic activity, with revenue from domestic transactions increasing by 8.8% to ₹1.49 lakh crore. Imports also contributed significantly, with GST from imported goods jumping 13.56% to ₹46,919 crore, signaling strong cross-border trade.

However, the month saw a sharp 41% spike in total refunds, amounting to ₹19,615 crore, a notable increase from the previous year. After accounting for these refunds, the net GST revenue for March stood at over ₹1.76 lakh crore, marking a 7.3% rise compared to the same period in 2024. This net figure, while lower than the gross collection, still underscores a positive trend in tax compliance and economic momentum.

The uptick in domestic revenue highlights resilient consumer spending and business activity, while the higher growth in import-related GST points to India's deepening global trade ties. The refund surge, though, suggests increased claims or administrative adjustments, potentially tied to exporters or input tax credits, which tempered the net revenue gain.

March's performance caps a fiscal year where GST has remained a critical revenue stream for the government, balancing economic recovery with fiscal needs. The 9.9% gross growth outpaces the 7.3% net increase, reflecting the impact of refunds on the final tally. Analysts may view the import revenue



spike as a sign of robust demand for foreign goods, while domestic gains indicate steady internal market strength

As of April 1, 2025, these figures offer a snapshot of India's tax landscape, with GST continuing to evolve as a barometer of economic health. The government will likely leverage this growth to fund infrastructure and welfare, though the refund jump could prompt scrutiny of compliance mechanisms. Overall, March 2025's GST haul reinforces optimism about India's fiscal trajectory, even as it navigates refund-related challenges.

UPI value hits record Rs 24.77 trillion in March, marks new high in FY25

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions soared to unprecedented levels in March 2025, reaching ₹24.77 trillion in value and 19.78 billion in volume, according to National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) data released on April 1, 2025. This reflects a 13% jump in value and a 14% surge in volume from February, fueled by a year-end transaction boom. It's the first time since UPI's launch in April 2016 that value has breached ₹24 trillion and volume has topped 19 billion. For FY25, UPI recorded a 30% increase in value to ₹260.56 trillion from ₹199.96 trillion in FY24, while volume grew 42% to 131.14 billion transactions from 92.48 billion. March's performance stands out after February's dip, when volume fell 5% to 16.11 billion from January's 16.99 billion, and value dropped 6.5% to ₹21.48 trillion from ₹23.48 trillion. Compared to March 2024, this year's figures show a 36% rise in volume and a 25% uptick in value, with daily transactions

climbing to 590 million from February's 575 million. The surge underscores UPI's dominance in India's digital payment ecosystem, driven by its convenience and widespread adoption. March's spike likely ties to seasonal financial closings, boosting both person-to-person and merchant transactions. The FY25 growth highlights UPI's role in India's cashless economy push, with volumes nearly doubling every two years. Meanwhile, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) also saw gains in March, with volume rising 14% to 462 million

from February's 405 million, and value increasing 19% to ₹6.68 trillion from ₹5.63 trillion. January recorded 444 million transactions worth ₹6.06 trillion. IMPS's uptick complements UPI's dominance, catering to users favoring bank-to-bank transfers. As of April 1, 2025, these milestones reflect India's accelerating shift to digital finance, with UPI setting new benchmarks monthly. The robust March figures signal sustained momentum, positioning UPI as a global model for real-time payments while IMPS holds steady as a reliable alternative.



Capital expenditure not cut, rises to Rs 11.21 trn for FY26: Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clarified on April 1, 2025, that the Centre has not reduced capital expenditure, countering speculation during a Rajya Sabha Question Hour session. She announced that the capital outlay for the 2025-26 fiscal year has increased to ₹11.21 lakh crore, up from ₹11.11 lakh crore in 2024-25. "The capital expenditure has not been cut at all; it has gone up to ₹11.21 lakh crore," Sitharaman emphasized, dispelling concerns of a rollback in infrastructure spending.

Addressing lawmakers, she highlighted a proportional rise in interest-free, 50-year loans provided to states under a special assistance scheme for capital expenditure. This increase aligns with the enhanced central allocation, ensuring states have greater resources for development projects. "Cutting down capital expenditure is not the case with us," she asserted, reinforcing the government's commitment to boosting economic growth through sustained investment.

The modest hike from ₹11.11 lakh crore to ₹11.21 lakh crore reflects a strategic focus on infrastructure, a key driver of

India's post-pandemic recovery. Sitharaman's statement comes amid scrutiny over fiscal priorities, with opposition members questioning whether welfare spending might overshadow capital outlays. Her response underscores a balanced approach, maintaining capex momentum while supporting states with long-term financing.

The special assistance scheme, offering 50-year interest-free loans, has been a cornerstone of Centre-state collaboration, enabling states to fund roads, bridges, and other assets without immediate fiscal strain. The proportional increase in these loans for 2025-26 signals continued trust in this model to spur regional development alongside national projects.

As of April 1, 2025, Sitharaman's remarks in the Rajya Sabha affirm the government's growth-oriented fiscal stance. The ₹10,000 crore uptick, though incremental, sustains the capex push initiated in recent budgets, aiming to crowd in private investment and bolster economic resilience. With states also empowered through enhanced loans, the Centre aims to maintain a robust infrastructure pipeline, countering any narrative of austerity in a year poised for economic consolidation.



Sensex and Nifty Plunge on First Day of FY 2025-26 Amid US Tariff Uncertainty

India's domestic stock market faced intense selling pressure on April 1, 2025, the opening day of the 2025-26 financial year, as the BSE Sensex plummeted 1.8% and the Nifty 50 dropped 1.5%. The sharp decline was fueled by global uncertainty surrounding US President Donald Trump's reciprocal tariff announcement slated for April 2, casting a shadow over investor sentiment. The Sensex, comprising 30 blue-chip

stocks, shed 1,390.41 points to close at 76,024.51, while the broader Nifty 50 lost 353.65 points, settling at 23,165.7. The sell-off erased gains from recent sessions, reflecting jittery markets bracing for potential disruptions in global trade dynamics. Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Investments Limited, attributed the downturn to "heightened global volatility" ahead of Trump's tariff reveal. "The domestic market wit-

nessed a significant sell-off today as investors await specifics of these tariffs while monitoring negotiations for a potential Indo-US trade agreement," Nair noted. Trump's proposed tariffs, billed as a counter to nations like India with high duties on US goods, have sparked fears of retaliatory trade barriers, unsettling equity markets worldwide. The timing amplifies anxiety, with India's market already navigating domestic economic cues at FY26's start. Investors are torn between the tariff threat and hopes of an Indo-US deal to mitigate fallout. The uncertainty prompted broad-based selling, with sectors sensitive to trade—such as IT, auto, and manufacturing—bearing the brunt. As of April 1, 2025, the crash underscores the market's vulnerability to external shocks, particularly from US policy shifts. Trump's April 2 announcement, dubbed a "game-changer" by the White House, could reshape export-import equations, especially if India's 100% agricultural tariffs face reprisals. With no clarity yet on the tariff scope, the Sensex and Nifty's steep fall reflects a flight to safety, setting a cautious tone for the fiscal year. Investors now await tomorrow's details, hoping for clarity to steady nerves in an increasingly volatile global landscape.



Copenhagen's Alchemist: Fine Dining or Shock Art?"

Alchemist, an avant-garde restaurant in Copenhagen, has gained global attention for its extravagant 50-course menu curated by chef Rasmus Munk. The dining experience lasts around five hours and costs approximately Rs 60,000 (\$700), offering guests an unusual mix of flavors and thought-provoking presentations. The menu features dishes such as edible butterflies, raw jellyfish, lamb brain mousse served in a bowl resembling a cut-open human head, and even smashed chicken heads. Guests are encouraged to approach the meal with an open mind, as Alchemist warns that its unconventional offerings may

not be suitable for first dates or business meetings. Beyond its experimental cuisine, Alchemist integrates social and environmental commentary into its dishes. Some items aim to highlight critical global issues—such as chicken feet served in a cage to draw attention to factory farming, fish wrapped in edible plastic to symbolize ocean pollution, and a dessert made from frozen pig and lamb's blood to provoke discussions on food ethics. While the restaurant's mission is to use food as a platform for awareness, it has also sparked controversy. Many social media users have pointed out the irony of promoting ani-

mal welfare while serving dishes featuring live creatures. Some have questioned whether the experience is about fine dining or simply shock value. Despite the criticism, Alchemist continues to push culinary boundaries, merging gastronomy with storytelling and social activism. For some, it is an extraordinary culinary journey; for others, it raises ethical concerns about where to draw the line between food and performance art. Whether seen as a groundbreaking concept or an over-the-top spectacle, Alchemist remains one of the most talked-about dining experiences in the world.



Sam Altman Praises viral Ghibli Craze:

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman is delighted by the viral trend of people using ChatGPT to create Studio Ghibli-style images. He expressed happiness over social media, particularly X, being filled with positivity. A user, Sohail Ahmed, tweeted, "After a long time, I see positivity on X because of people sharing cute images of their family and loved ones. Thanks, Sam." Altman responded, "This is generally a quite negative platform, so I am happy we were able to bring some joy temporarily." The trend began after OpenAI's

latest update, GPT-4o, was released last week. This version significantly improves text rendering and follows detailed prompts, including the ability to generate stunning Ghibli-inspired images. The AI-generated artworks flooded platforms like X and Instagram, delighting users worldwide. However, not everyone was impressed. Tesla CEO Elon Musk took a jab at OpenAI, suggesting the company was wasting resources on trivial features instead of focusing on more important AI advancements. This adds to

the ongoing rivalry between Musk and Altman. Earlier this year, Musk and a group of investors attempted to purchase OpenAI. Musk claimed the bid aimed to prevent OpenAI from becoming a for-profit entity. However, Altman rejected the offer, stating that OpenAI was "not for sale." He also accused Musk, who owns AI startup xAI, of trying to hinder OpenAI's progress. Despite the criticism, the Ghibli AI art trend continues to spread, bringing a rare wave of positivity to social media.

Pune Techie's Rise to ₹2.3 Crore

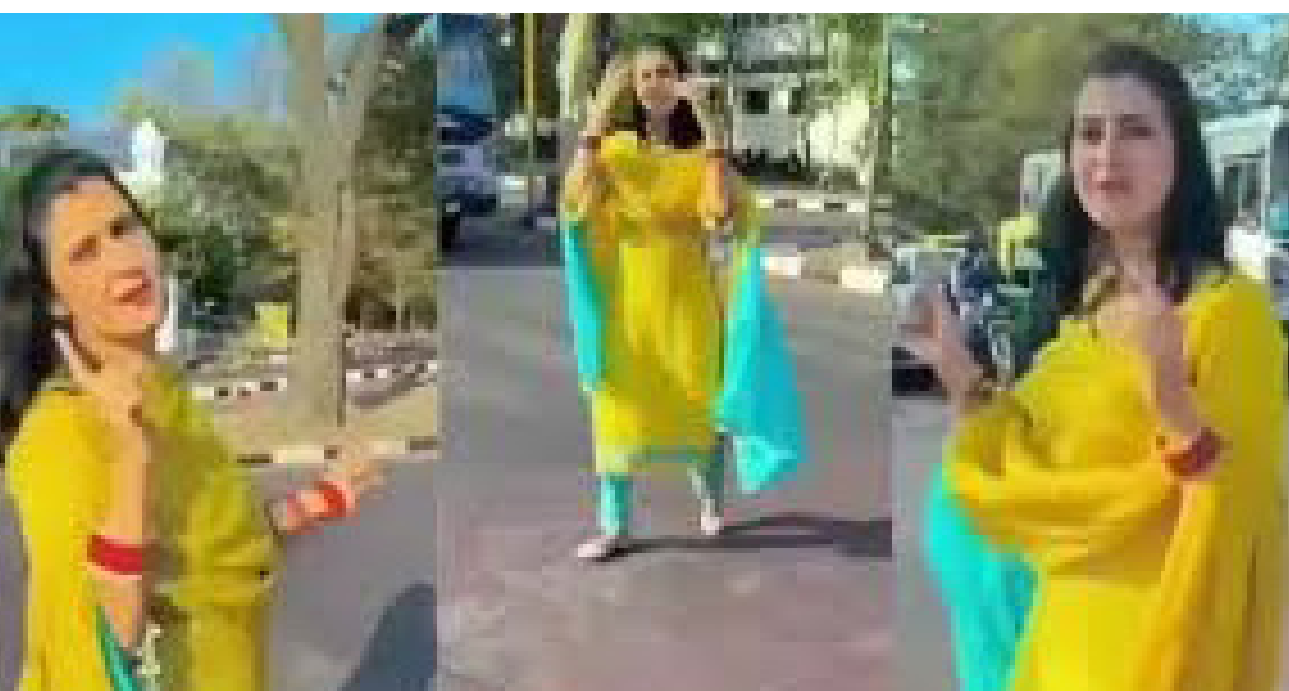
A Pune-based tech professional has shared his inspiring journey of growing his salary from ₹4.7 LPA to an astonishing ₹2.3 crore per year in just eight years. Despite graduating from a tier-3 college with a non-computer science degree, his passion for web development led him to freelance on over 100 projects using HTML, CSS, JavaS-

cript, PHP, and Node.js. This hands-on experience helped him land his first job at ₹4.7 LPA. Realizing the importance of data structures and algorithms (DSA), he invested time in mastering them, which, combined with strategic job switches, propelled him towards FAANG companies. Moving from a service-based startup to a product-based one tripled

his salary, preparing him for the next leap. After two and a half years of rigorous DSA practice, he secured a FAANG job, doubling his pay to ₹26 LPA. As he gained expertise in large-scale infrastructure and distributed systems, he moved up to an SDE II position. A well-timed switch to another FAANG company increased his salary to ₹45 LPA. His growth didn't stop there—continuous learning and persistence earned him a role equivalent to SDE III, bringing his package to ₹1.3 crore annually. Eventually, after four years in FAANG, he transitioned to a Staff Engineer role at a prestigious global company, hitting ₹2 crore per year. His story sparked debates online, with some praising his skills and strategic moves while others argued about the role of luck. While some found his rapid financial growth motivating, others questioned whether such opportunities exist outside major tech hubs like Bengaluru and Hyderabad. Regardless of opinions, his journey highlights how upskilling, persistence, and calculated career moves can lead to extraordinary financial success.



Chandigarh Cop Suspended Over Wife's Dance



A Chandigarh police constable, Ajay Kundu, was suspended after a viral video of his wife, Jyoti Kundu, dancing on a zebra crossing caused a major traffic jam. The Instagram reel, filmed by Jyoti's sister-in-law, Pooja, was posted on March 22 and quickly gained traction online. The video showed Jyoti dancing to a popular Haryanvi song in the middle of a busy road, disrupting traffic flow and endangering both pedestrians and motorists. As the video spread, it caught the attention of local authorities, who launched an investigation. Reports indicate that vehicles were brought to a complete standstill as Jyoti and Pooja focused on filming, paying no heed to the chaos unfolding around them. An informant alerted the police after watching the viral clip, claiming that the women's actions posed a significant safety hazard. The police, led by ASI Baljit Singh, reviewed

CCTV footage from key locations, including Gurdwara Chowk and the Police Control Room. The footage confirmed the claims, showing Jyoti in a yellow suit dancing in the middle of the road while Pooja recorded her performance. Following the investigation, an FIR was registered under Sections 125, 292, and 3(5) of BNS for obstructing traffic and endangering public safety. The incident has sparked discussions online, with some criticizing the women for their reckless behavior, while others argue that the punishment was too harsh. Many social media users pointed out that such stunts for viral fame should not come at the cost of public safety. As for Ajay Kundu, his suspension has raised questions about accountability, with authorities reinforcing the need for responsible social media behavior, especially when it disrupts public order.

April Fool's Day: Origins & Pranks

April Fool's Day, celebrated every year on April 1, is a day of jokes, pranks, and playful deception. But where did this tradition originate? While its exact beginnings remain uncertain, many historians trace it back to 1582 when France adopted the Gregorian calendar, replacing the Julian calendar. This shift, ordered by Pope Gregory XIII and the Council of Trent, moved the New Year to January 1. However, not everyone was aware of the change, and those who continued celebrating the New Year in late March or on April 1 were mocked as "fools." Over time, this ridicule turned into an annual tradition of playing harmless pranks, leading to the establishment of "All Fools' Day." Some theories also suggest that April Fool's Day may have roots in ancient festivals celebrating the arrival of spring, a time of joy, renewal, and playful mischief.



Throughout history, many famous hoaxes have been pulled off on April 1. One of the most legendary occurred in 1957 when the BBC aired a report about Swiss farmers harvesting spaghetti from trees. Viewers believed it, unaware that pasta doesn't grow on trees! Another notable prank was Google's infamous joke launches, such as announcing "Google Nose," a service claiming to

let users search by smell. Across cultures, the spirit of April Fool's Day remains the same: spreading laughter through harmless tricks. Whether it's elaborate media hoaxes or simple practical jokes among friends, the day continues to bring joy worldwide. Egypt's rich and complex past, offering new insights into burial practices and political dynamics during the New Kingdom period.

Punjab Kings Secure Dominant 8-Wicket Win Over LSG



Punjab Kings (PBKS) defeated Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) by eight wickets+ in an IPL match on Tuesday. Chasing a target of 172, PBKS reached 177/2 in 16.2 overs, powered by Prahsimran Singh's explosive 69 off 34 balls and captain Shreyas Iyer's unbeaten 52 off 30 balls. Nehal Wadhwa also contributed with 43 not out off 25 balls. Earlier, LSG posted 171/7 in 20 overs, with Nicholas Pooran top-scoring with 44 off 30 balls. Ayush Badoni (41), Aiden Markram (28), and Abdul Sa-

mad (27) also made key contributions. Arshdeep Singh (3/43) was PBKS' standout bowler. PBKS comfortably chased down the target, with Digvesh Rathi (2/30) picking both wickets for LSG. The win strengthens PBKS' position in the tournament.

Vandana Katariya Retires from International Hockey After 15-Year Career



Indian women's hockey legend Vandana Katariya announced her retirement from international hockey, ending a stellar 15-year career. The 32-year-old forward, India's most-capped female player, played 320 matches and scored 158 goals. A key figure in India's historic fourth-place finish at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, Katariya was the first Indian woman to score an Olympic hat-trick. She also won multiple medals, including gold at the

2016 and 2023 Asian Champions Trophy. "This isn't a goodbye from hockey," she said, confirming she will continue playing in the Hockey India League. Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey hailed her as "the heartbeat of India's attack." Honored with the Padma Shri and Arjuna Award, Katariya leaves behind an inspiring legacy for future generations of Indian hockey.

Wasim Jaffer Expresses Concern Over India's Test Team Ahead of England Tour



land. He highlighted concerns over the form of senior batters like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, as well as the potential absence of key pacers like Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammad Shami. Jaffer also stressed that India's batters will face challenges with the Dukes ball in England. He urged the team to improve and secure their first series win in England since 2007. The five-Test series begins on June 20 in Leeds, marking the start of the ICC World Test Championship 2025-27 cycle.

Wasim Jaffer, former Indian cricketer, expressed concerns over the current form of the Indian Test team ahead of their England tour. Speaking to Bo-

ria Majumdar on Revsportz, Jaffer admitted he was "a little worried" following India's poor performance in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy and their loss to New Zea-

Indian Arrows Women Juniors Set for IWL 2 Challenge



Indian Arrows Women Juniors, with an average age of just 15, are geared up for the 2024-25 Indian Women's League 2 under Swedish head coach Joakim Alexandersson. The team, preparing for the SAFF U17 Women's Championship (September 2025) and AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup 2026

Qualifiers, will gain valuable exposure playing against senior teams. Their campaign begins on April 2 against Pudhuvai Unicorns in Bengaluru. Placed in Group B, they will also face Inter Kashi (April 4), Roots FC (April 7), and Casa Barwani SC (April 9). The top two teams will advance to

the final round in Goa. AIFF officials hailed this initiative as crucial for player development. "It strengthens their tactical understanding and resilience," said AIFF Secretary General Anilkumar P. All matches will be streamed live on the Indian Football YouTube Channel.

Yuva Mumbai, Sonipat Spartans Set for Crucial Eliminator Showdowns



The Yuva All-Stars Championship playoffs are set to feature two thrilling eliminator matches on April 2. Yuva Mumbai, after a 48-26 victory over Junior Steelers, will face Yuva Yoddhas in Eliminator 1 at 4:00 pm. Yuva Yoddhas, having secured their spot after the head-to-head round, will look to advance to the semi-finals.

In the second eliminator, Sonipat Spartans, who triumphed over Palani Tuskers 44-33, will face Warriorz KC, who won 51-34 against Chandigarh Chargers, at 5:30 pm. Both teams aim to earn a spot in the semi-finals. The winners of these matches will meet in the semi-final on Thursday, leading up to the grand finale on Friday.

Thangaraja, Talwar Share Lead at Adani Invitational Golf Championship 2025



Sri Lanka's N Thangaraja and local golfer Saptak Talwar shot five-under 67 to share the lead in round one of the Rs 1.5 crore Adani Invitational Golf Championship 2025 at Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida. Thangaraja, a recent PGTI winner, played a bogey-free round, sinking five birdies with impressive approach shots. "My hitting form has been great, and I'll take an error-free round any day,"

he said. Talwar, adjusting to his home course, recovered from a slow start with an eagle and four birdies in six holes. Om Prakash Chouhan, Arjun Prasad, Sunhit Bishnoi, and Md Somrat Sikdar followed closely at four-under 68. Yuvraj Sandhu and Shaurya Bhattacharya were tied 10th at 70. The tournament continues with high competition expected in the coming rounds.



Ram Charan's upcoming movie Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, has already created a buzz with its high expectations. Recently, the audio rights for the film were sold for an eye-popping ₹35 crore, a deal secured by T-Series. The film's music is composed by Oscar-winning music director A.R. Rahman, making this collaboration between Rahman and Charan

particularly special. Peddi has garnered attention due to its stellar combination of Charan and Rahman, marking their first project together. The movie's first look and title were unveiled on March 27, coinciding with Charan's birthday, and the team has announced that they will release a glimpse of the film on April 6, during the auspicious occasion of Sri Rama Navami.

The film also stars Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor as the lead heroine, alongside prominent actors like Shivraj Kumar, Divyendu, and Jagapathi Babu in crucial roles. The movie is being jointly produced by Maitri Movie Makers, Viridi Cinemas, and Sukumar Writings. Fans are eagerly awaiting the release of Peddi, and the film is expected to be a major hit.

Sobhita Bags a Big Offer in Director



Tollywood actress Sobhita Dhulipala, who has primarily worked in Bollywood, is now set to make a strong comeback in Telugu cinema. After taking a short break following her marriage to Naga Chaitanya in December last year, she is gearing up to take on new projects. According to reports, Sobhita has been offered a major role in a film directed by sensational filmmaker Pa. Ranjith. Known for his unique storytelling and strong character-driven narratives, Ranjith's films always stand out. His latest project, Vettuvam, features actors like Dinesh, Arya, Ashok Selvan, and Fahadh Faasil in key roles. If Sobhita officially joins the film, it could be a game-changer for her career, as Ranjith is known for casting actors who perfectly fit his characters. This opportunity could help her showcase her talent and achieve the stardom she has been waiting for. An official announcement is awaited.

Mega157: Cast, Crew, and Special Video

The shooting of Megastar Chiranjeevi's much-anticipated film, Mega157, has officially begun. Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the movie is currently in production, with Mega157 serving as its working title. To build excitement, the makers recently released a special video, offering fans a behind-the-scenes look at the film's key crew members. The video captures Megastar Chiranjeevi interacting with the essential team members, introducing their roles while referencing characters from his previous films. This unique approach has resonated with fans, making the video go viral on YouTube. The filmmakers have set an ambitious timeline, aiming for a grand release during Sankranti 2026. With



Chiranjeevi declaring, "Let's make this Sankranti unforgettable," the production team is working at full speed to meet the deadline. The

buzz surrounding Mega157 continues to grow, with fans eagerly awaiting more updates from the film's unit.

L2Empuraan Creates Box Office History



Mohanlal's L2Empuraan has made waves at the box office, breaking records and earning massive collections despite

controversies surrounding its release. Directed by Prithviraj Sukumaran, the Malayalam film has crossed the ₹200 crore mark

in just four days, becoming the first Malayalam film to achieve this feat. Released on March 27, the movie has been raking in impressive numbers since its opening day, much to the delight of the production team. Despite facing criticism over the portrayal of certain communities, the film's box office performance continues to soar. L2Empuraan has surpassed the previous ₹200 crore record held by Manjumaal Boys, setting a new benchmark for Malayalam cinema. The film's team remains optimistic about further growth in its collections, with expectations high for continued success. The film's unprecedented achievements in such a short span have made it a significant milestone in the industry.

Vijay's 'Jana Nayagan' OTT Rights Sold for ₹121 Crore

Upcoming movie Jana Nayagan, which also stars Pooja Hegde and Mamitha Baiju in key roles, is generating significant excitement. This film is planned as Vijay's final project, with the shoot currently progressing at a rapid pace. The team, led by director H. Vinoth, is working tirelessly to complete the movie, especially considering Vijay's involvement in politics. In major news, Jana Nayagan has reportedly secured a massive deal for its OTT rights. Amazon Prime Video has acquired the pan-India streaming

rights for the film for a whopping ₹121 crore, making it one of the biggest OTT deals in Vijay's career, second only to his Leo film. The movie is set to feature music by Anirudh, while the production is handled

by KVN Productions. Fans can expect a grand release of Jana Nayagan on January 9 next year. This marks another milestone for Vijay, further fueling anticipation for the film's release.



Salman's 'Sikandar' Makes Moderate Earnings Despite Eid Release

Bollywood's action star Salman Khan's much-anticipated film Sikandar, directed by AR Murugadoss and starring Rashmika Mandanna and Kajal Aggarwal, hit the screens as an Eid release. However, despite the festival release, the movie received unexpected negative reviews, and it struggled to gain significant attention in Bollywood on its opening day. The film managed to earn over ₹30 crores in net collections across India on its

opening day. However, the earnings on Day 2 were comparatively modest, with reports indicating ₹33.36 crores in collections. While the Eid holiday provided a slight boost to the film's box office performance, the overall jump in earnings was not as high as anticipated. The real test will be in the coming weekdays when the movie faces a more regular competition. It remains to be seen how Sikandar performs in the long run during the working days.

