



BUZZ POINTS



ELON MUSK
CANCELS NETFLIX
SUBSCRIPTION

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has cancelled his Netflix subscription, joining growing backlash against British director Hamish Steele, the creator of Netflix's animated series Dead End: Paranormal Park, after Steele allegedly mocked the recent killing of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

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"I LOVE TARIFFS":
TRUMP DEFENDS HIS
TRADE POLICY, SAYS
IT'S "MAKING US
RICH"

U.S. President Donald Trump has once again defended his aggressive trade policy, calling tariffs his "favourite word" and crediting them with making America "rich again." Speaking at the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Trump said his administration's tariff strategy has helped the U.S. regain control over its trade relationships after decades of exploitation by other nations.

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DON'T TOLERATE
ANY OBSTACLES
FOR LAND

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has made it clear that the government will not tolerate any disruptions in the land acquisition process for the proposed Google Data Center at Tarluwada in Anandapuram mandal of Vizianagaram district. He directed officials to take stringent action against those attempting to create obstacles, stressing that the project is of national and international significance and must proceed without delay.

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TILL MY LAST BREATH, WILL WORK FOR POOR: CM



TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 01: He noted that 13 out of every 100 citizens in the state receive pensions and emphasized that 59 percent of the beneficiaries are women. According to him, no other government in the country provides pensions at this level. "In Uttar Pradesh, the largest state in India, only Rs. 500 is given, but in our state, we have increased it to Rs. 4,000 by thinking with humanity," he

said, drawing loud cheers from the villagers. Chandrababu underlined that the TDP-led coalition government's "Super Six" promises have turned into a "super hit" by their successful implementation.

He recalled the Deepam scheme that was originally launched to reduce women's hardships in cooking by providing LPG connections. Now, under "Deepam-2," three free gas cylinders are being supplied to families every year. Further, to enhance women's mobility and independence, the "Sthree Shakti" scheme was introduced on August 15, allowing free travel for women on APSRTC buses across the state.

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WAKE UP ON ALMATTI: JAGAN ALERT TO CM

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Wednesday accused Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu of "completely neglecting the state's interests" as Karnataka advances with its controversial plan to raise the height of the Almatti Dam.



TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 01: Reddy highlighted that the Karnataka Cabinet recently approved increasing the dam's height from 519 metres to 524.2 metres, a move that will almost double its storage capacity from 130 TMC to

280 TMC. He noted that the Karnataka government had allocated Rs. 70,000 crore for the project in its September 16 budget.

"This is a grave threat to Andhra Pradesh's irrigation and drinking water needs, but the Chief Minister has failed to act," Reddy said in a

statement issued by his party. Warning that entire regions could face desertification, he questioned, "If Naidu cannot safeguard the rights of the state, then why should he hold the post of Chief Minister at all?"

Recalling Naidu's tenure between 1995 and 2004, Reddy alleged that despite repeatedly boasting of having influence at the Centre, Naidu had allowed Karnataka to expand Almatti by completing spillway and gate works, even though the Supreme Court had capped its height at 519 metres. "Your failures in the past have already caused immense damage, and history is repeating itself today," he charged.

The YSRCP leader further alleged that Andhra Pradesh has been bearing the brunt of Almatti's expansion for more than 25 years, especially during drought years,

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GST REDUCTION BOOSTED REVENUE



The introduction of the revised Goods and Services Tax (GST 2.0) slabs has defied initial concerns that both central and state governments would face a revenue dip. Contrary to expectations, the reduction in tax rates on essential commodities, along with several other products, has driven up sales, thereby boosting tax collections across the country in the second half of September.

TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 01: According to official data, India's GST revenues for September 2025 stood at ₹1.89 lakh crore, registering a 9.1 percent increase compared to ₹1.73 lakh crore in September 2024. This rise also marked a 1.5 percent improvement over August 2025, when collections reached ₹1.86 lakh crore. These numbers indicate a positive trend, demonstrating that the new tax regime has fueled consumption rather than slowing it down.

GST 2.0 reforms, which came into effect on

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Rs.1000 Cr BENEFIT TO HEALTH SECTOR BY GST REFORMS: MINISTER

TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 01: The recent GST 2.0 reforms are set to bring substantial relief to the state's health sector, with the government estimating annual savings of nearly ₹1,000 crore. Health Minister Satyakumar announced on Wednesday that the reduction in GST on life-saving

drugs, surgical equipment, and medical purchases will significantly ease the financial burden on both the public and government institutions.

According to him, the state expects to save around ₹716 crore on medicines and surgical items directly purchased by the public, while government procurement will see an ad-

ditional saving of about ₹250 crore. These estimates are based on 2024-25 purchase records. The minister emphasized that this reduction will directly benefit patients, ensuring more affordable healthcare access.

Until September 21, most medicines were taxed at 12 percent, with nearly 99 percent of drugs falling under that

slab. With GST 2.0, the central government has reduced the rate to 5 percent. "This effectively amounts to a 7 percent cut in tax burden," Satyakumar said. He further added that taxes on 33 categories of critical drugs, including those used for cancer and rare diseases, have been completely removed, providing much-needed relief to

patients.

The state has nearly 35,000 pharmacies and around 5,000 wholesale distributors. In 2024-25, these outlets sold medicines and surgical supplies worth ₹11,250 crore. The tax burden borne by the people during this period was estimated at ₹1,350 crore. With the revised GST

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GST REDUCTION BOOSTED REVENUE

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September 22, slashed tax rates on 375 essential goods, including food items, daily-use products, automobiles, and household appliances. The immediate fall in prices has led to a surge in demand and accelerated sales across multiple sectors. Market experts have observed that consumer spending patterns shifted significantly, providing a boost to trade volumes and, in turn, tax collections. Further strengthening the revenue stream, gross national income rose by 6.8 percent last month, reaching ₹1.36 lakh crore. Import-related tax revenues also surged by 15.6 percent, totaling ₹52,492 crore. In addition, GST refunds climbed steeply by 40.1 percent, amounting to ₹28,657 crore. After accounting for refunds, the net GST collections for

September stood at ₹1.60 lakh crore, about 5 percent higher than the same month last year. Commenting on the development, Deloitte partner M.S. Mani stated that the increase in collections clearly proves that the GST 2.0 slab changes have not slowed down economic activity. “These numbers are evidence that consumer demand has held firm and even improved despite the structural changes,” he remarked. He also noted that, with the latest figures, the country’s average monthly GST collections for this financial year are approaching the ₹ 2 lakh crore mark, indicating stronger fiscal stability. A closer look at state-level data, however, reveals mixed results. Andhra Pradesh reported a 4 percent increase in GST revenues, with collections rising from

₹3,506 crore in September 2024 to ₹3,653 crore this year. In contrast, Telangana registered a decline of 5 percent, with collections slipping from ₹5,267 crore last year to ₹4,998 crore this September. Experts attribute this shortfall to localized factors such as sector-specific slowdowns and reduced consumption in key industries within the state. Economists believe that while some states may temporarily experience reduced revenues, the overall national trend points towards higher consumer confidence and wider participation in the formal economy. They emphasize that the drop in prices has not only stimulated demand but also improved compliance, as more businesses are integrating into the GST framework to capitalize on growing market

activity. The GST 2.0 reforms are being closely monitored by policymakers to assess their long-term impact on fiscal sustainability. For now, the early data suggests that the reforms have successfully balanced consumer relief with government revenue needs. With festive season demand expected to peak in the coming months, many analysts predict that collections may well surpass the ₹2 lakh crore benchmark sooner than expected. The GST 2.0 rollout has silenced critics who predicted falling revenues, instead delivering a broad-based boost to India’s tax ecosystem. While a few states like Telangana are grappling with short-term revenue dips, the larger national picture is one of rising collections, buoyant consumption, and a resilient economy.



TILL MY LAST BREATH, WILL WORK FOR POOR : CM

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“Within 45 days of its launch, over 10 crore women have utilized this facility. This is a bold, historic, and welfare-oriented decision,” he declared. The Chief Minister stressed his government’s commitment to women’s empowerment. He reminded people that DWCRAs groups, which have played a major role in uplifting women financially, were introduced during his earlier tenure, and the present government is keen to further strengthen them with more financial support. Announcing additional welfare measures, he revealed that on October 4, under the “Auto Drivers’ Seva” scheme, Rs. 15,000 will be directly deposited into the accounts of eligible auto drivers.



He said the coalition government is aware of the economic backwardness of Vizianagaram district and has taken the responsibility of transforming it into a hub of growth. Turning to agriculture, the CM said his government will provide greater support to farmers, as agriculture remains the backbone of Vizianagaram. Irrigation facilities and agri-

cultural infrastructure will be prioritized. He cited the “Annadata Sukhibhava” scheme under which Rs. 20,000 is being given to farmers to provide them with financial stability. Youth and employment opportunities also featured prominently in his address. He reminded that in just 15 months of governance, the government had conducted a mega DSC and filled

16,347 teacher posts. In total, 4,71,574 jobs have been created so far. He also announced that Andhra Pradesh is set to attract Rs. 10 lakh crore worth of investments, which will generate nearly 9 lakh additional jobs in the near future. “It is my responsibility to stand by the youth and create sustainable employment opportunities,” he affirmed. On healthcare, Chandrababu made a significant promise, announcing that the current Rs. 2.5 lakh health insurance coverage per family will be expanded to Rs. 25 lakh. He said that by 2029, every family in Andhra Pradesh will have a house, with three cents of land allotted in villages and two cents in urban areas. Despite challenges, he maintained that welfare

would not be compromised. “The state lost nearly Rs. 8,000 crore revenue due to GST changes, but we have not stepped back. We remain committed to welfare,” he said. He added that governance reforms have made services more transparent, including grievance redressal through WhatsApp and real-time monitoring of issues. In an emotional conclusion, Chandrababu declared, “Till my last breath, I will work only for the poor. My goal is to provide clean, transparent, and corruption-free governance.” He reiterated that the government aims to ensure that every household contributes an entrepreneur to society, making Andhra Pradesh both socially secure and economically strong.

Rs.1000 Cr BENEFIT TO HEALTH SECTOR BY GST REFORMS: MINISTER



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rates, this burden is expected to fall by about ₹703 crore. For cancer and rare medicines alone, worth ₹112 crore, the removal of 12 percent tax translates into direct savings of around ₹13 crore for patients. Satyakumar also noted that the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) fixed by manufacturers already includes GST, which means the tax cut will reflect directly in reduced prices for consumers. He highlighted that under the NTR Medical Services Trust, pre-authorizations worth ₹4,077 crore were issued in 2024-25. With the tax reduction, nearly ₹2,309 crore in expenses will be saved. Additionally, medicine and surgical procurements under this scheme are projected to save around ₹40 crore. The Andhra Pradesh Medical Services & Infrastructure Development Corporation (APM-

SIDC) had purchased medicines, surgical items, implants, and diagnostic kits worth ₹679 crore in 2024-25, paying ₹71 crore in GST. Under the new regime, the state will save nearly ₹40 crore of this amount. “Overall, the GST 2.0 reforms are expected to help us save an average of ₹250 crore annually in government procurement,” the minister explained. In addition to tax savings, the government has also finalized proposals worth ₹33 crore to strengthen de-addiction centers across the state. Plans include upgrading equipment, medicines, and infrastructure at 21 centers located in district and teaching hospitals, alongside enhancing technology systems, staff incentives, and public awareness programs. The Health Department has already forwarded these proposals to the Excise Depart-

ment for implementation. Satyakumar underlined that the government is committed to tackling substance abuse and providing rehabilitation through these centers. “By strengthening de-addiction facilities, we will help victims of addiction return to normal life and contribute positively to society,” he said. The dual benefits of the GST 2.0 reforms — lowering the cost of healthcare and freeing up funds for public health initiatives — are being viewed as a milestone in the state’s healthcare policy. With nearly ₹1,000 crore expected in annual savings, the reforms promise to ease the financial burden on patients while allowing the government to channel funds into improving medical infrastructure and social health programs.

WAKE UP ON ALMATTI: JAGAN ALERT TO CM

CONTINUED FROM >>>P1

depriving farmers and households of essential water. He accused Naidu of “inaction year after year,” which, he said, has caused long-term harm to the state. Reddy also took aim at the media, claiming that while Naidu is portrayed as influential in Delhi, he has failed to use the strength of his MPs to push the Centre to stop Karnataka’s expansion plan. He further argued that Andhra Pradesh’s

submissions before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II) under Naidu’s government were “weak and ineffective.” Reddy reminded that the previous YSRCP government had filed a petition before KWDT-II in October 2023 to protect Andhra Pradesh’s rights. However, he alleged that after returning to power, Naidu’s administration “mishandled the case without seriousness.”

He urged Naidu to “wake up immediately,” deploy MPs to pressurise the Centre, halt Karnataka’s Almatti Dam expansion, and present strong arguments before KWDT-II. “If you continue this betrayal of Andhra Pradesh, future generations will remember you as a chief minister who failed his own state,” Reddy said. The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has not yet issued a response to the allegations.



DON’T TOLERATE ANY OBSTACLES FOR LAND

TPN Bureau,

CM CHANDRABABU NAIDU ON GOOGLE DATA CENTER

Vijayawada, Oct 01: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has made it clear that the government will not tolerate any disruptions in the land acquisition process for the proposed Google Data Center at Tarluwada in Anandapuram mandal of Vizianagaram district. He directed officials to take stringent action against those attempting to create obstacles, stressing

that the project is of national and international significance and must proceed without delay. The CM arrived at Visakhapatnam Airport on Wednesday as part of his Vizianagaram district tour. During the visit, former minister and Bheemili MLA Ganta Srinivasa Rao met him and presented details about the ongoing land-related issues. Ganta informed the

Chief Minister that some vested interests were misleading and instigating farmers to file court cases against the acquisition. He revealed that petitions were filed even without the farmers’ knowledge, and in one shocking instance, a deceased person’s name was used in legal documents. This revelation angered the Chief Minister, who instructed the district administration

to act swiftly. Addressing District Collector Harendhira Prasad, he ordered strict action against those misusing legal systems to create unnecessary hurdles. Ganta further requested the Chief Minister to extend rehabilitation measures for the affected farmers. He appealed for the provision of employment opportunities for those who had surrendered their lands,

besides livelihood-supporting facilities such as a shopping complex. Additionally, he suggested that each displaced family should be allotted three cents of land for house construction. Responding to these appeals, Chandrababu Naidu explained the government’s stance on compensation. He noted that, in general, once compensation is announced for land acquisition, it is not revised under any circumstances. However, in this par-

ticular case, the government had considered the repeated requests of farmers and enhanced the compensation package as a special measure. This, he said, reflected the government’s commitment to balancing developmental needs with the welfare of local communities. The Chief Minister stressed the importance of completing the land acquisition process quickly. He told officials that delays in projects of this scale could affect

investor confidence and the state’s image as an attractive investment destination. The Google Data Center, he said, is a prestigious project that would generate large-scale employment opportunities, boost the local economy, and place Andhra Pradesh prominently on the global technology map. He reiterated that the government remains committed to ensuring justice for farmers while simultaneously creating an environ-

ment conducive for major international investments. He also assured that necessary support systems for displaced families would be put in place in consultation with local representatives and officials. With these directions, Chandrababu Naidu sent a clear message that the state government will neither allow vested interests to derail development projects nor compromise on the welfare of people affected by land acquisition.

Government Initiates Rehabilitation of Medigadda Barrage with EOI for Designs

Exactly two years after the sinking of piers at the Medigadda barrage, part of the prestigious Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), the Telangana government has taken its first concrete step towards rehabilitation by inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) for design proposals. This marks a significant development, as the Congress government is keen to project itself as working on a credible roadmap to restore functionality to all three barrages Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla.

The decision comes against the backdrop of detailed investigations conducted by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), which

had flagged severe structural concerns in the Medigadda barrage, particularly Block 7. According to the NDSA's findings, Block 7 posed a high safety risk due to problems with its raft foundation and damage to two of its piers. The authority recommended that the block should either be decommissioned or stabilized using appropriate engineering interventions, while ensuring that adjacent blocks remain unaffected.

A key recommendation involved filling subsurface cavities under the raft foundation by adopting soil-structure interaction techniques. This measure is intended to address the root cause of the instability, which led to the sinking

of piers in the first place. The NDSA also called for the incorporation of upstream and downstream cut-off walls, along with hydro-mechanical elements, to counter risks such as sand piping — a condition where seepage through soil can compromise the structural integrity of the barrage.

For Annaram and Sundilla, the other two barrages under the KLIP, the NDSA prescribed immediate strengthening measures. These, it stressed, must form part of a broader rehabilitation plan that not only restores the barrages to working condition but also ensures their long-term sustainability.

In its general recom-



mendations, the NDSA underlined the importance of carrying out comprehensive investigations covering geo-technical, hydrological, hydraulic, geophysical, and structural domains. Detailed soil testing, raft evaluations, and secant

pile assessments were deemed necessary before proceeding with full-scale rehabilitation. Equally critical is the recommendation for the installation of advanced monitoring systems. The NDSA advised the use of piezometers at

midstream and downstream sections, as well as other specialized sensors, to allow real-time detection of anomalies. Such systems would enable engineers to monitor variations in pressure, seepage, and structural stress, there-

by providing early warnings of potential failures. The authority also insisted that robust Operation and Maintenance (O&M) manuals be prepared and strictly adhered to. These manuals would serve as a stand-

ard framework for day-to-day functioning, regular inspections, and emergency responses, thereby reducing the likelihood of recurring failures.

The initiation of the EOI process signals the state's commitment to address one of the most controversial infrastructure setbacks in recent times. With the barrages being central to Telangana's irrigation strategy and political discourse, the rehabilitation plan is expected to gain momentum in the months to come. While the engineering challenges remain immense, the move is being seen as a step in the right direction to restore both functionality and public confidence in the Kaleshwaram project.



Congress Deliberates on Candidate Selection for Jubilee Hills Seat

The Congress party is treading carefully in finalizing its candidate for the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency, where the by-election is expected to draw intense competition. With the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) already announcing Maganti Sunitha, wife of the late MLA Maganti Gopinath, as its candidate, the Congress leadership is factoring in the potential impact of sympathy voting before making its decision.

Recognizing the sensitivity of the situation, Telangana Chief Minister and state Congress president Revanth Reddy has delegated the task of assessing probable candidates to a three-member committee of Ministers. The committee has been asked to prepare a detailed report on the most viable options for the party. Only after reviewing this report will the Congress high command take a final call on the candidate.

The party's caution stems from the understanding that the BRS candidate, being the widow of the sitting MLA, is likely to attract significant sympathy votes. To counter this, Congress is weighing profiles of potential candidates who can consolidate its traditional voter base while appealing

to newer sections of the electorate.

State PCC working president Mahesh Kumar Goud is closely involved in the exercise and has been working alongside the Chief Minister to ensure that the candidate selection process is handled strategically. Party insiders note that consultations are being held with local leaders, community representatives, and grassroots workers to identify a candidate who can pose a strong challenge to the BRS nominee.

The Jubilee Hills constituency has historically been a high-profile seat, often witnessing close contests. Given its urban demographic and diverse voter composition, both ruling and opposition parties view it as politically significant. For Congress, a victory here would not only strengthen its presence in Hyderabad but also serve as a morale booster ahead of the local body elections.

As the process unfolds, all eyes are on the Congress leadership's final decision, which is expected in the coming days. The party's ability to strike the right balance between political pragmatism and electoral appeal will likely determine its prospects in the Jubilee Hills bypoll.

New DGP Promises Modern and Citizen-Centric Policing

Shivadhar Reddy has formally taken charge as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Telangana, outlining a clear roadmap that combines traditional policing with advanced technology to ensure safety, security, and public trust across the state.

Speaking after assuming office, Reddy expressed gratitude to the Telangana government for entrusting him with the responsibility. He emphasized that the "Khaki Book" will remain the only official record of police activities and cautioned that misuse of social media platforms to malign or defame individuals would invite strict action. "The police will not tolerate attempts to disrupt peace or damage reputations online. Lawful measures will be taken against such actions," he said.

With the upcoming local body elections on the horizon, the DGP underscored that ensuring their smooth and peaceful conduct is the department's top priority. He revealed that preparations are already underway to strengthen deployment, surveillance, and coordination at every level. To bolster the state's policing capacity, he announced



that 17,000 vacancies in the police department will soon be filled, providing much-needed manpower to address growing challenges.

Highlighting the need for modernization, Reddy stressed that basic policing methods would be seamlessly integrated with modern tools. Enhanced patrol systems, advanced visual monitoring infrastructure, and improved cyber security measures will form part of the strategy to maintain law and order. He assured full support to cyber crime and legal enforcement teams, noting that technological vigilance is now as crucial as on-ground policing.

Addressing concerns about Left Wing Extremism, Reddy referred to recent developments in Maoist circles, particularly the announcement

by Maoist leader Venu Gopal about surrendering arms. He pointed out that many members have already abandoned the movement and that the threat of insurgency within Telangana remains minimal. "There is no immediate local Maoist threat. People should live without fear. We are committed to ensuring their safety while encouraging those still involved to join mainstream life," the DGP assured.

Reddy also underlined the importance of strengthening public trust through professional conduct and citizen-friendly policing. He reiterated that the police force would adopt a proactive approach to detect and prevent crime, rather than merely reacting to incidents. "Our focus will be on transparency, disci-

pline, and efficiency. The people of Telangana should feel safe and protected at all times," he said.

The new DGP's vision reflects a dual emphasis: upholding law and order during crucial political and social events, while also adapting to emerging challenges in cyberspace and technology-driven crime. By focusing on manpower expansion, professional conduct, and public engagement, Reddy aims to position the Telangana police as a modern, efficient, and approachable force.

As Telangana prepares for the next phase of political and social developments, the leadership of Shivadhar Reddy is expected to play a pivotal role in maintaining peace, security, and confidence across the state.



Speaker Continues Inquiry into Defected MLAs; Two More to be Examined Friday

The inquiry into the disqualification petitions against defected MLAs continued at the Telangana Assembly on Wednesday. Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar questioned MLAs Prakash Goud and Kale Yadaiah as part of the ongoing process to determine whether their defection warrants disqualification under the anti-defection law.

The proceedings took place in the presence of advocates representing the concerned parties. Both legislators were asked to submit their explanations regarding the allegations of defection.

By 7 p.m., the Speaker concluded the day's inquiry, after which he announced that the process would resume on Friday with two more legislators scheduled to appear.

On Friday, MLAs Gudem Mahipal Reddy and Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy will be examined. The Speaker has indicat-

ed that the inquiry will continue systematically until all concerned MLAs are heard, ensuring that due process is followed before any decision is taken.

The issue of defections has become a politically sensitive subject in the state, with rival parties closely watching the proceedings. The petitions against the defected MLAs were filed after allegations that several members crossed party lines following the Assembly elections. The inquiry is expected to set the stage for a decisive ruling from the Speaker's office in the coming weeks.

The Speaker's handling of the case will be significant, as it may influence the political equations ahead of the local body elections. For now, the inquiry process continues step by step, with each MLA being given an opportunity to present their case before a final decision is delivered.

Centre Sanctions Four New Kendriya Vidyalayas for Telangana

In a major boost to the education sector in Telangana, the Central government has sanctioned four new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), in addition to the existing 35 already functioning in the state. The new schools will be set up in Bhadradri Kothagudem, Mulugu, Jagtial Rural (Chelgal), and Vanaparathi (Nagavaram).

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy made the announcement and extended his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan for their support. He noted that this decision will significantly strengthen the educational infrastructure in Telangana, especially benefiting students from remote and backward regions.

The four new schools are expected to play a crucial role in providing high-quality educa-

tion from the primary to secondary level, ensuring that students in rural and tribal areas have access to the same standards of education as those in urban centers.

District-wise details of new KVs:

- Bhadradri Kothagudem: Identified as part of the Aspirational Districts programme, this district will greatly benefit from a Kendriya Vidyalaya, offering local students access to modern infrastructure and quality teaching.
- Mulugu: Located in a predominantly tribal belt, the new KV will ensure that tribal children have access to national-level educational standards, bridging a long-standing gap in the region.
- Jagtial (Chelgal in Jagtial Rural Mandal): This new school will provide better schooling opportunities to ru-



ral students who have been seeking improved facilities.

- Vanaparathi (Nagavaram): Students in this area will now have the opportunity to enroll in a centrally run school, ensuring access to a broader curriculum and advanced teaching methods.

The Union Minister also highlighted that the Centre has been consistently supporting Telangana's educational growth. As part of the PM SHRI Schools scheme, the government has already sanc-

tioned 832 model schools with a financial outlay of 400 crore. Additionally, a Central Tribal University in Mulugu district with an investment of 1,000 crore has been approved, further strengthening higher education access for tribal youth in the state.

Kishan Reddy emphasized that these initiatives reflect the Centre's commitment to empowering the next generation with quality education and equal opportunities. "The new Kendriya Vidyalayas will

not only benefit the students of today but also lay a strong foundation for the state's future," he said.

The expansion of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Telangana is expected to bring multiple benefits. Apart from offering quality education at affordable costs, these schools are known for their standardized curriculum, discipline, and emphasis on both academics and extra-curricular development. For families of central government employees posted in rural districts, the availability of KVs also ensures continuity of education for their children.

With the sanction of these four schools, Telangana now moves closer to bridging the urban-rural education divide, ensuring that even students in remote corners of the state can aspire to and achieve excellence through access to premier institutions.

YS Sharmila Slams Govt Over Neglect of Dalit Colonies. Warns Against Communal Politics

Vijayawada, Oct 1: Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) Chief YS Sharmila Reddy strongly criticized the state government, accusing it of ignoring basic needs in Dalit and tribal colonies while promoting temple politics. Sharmila highlighted a recent High Court observation that revealed shocking conditions in schools for Dalit children, where one bathroom is shared by 228 students. “Is it a crime to demand proper roads, drainage, schools, and infrastructure for SC and ST colonies?” she asked, questioning the priorities of the YSRC-BJP alliance government. She said that

while no one objects to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) using its own funds for temple construction, the Chief Minister’s active promotion of such projects while neglecting public welfare exposes misplaced priorities. “The CM should treat all religions equally and ensure that no community feels insecure,” she asserted. Dismissing propaganda spread by BJP and RSS, Sharmila alleged that religious fanatics were twisting her remarks to paint her as anti-Hindu. “The Congress party respects the Constitution and stands for all religions. Neither I nor our party is against Hinduism,” she

clarified, stressing that Congress ideology does not support justice for one religion and injustice for another. On the controversy regarding allegations of animal fat in Tirumala laddus, Sharmila noted that she was the first to demand a CBI probe. She further accused Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of ignoring genuine concerns, branding such evasion as “shameful.” “Whenever we speak for the people, BJP and RSS speak for religion. The people know who the religious fanatics are,” she remarked. Sharmila urged the government to respond to people’s issues with courage rather than hiding behind communal rhetoric.



Vijayawada Division of South Central Railway Organizes Swachhatsav to Promote Cleanliness and Public Awareness



Vijayawada Division, South Central Railway (SCR), conducted a series of activities on 1st October 2025 as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva - 2025 campaign under the banner of Swachhatsav to reinforce the importance of cleanliness and collective responsibility. The day began with the Swachhata Pledge administered by Shri Mohit Sonakiya, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Vijayawada Division, to railway officers, staff, Bharat Scouts & Guides, Cubs & Bulbuls, and Safai Karmacharis at the Divisional Headquarters. Shri Sonakiya emphasized that cleanliness is a habit that must be adopted by everyone and stated that Indian Railways belongs to all citizens, urging collective efforts to make it a model for hygiene, safety, and comfort. Following the pledge, a lively Prabhat Pheri march proceeded from the Divisional Headquarters to Vijayawada Station Platform No.1 Waiting Hall via Jack and Jill School Road. The marchers spread awareness on the importance of maintaining hygiene in railway premises to the passengers and local community. At Vijayawada Station’s Gandhi Waiting Hall, the Bharat Scouts &

Guides presented a compelling Nukkad Natak titled “Mera Seat – Mera Dabba (My Seat, My Coach)” that highlighted the central theme “Swachhata begins with ME & YOU!”. The street play captured attention and conveyed the message of individual responsibility towards cleanliness in trains and stations. The DRM lauded Shri M. Vamsikanth, Senior Divisional Engineer of Health and Maintenance, and his team for their dedicated planning and smooth execution of the Swachhatsav activities. Senior officials including Shri Srinivas Rao Konda (ADRM - Operations), Dr. A.V.S.K. Prasad (Chief Medical Superintendent), and other branch officers also participated. Similar awareness programs, cleanliness drives, rallies, and pledge-taking events were held at various stations and offices across the Vijayawada Division, engaging staff, passengers, and local communities in this collective effort to promote a cleaner and safer railway environment. This Swachhatsav initiative reflects SCR’s ongoing commitment to fostering hygiene, safety, and public involvement for a better railway experience.



Thunderstorm Red Alert Issued for North Andhra Districts



Amravati, Oct 1: The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) has issued a Red Alert for several North Andhra districts, warning of thunderstorms and heavy rainfall in the coming hours. According to Prakhhar Jain, Managing Director of APSDMA, light to heavy rains accompanied by thundershowers are likely to occur in parts of Srikakulam, Parvathipuram, Alluri Seetharamaraju, and Anakapalle

districts over the next three hours. An Orange Alert has also been issued for Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts, where light rains with thundershowers are expected. The authority has cautioned residents about the possibility of stormy winds that may accompany the rainfall. Officials have urged people to remain cautious and avoid taking shelter under trees during thunderstorms. Strict safety measures have been advised to prevent acci-

dents due to lightning and gusty winds. Fishermen and those engaged in outdoor activities have been particularly warned to exercise vigilance and seek safe shelter in time. The Disaster Management Authority is closely monitoring the situation and has assured that updates will be issued regularly. Citizens are advised to follow official warnings, stay indoors during severe weather, and take all necessary precautions to ensure safety.

Road Development Initiative Boosts Local Connectivity In a significant step towards improving infrastructure in Krishna district

Krishna District, Pamarru: Pamarru MLA Varla Kumar Raja has inaugurated road development work between Ayyanki and Pedasanagallu in Movva Mandal. This project marks a collaborative effort highlighting the impact of community participation in government initiatives. TDP Secretary of Krishna District, Nannapaneni Veerendra, has played a pivotal role by personally contributing Rs. 10 lakhs to fund this vital road construction.



MLA Kumar Raja expressed his heartfelt gratitude towards Veerendra’s generous contribution, emphasizing the essential role of donors in advancing public welfare. In his remarks during the event, MLA Kumar Raja acknowledged the collective spirit driving the initiative: “People are willingly participating in the constructive endeavors led by the coalition government.” He pointed out that despite genuine efforts, the government faces financial limitations that restrict road development across all localities. He further highlighted the potential benefits if Chief Minister Chandrababu

Naidu’s visionary project, Manasa Putrika P4, were to be realized, relating the current efforts as a glimpse of what can be achieved under good governance. He praised donors like Veerendra for stepping forward with a generous spirit to address communal challenges. The MLA underscored the importance of such partnerships in governance, stating, “It is commendable that donors have taken the lead to contribute meaningfully towards the betterment of the community. “This road develop-

ment project symbolizes a successful public-private partnership model, aspiring to inspire more donors and citizens to actively support infrastructure improvements and public service initiatives under the coalition government’s regime.” The project promises to enhance local connectivity, boost economic activities, and improve the quality of life for residents in Movva Mandal, setting a positive precedent for future developmental endeavors in Krishna district.

Minister Narayana Explores South Korea’s Waste-to-Energy Model for Andhra Pradesh



Amravati/Seoul: In a significant step toward building sustainable urban infrastructure, Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Narayana visited the state-of-the-art waste-to-energy plant at Pangyo, near Seoul, South Korea. The visit was aimed at studying advanced models of converting municipal solid waste into clean energy.

Minister Narayana inspected the Pangyo facility, which has gained international attention for its efficient and environmentally friendly technology. The plant generates electricity by incinerating municipal solid waste at extremely high temperatures exceeding 1000 degrees Celsius, thereby ensuring

both energy recovery and minimal environmental impact. The South Korean officials explained how the process helps achieve waste-free cities while supplying renewable power to the grid. Impressed by the innovative practices, the Minister emphasized that Andhra Pradesh is actively working to replicate similar systems. He announced that the

state government is already in the process of establishing six new waste-to-energy plants across various municipalities. These plants are expected to transform urban regions of Andhra Pradesh into sustainable, waste-free zones by reducing landfill dependency and promoting renewable energy generation. Earlier during his visit, Minister Narayana held discus-

sions with the Chairman of KUNHWA Engineering and Global Theme Park Resorts and Holdings (GTRH). GTRH, a major player in the tourism and entertainment sector, expressed interest in collaborating on projects related to smart city infrastructure, global theme park development, and sustainable technology deployment in

Andhra Pradesh. The Minister noted that such partnerships could play a crucial role in shaping Andhra Pradesh as a future-ready state, blending environmental sustainability with global standards in urban living and tourism. The visit marks an important step in integrating South Korea’s technological expertise with Andhra Pradesh’s developmental vision.

Ambedkar Statue Inaugurated in Gudivada

SC Cell Leaders Hail MLA Ramu, Criticize Kodali Nani Gudivada witnessed a historic moment as a bronze statue of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was inaugurated in the heart of the town, fulfilling a long-cherished aspiration of Ambedkar fans and Dalit communities. The event was hailed by the TDP SC Cell leaders, who expressed deep gratitude to Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu for taking the initiative to install the statue within just a year and a half of being elected.

Speaking at a press meet in the Gudivada TDP office, SC Cell leaders stated that the installation reflected the genuine respect for Ambedkar's ideals and dismissed allegations of political drama. "MLA Ramu, who does not believe in crooked politics, has made it possible to realize the decades-long desire of Ambedkar followers," they said.

The leaders came down heavily on former legislator Kodali Nani, accusing him of deceiving Dalit communities for two decades. They alleged that though Nani repeatedly promised

during election campaigns to erect the statue, he never kept his word while in power. "He only resorted to statue politics, staging foundation stone ceremonies just before elections, but took no real steps," they remarked, branding him as a leader known for "corpse politics."

They further noted that many Ambedkar supporters had faced cases and harassment while struggling for the statue in previous years. Now, with the statue standing tall, the people of Gudivada feel a sense of justice and pride. The leaders emphasized that no one should use Ambedkar's name for political gain and asserted Kodali Nani has no moral right to seek Dalit votes anymore. The inauguration event saw enthusiastic participation from people across caste and community lines. Leaders including Gudivada Market Yard Chairman Chatragadda Ravi and several TDP SC Cell leaders declared the occasion a true victory for Ambedkar's ideology and thanked MLA Ramu for honoring the great social reformer.



MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao Assures Long-Term Solutions and Financial Support for Auto Workers in Vijayawada

October 1, 2025, at the Sing Nagar Central Constituency MLA Camp Office, Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao met with auto worker union leaders and local CPI members to discuss the ongoing challenges faced by auto workers.

The leaders expressed their gratitude to MLA Bonda Uma for representing their concerns in previous state assembly sessions and urged continued government support for the community of auto workers, a significant number of whom reside in the Central constituency. MLA Bonda Uma assured the workers that he would continue to advocate for them in the assembly, particularly focusing on the formation of the Auto Workers Welfare Board and the repeal of GO No. 21.

He committed to fighting alongside the workers to secure wel-

fare benefits and positive responses regarding the registration of unregistered workers in the Vahana Mitra scheme. He emphasized that the government aims to provide long-term, sustainable solutions rather than temporary relief.

Highlighting government initiatives, Bonda Uma spoke about the Super Six scheme election promises, which include pension increases, mother-focused financial assistance through the Mother's Savandam scheme, and distribution of free gas cylinders to women. He cited the Sri Shakti scheme, which has provided free bus services to women, benefiting over 40 million women since its launch on August 15th.

However, he acknowledged that such initiatives have impacted daily earnings for auto drivers, whose income has fallen sharply from



Rs. 1,500-2,000 per day to approximately Rs. 500 due to reduced passenger demand. To alleviate this financial strain, the government has announced direct financial assistance of Rs. 15,000 to be credited to eligible auto drivers' bank accounts.

Additionally, the government is committed to reducing the existing

finances and challans on drivers, having already lowered the green tax from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 3,000. These measures are part of a broader effort to support auto drivers and other small workers in Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh Auto Drivers and Workers Federation, led by CPI NTR District Secre-

tary Donepudi Shankar, acknowledged MLA Bonda Uma's persistent efforts to raise auto labor issues in the assembly, calling for ongoing cooperation in establishing the welfare board. The union members expressed their happiness and extended their thanks to Bonda Uma for his continued support. In conclusion,

the government under Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu is pushing forward welfare schemes aimed at supporting poor, middle-class families, including auto workers, by balancing infrastructure schemes for women with fiscal aid and policy reforms to ease the economic challenges faced by auto drivers.

SP Vakul Jindal Warns Against Anti-Social Activities in Guntur



Guntur: District Superintendent of Police (SP) Vakul Jindal, who recently assumed charge, has made it clear that unlawful and anti-social activities will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Beginning his tenure with surprise inspections, the SP visited Mangalagiri urban and rural police stations on Wednesday and interacted with local police personnel.

Speaking to the media after his inspection, SP Jindal said that illegal activities such as land grabbing, unauthorized settlements, and the transportation of ganja will be dealt with strictly. He stressed that maintaining law and order in the district is the top pri-

ority and warned that those disturbing peace and security will face firm action. The SP particularly highlighted Mangalagiri's challenges, pointing out that the twin issues of illegal ganja trade and traffic management have been identified as major concerns.

He affirmed that special measures will be taken to address these problems swiftly and effectively. Emphasizing the need for public discipline, Jindal stated that individuals consuming alcohol and creating nuisance in public spaces will not be tolerated. "Such behavior causes inconvenience and poses safety risks to the public, and strict action will follow in such cases," he

said. He urged citizens to cooperate with the police by sharing information about those involved in activities disturbing peace.

The SP also revealed that a review of road accidents in the district has been conducted and discussions held with concerned authorities to strengthen road safety measures. Quick redressal of public grievances remains a core focus, he added. Looking ahead, Jindal assured that upcoming police recruitments will ensure sufficient staffing and better policing. He reiterated that the police should remain people-friendly and accessible, asserting, "Our main duty is to take immediate steps to ensure justice and protect public welfare."

Successful Mega DSC 2025 Winners Congratulation Program Held at Sun Star School

Machilipatnam: Under the auspices of the Humanity Foundation and the guidance of the Private Teachers Lecturers Association, a grand congratulation program was held for the successful candidates of Mega DSC 2025 at the local Sun Star School. The event was marked by the presence of distinguished guests, leaders, and educators who lauded the achievements of thousands of newly appointed teachers.

The program's chief guest, Gorrepati Gopichand, former Chairman of Krishna District Library and Manager of Revathi Bhanu Memorial Charitable Trust, addressed the gathering. He urged the new teachers to work with discipline and dedication for the overall development of the country. Gopichand also praised Nara Chandrababu Naidu, highlighting his record as the Chief Minister who made the highest number of teacher appointments through DSC and encouraged the teachers to uphold the vision of Minister Nara Lokesh regarding human resource development.

Several prominent



leaders and dignitaries took part in the event, including State BC leaders Konakalla Jagannadha Rao (Bullaiah) and Bandarupura Pramukulu B. Dhanvantari Acharya, who emphasized the importance of imparting both education and wisdom to students. District Retired Additional SP Sayana Sushila Rao, handwriting experts, senior journalists, and leaders from cultural and social organizations also offered their congratulations and advice.

Bandarupura Pramukulu B. Dhanvantari Acharya called for teachers to cultivate discipline, continuous learning, and a deep understanding of their subjects. Senior journalist Mudigonda Shastri spoke of the joy of the DSC notification after a long break and urged new teachers to provide education grounded in moral values, while State BC leader Konakalla Jag-

annadha Rao highlighted the need to instill patriotism, humanity, and a spirit of service in students.

Humanity Foundation President Noor Jahan thanked all the organizers and expressed pride in honoring the talented new educators. The newly appointed teachers shared their heartfelt gratitude towards their mentors, families, and the organizing bodies. They accepted the recognition as a responsibility to serve society and inspire generations through education. The Mega DSC 2025 scheme successfully appointed over 16,000 teachers, marking a historic milestone in Andhra Pradesh's education system, fulfilling promises for transparent and timely recruitment. The event celebrated this achievement and inspired new teachers to commit to their vital role in shaping the future.

Women's Commission Chairperson Visits Assault Survivor in Vijayawada

Vijayawada, Oct 1: In a compassionate gesture, State Women's Commission Chairperson Mrs. Rayapati Sailaja visited a young girl undergoing treatment at the Vijayawada Old Government Hospital after being sexually assaulted by her uncle. The incident has sent shock waves through the urban district, drawing immediate response from women's rights authorities. During her visit, Mrs. Sailaja interacted with the survivor, inquiring about her condition and assuring her of com-

plete support from the Commission.

She directed hospital authorities to ensure that the girl receives proper and timely medical treatment without any delay. Addressing law enforcement agencies, she advised the police personnel to expedite the investigation and take swift action so that justice is served at the earliest. The Women's Commission Chairperson also engaged with the child's family, speaking with her aunt and grandmother to understand the situation closely. She emphasized the importance of

counseling for the survivor to help her overcome the trauma of the incident. The District Women and Child Welfare Department authorities were instructed to make necessary arrangements for psychological support. Furthermore, Mrs. Sailaja stated that after the girl is discharged from the hospital, her future living arrangements should be handled with utmost care and sensitivity.

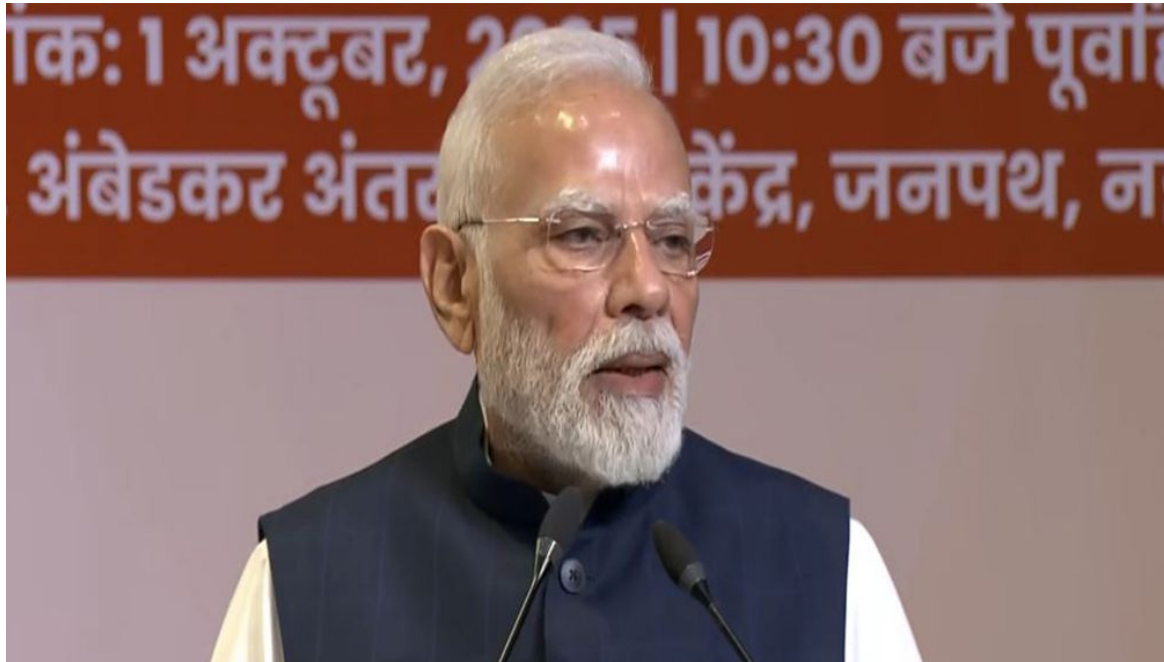
Respecting the child's opinion, she suggested that she be placed in a suitable home where she feels secure and

supported. District Women and Child Welfare Department Officer Sheikh Ruksana Sultana Begum, Nodal Officer Sai Geetha, DCPO Yam Rajeswara Rao, along with staff members from the One Stop Center (OSC) and District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), were present during the visit. The Chairperson reiterated that crimes against women and children will be dealt with firmly, assuring the public that the Commission is committed to providing assistance and ensuring justice in such cases.





This is not idealism—it's strategy. India must either help reimagine global development on equitable terms or risk irrelevance in a new world order where China writes the rules.



‘Helped Nurture Countless Lives’: PM Modi Hails RSS on 100th Anniversary

Calls It Pillar of Nation-Building

TPN Bureau | New

Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday lauded the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) for its century-long contribution to nation-building during a grand centenary celebration held in the national capital.

Describing the RSS as a movement that has nurtured countless lives, PM Modi said, “Just as civilisations flourish along rivers, hundreds of lives have blossomed

along the flow of the RSS. Since its formation, the Sangh has had one grand objective — nation-building.”

Founded on Vijayadashami in 1925 by Dr. K.B. Hedgewar, the RSS marks 100 years of its existence in 2025. PM Modi emphasised the symbolic importance of the organisation being founded on a day that celebrates the victory of good over evil, noting that this was “no coincidence.”

Paying tribute to Hedgewar, he said, “I offer my humble respects at the feet of the founder of the Sangh. It is the

good fortune of our generation of volunteers to witness this historic centenary.”

As part of the celebrations, PM Modi released a commemorative 100 coin and a special postage stamp. He said, “This is the first time in independent India that Bharat Mata has appeared on our currency. The image shows her seated on a lion, blessing swayamsevaks in ‘varad mudra’.”

The commemorative postal stamp features the 1963 Republic Day Parade, in which RSS swayamsevaks proudly par-

ticipated — a moment of historic importance, the PM noted.

Modi also praised the harmony within RSS’s vast network of affiliated organisations, stating, “No two units are ever in conflict. The guiding principle is always ‘Nation First’.”

Founded in Nagpur, the RSS was created as a cultural and volunteer-driven organisation aimed at instilling discipline, service, and national pride. The centenary celebration is being viewed as a major milestone in India’s socio-political history.

TVK announces ‘temporarily’ postponing party chief Vijay’s rallies

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Actor-politician Vijay’s party, Thanthai Vazhakkal Katchi (TVK), on Wednesday suspended his state-wide public tour for two weeks after a stampede at a rally in Karur left 41 people dead, many of them women and children, and sparked widespread outrage.

The party announced the temporary halt on its official X account, saying public meetings would be postponed “in this situation where we are in pain

and sorrow over the loss of our loved ones.” New dates will be announced later.

The tragedy occurred on Sunday when an estimated crowd of nearly 30,000 converged on a venue with an official capacity of about 10,000. Police said violations of security guidelines, lack of adequate food and drinking water, and a long delay in Vijay’s arrival — people began gathering around noon while he arrived only at 7pm — contributed to the crush.

Vijay has faced heavy criticism for not immediately visit-

ing Karur, though he released an emotional video saying he would meet victims’ families soon and announcing relief of 20 lakh for each bereaved family. “I’ve never faced such a painful situation,” he said, adding that he avoided visiting immediately to prevent further unrest.

TVK leaders rejected claims of negligence and alleged a conspiracy by local rivals in the ruling DMK, an accusation the government dismissed. Key TVK figures, including party number two and Vijay aide N. Anand, have been booked on charges including culpable homicide not amounting to murder, endangering human life, and disobedience to public servants. Karur West district secretary Mathiyazhagan and South City treasurer Pounraj were arrested and are being questioned.

Authorities said police will scrutinise event venues more closely ahead of future gatherings. The suspension aims to allow time for investigations, condolence measures, and restorations of public confidence before TVK resumes its mass mobilisation.



India’s 5th-Gen Stealth Fighter Closer To Reality, 7 Firms Make Prototype Bid

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Seven Indian companies have submitted bids to partner with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to design and develop prototypes of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), India’s ambitious home-grown fifth-generation stealth fighter jet project.

The bidders include major names such as Larsen & Toubro, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Tata Advanced Systems Ltd, and Adani

Defence. A committee led by former BrahMos Aerospace chief A Sivathanu Pillai will evaluate the proposals and shortlist two companies. These two firms will share a budget of Rs 15,000 crore to develop five AMCA models to the highest standards before manufacturing rights are granted.

The AMCA project, valued at approximately Rs 2 lakh crore, aims to produce over 125 stealth fighters, but the jet is not expected to enter the Indian Air Force until around 2035. Once operational, India will join an exclusive group of coun-

tries—currently the US, China, and Russia—with indigenous fifth-generation fighter capabilities.

India’s AMCA will be a single-seat, twin-engine fighter featuring advanced stealth coatings, internal weapons bays, and super-maneuvrability comparable to global fifth-gen jets like the US F-22 and F-35, China’s J-20, and Russia’s Su-57. The aircraft is expected to operate at altitudes up to 55,000 feet, carrying 1,500 kg of weapons internally, an additional 5,500 kg externally, and roughly 6,500 kg of fuel.

Two variants are

planned, with hopes that the second version will feature an indigenously developed engine, potentially more powerful than the US-made GE F414 engine powering the initial model.

The AMCA reflects India’s broader push to modernize its military amid regional tensions, supplementing recent defence deals such as the Rs 63,000 crore acquisition of 26 Rafale-M fighter jets. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has pledged over \$100 billion in domestic military contracts by 2033 to boost indigenous defence manufacturing and exports.

Centre Hikes DA/DR by 3%, Benefits Over 1.18 Crore Employees and Pensioners

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a 3% hike in Dearness Allowance (DA) for central government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) for pensioners. The revised rate takes the DA/DR from 55% to 58% of basic pay or pension, effective retrospectively from July 1, 2025.

The decision is set to benefit approximately 49.19 lakh central government employees and 68.72 lakh pensioners, offering relief amid ongoing inflation concerns.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the increase aims to compensate for the rising cost of living. “The combined impact on the exchequer on account of



this increase in DA and DR will be 10,083.96 crore per annum,” he said during a media briefing on the Cabinet decisions.

Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief are revised twice a year—in January and July—based on the All India Consumer Price Index (AICPI) to mitigate the impact of inflation on government employees and pensioners. This latest hike follows the government’s standard formula and was widely anticipated ahead of the festive

season.

The retrospective implementation from July 1 means employees and pensioners will receive arrears for July, August, and September in their upcoming pay cycles, providing a festive financial boost.

Experts have noted that while the 3% hike aligns with historical trends, rising inflation and cost pressures could warrant a sharper increase in the next review if the economic situation persists.

This DA/DR increase comes at a time when the government is also managing broader financial challenges and election-year spending demands. However, the move is likely to bolster morale among government staff and retirees, especially with general elections on the horizon in 2026.

Congress Slams PM Modi’s Silence on Gaza, Calls It ‘Moral Cowardice’

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Congress party on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, strongly criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for maintaining what it called a “deafening silence” on the ongoing violence and alleged atrocities in Gaza, calling it a “total betrayal” of India’s long-standing foreign policy values.

In a sharp statement posted on social media platform X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh accused the Prime Minister of prioritising personal alliances over moral responsibility.

“To appease his good friend President Trump and in solidarity with his other good friend



Bibi Netanyahu, Prime Minister Modi has welcomed President Trump’s so-called peace plan while ignoring the horrific atrocities being committed in Gaza. This is moral cowardice and a total betrayal of everything that India has historically stood for—justice, non-alignment, and

human rights,” Ramesh said.

The Congress leader’s remarks come amid mounting global condemnation of Israel’s military actions in Gaza and concerns over civilian casualties, particularly in the wake of airstrikes and blockades reported over the past

few weeks.

India, under successive governments, has traditionally supported the two-state solution and shown solidarity with the Palestinian cause while maintaining diplomatic relations with Israel. However, the Congress alleges that the current govern-

ment’s foreign policy has shifted significantly, driven more by personal equations than principled positions.

“India was once a moral voice on global issues, rooted in Gandhian values and non-violence. Today, it stands mute in the face of tragedy,” Ramesh added.

The Modi government has not yet issued an official statement on the latest escalation in Gaza. However, India did attend the emergency session at the UN Security Council last week, where it called for “restraint” from all parties and emphasised the need for dialogue.

Meanwhile, international pressure is growing on world leaders to intervene diplomatically to de-escalate the conflict.

“I Love Tariffs”: Trump Defends His Trade Policy, Says It’s “Making US Rich”

TPN Bureau | Wash-
ington

U.S. President Donald Trump has once again defended his aggressive trade policy, calling tariffs his “favourite word” and crediting them with making America “rich again.” Speaking at the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Trump said his administration’s tariff strategy has helped the U.S. regain control over its trade relationships after decades of exploitation by other nations.

“I love tariffs. Most beautiful word. We’re becoming rich as hell,” Trump declared, boasting that the U.S. has taken in “trillions of dollars” through tariffs — enough, he said, “to buy a lot of battleships.” Trump’s comments come ahead of a major Supreme Court hearing in early November, where justices will review lawsuits filed by American businesses challenging the president’s use of emergency powers under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose sweeping tariffs.

A federal appeals court had earlier upheld a ruling that Trump’s use of the IEEPA to levy global tariffs was unlawful, raising questions about the legal future of his trade agenda. Despite legal setbacks, the Trump administration remains firm. U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer has warned that tariffs will remain a key policy tool regardless of the court’s verdict. “Win or lose at the Supreme Court, tariffs are here to stay,” Greer told the Financial Times, adding that reciprocal tariffs represent

“how it’s going to be.” The administration insists that the courts should defer to the president’s judgment in declaring economic emergencies that justify such trade actions. Critics, however, argue the policy has hurt American consumers and businesses by raising import costs and straining global trade ties. As the legal showdown nears, Trump continues to frame tariffs as patriotic and profitable — a stance that will likely shape U.S. trade policy heading into the 2026 elections.



US Government Shuts Down, 1st Since 2018

TPN Correspondent |
Washington

The U.S. federal government officially shut down at midnight after Democrats blocked a Republican-led stopgap funding bill that failed to meet their key demands, marking the first shutdown in over six years. The stalemate, centered around healthcare funding and partisan tensions, has halted non-essential government operations. As many as 750,000 federal employees face temporary furloughs, while essential personnel, including military, border agents, and air-traffic controllers, will work without pay until the shutdown ends. President Donald Trump has escalated the conflict, threatening permanent job cuts and warning of mass layoffs if the standoff continues. “We’ll be laying off a lot of people — they’re going to be Democrats,” he said, raising concerns of politicised purging in federal



agencies. Essential services — such as in-hospital care, law enforcement, and Social Security payments — will continue, though functions like food inspections, student loan processing, and national park operations may pause. Issuance of Medicare cards and benefit verifications could also be disrupted. The shutdown could dent the U.S. economy if prolonged. Analysts estimate a weekly impact of 0.1 to 0.2 percentage points shaved off GDP growth. The situation is particularly volatile as over 150,000 federal workers are already exiting through buyouts — the largest government workforce reduction in eight decades. At the heart of the deadlock are Democrat demands to include permanent Affordable Care Act subsidies in the funding bill, which

would prevent healthcare cost spikes for 24 million Americans. Republicans have pushed back, accusing Democrats of leveraging the shutdown for political gain ahead of the 2026 midterm elections. With no clear path to resolution, the duration and fallout of this shutdown remain uncertain, heightening fears of economic disruption and deeper political divisions in Washington.

“This is Republicans’ shutdown,” Ex US VP Kamala Harris says

TPN Correspondent |
Jerusalem

Top Democratic leaders have slammed President Donald Trump and Republican lawmakers for triggering a federal government shutdown, blaming their refusal to address rising healthcare costs as the key reason behind the crisis. Former Vice President Kamala Harris led the charge, posting on X (formerly Twitter), “President Trump and Congressional Republicans just shut down the government because they refused to stop your health care costs from rising. Let me be clear: Republicans are in charge of the White House, House, and Senate. This is their shutdown.” The shutdown, which took effect at midnight, comes as Congress failed to pass a funding bill, largely due to disagreements over the inclusion of permanent Affordable Care Act (ACA) subsidies. Democrats insisted on including provisions to curb healthcare cost spikes expected to hit millions of Americans by year-end, while Republicans demanded a clean funding bill without additional conditions. The official account of House Democrats echoed Harris’s sentiments, stating, “Donald Trump and Republicans just shut down the federal government rather than address the health care crisis they created. Democrats will keep fighting to protect health care.” California Governor Gavin Newsom mocked Trump’s leadership style, writing in a dramatic Truth Social-style post: “THE TRUMP SHUTDOWN IS HERE! HEALTH CARE FOR BABIES, MOMS & GRANDMAS HELD HOSTAGE BY A VERY

greements over the inclusion of permanent Affordable Care Act (ACA) subsidies. Democrats insisted on including provisions to curb healthcare cost spikes expected to hit millions of Americans by year-end, while Republicans demanded a clean funding bill without additional conditions. The official account of House Democrats echoed Harris’s sentiments, stating, “Donald Trump and Republicans just shut down the federal government rather than address the health care crisis they created. Democrats will keep fighting to protect health care.” California Governor Gavin Newsom mocked Trump’s leadership style, writing in a dramatic Truth Social-style post: “THE TRUMP SHUTDOWN IS HERE! HEALTH CARE FOR BABIES, MOMS & GRANDMAS HELD HOSTAGE BY A VERY



WEAK MAN WHO CAN’T EVEN DO STAIRS... TRUMP ALWAYS CHICKENS OUT.” Illinois Governor JB Pritzker accused Trump and “MAGA Republicans” of pushing an “extreme agenda” by threatening core social programs like Medicaid and SNAP. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) added, “It’s midnight in DC... Republicans don’t even want to TALK about how to stop your premiums from doubling. This is a REPUBLICAN SHUTDOWN.” With no resolution in sight, Democrats say they will continue to push for healthcare protections while warning of long-term harm if the standoff continues.

Elon Musk Cancels Netflix Subscription

After Director Hamish Steele Mocks Charlie Kirk

TPN Correspondent |
London

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has cancelled his Netflix subscription, joining growing backlash against British director Hamish Steele, the creator of Netflix’s animated series Dead End: Paranormal Park, after Steele allegedly mocked the recent killing of conservative activist Charlie Kirk. The controversy erupted after screenshots surfaced online, purportedly showing Steele using profane language and referring to Kirk as a “Nazi” in a post responding to UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer’s condolence message. “Your sympathy for any of the families being slaughtered



by your own weapons but a random Nazi gets shot and it’s a public statement,” read Steele’s alleged comment. Though the viral screenshots remain unverified, they quickly ignited outrage online, particularly among conservative audiences and commentators. Steele had already been under scrutiny for incorporating transgender themes in a children’s animated series, a point of contention among critics who claim such content is inappropriate for young audiences. An X (formerly Twitter) user announced they had cancelled their Netflix account, citing the streamer’s support for “pro-trans content” aimed at children and for employing someone who “celebrated the murder of Charlie Kirk.” Musk amplified the criticism by resharing the post, writing simply: “Same.”

This latest move from Musk — a frequent critic of “woke” culture and corporate policies — comes amid heightened cultural tensions in the U.S. around free speech, LG-BTQ+ representation in media, and political violence. His decision adds to the mounting pressure on Netflix, which has not yet publicly commented on the matter. While Steele has not responded to the allegations directly, calls for accountability and content boycotts have gained traction online. The situation underscores how content creators’ personal views, especially when shared online, continue to spark high-stakes fallout for major platforms.

Pakistan’s top leadership will decide on deployment of troops in Gaza: FM Dar

TPN Correspondent |
Islamabad

Pakistan’s Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, said on Tuesday that the decision to deploy Pakistani troops in Gaza under the proposed peacekeeping mission of Muslim nations will be taken by the country’s top leadership. Dar was responding to a question during a press conference regarding Pakistan’s potential participation in the multinational peacekeeping force outlined in a new Middle East peace plan announced by U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday. “The final decision will rest with the highest levels of our leadership,” Dar stated. “Any deployment of Pakistani troops abroad is a matter of national security and will be decided with due consultation



among all stakeholders.” The proposed peacekeeping initiative is part of a broader U.S.-backed deal aimed at ending months of deadly conflict in Gaza. President Trump’s plan, which seeks to stabilise the region through a Muslim-led security framework, includes the formation of a joint peacekeeping force involving countries such as Turkey, Egypt, Indonesia, and potentially Pakistan. While Pakistan has a long history of contrib-

uting to United Nations peacekeeping missions, this deployment would be different, as it falls outside the UN framework and stems from a U.S.-brokered initiative. Foreign Minister Dar noted that Pakistan supports all efforts aimed at restoring peace in Gaza and ensuring humanitarian access. “We have always stood for the rights of the Palestinian people and continue to support a two-state solution,” he said. There has been no official confirmation yet on whether Islamabad has received a formal request to contribute troops. Analysts say the decision could face domestic political scrutiny, given the geopolitical sensitivities surrounding any cooperation with U.S.-led initiatives in the Muslim world. As consultations continue, the government is expected to issue a formal position in the coming days.



RBI Announces Measures to Support Exporters Amid U.S. Tariffs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday unveiled a series of measures aimed at assisting Indian exporters facing difficulties due to the recent 50 per cent tariffs imposed by the U.S. administration on Indian shipments.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra emphasized the importance of the export sector, calling it “a vital part of India’s economy.” To ease the pressure on exporters, the central bank has extended the repatriation period for foreign currency accounts held by Indian exporters in International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) from one month to three months. This extension provides exporters greater flexibility in managing their foreign earnings amid the challenging trade environment.

In addition, the RBI announced steps to reduce paperwork and compliance burdens, particularly targeting small exporters and importers. These efforts are designed to streamline export processes, helping businesses save time and costs, and improve overall ease of doing trade.

The central bank’s move comes in response to growing concerns from the export community, which has been grappling with the increased tariffs that threaten to impact India’s trade competitiveness. By easing procedural requirements and extending repatriation timelines, the RBI aims to provide exporters with much-needed relief and enhance their ability to manage foreign exchange inflows efficiently.

These measures form part of a broader strategy to safeguard and promote India’s export sector during uncertain global trade conditions. Stakeholders across industries have welcomed the RBI’s proactive approach, viewing it as a timely boost that can help maintain the sector’s growth momentum.

With these steps, the RBI reinforces its commitment to supporting exporters and ensuring the resilience of India’s external trade amidst evolving international challenges.



RBI Holds Rates, Cuts Inflation Forecast, Ups Growth Outlook

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday kept the key policy rate — the repo rate — unchanged at 5.5%, while lowering its inflation forecast and raising its growth outlook, reflecting confidence in the domestic economy despite global uncertainties.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), in a unanimous decision, opted to maintain the current rate for the second consecutive meeting. Lending and deposit rates across the banking system are expected to remain steady, offering relief to borrowers and depositors alike. The RBI also retained its “neutral” policy stance, indicating it will remain flexible in responding to future economic developments.

In a significant move, the central bank revised its inflation forecast downward to 2.6% from the earlier 3.1%, citing easing food and fuel prices. Simultaneously, the GDP growth projection for FY26 has been raised to 6.8%, up from the previous estimate of 6.5%.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said that recent rationalisation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates is likely to cushion the impact of global trade tensions and ongoing uncertainty around U.S. H-1B visa policies. “The Indian economy remains resilient, supported by stable demand conditions, improving exports, and moderating inflation,”

Malhotra noted. The central bank’s cautious optimism comes amid rising global risks, including escalating tariff wars and currency volatility. However, domestic indicators, including robust tax collections and strong service sector growth, have provided enough buffer for the RBI to hold rates steady.

Analysts expect the RBI to continue monitoring inflation trends and global developments closely before making any further policy shifts. For now, the pause signals policy stability and continued support for economic growth, while leaving room to respond to future shocks.

Bank Nifty Jumps 700 Points as RBI Unveils Lending, Capital Reforms

Banking and financial stocks rallied sharply on Wednesday after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) held interest rates steady and proposed sweeping reforms to boost lending and ease capital requirements. The Bank Nifty soared 700 points, or 1.3%, reclaiming the 55,000 mark, while the Nifty Financial Services index rose 1.4% to 26,396.

Private banks led the charge, with Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank gaining up to 3% intraday. The Nifty Private Bank index rose 1.75%, though public sector banks saw some profit booking, with the Nifty PSU Bank index down 1.1%.

The RBI’s proposals, announced alongside its bi-monthly monetary policy review, include the removal of the 2016 lending restrictions on large corporates, allowing banks greater freedom to finance corporate acquisitions. Lending limits against listed debt securities and equity shares were also relaxed, and the cap on bank financing for IPOs was raised from ₹10 lakh to ₹25 lakh per individual.

Another major boost came for non-bank lenders (NBFCs), as the RBI lowered risk weights for loans to high-quality infrastructure projects. Shares of HUDCO, IREDA, PFC, and REC jumped 3-5% following the move, which is expected to reduce financing costs in the infrastructure sector.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra also announced the phased implementation of the Expected Credit Loss (ECL) framework from April 2027 to March 2031, and the adoption of Basel III capital norms starting April 2027. Draft credit risk rules—expected to reduce capital requirements for small businesses and home loans—will be released soon.

Market experts welcomed the reforms, calling them growth-positive. “These steps align with the government’s broader economic stimulus agenda,” said Nilesh Shah, MD, Kotak Mahindra AMC.

The RBI’s dovish tone and regulatory easing fueled optimism, pushing banking and financial indices to fresh highs.



ATF Price Hiked 3%, Commercial LPG Up ₹15.50



Oil companies on Wednesday revised fuel prices, increasing the cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) by over 3% and commercial LPG rates by ₹15.50 per cylinder, reflecting changes in global market benchmarks.

The price of jet fuel (ATF) in the national capital, home to one of India’s busiest airports, was raised by ₹3,052.50 per kilolitre - a 3.3% hike - bringing the new rate to ₹93,766.02 per kilolitre, according to state-owned fuel retailers.

Alongside this, commercial LPG used by hotels and restaurants also saw a price increase of ₹15.50 per 19-kg cylinder, pushing the cost to ₹1,595.50 in New Delhi. This adjustment follows a series of six reductions in LPG prices over the past six months, with the last cut being ₹51.50 on September 1. Since April, LPG prices have fallen by a total of ₹223 per cylinder.

The recent hikes come as oil firms align domestic fuel prices with fluctuating global crude oil markets and foreign exchange rates. This adjustment impacts sectors relying heavily on ATF and commercial LPG, such as aviation and hospitality, which may see a rise in operational costs.

The aviation industry, already recovering from pandemic-related setbacks, will feel the effect of the ATF price increase, potentially influencing airfares and cargo charges. Similarly, restaurants and hotels might adjust prices to offset the higher fuel costs.

Fuel price revisions by state-owned oil companies are closely monitored, as they directly affect inflation and the cost of living. The government typically allows market-driven adjustments, but such hikes often draw public and industry attention.

Consumers and businesses alike will be watching for any further fuel price movements amid ongoing global energy market volatility.

Manufacturing Growth Slows in September, Job Creation Hits One-Year Low

India’s manufacturing sector witnessed a slowdown in September, with growth in new orders, output, and input buying easing to four-month lows, according to the HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) released on Wednesday.

The seasonally adjusted PMI dropped to 57.7 in September from 59.3 in August, marking the weakest expansion since May. While the index remains comfortably above the 50-mark that separates growth from contraction, it indicates a mild loss of momentum in the sector.

Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, noted, “The September headline index softened, but it remained well above the long-term average,” highlighting the sector’s resilience despite competitive pressures and global uncertainties.

Job creation in the sector also slowed, hitting a one-year low. Only 2% of surveyed companies reported an increase in staffing, making it the weakest hiring pace since September 2024.

Despite the slowdown, optimism remains strong. Business confidence rose to a seven-month high, boosted by recent tax relief measures and expectations of rising demand. Many firms cited changes in GST rates as a key factor behind their positive outlook for the next 12 months.

Export demand offered some relief, with international orders increasing at a faster rate, particularly from Asia, Europe, the Americas, and the Middle East. This offset some of the negative impact from recent U.S. tariffs on Indian goods.

On the pricing front, input and output costs rose at the fastest pace since May. Firms reported higher expenses for labour, raw materials, and transport, which led to the sharpest rise in output charges in nearly 12 years.

Overall, while manufacturing continues to expand, rising costs and sluggish hiring indicate emerging challenges that may affect the sector’s growth trajectory in the months ahead.





US Man Wins Rs 17 Crore on Scratch-Off Ticket Bought ‘ON A WHIM’

A 32-year-old man from Wayne County, Michigan, has struck gold after purchasing a scratch-off lottery ticket on a spontaneous impulse, winning a life-changing \$2 million (approximately Rs 17 crore). The lucky winner was at Fleck’s Fresh Mart on Michigan Avenue in Canton when he spotted the 100X scratch-off tickets. Although he didn’t

usually play this particular game, he decided to buy a few “on a whim.” Little did he know, his impulsive choice would lead to one of the top prizes offered by the Michigan Lottery. As he scratched the tickets, he was stunned to find a match on number 11, revealing the \$2 million jackpot. “I kept asking myself: ‘What does this mean?’ because I didn’t believe I

really won \$2 million at first,” the winner told Michigan Lottery officials. In disbelief, he asked his mother to double-check the ticket, and upon her confirmation, excitement took over. “When my mom looked the ticket over and told me it was a \$2 million winner, I was so excited I didn’t know what to do with myself!” he said.

“Turning 20 into \$2 million is unbelievable and still doesn’t feel real. I don’t think it’s going to fully sink in until I cash the check.” The man has decided to be prudent with his newfound fortune, choosing to put the entire amount into savings to secure his financial future. This remarkable win highlights the thrill and unpredictability of

lottery games, where a moment’s whim can lead to an extraordinary payday. The 100X scratch-off game remains one of Michigan Lottery’s most popular offerings, boasting several top prizes just like this one. As the winner prepares to cash his check, this story serves as a reminder that sometimes fortune favors the spontaneous.

A federal judge has ruled that Apple, Google, and Meta Platforms must face lawsuits accusing them of promoting illegal gambling through casino-style apps on their platforms. The ruling came on Tuesday from U.S. District Judge Edward Davila in San Jose, California, who denied the tech giants’ attempts to dismiss the claims. The lawsuits allege that Apple’s App Store, Google’s Play Store, and Meta’s Facebook enabled an “authentic Vegas-style experience” of slot machine gambling by hosting these apps and collecting commissions, often as high as 30 percent. Plaintiffs contend that these platforms knowingly profited from apps that are addictive and harmful, contributing to mental health issues like depression and suicidal thoughts among users. Apple, Google, and Meta argued that Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act shields them from liability because they are not



responsible for third-party content posted on their platforms. However, Judge Davila rejected this defense for most claims, stating that the companies could still be held accountable for their role in facilitating and profiting from these gambling apps. While the judge dismissed some claims based on certain state laws, all consumer protection claims—except those in California—were allowed to proceed. The decision means the companies will have to defend themselves in class-action lawsuits brought by dozens of plaintiffs accusing them of operating an illegal racketeering conspiracy. This ruling signals increased scrutiny of how major tech platforms manage and profit from third-party apps, especially those with potential social harms. The case highlights ongoing concerns about the regulation of online gambling and the responsibilities of app stores in protecting users. As these lawsuits move forward, Apple, Google, and Meta could face significant legal and financial challenges related to their casino-style gambling app ecosystems.

ChatGPT Launches ‘INSTANT CHECKOUT’ to Simplify In-Chat Purchases

OpenAI has introduced a new feature called “Instant Checkout” that allows ChatGPT users in the United States to make purchases directly within their chat sessions. The update aims to streamline online shopping by enabling users to confirm orders, delivery, and payment details with a simple tap of the “Buy” button—no need to leave the chat. Available to ChatGPT Pro, Plus, and Free users who are signed in, Instant Checkout initially supports purchases from

US-based Etsy sellers and more than one million Shopify retailers. Popular brands like Glossier, Skims, Spanx, and Vuori are expected to join the platform soon, expanding the range of products accessible through ChatGPT. This feature builds on ChatGPT’s earlier shopping capabilities, where users could ask for product recommendations and receive curated options complete with images, reviews, and prices. Now, users can complete transactions seamlessly using payment options like credit cards, Apple



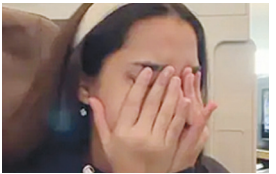
Pay, Google Pay, or Stripe—all within the conversation interface. In a recent blog post, OpenAI emphasized that product suggestions will remain “natural and unsponsored,” ranked strictly by user relevance rather than paid promotions. To sustain the service, OpenAI plans to charge merchants a small fee on completed purchases. Instant Checkout marks a significant step toward integrating AI-powered shopping assistance with payment and delivery logistics, aiming to enhance convenience for consumers and boost sales opportunities for merchants. By merging product discovery, recommendation, and payment into one smooth experience, ChatGPT is positioning itself as a new kind of online shopping assistant, reducing friction in the buying process and potentially reshaping e-commerce interactions. As this feature rolls out, it could redefine how consumers shop online, turning casual conversations into instant purchasing moments.

“America, I Love You”: Indian Woman’s Emotional Farewell AFTER US LAYOFF

Ananya Joshi, an Indian biotechnology graduate, bid a tearful goodbye to the United States after being laid off and unable to secure a new job. Joshi, who graduated from Northwestern University in 2024 with a master’s degree in Biotechnology, had been working at a biotech startup through the F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT) program. On September 29, Joshi shared a heartfelt video on Instagram capturing the emotional moment of her departure. Despite having come to terms with her situation, she admitted that leav-



ing the country was the hardest part of her journey. “Nothing could have prepared me for this day,” she said, reflecting on the deep emotional impact of saying goodbye. In her message, Joshi expressed immense gratitude toward the US, which she described as her first home as a financially independent adult—a milestone she cherished deeply.



“Though short-lived, I really appreciate the life you gave me. AMERICA, I LOVE YOU,” she wrote in the video’s caption. Joshi’s story resonates with many international students and professionals who face uncertainty due to visa restrictions and job market challenges. After being laid off from her startup job, she spent months searching for new opportunities but

was unable to find a suitable position, leading to her difficult decision to leave. Her candid account highlights the challenges skilled foreign workers face in the US job market, especially in highly competitive fields like biotechnology. Despite the setback, Joshi’s gratitude and affection for her time in America remain clear, marking a bittersweet end to her chapter in the country. Her video has touched many viewers, sparking conversations about immigration, career struggles, and the emotional toll of leaving a place that once felt like home.

Opera has unveiled its latest innovation, Neon, an AI-powered web browser designed to take web browsing to the next level by executing tasks and running code directly within web pages. This launch places Opera in the growing race among tech companies to develop “agentic” browsers—browsers that do more than just deliver search results by actively assisting users in completing tasks. Neon aims to transform the traditional browsing experience into a productivity hub where AI can act on behalf of users, streamlining online activities such as shopping, researching, and managing workflows. A key feature of the browser is that all AI actions occur locally on the user’s device, giving users full control over when the AI operates or pauses, ensuring privacy and transparency. Opera’s entry into this space highlights the in-

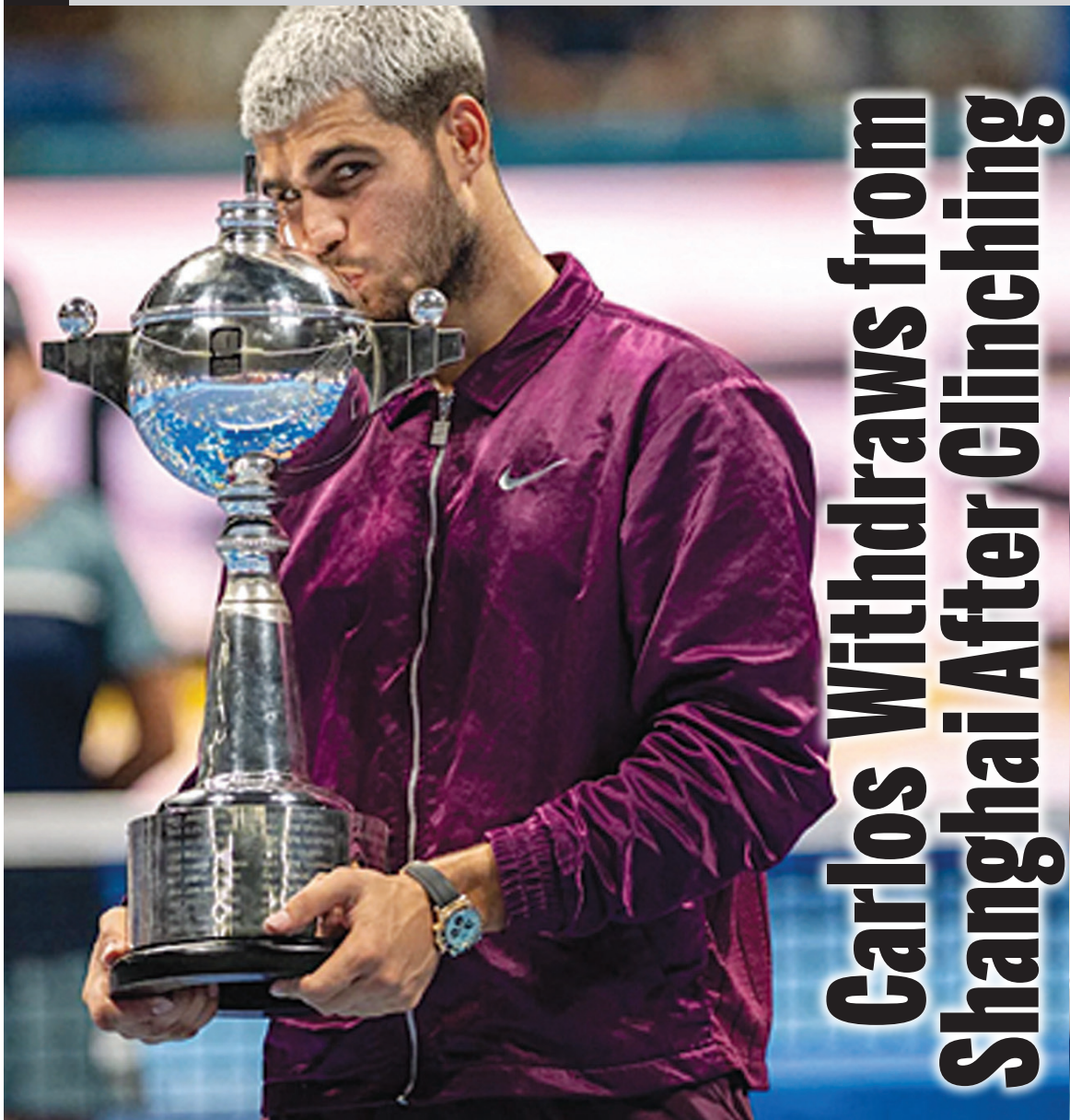
Opera Launches Neon AI Browser to Revolutionize WEB BROWSING



tense competition among companies eager to redefine how people interact with the web. Earlier this year, Perplexity AI

introduced its Comet browser, and The Browser Company launched Dia, both focused on integrating AI to enhance

user productivity. Meanwhile, OpenAI is preparing to launch its own Chromium-based AI browser, which may incorporate its “Operator” agent. This feature promises to let users browse and transact seamlessly without ever leaving a native chat interface, further blurring the lines between browsing, chatting, and completing tasks. With Neon and other AI browsers emerging, the future of web navigation looks set to become more interactive and intuitive. By embedding AI deeply into browsing, these new tools aim to save users time and effort, offering personalized assistance and smarter web experiences. As AI browsers like Opera’s Neon hit the market, they signal a significant shift in digital habits—where the browser is no longer just a window to the web but an active partner in online productivity.



EIGHTH TITLE OF THE SEASON

Carlos Alcaraz’s remarkable 2025 season hit another high—and a sudden halt—on Tuesday. Just hours after winning his eighth title of the year at the Japan Open in Tokyo, the world number one announced his withdrawal from the Shanghai Masters, citing “physical issues”.

Alcaraz defeated American Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-4 in the final to secure his latest ATP title. However, despite lifting the trophy, the 22-year-old Spaniard admitted he had been struggling physically, having injured his ankle earlier in the tournament.

“Even though I managed to win here, it hasn’t been easy physically,” Alcaraz said after the final. “I’ve decided to listen to my body and skip Shanghai to avoid further complications.”

The six-time Grand Slam champion also used the opportunity to criticize the sport’s packed calendar, calling for reforms that better prioritize player health.

“We play almost every week, and there’s little time for recovery. It’s something that really needs to be addressed,” Alcaraz said.

His withdrawal from Shanghai is a blow to the tournament and fans, who were eager to see the top seed in action. Alcaraz has been one of the standout performers of the year, consistently competing at the highest level and building on his status as a dominant force in men’s tennis.

With the ATP Finals and other major events still to come, Alcaraz’s team is likely taking a cautious approach to ensure he’s in peak condition for the season’s end.

For now, his absence from Shanghai is a reminder of the physical toll of modern tennis—even on its youngest stars.

As the calendar intensifies, Alcaraz’s words may reignite discussions on how the ATP can balance competitiveness with athlete well-being.

Pakistan, Bangladesh Eye Strong Start in Women’s ODI World Cup 2025

Pakistan and Bangladesh are set to begin their ICC Women’s ODI World Cup 2025 campaigns on Thursday in Colombo, with both teams aiming to make steady progress after underwhelming performances in the previous edition.

In the 2022 World Cup, both sides had finished at the bottom of the table, struggling to make an impact against the more established teams. However, with a new crop of players and leadership, both camps are hopeful of turning the tide this time around.

Pakistan, led by dynamic all-rounder Fatima Sana, will play all their group matches in Sri Lanka, including a highly anticipated clash against India on Sunday. Pakistan secured their spot in the tournament by topping the qualification event earlier this year, showcasing a more settled squad and improved performances.

Bangladesh, captained by experienced wicket-keeper-batter Nigar Sultana, finished second in the qualifiers and are looking to carry forward that momentum into the World Cup. Their lineup, while young, boasts several promising names who have shown glimpses of potential on the international stage.

While both teams are considered underdogs in a tournament featuring heavyweights like Australia, England, and India, the opening clash between Pakistan and Bangladesh is expected to be a closely fought contest. It also presents a key opportunity for either side to secure early points and gain confidence for tougher fixtures ahead.

Incremental gains remain the realistic goal for both squads—improving match-to-match, upsetting stronger opponents, and climbing higher in the standings than in past campaigns.

With momentum, team spirit, and qualification success behind them, both sides will be eager to shed the “minnows” tag and make their presence felt on the world stage.

The match will be played at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Thursday afternoon.

India beat Sri Lanka by 59 runs under DLS Method in

Women’s World Cup opener

India kicked off their ICC Women’s ODI World Cup 2025 campaign with a hard-fought win over Sri Lanka at the Barsapara Stadium in Guwahati on Tuesday, thanks to impressive all-round performances from Deepti Sharma, Amanjot Kaur, and Sneh Rana.

After choosing to bat, India faced early jitters and slipped into trouble during the middle overs. However, Deepti Sharma (42), Amanjot Kaur (38), and Sneh Rana (34) played crucial knocks to steer the innings to a respectable total of 227.



The Lankan bowling attack was spearheaded by Inoka Ranaweera, whose four-wicket haul kept India on edge for much of the innings. Sri Lanka began their chase with promise, as captain Chamari Athapaththu smashed a quick 32 off 28

balls, injecting momentum into their innings. But her dismissal triggered a collapse, as the Indian bowlers tightened their grip.

Amanjot Kaur, already instrumental with the bat, also made a mark with the ball, taking 2

crucial wickets, while Sneh Rana and Deepti Sharma chipped in with disciplined spells to restrict Sri Lanka to 189 all out in 48 overs, handing India a 38-run win.

Despite a few nervy moments, the Women in Blue showed grit and

composure in their World Cup opener.

The performance underlined the growing depth in the squad and the ability of younger players like Amanjot to rise to the occasion.

India next faces South Africa in their second group-stage match on October 4, while Sri Lanka will look to bounce back against New Zealand.

With a promising start, Harmanpreet Kaur and her team will aim to build momentum and stake a strong claim for their maiden World Cup title.



Mitchell Marsh Smashes 85 as Australia Crush New Zealand in 1st T20I

Australia made a commanding start to their T20I series against New Zealand, securing a thumping victory in the first match at Bay Oval, thanks to a blistering knock from captain Mitchell Marsh, who led by example with an unbeaten 85 off just 43 balls.

Opting to bowl first, Australia made early inroads into the New Zealand top order, reducing the hosts to 6 for 3 inside the first three overs. The Aussie pace attack, led by Josh Hazlewood and Sean Abbott, rattled the Kiwi top order with accuracy and aggression.

However, Tim Robinson played a lone hand for New Zealand, rescuing his side from collapse with a brilliant unbeaten 106 off 66 balls. His maiden international century, laced with 10 boundaries and 4 sixes, lifted the Black Caps to a competitive total of 181/6 in 20 overs.

Despite the recovery, the target was no match for the Australians on the day. Mitchell Marsh walked in at No. 3 and immediately took charge, punishing the Kiwi bowlers with powerful hitting all around the ground. He found excellent support from David Warner (42 off 25), as the pair added a crucial 98-run partnership.

Australia chased down the target in just 16.3 overs, finishing at 185/3, with Marsh sealing the win in style with a towering six. His knock, which featured 8 fours and 5 sixes, earned him the Player of the Match award. The dominant win gives Australia a 1-0 lead in the three-match series and puts them in pole position heading into the second T20I.

The teams will face off again on October 3, with New Zealand needing a win to keep the series alive.

Liverpool Stunned By Galatasaray In Champions

LEAGUE CHELSEA BEAT JOSE MOURINHO’S BENFICA

Matchday 2 of the UEFA Champions League delivered drama across Europe, with Liverpool stunned by Galatasaray, while Chelsea edged Jose Mourinho’s Benfica in a tight contest at Stamford Bridge.

In Istanbul, Victor Osimhen was the hero for Galatasaray, converting a second-half penalty to seal a 1-0 win over Jurgen Klopp’s Liverpool. The defeat leaves the Premier League giants under pressure in Group B

after an unconvincing start to their European campaign.

Meanwhile in London, Chelsea grabbed a narrow 1-0 victory over Portuguese side Benfica, now coached by former Blues boss Jose Mourinho, making his return to Stamford Bridge. The only goal of the match came via an unfortunate own goal, gifting Mauricio Pochettino’s side a valuable three points.

Real Madrid flexed their muscle in Kazakhstan, thrashing Kairat

Almaty 5-0, with Kylian Mbappe netting a brilliant hat-trick.

The French superstar continues his red-hot form in Europe, underlining Madrid’s title ambitions.

Elsewhere, Tottenham Hotspur avoided defeat in a tense encounter with Bodo/Glimt, clawing back to secure a 2-2 draw thanks to a late equalizer.

Bayern Munich, Atletico Madrid, Marseille, and Inter Milan all enjoyed big wins, assert-

ing their dominance early in the group stage. Bayern cruised past Red Star Belgrade, Atletico brushed aside Young Boys, Marseille hammered Slovan Bratislava, and Inter eased past Copenhagen.

With several groups wide open after two rounds, the Champions League is already delivering high drama, unexpected upsets, and standout performances—setting the stage for a thrilling campaign ahead.





Nayanthara's First Look as SASIREKHA UNVEILED

The makers of the much-anticipated film Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, starring megastar Chiranjeevi, have unveiled the first look of Nayanthara as the female lead, Sasirekha. Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the film has already generated significant buzz, and this latest reveal adds to the mounting excitement.

In the newly released poster, Nayanthara stuns in a traditional saree, exuding grace and festive charm. Adorned with pearls, bangles, and holding a classic umbrella, her look is vibrant and rooted in tradition. Set against a colorful and celebratory backdrop, the image captures a perfect blend of elegance and energy, hinting at a pivotal role in the story.

This marks the first on-screen collaboration between Chiranjeevi and Nayanthara under Anil Ravipudi's direction, promising an electrifying pairing. Earlier, the megastar's stylish look from the film was revealed to an overwhelmingly positive response from fans, who are eagerly awaiting more glimpses from the project.

Adding to the excitement, the team has teased a special announcement scheduled for tomorrow, coinciding with the festive occasion of Dussehra. While details remain under wraps, speculation is rife that it could be a teaser or a major update on the film's release.

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is jointly produced by Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela, combining strong creative and production forces. With vibrant visuals, a star-studded cast, and a proven director at the helm, the film is shaping up to be a grand festive entertainer.

Stay tuned for tomorrow's announcement as the countdown to another Chiranjeevi blockbuster continues.

Dhanush's 'TERE ISHQ MEIN' Teaser Hints at Intense Romantic Drama

The much-awaited teaser of Tere Ishq Mein, starring Dhanush and Kriti Sanon, has been officially released — offering a glimpse into a deeply emotional love story laced with pain, passion, and poetic intensity.

Directed by Aanand L Rai, who earlier delivered the hit Raanjhanaa with Dhanush, the film marks their powerful reunion. In Tere Ishq Mein, Dhanush plays an Air Force officer grappling with love and betrayal. The teaser reveals a raw, emotional side of his character, setting the tone for a layered romantic narrative.

The highlight of the teaser is a haunting monologue delivered by Dhanush in Banaras (Kashi):

"I went to cremate my father... Thought I'd bring some Ganga water for you. You're starting a monk's life, aren't you? At least wash your old sins."



The emotionally charged dialogue, presumably addressed to Kriti Sanon's character, reflects a story steeped in heartbreak and unresolved emotions.

Kriti Sanon plays the female lead and shares strong screen chemistry with Dhanush. The film's music is composed by AR Rahman, whose score in the teaser already hints at a soul-stirring soundtrack.

Written by Himanshu Sharma and Neeraj Yadav, the film promises a complex narrative revolving around love, loss, and redemption.

The visual aesthetics — rich with the spiritual backdrop of Banaras — enhance the film's emotional gravity.

Produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishna Kumar, Aanand L Rai, and Himanshu Sharma, Tere Ishq Mein will release in both Hindi and Tamil on November 28, 2025. With its emotionally charged teaser and a powerful team behind it, Tere Ishq Mein is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated romantic dramas of the year.



KANTARA CHAPTER 1 Rebel Song Roars with RITUAL POWER

Hombale Films continues to build anticipation for Kantara Chapter 1 with the release of its second song — "Rebel" (Telugu) — a fiery war chant that blends folklore, faith, and fury. Directed by and starring Rishab Shetty, this film marks the next grand chapter in the Kantara saga and is being mounted on a larger scale than ever before. After the devotional first single that was warmly received, the Rebel song introduces a more intense, spiritual resistance. Composed by B Ajaneesh Loknath, the track throbs with ritualistic energy — echoing like sacred drums beating through

time. It's not just a song; it's a call to arms steeped in mythology and cultural reverence. Rishab Shetty commands the screen with a raw, grounded energy that fuses warrior spirit with divine devotion. Krishna Kanth's powerful lyrics speak of a people's undying spirit, and Kaala Bhairava's evocative vocals deepen the emotional impact. The musical arrangement, rich with tribal percussions and atmospheric undertones, captures the primal heart of the story. "Rebel" is not just a track to hype action — it underscores the film's deeper theme: the

sacred resistance of man in communion with nature, tradition, and divine duty. It sets the tone for what promises to be a spiritually charged cinematic experience. Produced by Hombale Films, the banner behind pan-India hits like KGF and Salaar, Kantara Chapter 1 continues to push the boundaries of Indian mytho-fantasy cinema. With Rukmini Vasanth joining Shetty in the lead, the film's scale, intensity, and musical depth hint at another milestone moment. The Rebel song is now streaming across platforms — and it's not just a listen, it's a summons

Avika Gor Marries Milind Chandwani IN STAR-STUDED CEREMONY

Popular television actress Avika Gor, best known for her iconic role in Balika Vadhu, has officially tied the knot with her longtime boyfriend Milind Chandwani. The couple, who got engaged in June 2025, celebrated their wedding in a unique and heartwarming ceremony that has since gone viral across social media.

The wedding took place on the vibrant sets of Pati, Patni Aur Panga, blending real life with reel-life charm. The event was attended by several well-known faces from the television and film industry, turning it into a glamorous affair.

Among the star-studded guest list were Hina Khan, Rubina Dilaik, Abhinav Shukla, Gurmeet Choudhary, Debina Bonnerjee, Rocky Jaiswal, and Swara Bhaskar. Adding more sparkle to the occasion were special guests like Krushna Abhishek, Farah Khan, Rakhi Sawant, and Samarth Jurel, who joined the



couple in their joyful celebrations. Avika and Milind shared several candid and emotional moments from their big day on Instagram, which quickly captured the hearts of fans. From heartfelt rituals to fun-filled dances, the couple's chemistry and happiness radiated through every frame, making the photos go viral within hours.

Fans and celebrities alike have flooded social media with wishes and admiration, praising the couple's strong bond and the beautifully intimate nature of the ceremony.

The duo has been open about their relationship over the years, and their wedding marks a new chapter that fans have been eagerly waiting for. With their radiant smiles and genuine love, Avika Gor and Milind Chandwani have made their wedding one of the most talked-about celebrity events of the year.



Vishnu Vishal Returns as Cop in Intense Thriller 'ARYAN'

Tamil actor Vishnu Vishal is back in the thriller space with his upcoming film Aryan, and the newly released teaser promises a gripping investigative drama. Directed by Praveen K, Aryan is all set to hit theatres on October 31, releasing simultaneously in Tamil and Telugu. The teaser, unveiled on

Tuesday, opens with the backdrop of a chilling murder case and quickly escalates into a tense world of crime, suspicion, and pursuit. Vishnu Vishal takes center stage as a powerful and intense police officer, showcasing a gritty performance that has already started drawing comparisons to his breakout role in

Ratsasan. Known for his knack for choosing high-concept thrillers, Vishnu Vishal's return to the genre has set expectations soaring. His transformation into a no-nonsense, sharp-witted cop investigating a complex case forms the core of the teaser's intrigue. The visuals are moody and dark, emphasizing the

psychological edge of the storyline. Aryan features a strong supporting cast including Selvaraghavan, Shraddha Srinath, Manasa Chowdhury, and others in key roles. Each character appears layered and critical to the unfolding mystery. The film's music is composed by Ghibran, whose background score

in the teaser enhances the tension and mood, adding to the thriller's edge. Produced jointly by Shubra, Aryan Ramesh, and Vishnu Vishal himself, Aryan is shaping up to be a taut crime drama with a psychological twist. With its sleek visuals, intense lead performance, and gripping storyline, Aryan looks ready to offer a thrilling cinematic ride this Halloween season. Watch the teaser now and prepare for a crime saga where every clue counts.