



CM CHANDRABABU NAIDU ANNOUNCES ₹1,500 CRORE DIWALI BONANZA FOR INDUSTRIES

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu delivered festive delight to the state's industrial sector this Diwali by announcing the release of long-pending industrial incentives worth ₹1,500 crore. This major decision, seen as a booster for business confidence, reaffirms the state government's commitment to promoting investment and entrepreneurship across Andhra Pradesh. Speaking on the eve of the festival, the Chief Minister said his government is determined to stand by industrialists and business owners who have been crucial partners in the state's growth story.

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For nearly half a century, the red flag has been a constant-if controversial-presence across parts of India, from forested hamlets to pockets of rural unrest. But today, familiar questions echo once again: Are the *annas* who once raised their voices now forgotten? Will those who took up arms in solidarity with the oppressed ever return? Has the long red fight finally reached its end?

G Ravi Kiran

Hyderabad, Oct 19: Once, names of fallen comrades reverberated through villages—martyrs of encounters and underground struggles. In recent years, those echoes have grown faint. The movement that began in Naxalbari and evolved under the Maoist banner has visibly contracted. The red banner still flies in scattered patches, but the unity and momentum that once defined it seem to have faded. Why? Second, changes in land ownership and the



Is It An End Or A Break For The Reds?



Third, the Maoists' own missteps deepened their decline. In many areas, the movement drifted from its roots—the everyday struggles of farmers, tribals, and workers—and grew insular, surviving mainly

within forest zones. As urbanisation, migration, and new aspirations transformed rural India, the promise of a revolutionary future lost resonance. Worse, internal purges, targeted killings, and

ideological rigidity alienated sympathisers. Even when introspection came, it was too late to rebuild trust.

If the Maoists are indeed fading, what does that mean? One hopeful view is that governance has improved and justice now reaches once-neglected corners. But reality is rarely so neat. Where police apathy, judicial inaccessibility, and local exploitation persist, a vacuum remains—and history shows such voids seldom stay empty. When grievance meets opportunity, new forms of organised resistance emerge.

Insurgency, after all, never rises in a vacuum. It feeds on unaddressed injustices—land dispossession, denied rights, absent services, and a sense of state neglect. Unless these roots are tackled with sincerity, the cycle of conflict can easily be reborn under new flags. The question, then, is not just whether the red banners have fallen, but whether the conditions that once raised them have truly changed.

India's response must blend firmness with empathy. Security operations may dismantle armed groups, but de-

velopment, inclusion, and justice alone can prevent the next generation from picking up arms. Fair access to land, transparent policing, swift justice, and political space for dissent are essential to lasting peace.

Ultimately, the Maoist story is a mirror held up to Indian democracy—it asks whether the republic can deliver justice to its remotest citizens. If it can, the red fight will fade into history as a painful but transformative chapter. If not, its embers may yet smoulder under new names, waiting for the wind to rise again.



There are several intertwined reasons.

First, public readiness for armed struggle is no longer what it once was. For a guerrilla movement to thrive, it needs mass support. When the population is unwilling to endure conflict, the movement becomes geographically confined—able to dominate only a few pockets but never the nation's imagination. Over time, state strategies evolved: suppression was not just brute force, but a blend of targeted operations, co-option, and shifting political and economic structures.

NARA LOKESH MEETS TELUGU PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA

Minister Nara Lokesh Rallies Telugu Diaspora in Australia to Rebuild Andhra Pradesh

TPN

VIJAYAWADA / SYDNEY (AUSTRALIA) Oct 19: Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh issued a clarion call for collaboration at the Australia Telugu Diaspora Meet, held at the Brewers Pavilion in the iconic Sydney Cricket Ground. Addressing a spirited gathering of Andhra Pradesh Non-Resident Telugu Society (APN-RTS) members, Lokesh passionately urged the global Telugu community to join hands in rebuilding Andhra Pradesh and rekindling the pride of Telugus everywhere. Lighting the ceremonial lamp,



Lokesh praised the striking presence and influence of Telugus across the globe.

"Wherever you go, from America to Australia, you will find Telugu people. There's no country without Telugus," he emphasized, celebrating the unity and reach of the dias-

pora. Reflecting on recent political turbulence, he recalled how NRIs had mobilized in support of his father, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, after his widely criticized arrest. "You showed that even oceans cannot distance you from your homeland," Lokesh de-

clared, acknowledging their solidarity and commitment.

Lokesh credited Chandrababu Naidu with pioneering the IT revolution that first transformed Andhra Pradesh in the 1990s, at a time many doubted such

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CBN STRESSES ON AI

Visakha CII Summit to Mirror Global Standards: CM Naidu Stresses AI, Innovation, and Knowledge Sharing

TPN

VIJAYAWADA Oct 19: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to ensure that the upcoming Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam, scheduled for November 14 and 15, is or-

ganized on global standards akin to the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos. He said the event should not merely be a summit but a transformative platform for innovation, technology advancement, and policy shaping that would place Andhra Pradesh on the global industrial map.

Reviewing the preparations with senior officials, the Chief Minister emphasized that the Visakha CII Summit must become a knowledge-sharing and collaboration platform that brings together global leaders, policy makers, entrepreneurs, and academicians. "The event should reflect our progressive

vision and demonstrate that the 21st century belongs to India," he asserted. Highlighting the summit's agenda, Naidu stated that plenary and breakout sessions would focus on forward-looking themes such as Artificial Intelligence for Good, Semiconductors, Health Tech,

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DESTROY THE NEW MONSTERS - DIWALI MESSAGE OF PAWAN

Pawan Kalyan's Diwali Message: "Defeat the New Narakasuras with Wisdom"

TPN,

Amravati, October 19: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan extended warm Diwali greetings to the people of the Telugu states on Sunday, blending festive

cheer with a strong political message. Using the occasion to highlight the deeper meaning of the festival, he urged citizens to stand united against forces that seek to divide and mislead society. In a social media post made on the occasion of Diwali, Pawan Kalyan described the

festival as a symbol of triumph light over darkness and good over evil. He emphasized that every festival celebrated in India carries a profound message that guides one's lifestyle and moral values. Diwali, he said, encourages people to dispel ignorance, injustice, and

negativity from their lives. "The festival of Diwali, adorned with lamps and celebrated with tradition, is not just a time for joy but also a time for reflection," he wrote. "We celebrate the victory of righteousness over evil. The spirit of this festival should remind us

that just as Lord Krishna and Satyabhama destroyed Narakasura, people today must stand together to defeat the new kinds of Narakasuras who threaten the peace and unity of society.

"Pawan Kalyan's reference to 'new Narakasuras' reflects his call for

vigilance against individuals or groups who, according to him, constantly attempt to mislead or divide communities for their own gain. He compared these forces to the mythological character Maricha, who changed forms to deceive

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NARA LOKESH MEETS TELUGU PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA

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advancements. “People once mocked computers and flyovers, but today those very initiatives define progress,” he quipped, drawing laughter from the crowd. He hailed Naidu’s unwavering energy and vision even at age 75. “That’s why we call him a visionary, and the other one, a ‘prisoner,’” Lokesh remarked, energizing the diaspora and highlighting the stark difference in leadership.Describing the NRIs as “MRI—Most Reliable Indians,”

Lokesh praised their investment in Andhra’s progress. He especially lauded the efforts of overseas Telugus in the 2024 elections, which resulted in an extraordinary 94 percent alliance victory. “You worked as if you were contesting yourselves. Our alliance’s resounding win reflects your relentless commitment,” Lokesh affirmed, attributing a large share of the government’s success to the diaspora’s involvement and advocacy.Lokesh highlighted several government achievements and unveiled ambitious plans for Andhra Pradesh’s future.

He revealed an impressive ₹10 lakh crore in investments attracted over just 16 months and committed to creating 20 lakh jobs

within the next five years. Outlining a vision for economic transformation, he detailed the establishment of specialized regional hubs: Anantapur for automotive industries, Kurnool for renewable energy, Chittoor and Kadapa for electronics, and Prakasam for compressed biogas. He went on to label Krishna-Guntur the “Quantum Computing Valley” and projected North Andhra as the forthcoming capital of India’s data, pharmaceutical, and medical devices sectors.

Emphasizing the strong Centre-State partnership, Lokesh credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for helping bring major projects like Google City and the NTPC Green Energy Project to Andhra Pradesh. “Even Google’s arrival here was made possible only because of Central support,” he stated, thanking the Union Government for its instrumental role and policy amendments.Lokesh also noted the strategic alliance with Jana Sena leader Pawan Kalyan, expressing a unified commitment to propel Andhra Pradesh to the top among Indian states.

“For the next 15 years, we will press forward together

to prevent any repeats of past hardships,” he assured.Concluding his address, Lokesh called upon NRIs to become global brand ambassadors for Andhra Pradesh in their workplaces and circles. He announced a new NRI support wing within APNRTS, in collaboration with the Economic Development Board, to fully back entrepreneurs and job creators. Citing statistics, he highlighted that Australia is home to more than 75,000 Telugus and 21,000 Telugu students, with an additional 25,000 in New Zealand.

“Through the OMCAP initiative, we aim to provide overseas job opportunities to one lakh youth,” he said. “Together, we can rewrite history and build a prosperous 2.4-trillion-dollar Andhra economy.”The meet saw the participation of India’s Consul General in Sydney, Dr S Janaki Raman, APNRTS President Dr Vemuri Ravi Kumar, and distinguished community leaders including Venkatesh Enikepati, Kishore Balusu, Vijay Chennupati, Naveen Kumar Nelavalli, and Vishwanath Dasari. The message was clear: The journey to a resurgent Andhra Pradesh is a collective endeavor, with the Telugu diaspora standing as its strongest pillar.

CBN STRESSES ON AI

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Research and Development, Space Technologies, Drones, Electronics, and MedTech. The discussions will also cover Smart Manufacturing, Logistics, Connectivity, Inland Waterways, Warehousing, Cold Storage, Agri-Tech, Circular Economy, and value addition in Rare Earth Minerals. In addition, policy dialogues are expected on the Swachhandhra and P-4 (People, Public, Private, Partnership) programmes.

The Chief Minister noted that Visakhapatnam is rapidly transforming into a key technology hub, especially with Google’s decision to build a large-scale AI Data Centre in the city. “Global companies are increasingly showing interest in establishing their operations in Visakhapatnam. This is an opportunity for Andhra Pradesh to lead the next wave of digital transfor-

mation,” he said. Naidu underlined that skill development, innovation-driven education, and human resource enhancement must form the foundation of the state’s technological progress.

In keeping with his vision of creating a knowledge-based economy, the Chief Minister instructed officials to involve major universities, research bodies, and educational institutions in the summit. He said fostering close collaboration between academia, industry, and government was essential to strengthen the innovation ecosystem. To build an entrepreneurial culture in every household, he urged promotion of the “One Family–One Entrepreneur” initiative across the state.Naidu further outlined that the Visakha CII Summit should also serve as a showcase of Andhra Pradesh’s futuristic devel-

opment model.

He said the event must highlight the state’s focus on Economic Corridors, Industrial Clusters, Water Security Initiatives, Amaravati’s Blue and Green Capital concept, and the integration of technology in governance. The Chief Minister reiterated that these themes should demonstrate Andhra Pradesh’s preparedness to become a global hub for AI-driven industries, sustainable infrastructure, and investor confidence.Reaffirming his commitment to making Andhra Pradesh a model of innovation-led growth, Naidu concluded that the CII Partnership Summit would mark a milestone in the state’s journey toward global competitiveness and inclusive prosperity. “This summit must set new benchmarks for policy innovation, collaboration, and global outreach,” he emphasized.

CENTRE BRINGS FLEXIBILITY IN DIGITAL CROP SURVEY NORMS

Centre Eases Digital Crop Survey Norms; Exempts Fallow and Non-Agricultural Lands, e-Panta Registration to Conclude by October 30, Says Agriculture Director Dr Manazir Jilaani Samoon.

TPN

Vijayawada Oct 19: In a significant move to accelerate completion of the ongoing Digital Crop Survey under the e-Panta programme, the Central Government has approved key relaxations allowing exemption of fallow lands, aqua farming zones, and non-agricultural areas such as canals, roads, and buildings from mandatory registration.Director of Agriculture, Dr Manazir Jilaani Samoon, announced the decision in a press release on Sunday, stating that the Union Ministry of Agriculture issued new directions in response to a request from the State Government seeking operational flexibility.

The decision is aimed at ensuring faster completion of land parcel registration for the Kharif-2025 season. Dr Samoon explained that earlier guidelines issued in July required all land parcels to be surveyed. Accord-

ingly, the Agriculture Department had downloaded detailed records of 2.92 crore land parcels from Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs) across the State. Since the launch of the e-Panta app on July 15, about 1.59 crore parcels have been successfully registered, marking 55 percent of the total target.

“Of the remaining 1.33 crore parcels, most are non-cultivable or inaccessible. Only a limited portion is currently under active cultivation,” Dr Samoon said, noting that the new relaxations would help streamline data collection and reduce duplication.The Centre’s decision followed a detailed review meeting held on October 16 at the State Secretariat, chaired by Rajeev Chawla, IAS, Agristack Chief Officer, Government of India. During the meeting, the State’s proposal to exempt non-cultivable lands from survey was officially approved.

Subsequently, the National Informatics Centre (NIC)

developed and distributed a new e-Panta application module enabling RSK staff to identify and mark exempted parcels.Dr Samoon instructed all RSK personnel to complete the identification of non-surveyable lands within two days, providing appropriate reasons for each exemption. He emphasized that e-Panta registration for all eligible land parcels must be completed by October 30 without fail.

Giving an update on district-level performance, he said Prakasam District leads the State with 71 percent completion, followed by Kakinada (68%) and Anantapur (67%). The lowest progress was recorded in Visakhapatnam (33%), ASR (38%), and Anakapalli (39%).He directed District Agriculture Officers to ensure quick communication of the revised Central guidelines to all field-level staff and RSKs to achieve 100 percent registration within the stipulated deadline.

DESTROY THE NEW MONSTERS - DIWALI MESSAGE OF PAWAN

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others, implying that such modern-day elements also disguise their motives under different guises. “These new Narakasuras act out of resentment after being defeated by the people’s will,” Pawan remarked. While pretending to serve public interests, they create discord and unrest within society. People must remain alert and continue to expose and

defeat such deceptive forces in the democratic battle.

Urging caution and unity, Pawan Kalyan appealed to the public not to fall prey to divisive agendas. He said that collective awareness and public participation in democratic resistance are essential to safeguarding social harmony and justice. “Society should always be ready to teach such elements a lesson,” he

added emphatically. The Deputy Chief Minister also directed a special message to women, encouraging them to draw strength from the character of Satyabhama, whose courage and righteousness played a key role in the defeat of Narakasura. He described Satyabhama as a symbol of women’s strength, societal leadership, and moral clarity.

Concluding his post on a thoughtful note, Pawan Kalyan urged citizens to celebrate Diwali responsibly. He advised people, especially children, to take safety precautions while bursting firecrackers and to opt for environmentally friendly celebrations. “Let Diwali not only brighten homes but also inspire us to light the flame of awareness, truth, and unity in our society,”

he wrote. Pawan’s message has struck a chord with his supporters and sparked discussion online, with many praising his blend of festive wishes and political foresight. As lights fill the streets this Diwali, his call to fight the “new Narakasuras” stands as a reminder that the spirit of good governance, truth, and unity must continue to prevail.

CM SEEKS REPORT ON RALLAPADU MURDER

TPN BUREAU,

RALLAPADU, OCT 19: CM Orders Probe Report on Rallapadu Murder; Ministers Visit the Village. A serious political uproar has erupted in Nellore district following the brutal murder of Tirmalasetti Lakshminayudu of Rallapadu village, Gudluru mandal. In response to the intensifying controversy, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha to visit the village along with coalition leaders and submit a detailed report on the incident. The Chief Minister issued strict instructions to ensure a transparent investigation and hold those responsible accountable. According to police re-

ports, the murder took place a few days ago when Lakshminayudu and his brothers were traveling on a two-wheeler.

They were allegedly hit by a car driven by Harischandra Prasad, a resident of the same village. The collision proved fatal for Lakshminayudu, while his brothers sustained injuries. The investigation revealed that the killing resulted from personal enmity rather than any political or communal motive. Police acted swiftly, arresting the accused and remanding him to judicial custody. However, the incident has taken a political turn after opposition leaders began accusing the ruling alliance of shielding certain individuals. The government, taking note

of the escalating tensions, decided to conduct an in-depth probe to prevent misinformation and ensure justice.

Home Minister Anitha and Minister Narayana visited Rallapadu village today to gather firsthand information about the case and to meet the victim’s family members. They assured them that the government would see to it that strict legal action is pursued without any political bias. Meanwhile, Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu strongly condemned the attempts to give the murder a caste or political colour. Speaking to the media, he criticized the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) for “painting the crime with a caste brush” and spreading baseless propaganda for political

gain. “This is a purely personal dispute that tragically ended in murder. What does caste have to do with it?” he questioned, expressing his displeasure at the opposition’s conduct.

Ramanaidu went on to accuse the YSRCP of engaging in “cheap and bankrupt politics,” trying to exploit human tragedy for political mileage. He said that while the current government had already ensured the arrest of the accused, the opposition was attempting to mislead the public through emotional and divisive narratives. “People are disgusted by the YSRCP’s perverse theatrics. They can clearly see the difference between responsible governance and reckless rumor-mongering,” he

stated.

The minister further warned that spreading unfounded allegations or communal rumours under the guise of politics would not be tolerated. He urged citizens to trust the legal process and not fall prey to misinformation. The state government, he emphasized, is committed to fair justice and law enforcement, irrespective of political affiliations. As the probe intensifies, officials are expected to submit a comprehensive report to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in the coming days. The government’s decision to intervene swiftly underscores its intent to ensure peace and justice in the region, even as political tempers continue to rise across Nellore district.

INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES HEARTFULLY HAILED - AP CHAMBERS

TPN /

Vijayawada, Oct 19: AP Chambers Hails Release of ₹1,500 Crore Industrial Incentive, Calls it a Boost for MSMEs

The Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation (AP Chambers) has lauded the state government’s announcement of releasing ₹1,500 crore towards pending industrial incentives, calling it a decisive step in rejuvenating the state’s industrial sector. The decision, which comes as the first instalment in clearing long-overdue dues, was announced by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu as part of his government’s commitment to revitalizing industry and entrepreneurship across the state.Welcoming the move, AP Chambers stated that the release marks a turning point for thousands of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that have been struggling to maintain liquidity and operations in the face of financial stress.

The incentives are expected to provide significant relief to industrial units that were awaiting reimbursements under various government support schemes such as investment subsidies, power subsidies, and interest reimbursements. AP Chambers officials noted that the organization had been persistently pursuing the issue with the government, emphasizing the importance of timely support to ensure that industries remain competitive and viable. The Chamber said that the proactive response from the state leadership reflects a renewed commitment to creating a robust, investor-friendly environment in Andhra Pradesh.

“The release of ₹1,500 crore in industrial incentives is not just financial relief—it is a statement of confidence from the government to the business community,” said AP Chambers representatives. “It will help thousands of MSME units stabilize operations,

clear backlogs, and plan growth-oriented investments.”They added that the release would have a multiplier effect on employment generation and production, as MSMEs play a crucial role in the state’s economy, accounting for a large share of manufacturing, trade, and exports. By easing liquidity constraints, the state’s decision is expected to trigger fresh investments and expansion in sectors such as textiles, food processing, electronics, and auto components.

AP Chambers also urged the government to consider releasing an additional instalment of incentives before the Global Business Summit scheduled for November 14 in Visakhapatnam. The Chamber suggested that releasing another tranche of funds before the event would send a strong message to domestic and international investors about Andhra Pradesh’s proactive governance and commitment to industrial growth. The summit, which is expected to attract global investors, industry leaders, and policymakers, is being positioned as an important platform to showcase Andhra Pradesh’s business potential and infrastructure strengths.

AP Chambers believes that timely financial support to local industries will further strengthen the state’s credibility as an industry-friendly destination ahead of the summit.Under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Andhra Pradesh has been regaining momentum as one of India’s most promising industrial states. The revival of industrial incentives, combined with ongoing efforts to streamline approvals, enhance infrastructure, and ensure stable power supply, is fueling optimism among entrepreneurs. With renewed support and policy consistency, the state’s industrial sector is poised to scale new heights and reinforce Andhra Pradesh’s reputation as a destination for sustainable industrial growth.

DAVALESWARAM BARRAGE TOWARDS RENAISSANCE



TPN | East Godavari, Oct 19: Dhavaleswaram Irrigation Circle Set for a Major Revival: Eastern, Central Deltas to Return. The historic Dhavaleswaram Irrigation Circle, once the pride of the Godavari delta region, appears set to regain its past glory. Known for the illustrious legacy of Sir Arthur Cotton, who built the Dhavaleswaram barrage

and laid the foundation for the modern irrigation system of the region, the circle housed the offices of the Eastern, Central, and Western deltas under its administrative jurisdiction. However, this iconic setup witnessed major changes during the previous YSRCP government, when certain political pressures led to the shifting of the East-

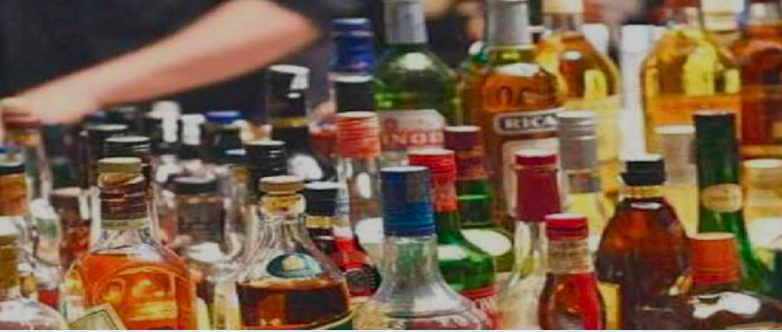
ern and Central delta offices to the newly formed Konaseema district. Now, under the current unified government, efforts are reportedly underway to bring the Eastern and Central delta administrative offices back under the Dhavaleswaram Irrigation Circle. In a press meet held in Rajahmundry on Saturday, Anaparthi BJP MLA Nallamilli Ramakrishna

Reddy confirmed that proposals for restoring the deltas to their original circle have been prepared and submitted. His statement has stirred both political circles and the local farming community, sparking hope for the revival of Dhavaleswaram's irrigation heritage. Farmers across the Godavari belt view this move as a long-overdue

correction. The Eastern, Central, and Western deltas drawn from the Dhavaleswaram barrage provide life-sustaining irrigation across vast stretches of East Godavari district. When the Eastern and Central deltas were pushed under Konaseema's jurisdiction, confusion over administrative boundaries, staff transfers, and technical coordination disrupted irrigation management. Many farmers have repeatedly voiced that keeping these systems under Dhavaleswaram's circle ensures better synchronization and operational efficiency. Nallamilli's clarification has reignited this debate. "The separation of Eastern and Central deltas from Dhavaleswaram was a purely political decision. Now, under the Centre-State joint governance model, we have initiated steps to bring them back under the Dhavaleswaram Circle's jurisdiction," he stated. His remarks have generated political interest, with speculations arising whether the BJP is once again pushing its East Godavari development agenda to the forefront. The Dhavaleswaram barrage is not just an engineering landmark, it is also deeply tied to the political and emotional sentiment of East Godavari residents. The delta systems irrigate over 1.5 lakh acres of fertile land, and administrative disruptions have impacted thousands of cultivators dependent on steady water supply. With the deltas potentially returning to Dhavaleswaram, locals believe that both technical and emotional continuity will be restored. However, implementation won't be easy. Reorganizing irrigation circles involves complex administrative, technical, and budgetary restructuring. The depart-

ments previously created under Konaseema's governance would need reassessment, and staff redistribution must be carefully managed. Officials highlight that such reconfiguration demands a balance between local sentiment and engineering practicality. For Dhavaleswaram residents, the news brings optimism. The once-empty offices that housed the Eastern and Central delta departments might soon resume operations, signaling a revival of the area's administrative significance. Locals expressed joy following Nallamilli's announcement, viewing it as a restoration of the renowned Dhavaleswaram system envisioned by Arthur Cotton. Political analysts see the move as multifaceted, it boosts regional morale, addresses farmers' longstanding grievances, and rekindles BJP's development narrative in East Godavari. Yet, the challenges ahead include aligning resources and ensuring seamless coordination between the Dhavaleswaram and Konaseema departments. As discussions gain momentum, the Dhavaleswaram Irrigation Circle stands at the brink of a historic reawakening. The return of the Eastern and Central deltas would not only reestablish its status as the administrative nucleus of Godavari's irrigation network but may also mark a turning point in how regional governance integrates heritage with modern efficiency. If the proposals come through, Dhavaleswaram will once again emerge as the heart of an intricate water system that has nourished generations and symbolized the engineering brilliance and political evolution of East Godavari's fertile lands.

RULING PARTY PERSONS IN LIQUOR SCAM?!



YSRCP Alleges TDP Involvement in Spurious Liquor Scam; Questions Government Silence. TPN / Vijayawada / Hyderabad, Oct 19: The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) has launched a fresh offensive against the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP), accusing it of being directly involved in the ongoing spurious liquor scam and attempting to divert public attention through fabricated stories. Addressing a press conference on Sunday, former minister Jogi Ramesh alleged that the Chandrababu Naidu-led government was deeply entangled in the illicit liquor trade that has caused widespread concern across the state. He asserted that both Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh were manipulating the narrative by blaming the YSRCP for the scandal to cover up their own government's involvement. "Chandrababu

and Lokesh are spinning tales to protect their associates' shady activities. The truth has come out, and the people now know who is actually behind the spurious liquor network," Ramesh said. He charged that the government was using TDP's propaganda machinery to make false claims against the YSRCP, branding its defensive tactics as classic diversion politics. The YSRCP leader also questioned why there has been no official probe into the alleged role of TDP leader Addepalli Janardhan in the liquor racket, despite repeated calls for an inquiry. "When they claim to be champions of transparency, why is there no investigation into those from their own party? This silence exposes TDP's complicity," he remarked. Reiterating his willingness to undergo a lie detector test to prove his statements, Jogi Ramesh accused Chandrababu Naidu of deriving "vi-

carious pleasure" by targeting and harassing opposition leaders under the guise of law enforcement. He condemned the arrests and alleged intimidation of YSRCP activists, terming them as politically motivated actions aimed at silencing dissent. Ramesh further highlighted the irony of the state's worsening drinking water scarcity while liquor outlets both legal and illegal continue to flourish. "There may be no water in many villages, but there is absolutely no shortage of liquor. Illegal outlets have mushroomed in every nook and corner of Andhra Pradesh," he said, adding that the government's indifference toward such issues reveals misplaced priorities. The former minister demanded an impartial investigation into the scam, urging the state government to stop "shifting blame" and begin cleaning up its own ranks instead of targeting the opposition.

I SHALL CONCLUDE THE MATTER - KALIKAPUDI ON KESINENI

TPN BUREAU, TIRUVURU, OCT 19: MLA Kolikapudi Srinivas Rao Levels Serious Allegations Against MP Kesineni Chinni in Tiruvuru NTR District, Vijayawada: In a significant political development causing ripples within the ranks of the party, Tiruvuru MLA Kolikapudi Srinivas Rao has launched a scathing attack against Vijayawada MP Kesineni Chinni, accusing him of corruption and misuse of party authority. The MLA alleged that Chinni has been selling party posts and operating a network of favoritism through his close aide Kishore, who functions as the MP's personal assistant. Speaking at a press meet



in Tiruvuru, Kolikapudi alleged that the MP has been using his official office to decide party committees and distribute positions in exchange for money. "Kesineni Chinni is sitting in his office and selling party posts. Party integrity is being compromised for personal

gain. This situation is unacceptable," he declared, calling for action from the party high command. Kolikapudi further claimed that this culture of corruption is not new. He recalled that earlier party leader Surapaneni Raja had also allegedly sold party designations in Tiruvuru and extorted money

from local aspirants for nominated posts. "History is repeating itself. What happened under Raja's influence is now continuing under Chinni and his team," the MLA charged. The MLA directly accused the MP's assistant, Kishore, of running what he described as "a parallel mafia" in sand and ration operations across the region. "Kishore is completely controlling the sand and ration mafia in Tiruvuru. He is also selling party positions for money. This has damaged the image of our party and created frustration among honest members," Kolikapudi stated. In a strong warning, the MLA announced that he and other concerned leaders plan to take these issues directly to the party's central leadership. "We will present all the evidence to the party high command. On the 24th of this month, we are all going to the central office to expose this entire scandal. We will settle this once and for all," he asserted. The remarks have stirred tension within local party circles, as supporters of the MP and the MLA have begun to take opposing sides. With the allegations gaining traction in NTR district political circles, the matter is expected to draw a serious response from the party's central command in the coming days.

READY FOR LIE DETECTOR TEST - JOGI RAMESH

Jogi Ramesh Slams Chandrababu Government Over Alleged Fake Liquor Scandal. TPN, Hyderabad, October 19: Senior YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader and former Andhra Pradesh Minister Jogi Ramesh launched a scathing attack on the Chandrababu Naidu-led state government, accusing it of being submerged in a web of counterfeit liquor and corruption. He described the ruling administration as a "fake government" led by "fake leaders," targeting both Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh for allegedly deceiving the public with false promises and fabricated

narratives. Speaking at a press conference held at Somajiguda Press Club in Hyderabad on Sunday, Ramesh alleged that the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) government had been using misinformation campaigns to divert attention from its failures. He said that instead of addressing the serious issue of fake liquor production and distribution, the regime was trying to shift the blame onto the YSRCP. "Chandrababu Naidu wants to cover up the massive fake liquor racket by pointing fingers at us," Jogi Ramesh said. "The same IVRS call systems used during election campaigning are being misused for the

sale and promotion of spurious liquor. Why is there no inquiry into where this fake liquor is being manufactured and supplied from?" Ramesh further alleged that the TDP government had extended red-carpet treatment to Addepalli Janardhan, a figure allegedly linked to the liquor network. He said both Janardhan and the TDP had formed an illicit alliance, while the government was ignoring all calls for a transparent investigation. Challenging the leadership directly, Jogi Ramesh dared Chief Minister Naidu to subject him to a lie detector test, declaring that he was ready to face any inquiry.



"If the government believes it has truth on its side, let them test me anywhere, anytime. I will appear before any investigation panel," he asserted. The YSRCP leader went on to make a sharp social remark, saying that under Naidu's rule, "there are more belt shops than drinking water taps in Andhra Pradesh," comparing the proliferation of liquor

outlets to a governance failure. He likened the state's liquor policy to "door-delivered intoxication," accusing the administration of profiting from people's misery. Ramesh concluded by warning that the people of Andhra Pradesh would soon see through what he called the TDP's "fabricated governance built on deceit, corruption, and propaganda."

POLICE BLOCKS JAKKAPUDI'S VEHICLES



Rajamahendravaram | October 19, 2025 A brief but tense confrontation between the police and former MLA Jakkampudi Raja, the State Youth Wing President of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), triggered a political storm in Andhra Pradesh on Sunday. The incident occurred when police personnel reportedly stopped Raja's vehicle while he was traveling to attend a local event in Rajamahendravaram, leading to visible displeasure and protest from the opposition leader.

According to eyewitnesses, the police flagged down Raja's convoy near the city outskirts, citing routine checks. However, party supporters accompanying the leader claimed the stop ap-

peared deliberate and politically motivated. Angered by the interruption, Raja stepped out of his car and chose to walk to the venue on foot, surrounded by a growing crowd of local sympathizers who expressed solidarity with him. YSR Congress Party leaders strongly condemned what they termed as "a clear act of harassment under political pressure." They alleged that the police action reflected "a dangerous trend of using law enforcement to suppress opposition voices" at a time when political tensions were already running high. Several local YSRCP members demanded an official explanation and threatened to launch a statewide protest if such incidents con-

tinued. Addressing media persons shortly after the event, Raja criticized the police for overstepping their authority and disrespecting elected representatives. "This is not the right way for the police to behave in a democracy," he said, emphasizing that such actions erode public trust in governance. "Blocking public representatives without valid reason not only insults individuals but undermines constitutional values." While the police department has yet to issue an official clarification regarding the stop, sources within the administration suggested that the action may have been part of a broader security protocol ahead of an unrelated VIP movement.

However, no confirmation has been made public so far. The confrontation adds to the growing strain between the YSRCP and the ruling coalition, which have been trading accusations over administrative bias and political interference in law enforcement activities. The YSR Congress Party has warned that it will pursue both legal and political recourse if what it calls "targeted policing" persists. The episode has now taken on wider significance, symbolizing the fragile relationship between the state's opposition and the government, as Andhra Pradesh navigates an increasingly charged pre-election atmosphere.



POLICE COMMEMORATION DAYS TO OBSERVE



10-Day Police Commemoration Programs from October 21 to 31

TPN/Vijayawada Oct 19: Andhra Pradesh Police will observe a 10-day series of Police Commemoration Day programs from October 21 to 31 to pay tribute to the brave police personnel who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. The annual observance salutes their unwavering courage, commitment to national security, and dedication to maintaining peace and democracy. Police Commemoration Day is observed nationwide every year on October 21. The tradition dates back to 1959, when ten policemen of the Central Reserve Police Force, led by Sub-Inspector Karam Singh, were martyred in an ambush by Chinese troops at Hot

Springs in Ladakh.

Their heroic resistance at 16,000 feet in freezing conditions remains a proud symbol of devotion to duty. Since then, October 21 has been marked to honour the supreme sacrifice of police martyrs across India. This year's observance will begin with the Police Commemoration Parade at 7:30 a.m. on October 21 at the APSP 6th Battalion Grounds in Mangalagiri. The Chief Minister and Home Minister are expected to attend the solemn ceremony, which will include a two-minute silence, the reading of martyrs' names from across the nation, and a ceremonial salute. Photo exhibitions and portraits depicting the bravery and humanitarian service of police

personnel during disasters and rescue operations will also be displayed at the venue.

From October 22 to 30, police officers will visit the homes, schools, and native places of martyrs to honour their families and highlight their contributions to the public. District and commissionerate headquarters, along with training institutions, will host "Open House" exhibitions showcasing equipment, rescue vehicles, and interactive sessions for students and citizens. A variety of community welfare activities have been planned during the 10-day observance, including medical camps, essay and elocution contests, cultural programs, and sports events.

A 10 km marathon in

Vijayawada will encourage citizen participation and foster stronger bonds between the public and the police force. On October 31, National Unity Day all police units will conduct a Unity Run in the morning followed by a Candle Rally in the evening to reaffirm national solidarity. The Andhra Pradesh Police Welfare Society has announced significant welfare measures this year, including 8.25 crore spent on annual health checkups for 72,000 personnel, reinstatement of the Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme with 45 lakh coverage, 4.67 crore in student scholarships for police families, and financial aid exceeding 4 crore for bereaved families.

CM Chandrababu Naidu Participates in Diwali Celebrations at Punnami Ghat

TPN/VIJAYAWADA, Oct 19: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu participated in grand Diwali celebrations held at Punnami Ghat on the banks of the Krishna River on Saturday evening. Amid festive lights, fireworks and a vibrant cultural display, the Chief Minister extended greetings to the people of the state and highlighted the government's recent reforms and development agenda.



Speaking on the occasion, the CM said the state government had been organizing the GST Reform Celebrations from Dasara to Diwali to create awareness about the benefits of tax reforms. He mentioned that he personally visited several street vendors and shopkeepers in Vijayawada to understand how the GST reforms were benefiting citizens and small traders.

"The people of Andhra Pradesh have used their vote as a weapon to drive away the darkness of misrule. They defeated the forces that oppressed the state," Chandrababu Naidu said, referring to the mandate that brought the TDP-Jana Sena-BJP alliance to power with an impressive 94% strike rate.

The Chief Minister

noted that the state's financial condition, which was in a critical state earlier, had been revived with the Centre's support. "In just 16 months, we have put the state's economy back on track," he stated, adding that employees, police personnel and RTC workers have been given financial benefits under the Super Six welfare schemes.

Naidu announced the release of one DA (Dearness Allowance) for government employees, the sanction of one earned leave encashment for police personnel and promotions for APSRTC employees as part of the festive bonanza. He also said that the government would soon streamline the Employees Health Scheme (EHS).

Highlighting the economic impact of GST rate cuts, the Chief Minister said that the reductions have benefited people, traders and industries alike, saving around 15,000 per family annually.

On infrastructure and growth, Chandrababu Naidu said that the construction of Amaravati was progressing rapidly and that every household should have at least one entrepreneur to drive industrial growth. "Andhra Pradesh must transform into an AI-powered state," he said.

The CM noted that the upcoming Google Data Center in Visakhapatnam would enable the state to provide digital services to other countries, strengthening its technological edge. He reiterated that the Pola-

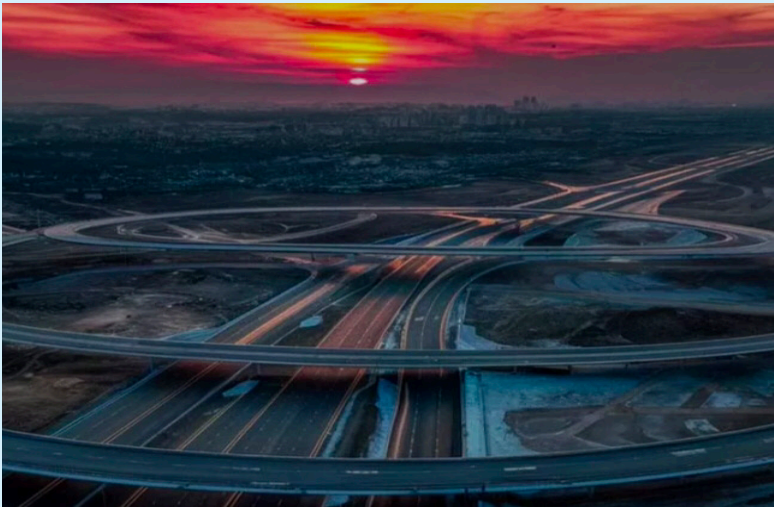
varam Project would be completed and dedicated to the nation by December 2027.

Through the P4 (Public-Private-People Partnership) model, the government aims to uplift the poor and enhance their standard of living, he said.

Looking ahead, the Chief Minister expressed confidence that by 2047, India would emerge as the world's number one nation, with "Swarna Andhra" (Golden Andhra Pradesh) leading from the front.

"People's economic conditions will significantly improve, and all we need is stable and sustainable governance," Chandrababu Naidu said, extending warm Diwali greetings to the citizens of Andhra Pradesh.

OUTER RING ROAD FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH



Amaravati Outer Ring Road to Propel Andhra Pradesh's Economic Growth

Ch. Pradeep Kumar, TPN/VIJAYAWADA, Oct 19: Amaravati's long-awaited Outer Ring Road (ORR) project is set to reshape Andhra Pradesh's economic and infrastructure landscape. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has finalized and submitted the Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), paving the way for official approval and early commencement of construction. Conceived as an expansive 190-kilometer, six-lane expressway, the Amaravati ORR will surpass Hyderabad's 158-km ring road in scale and design.

Divided into 12 execution packages for timely completion, the project is envisioned not just as a transit corridor but as a catalyst for industrial growth, urban expansion, and regional connectivity across the capital re-

gion. According to the revised DPR, the project will feature a 140-meter-wide expressway with service and link roads, two major bridges across the Krishna River, two tunnels through forest areas, and two spur roads. The total cost is estimated at 24,791 crore, with the state government contributing 3,117 crore. The earlier plan, prepared in 2016, projected a cost of 12,000-16,310 crore, but expanded design elements and inflation have significantly increased expenses. The ORR's alignment will connect key districts including NTR, Krishna, Eluru, Guntur, and Palnadu, linking six national highways while traversing 23 mandals and 121 villages. It includes 51 minor bridges, 21 major bridges, and 19 underpasses, as per Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) reports.

Officials emphasize that the project will provide a vital boost to Andhra Pradesh's industrial and logistics sectors. With enhanced connectivity,

it is expected to attract large-scale investments, foster new industrial corridors, and promote the establishment of IT parks, logistics hubs, and residential townships. The proposed twin bridges and eco-sensitive tunnels are designed to balance development with environmental sustainability.

Though the financial burden of 24,791 crore poses challenges, the long-term advantages are substantial, ranging from employment generation and improved transport efficiency to tourism development and higher GDP contribution. Once the Union Ministry grants final approval, tender invitations will follow, and construction is likely to commence by 2026. Upon completion, Amaravati's ORR will serve as a backbone for the state's capital region, transforming it into a vibrant, sustainable, and investment-friendly hub, positioning Andhra Pradesh among South India's emerging economic powerhouses.

COMMAND CONTROL CENTRE READY

High-Tech CRDA Headquarters Inaugurated in Amaravati, Featuring Integrated Command and Control Center.

TPN, Amaravati, October 19: A major milestone in the development of Andhra Pradesh's capital region was achieved with the completion of the new headquarters of the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) in Amaravati. The state-of-the-art building reflects cutting-edge administrative design and technological innovation, symbolizing the region's rapid progress toward becoming a smart capital city. The building's highlight is the advanced Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC), developed in the lower floors of the complex.

Equipped with massive LED display screens, this center is designed to



monitor, analyze, and manage the entire capital city's functions from a single hub. It will serve as the nerve center for overseeing urban development, infrastructure growth, land pooling operations, and real-time progress tracking of various projects. CRDA officials explained that the

ICCC will receive continuous data streams from CCTV cameras, drones, GIS mapping systems, IoT sensors, and field images.

The information will be displayed on interactive dashboards, enabling on-the-spot decisions and swift corrective measures. The system is

not limited to urban planning alone but is integrated with multiple public service modules, allowing immediate action on citizen grievances and effective urban management. Around 30 trained staff members will work in shifts to ensure 24/7 operations. The facility includes a main monitoring hall, conference rooms, and multiple situation rooms to handle emergencies, operational reviews, and strategic planning.

Authorities have installed high-quality CCTV cameras in various project zones to capture real-time visuals of development works. Drone-based 360-degree inspections will further enhance transparency and accuracy in project supervision. The center will also maintain a public grievance database, tracking the progress of complaints, pending is-

suues, and resolutions across multiple civic departments. A unique feature of the ICCC is its Land Pooling and Allocation Monitoring System, which stores detailed records of land contributors, plot allocations, registration statuses, and notices issued for acquisition.

Officials will also analyze how many institutions have been allotted land, which projects have commenced construction, and what measures are needed to expedite pending works. With this futuristic system now operational, Amaravati's CRDA headquarters stands as a model of digital governance, promising transparent administration, efficient infrastructure monitoring, and citizen-centric urban management all from one integrated command hub.

TO DUTY ON BICYCLE - COLLECTOR BALAJI

Collector DK Balaji Promotes Eco-Friendly Living by Cycling Across Machilipatnam.

TPN, Machilipatnam (Collectorate), Oct 19: Promoting the values of clean transport and environmental conservation, Krishna District Collector DK Balaji has emerged as a symbol of eco-conscious leadership by making cycling a regular part of his routine. His initiative not only inspires government officials but also spreads awareness among the citizens of Machilipatnam about the importance of reducing air and noise pollution.

Determined to lead by example, the Collector

has been using a bicycle for his daily commute within the city whenever possible, urging residents to minimize their use of motor vehicles. His message is clear: only use fuel-based transport when absolutely necessary, and embrace sustainable alternatives like cycling for better health and a cleaner environment. Earlier this week, in one of his remarkable eco-awareness gestures, DK Balaji cycled nearly 13 kilometers from the Collectorate to Manginapudi Beach, showing his commitment toward curbing pollution and promoting fitness.

His dedication has drawn public attention, making locals appreciate

his hands-on approach to environmental stewardship. As part of the Swachh Andhra initiative on Saturday, Collector Balaji led a large-scale Cycling Rally joined by district officials and staff. The rally started from the Zilla Parishad Convention Hall and extended to Mudu Stambhala Center, attracting public participation and wide enthusiasm. The event's purpose was to reinforce awareness about cleanliness, healthy living, and the State Government's "Swarna Andhra - Swachh Andhra" mission.

During the rally, the Collector administered the Swachh Andhra



Pledge to participants and local residents, committing themselves to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings and to promote eco-friendly habits. Residents and youth volunteers were seen joining in the pledge with high enthusiasm, reflecting a growing environmental consciousness across the district. Following the rally, DK Balaji returned from the program to his office on his bicycle itself, continuing his commitment to sustainable commuting. Later in the evening,

he once again used the same bicycle to attend a press meet at the ZP Convention Hall, proving that his campaign for a pollution-free Krishna district is not limited to symbolic gestures but practiced consistently in everyday life. By the end of the day, the Collector had covered several kilometers across Machilipatnam—all by bicycle—demonstrating that eco-friendly habits, when adopted sincerely by public officials, can motivate the community to follow suit.

JANASENA CORPORATOR THREATENS



Land Dispute Sparks Allegations Against Jana Sena Corporator Murthy Yadav Visakhapatnam, October 19: A controversy surrounding land acquired under the Master Plan in the outskirts of Visakhapatnam took a new turn as several affected residents alleged intimidation and misinformation at the hands of Jana Sena Party corporator Murthy Yadav. The aggrieved landowners, led by Garapati Sharath Chandra, addressed a press conference at the Visakhapatnam Journalists' Forum (VJF) Press Club in Daba Gardens on Sunday, where they re-

futed all allegations of irregularities and defended the legality of their land ownership. Speaking at the press meet, Sharath Chandra categorically denied media reports suggesting fraudulent activities in the issuance of Transferable Development Rights (TDRs). "There are absolutely no irregularities in the TDR process. The lands in question are neither government nor temple properties," he said, emphasizing that the group had acquired the lands legally through open government auctions several years ago. Sharath Chandra alleged that corporator Murthy Yadav had demanded fa-

vors from them, and upon their refusal, he started spreading false narratives and engaging in a campaign of intimidation. "Since we did not fulfill his expectations, he is targeting us by making baseless accusations and attempting to defame us through local channels," he stated. According to the victims, the land parcels at Vepagunta village, which fall under the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) jurisdiction, were purchased through transparent means, backed by official documents. They accused certain vested interests of misusing the

media to mislead the public and create unnecessary controversies to derail the development projects proposed under the Master Plan. Responding to allegations published under sensational headlines such as "TDR Names Swaha," Sharath Chandra clarified that those stories carried no factual basis. "The reports claiming TDR fraud are misleading. We have followed every due legal procedure, and the court verdict also stands in our favor," he noted. The affected families further stated that they have full faith in the judiciary and are confident that the compensation due under

the current guidelines will be awarded soon. "We are law-abiding citizens who have invested our life savings in legitimate property. We expect fair compensation, not misinformation or threats," they said. Sources present at the conference mentioned that Murthy Yadav had allegedly tried to exert pressure through intermediaries and create panic among small plot owners by hinting at possible demolition or reallocation under the development plan. However, GVMC officials have not confirmed any such developments or actions against the landowners so far. The issue has triggered a local political debate, as opposition voices have started questioning the conduct of elected representatives in municipal matters. Social activists have urged the district administration to initiate an impartial inquiry into the matter and ensure that citizens' rights are safeguarded. The press meet concluded with the victims appealing to the media to verify facts before publishing speculative or politically motivated stories. They requested the authorities to intervene against the alleged intimidation tactics and reaffirmed that their fight would continue legally and transparently until justice is served.



SPORTS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED ALONG WITH EDUCATION

TPN Bhuttayagudem, October 19: Students Urged to Foster Sports-manship Alongside Education at Bhuttayagudem. Students should not only excel academically but also nurture sports-manship and physical fitness, said Korsa Nag- eswara Rao, Honorary President of the KR Puram Zonal Committee of the School Games Federation. He was addressing students and teachers during the Mandal-level selection sports competitions, held on Sunday at the Zilla Parishad High School in Riddiganap- varam, Bhuttayagudem mandal. The event was organized under the aegis of the School Games Federation to identify and encourage young talent across various sporting categories. Competitions were conducted separately for boys in the under-7 and under-14 divisions, providing a platform for students from classes 6 to 10 to showcase their abilities in different dis-

ciplines. Students participated enthusiastically in Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Volleyball, Shuttle Badminton, Yoga, and Chess events. A total of 150 students took part in the competi- tions, representing nine schools across the mandal including seven Tribal Welfare Ashram Schools, two Zilla Parishad Schools, and one private high school. The energetic performances and spirit of camaraderie displayed by the participants added color and excitement to the day-long event. Addressing the gathering, Nag- eswara Rao emphasized that sports play a crucial role in holistic student development. "Games teach team- work, discipline, deter- mination, and leader- ship qualities that are as important as academic achievement," he re- marked. He encouraged teachers and parents to motivate students to participate actively in sports and physical education programs. Zonal

Committee President M. Baburao, Mandal Coor- dinator J. Chinnu, and Physical Education Teacher Tati Ven- kateswara Rao also took part in the program. They lauded the efforts of the students and highlighted the impor- tance of maintaining a balance between class- room learning and out- door activities. The organizers men- tioned that the students who excelled in the man- dal-level competitions would be selected to rep- resent Bhuttayagudem in the upcoming zonal tournaments. Certifi- cates and medals were distributed to the win- ners and participants, inspiring them to pur- sue their passion for sports with sustained enthusiasm. The event concluded with loud cheers and applause as students celebrated their victories and friendships, reaffirming that the spirit of sports thrives strongly along- side education in the ru- ral schools of Bhuttayagudem.

THANKS TO TELUGU AUDIENCES - PRADEEP RANGANATHAN



Pradeep Ranganathan Thanks Telugu Audiences for the Overwhelming Response to 'Dude' TPN, Visakhapatnam, Oct 19: Actor and youth icon Pradeep Ranganathan is riding high on the massive success of his latest Diwali release, Dude. The film, produced by the renowned banner Mythri Movie Makers, marks the directorial debut of Keerthiswaran. Mamitha Baiju stars opposite Pradeep, while veteran actor Sarath Kumar plays a pivotal role. Released on October 17, Dude has opened to a phenomenal response across Telugu states, packing theatres and turning into a house- full blockbuster within days of its release. To celebrate the triumph, the film's team launched a special Dude Diwali Blast Tour, beginning in Visakhapatnam. The event attracted an en-

thusiastic turnout from fans eager to meet the cast and crew. Pradeep Ranganathan, visibly delighted by the love pouring in, addressed the audience at Rama Talkies and Sangham Sharath theatres before interact- ing with the media later in the evening. Speaking at the press meet, Pradeep ex- pressed heartfelt grati- tude towards Telugu audiences, saying their affection and en- ergy made the success of Dude truly unforgettable. "The way Telugu viewers have wel- comed Dude is beyond words. I'm deeply moved by your love. You've supported my earlier films Love To- day and Return of the Dragon, but the kind of reception Dude has received here is far greater," he said. The actor also revealed that Dude is outper- forming his previous films not just in

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana but even in Tamil Nadu. "Our producers told me that the film's opening day and weekend collections have been four to five times higher than Re- turn of the Dragon. It's incredibly gratify- ing to see such num- bers," Pradeep shared, smiling. He credited director Keerthiswaran and producers from Mythri Movie Makers for crafting a film that connects strongly with youth audiences while maintaining universal appeal. As the Dude Di- wali Blast Tour contin- ues to other cities, the film's cast and crew are set to interact with fans across South In- dia. With its energetic storytelling, engaging performances, and re- latable message, Dude has become a festive blockbuster, reaffirm- ing Pradeep Rangan- athan's status as one of the most charismatic rising stars in South Indian cinema.

IN THE SERVICE OF RAGHAVENDRA SWAMI

Darshan Narayan, "Saregama Pa-20" Winner, Takes Part in Golden Pallaki Seva at Mantralayam Mantralayam, October 19: The sacred town of Mantralayam was filled with devotional fervor on Sunday as popular television singer and "Saregama Pa-20" season winner Darshan Narayan visited the famed Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt. The young singer, who rose to fame through his soulful performanc- es, arrived with his fam- ily members early in the morning to seek the blessings of Sri Raghav- endra Swamy. Upon his arrival, Darshan first of- fered prayers to the vil- lage deity, Goddess Man- chalamma, located near the entrance of the tem- ple premises. Later, he visited the Moola Brindavana of Sri Raghavendra Swamy, where he participated in



special rituals and dar- shan. The highlight of his visit was his active participation in the Ban- garu Pallaki Seva, a re- vered golden palanquin procession conducted at the mutt premises. This ritual is one of the most auspicious weekly events at the temple, drawing hundreds of

devotees from across the region. Darshan Narayan was seen humbly follow- ing the rituals, observing traditional customs, and joining the chanting of holy hymns along with other devotees. Follow- ing the Pallaki Seva, he also took part in the Oon- jal Seva (swing ceremon- y), a symbolic ritual

representing the divine union of devotion and spiritual bliss. The priests of the mutt performed the Phalman- tra Akshintalu (ritual blessing with sacred rice) and presented him and his family with pras- adam as a token of di- vine grace. Speaking briefly to the devotees

and temple staff, Dar- shan expressed his grati- tude for the opportunity to take part in such deeply spiritual ceremonies. He mentioned that visit- ing Mantralayam and re- ceiving the blessings of Guru Raghavendra Swa- my had been his long- cherished wish. He also thanked the temple authorities for their warm reception and praised the serene atmosphere of the mutt. As Sunday was a public holiday, the temple prem- ises saw a large turnout of devotees, creating an atmosphere of devotion and celebration. Many devotees, recognizing Darshan from television, greeted him warmly and took pictures. The event concluded with Vedic chants echoing through the complex, marking a spiritually uplifting day at the historic Raghaven- dra Swamy Mutt in Mantralayam.

MINISTER DURGESH INAUGURATES KALAKSHETRAM

Minister Kandula Durgesh Inaugurates GMR Varalakshmi Kalakshetram in Rajam, Pledges Strong Support for Art and Culture. Vijayanagaram District, Rajam Oct 19: Reaf- firming the state govern- ment's commitment to safeguarding India's rich cultural heritage and traditions, Minister Kan- dula Durgesh empha- sized that the coalition government is taking significant steps to pre- serve and promote the arts for future genera- tions. He stated that art serves as a guiding light to India's culture and values, and it is the ad- ministration's duty to



strengthen and sustain it in every possible way. The Minister inaugurated the GMR Varalaksh- mi Kalakshetram in Vas- trapuri Colony, Rajam, on Sunday, marking a key milestone in advanc- ing the region's cultural infrastructure. The newly established center aims to serve as a hub for fostering creativ- ity, nurturing artistic tal- ent, and creating oppor- tunities for traditional artists to exhibit their

skills. During the inau- guration ceremony, several local and regional artists were felicitated by Min- ister Durgesh for their valuable contributions to the cultural fabric of society. In his speech, he reiterated that the coal- ition government is firm- ly committed to the pro- motion of art, artists, and traditional institu- tions, and will ensure that necessary resources and support systems are made available for their

growth. The Minister fur- ther urged all theatrical and cultural associa- tions to register official- ly, stating that a compre- hensive data bank of artists and art organiza- tions will help the gov- ernment provide welfare schemes and grants more effectively. "This database will be a crucial tool in extending all forms of assistance to artists, including finan- cial and infrastructural support," he noted. High-

lighting his own passion for art and culture, Durgesh assured that he will personally strive to safeguard the interests and welfare of artists across Andhra Pradesh. He also acknowledged the efforts of Rajam MLA Kondru Murali, who presented proposals aimed at improving the livelihoods and recogni- tion of local artists. The Minister promised to consider these proposals seriously and take appro- priate action to imple- ment them at the earli- est. The event concluded on a celebratory note, with performances by theater and dance troupes. The inaugura- tion of GMR Varalaksh- mi Kalakshetram is ex- pected to transform Rajam into a vibrant center for artistic ex- pression, honoring the essence of India's time- less cultural legacy.

Swadeshi Movement 2.0: The Strategic Path to India's Self-Reliance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reignited the call for a modern Swadeshi movement, emphasizing that today's version is not about rejecting globalization, but about strategic self-reliance. Amid rising US tariffs on Indian goods and H-1B visa fee hikes, the government is urging citizens and industries to focus on building domestic capabilities under initiatives like 'Make in India 2.0' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

The Swadeshi movement historically fostered nationalist unity; in its modern form, it aims to instill economic confidence. With the US tariffs creating both short-term challenges and long-term opportunities, India must pivot from overdependence on a single market to

building resilient, diversified trade networks. The crisis provides a chance to restructure trade, upgrade domestic industries, and position India as a reliable alternative manufacturing hub for global companies.

Instead of merely relying on slogans, leaders are encouraged to take tangible steps by promoting the consumption of Indian-made goods and incentivizing domestic production. Strengthening local demand reduces vulnerability to tariffs while enhancing bargaining power in international trade negotiations. Sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, textiles, auto components, and green technology present opportunities for India to attract foreign direct investment and co-manufacturing partner-



ships with allies of the US, creating new value-chain alliances.

Domestic innovation is central to this vision. Investments in semiconductors, EV batteries, aerospace, defense, and high-end manufacturing are crucial, allowing India to move up the value chain beyond low-cost labor competition. Digital Swadeshi initiatives, including homegrown fintech, social media, AI, and quantum platforms, can reduce reliance on foreign technology while fostering a robust tech ecosystem. Green Swadeshi efforts in solar, hydrogen, and EV technologies further strengthen self-reliance.

Agriculture and food security also form key pillars, as India can reduce imports of items like edi-

ble oil and simultaneously emerge as a global food exporter. MSMEs and startups will be critical drivers, generating employment and fostering innovation, leveraging India's demographic advantage of a youthful workforce.

The modern Swadeshi movement is a strategic response to uncertainty in global trade. It is not merely a policy direction but a national necessity, ensuring that India remains resilient, self-reliant, and positioned to convert challenges like US tariffs into long-term economic strength and global influence. By focusing on domestic capability, innovation, and diversified trade, India can safeguard its economic sovereignty and emerge stronger in the global order.

IT Giants Prioritising Short-Term Gains Over Long-Term Innovation?

The Indian IT services sector faces a critical crossroads. Just days ago, US President Donald Trump signed a decree imposing a \$1,00,000 fee for each H-1B visa used for onshore work, raising costs and threatening the traditional labour arbitrage model that has long powered India's IT giants. Meanwhile, Infosys announced an unprecedented Rs 18,000 crore share buyback, signalling a preference for rewarding shareholders rather than investing in long-term innovation. Buybacks and high dividends can indicate a lack of profitable growth opportunities, undervaluation of shares, or a strategy to boost earnings per share. For promoter-led companies like TCS, Wipro, and HCL Technologies, dividends largely benefit promoters rather than minority shareholders, underscoring the short-term orientation.

The competitive landscape is shifting. Global capability centres (GCCs) are expanding rapidly, growing at 40 percent in FY24, compared with just 5 percent growth among India's top five IT firms. These GCCs retain intellectual property rights in-house, compete for talent, and threaten margins of traditional IT services. TCS's recent announcement to cut



12,000 jobs illustrates the sector's need to manage costs while sustaining investor confidence.

This raises a crucial question: Are India's IT services companies over-reliant on labour arbitrage, at the expense of products, platforms, and intellectual property (IPR)? While buybacks, dividends, and cost-cutting satisfy shareholders in the short term, they do little to future-proof businesses in the age of AI. Surplus cash could be better deployed in developing

platforms, investing in AI-driven language models, or making strategic acquisitions—areas that generate sustainable revenues without a proportional increase in labour costs.

India's IT giants must also confront five key challenges: geographic concentration risk, overemphasis on margins over volume, dependency on software services, risk-aversion in cash deployment, and short-term shareholder focus. Companies like Berkshire Hathaway demonstrate that long-

term value creation often outperforms dividend-centric strategies.

Ultimately, India's IT firms must pivot toward creating enduring value for shareholders, employees, customers, and the broader ecosystem. By investing in innovation, IPR, and home-grown platforms, they can reduce reliance on labour arbitrage, compete globally, and secure sustainable growth—transforming from service providers to product and technology leaders in the AI era.

Free Speech: The Lifeblood of Public Reason and Democracy



One of the most vulnerable domains of public life today is free speech. As US Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis famously stated, public discussion is a political duty: the remedy to falsehood and harm is more speech, not enforced silence. Free speech is essential because it makes the Public, enabling citizens to participate in shaping ideas, policies, and societal norms. Yet, both totalitarian and democratic regimes increasingly curtail this freedom, revealing a worrying convergence in practice.

The principle of Public Reason asserts that laws harming communities, driven by prejudice, sectarianism, or ideological motives, are illegitimate. Restrictions are justified only when speech produces actual

harm, such as hate speech inciting violence. What is unacceptable is viewpoint-based suppression—proscribing speech simply because it challenges the state's official stance. Legal scholar Geoffrey Stone emphasized: "The government may not restrict expression simply because it disagrees with the speaker's views." Similarly, Justice Thurgood Marshall insisted that governments cannot limit speech based on its content or ideas, for doing so undermines democratic debate.

Yet, governments often justify curbs on speech citing "national interest" or "national good," ironically undermining the very public whose participation defines these concepts. Paternalistic regulation privileges certain majority interests

over the broader public, skewing discourse and shaping citizens to conform to ideological lines. Historical examples are stark: Nazi Germany's propaganda machinery and Rwanda's radio-fueled ethnic mobilization show how viewpoint suppression and orchestrated hate speech paved the way for genocide.

Countering harmful speech is central to preserving Public Reason. As political scientist Katherine Gelber observes, citizens must respond to disagreeable or harmful speech, engaging in reasoned rebuttal to prevent the public from being manipulated. In Habermasian terms, the Public emerges not only through debate but through active counters to misinformation, bias, and hate speech. Silence, or non-engagement, enables manipulation and diminishes democratic life.

Nobel laureate Toni Morrison reminded us: "There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal." Speaking back—continually, logically, and purposefully—is not just a civic duty; it is what sustains Public Reason and qualifies our life within a democracy. Free speech, therefore, is not merely a right—it is the lifeblood of an informed, resilient, and participatory society.

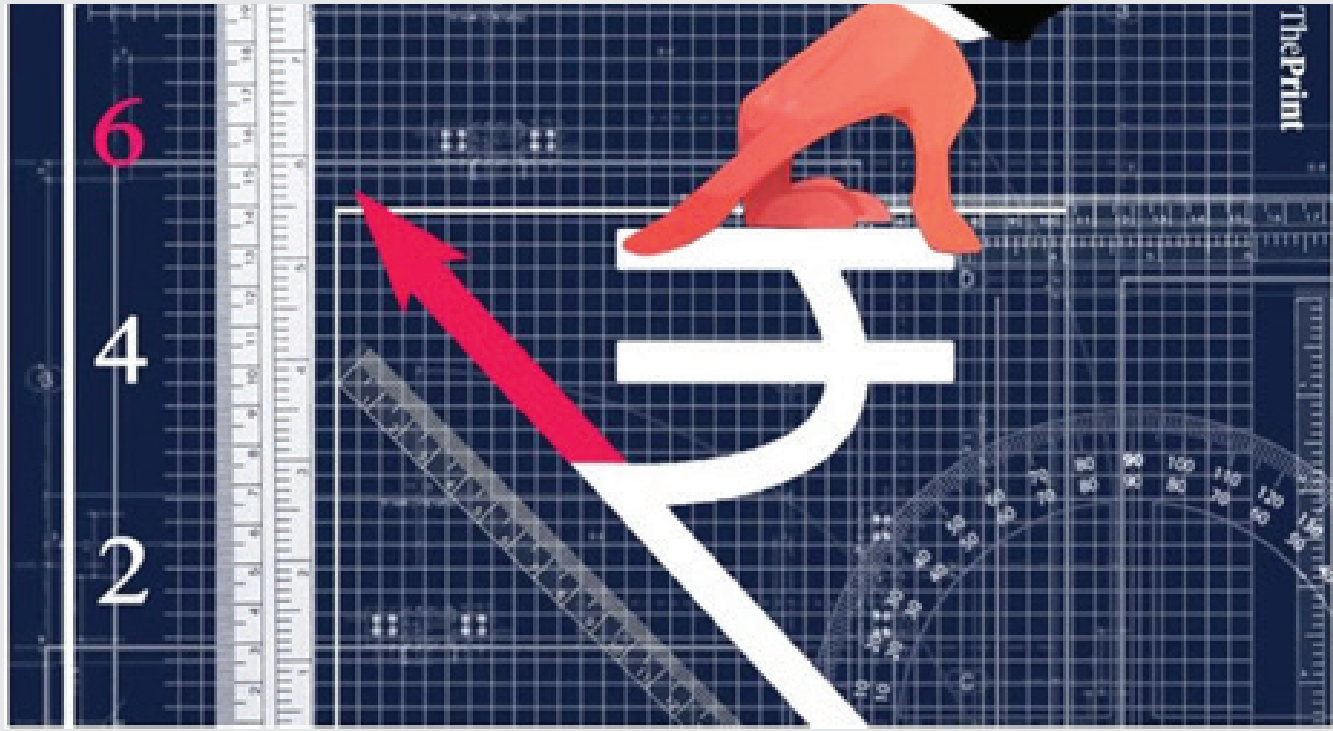
India Attracts Record Foreign Investment Despite Rupee Weakness

Global central banks are no longer moving in unison, creating a fragmented monetary landscape. The United States Federal Reserve recently cut its policy rate by 25 basis points, bringing it to a range of 4-4.25 per cent. In contrast, the European Central Bank (ECB) remains cautious, holding rates steady as it balances inflation concerns with sluggish growth. Japan continues its ultra-loose monetary policy with near-zero rates and extensive bond purchases, while China is aggressively easing policy rates to support its slowing economy. This divergence marks a clear departure from the post-pandemic trend when most central banks tightened policies collectively to combat inflation. Liquidity is now being injected in some regions while withdrawn in others, creating yield differentials that scatter capi-

tal flows rather than channeling them uniformly.

Amid this global monetary complexity, the Indian rupee is under pressure, recently slipping past Rs 88 to the dollar, marking a historic low. Conventional wisdom would suggest that a weakening currency deters foreign investors, yet paradoxically, inflows into India continue unabated. Foreign portfolio investments (FPIs) surged, crossing \$14.6 billion in equities and nearly \$9-10 billion in debt in FY25. Momentum is expected to accelerate with India's inclusion in JPMorgan's Emerging Market Bond Index, which began in June 2024 and will reach full weight by March 2025, potentially attracting \$20-25 billion in debt inflows.

Why do investors remain bullish despite the rupee depreciation? Three key factors stand out. First, India's relative growth advan-



tage is unmatched, with projected GDP growth of 6.5 per cent in FY2025, compared with 0.7 per cent in the eurozone and 0.9 per cent in the United States. Second, macroeconomic credibility matters: August

2025 inflation moderated to 4.9 per cent, within the Reserve Bank of India's target range, reflecting steady and credible policy management. Third, index-driven and structural flows provide stability, as pension funds and sovereign wealth funds allocate resources to India due to benchmark mandates rather than speculative motives.

Combined, these factors explain the paradox: despite the rupee's weakness, India remains a magnet for capital. It offers relative safety compared with emerging peers like Turkey, South Africa, or Brazil and delivers higher returns than developed markets such as the US or Europe. In a world of fragmented global liquidity, India stands out as a preferred investment destination, underpinned by growth, stability, and structural inflows.



Air India to Operate Special Milan Flight to Repatriate Stranded Passengers

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Air India announced on Sunday that it will operate a special flight from Milan to Delhi to bring back over 250 passengers stranded in Milan following the cancellation of flight AI138 on October 17 due to a technical issue with the Dreamliner aircraft.

The flight, designated AI138D, is scheduled to depart Milan at 7:00 PM local time and arrive in Delhi on the morning of October 20. The airline expedited the aircraft's repair and secured necessary approvals to operate the additional commercial flight to ensure passengers could return home in time for the Diwali festival.

The cancelled flight had left many passengers stranded in Milan, sparking complaints on social media about inadequate facilities and concerns over missing the Diwali celebrations in India. Air India responded by rebooking affected passengers on alternative flights, both with Air India and other airlines, though many faced

post-Diwali arrival dates.

In a proactive move, the airline reached out to all affected passengers, offering them the choice to either keep their current bookings or switch to the special Milan flight. One notable case involved a passenger with a Schengen visa expiring on October 20, who was re-booked on a different airline's flight on October 19 to avoid visa issues.

The original flight AI138 was operated using a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, which faced technical problems, prompting the cancellation. Air India assured passengers that the rectification process was expedited to minimize disruptions.

This special flight highlights Air India's commitment to addressing passenger concerns and ensuring safe and timely travel during the festive season. The airline continues to monitor the situation closely and aims to provide smooth travel experiences amid ongoing operational challenges.

AIMIM Announces 25 Candidates for Bihar Assembly Elections



TPN Correspondent | Chhattisgarh

The All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) has announced its list of 25 candidates for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections scheduled for November 6 and 11, with counting set for November 14.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi's party aims to become the voice of the most oppressed communities in Bihar, according to a post shared on social media platform X. The candidate list was prepared by the AIMIM Bihar unit in consultation with the party's national leadership.

Among the candidates are Mohammed Kaif contesting from Siwan, Anas Salam from Gopalganj, Advocate Shams Agaz from Kishanganj, Rashid Khalil Ansari from Madhubani, and Mohammad Manzoor Alam from Araria, reflecting the party's focus on key constituencies.

Meanwhile, the Congress party has released its second list of candidates for the Bihar polls. The party has announced nominees for seats including Narkatiaganj, Kishanganj, Kasba, Purnia, and Gaya Town. Shaswat Kedar Pandey will contest from Narkatiaganj, and Qamrul Hoda from Kishanganj. Irfan Alam, Jitender Yadav, and Mohan Shrivasta will represent Kasba, Purnia, and Gaya Town respectively.

Earlier this month, Congress had released

its first list of 48 candidates for the elections. The party stated the remaining candidates will be declared soon.

The Bihar elections will witness a tough contest with the NDA facing the INDIA alliance led by Tejashwi Yadav's RJD, the Congress, CPI (ML), CPI, CPM, and Mukesh Sahani's Vikasheel Insaan Party. Additionally, political strategist Prashant Kishor has entered the fray with his new party Jan Suraj, adding fresh dynamics to the race.

The Mahagathbandhan coalition continues to face challenges over seat-sharing, leading to "friendly fights" in some constituencies. The battle for Bihar's 243 assembly seats promises to be intense and closely watched.

Bihar polls: PM Modi to launch campaign on Oct 24 with back-to-back rallies



TPN Bureau | Patna

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to kick off his campaign for the Bihar Assembly elections with a series of rallies starting October 24, BJP state president Dilip Jaiswal announced on Sunday.

Modi will begin his campaign by paying tribute to former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur at his birthplace, Karpoori Gram in Sa-

mastipur. Following this, the Prime Minister will address his first rally in Samastipur. Later the same day, he will hold a second rally in Begusarai.

Jaiswal highlighted Modi's stature as one of the world's leading leaders and emphasized the significance of the tribute to Karpoori Thakur, a respected figure in Bihar politics.

The Prime Minister is

scheduled to return to Bihar on October 30 for two more rallies in Muzaffarpur and Chhapra, which is the administrative headquarters of Saran district. Additional rallies are planned for November 2, 3, 6, and 7, with details to be announced soon.

The Bihar Assembly elections will be held in two phases, with voting for 121 seats on November 6 and the remaining

122 constituencies going to polls on November 11. Counting of votes will take place on November 14.

Modi's rallies come as the BJP intensifies efforts to consolidate support ahead of the crucial state elections. Bihar remains a key battleground, with the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) facing strong competition from the INDIA alliance and

other regional parties.

The election campaign is expected to be closely fought, with parties deploying their top leaders and strategists to win over voters in the 243-seat Assembly.

Prime Minister Modi's active participation signals the importance the BJP places on Bihar as it aims to retain power and expand its influence in the state's political landscape.

Amit Shah Approves 1,950 Crore Advance Flood Relief to Karnataka, Maharashtra

TPN Correspondent | Patna

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the advance release of 1,950.80 crore as the second instalment of the central share of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for Karnataka and Maharashtra for the fiscal year 2025-26. This significant financial aid aims to support the two states in providing immediate relief to those affected by the heavy rains and floods during the southwest monsoon season.

Of the total amount, Karnataka will receive 384.40 crore, while Maharashtra is allocated 1,566.40 crore, according to an official statement issued on October 19. The funds are expected to be utilized for rescue operations, rehabilita-



tion, and restoration of infrastructure damaged by the floods.

This year, the central government has already released 13,603.20 crore to 27 states under the SDRF to bolster their disaster management capabilities. Additionally, 2,189.28 crore has been disbursed under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to 15 states, reflecting the government's proactive approach in addressing natural calamities across the country.

The release of these funds comes amid efforts to strengthen preparedness and resilience against recurring natural disasters. The SDRF is a key component of India's disaster management framework, enabling states to access

financial resources quickly during emergencies.

Home Minister Shah's approval underscores the Centre's commitment to supporting states in crisis and ensuring timely relief and rehabilitation for affected populations. As Karnataka and Maharashtra grapple with the aftermath of this year's monsoon, the funds are expected to expedite recovery efforts and aid in restoring normalcy for the impacted communities.

The advance release marks a vital step in disaster response coordination between the central and state governments, reinforcing the collaborative effort to mitigate the effects of extreme weather events.

Friendly Fire Likely on Bihar Seats as Congress Holds Back on Tejashwi Yadav

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

With the Bihar Assembly elections drawing near, the Opposition Grand Alliance is facing internal conflicts, setting the stage for "friendly fire" — multiple candidates from alliance parties contesting the same seats. The Congress party, in particular, is digging in its heels, withholding support for Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav as the alliance's Chief Ministerial candidate. Senior Congress leader Pawan Khara acknowledged that overlapping nominations are already occurring and suggested that while one candidate may withdraw eventually, such clashes could become the norm rather than an exception this election. "In constit-

uencies where more than one Grand Alliance candidate has filed nominations, one will be withdrawn within a day or two," he said, adding that the Chief Ministerial candidate announcement will come "at an appropriate time."

The friction is palpable in the reserved Kutumba constituency in Aurangabad district, a stronghold of Congress state president Rajesh Ram. Both Congress and RJD have fielded candidates there, with Ram contesting for Congress and former minister Suresh Paswan standing for the RJD. Both plan to file nominations on October 20, highlighting the brewing dispute.

Congress has been demanding over 70 seats in Bihar, aiming for constit-



uencies where they believe they can win, contributing to the deadlock over the seat-sharing arrangement. The party's reluctance to back Tejashwi Yadav as the alliance's face reflects deeper tensions within the Grand Alliance.

Despite assurances from Congress that a Grand Alliance government will be formed in Bihar, these internal conflicts risk undermining the opposition's chances by splitting votes in key constituencies, potentially benefit-

ing the ruling coalition.

As election day approaches, the opposition's ability to resolve these disputes and present a united front will be crucial to challenging the ruling NDA in the politically crucial state of Bihar.

Pakistan Slams ICC for 'Biased' Statement on Afghan Cricketers' Deaths



TPN Correspondent | ANTANANARIVO

Pakistan has strongly criticized the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for issuing what it calls "selective and biased" condolence statements following the deaths of three Afghan cricketers in an aerial attack in Afghanistan's Paktika province.

On October 19, 2025, the ICC and BCCI both released statements expressing sorrow over the tragic deaths but failed to mention Pakistan, which has been accused in regional media reports of being linked to the airstrike. This omission sparked outrage in Islamabad.

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Information, Ata Tarar, condemned the ICC's message, calling it "politically motivated and deeply irresponsible." Speaking in Lahore, Tarar said, "The ICC's silence on the broader context and failure to acknowledge Pakistan's perspective is not only unjustified but harmful to the spirit of international sports diplomacy."

The minister further accused the ICC of bow-

ing to pressure from the BCCI and Indian authorities, saying that cricket's global governing body should maintain neutrality, especially when commenting on sensitive geopolitical issues. "The ICC should be a platform of unity, not division. Its current posture appears to be aligned with a specific narrative," he added.

While the ICC had described the loss as a "tragedy for the cricketing world," and BCCI extended support to Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) and fans, neither body addressed the cause of the airstrike or the rising tensions in the region.

Pakistan's Foreign Office also weighed in, urging global sporting bodies to avoid making statements that could worsen diplomatic relations, particularly amid an already fragile security environment in South Asia.

The attack, which killed three domestic-level cricketers in Afghanistan, has fueled tensions between Islamabad and Kabul, with both governments trading accusations over airspace violations and cross-border militancy.

LDP, Japan Innovation Party Agree to Form Coalition Government



TPN Correspondent | Japan

In a major political shift, Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the opposition Japan Innovation Party (Ishin) have agreed to form a coalition government, according to Kyodo News. The alliance marks a significant development as it could lead to Japan appointing its first-ever female prime minister — LDP leader Sanae Takaichi.

The deal was reportedly finalized following intense negotiations after the LDP failed to secure an outright majority in recent parliamentary elections. The agreement sets the groundwork for a new coalition cabinet, replacing the previous long-standing partnership with the Komeito party.

While the coalition ensures parliamentary stability, analysts suggest the alliance may be less stable than the earlier LDP-Komeito partnership. Policy differences, particularly on fiscal and social reforms, could test the unity of the new government.

Takaichi, a conservative lawmaker and staunch supporter of

constitutional revision, is expected to face pressure balancing Ishin's reformist agenda with the LDP's traditional policies. Nevertheless, both parties have signaled a shared commitment to revitalizing Japan's economy and addressing pressing issues such as national security and demographic challenges.

This political realignment could reshape Japan's domestic and foreign policy landscape. The Japan Innovation Party, known for its populist stances and calls for deregulation, brings a fresh dynamic to the national leadership.

The potential swearing-in of Sanae Takaichi as Japan's first female prime minister would mark a historic moment in a country where women have long been underrepresented in top political roles.

Formal announcement of the cabinet lineup and policy agenda is expected in the coming days. The coalition will now seek to win public confidence amid economic pressures and regional security concerns.

US strike on drug-laden submarine: 'Saved at least 25,000 Americans,' says Trump

TPN Bureau | United States

US President Donald Trump announced a successful military strike on a drug-laden submarine headed toward the United States, claiming the operation "saved at least 25,000 American lives." The vessel, reportedly carrying large amounts of fentanyl and other illegal narcotics, was intercepted along a known drug trafficking route in the Caribbean.

Trump made the announcement on his social media platform Truth Social, stating that two "narcoterrorists" aboard were killed during the strike, while two others — from Ecuador and Colombia — survived and will be returned to their countries for prosecution. "It was my great honor to destroy a very large drug-carrying submarine," Trump wrote. "Under my watch, the United States of America will not tolerate narcoterrorists trafficking illegal drugs, by land or by sea."

The submarine was targeted on Thursday, and the surviving suspects were rescued by US forces via helicopter and taken

to a nearby Navy warship. No US personnel were harmed in the operation.

According to reports by Al Jazeera, this marks at least the sixth such strike since September on suspected smuggling vessels in the region, many believed to be originating from Venezuela. While US officials claim the campaign has dealt a significant blow to drug trafficking networks, critics have raised concerns over the lack of transparent evidence linking the casualties to actual smuggling activities.

Trump's remarks emphasized the deadly threat posed by fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that has been a major contributor to the US drug overdose crisis. "If I allowed this submarine to come ashore, at least 25,000 Americans would die," he said.

With this strike, the number of people killed in similar US-led operations has reportedly risen to 29. The administration continues to signal a hardline stance on narco-trafficking as a key pillar of national security.



'We Love America, Not Trump': Millions Rally In US 'No Kings' Protests

TPN Correspondent | US

Millions of Americans took to the streets on Saturday in a massive wave of "No Kings" protests aimed at President Donald Trump's hardline policies and increasingly authoritarian stance. From New York to Los Angeles, over 2,700 demonstrations were held nationwide, with organizers estimating participation in the millions.

The protests, branded "No Kings," are a sharp rebuke to what critics call Trump's growing disregard for democratic norms. The movement unites over 300 advocacy groups opposing recent federal actions, including the deployment of National Guard troops in cities like Washington and Memphis, attacks on the media, prosecutions of political opponents, and the ongoing government shutdown — now in its third week.

In New York, hundreds gathered early in Queens, holding signs that read "Queens Say No Kings" and "We Protest Because We Love America." Demonstrators chanted, "We love our coun-



try, we can't stand Trump!"

In Los Angeles, where 100,000 people were expected, a giant "Trump Baby" balloon floated above the crowd. Protests also took place in major cities including Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, and Washington, as well as in small towns across all 50 states and even internationally in Canada, Spain, and Sweden.

Despite the scale of the protests, Trump's response remained restrained. "They're saying they're referring to me as a king. I'm not a king," he told Fox News. However, his allies struck a combative tone, labeling the rallies as "Hate America" events and branding participants as radicals.

Activists stressed the protests were about defending democracy. "We are a country of laws that apply to everyone," said Deirdre Schifeling of the ACLU. Senator Chuck Schumer urged Americans to "speak out" and resist intimidation.

The protest marked a pivotal moment in what many are calling a battle over America's democratic soul.

Napoleonic Jewels Stolen From Louvre In Paris In Daring Sunday Heist

TPN Correspondent | Tehran

In a brazen daylight robbery, priceless Napoleonic-era jewels were stolen from Paris's iconic Louvre Museum on Sunday, prompting an emergency closure and a full-scale investigation.

The heist occurred around 9:30 am, with thieves using a hydraulic ladder to gain access through the under-construction Seine-facing side of the building. Once inside, they targeted the Apollo Gallery — home to a selection of the French Crown Jewels — and executed the theft in just seven minutes, according to France's Interior Minister Laurent Nunez.

The robbers reportedly used a disc cutter to slice through the gallery's windowpanes, suggesting thorough prior planning and possible surveillance of the museum's layout and security systems. Nine pieces from the "Napoleon and the Empress" collection were stolen, though one jewel was later discovered abandoned just outside the museum.

The Louvre, the world's most visited museum and home to over 33,000 historical artefacts including the Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo, and Winged Victory of Samothrace, cited "exceptional



reasons" for its sudden closure on Sunday. Crowds gathered outside were met with barricades and heavy police presence, while traffic in the area was regulated.

France's Culture Minister Ra-

chida Dati confirmed the robbery and said no injuries were reported. She visited the scene alongside museum officials and police. The Paris prosecutor's office has launched an investigation to assess the damage and

identify the culprits.

The Louvre has a long history of thefts, most famously the 1911 theft of the Mona Lisa by Vincenzo Peruggia, a former worker who smuggled it out under his coat. It was recovered two years

later in Florence.

As authorities work to track down the missing jewels, the daring heist has once again raised questions about the security of the world's most treasured artefacts.



SEBI Introduces Joint Inspection Framework For Brokers, DPs



In a significant regulatory move aimed at improving efficiency and strengthening market supervision, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced a Joint Inspection Framework for stock brokers and depository participants (DPs). This new framework will replace the existing practice where stock exchanges, depositories, and clearing corporations conduct separate annual inspections.

Currently, these market infrastructure institutions inspect brokers and DPs independently, often leading to overlapping efforts, duplication of resources, and a fragmented view of compliance. The introduction of a joint inspection system is expected to streamline the process, minimize redundancy, and ensure more comprehensive monitoring.

Under this framework, SEBI will coordinate a unified inspection of brokers and depository participants, with representa-

tives from the stock exchanges, depositories, and clearing corporations conducting joint visits. This collaborative approach will allow for a consolidated assessment of regulatory adherence, operational risk management,

and the financial health of these market intermediaries.

SEBI's move aims to enhance transparency, reduce compliance burden on entities, and provide regulators with a holistic understanding of brokers' and

DPs' functioning. By pooling resources and expertise, the joint inspection framework is expected to identify gaps more effectively and enforce regulatory standards consistently across the board.

Market experts believe that this framework will also speed up the inspection process, reduce costs, and improve the overall governance of market participants. Brokers and depository participants will benefit from clearer communication and consistent regulatory guidance, helping them maintain better compliance.

The framework is part of SEBI's broader efforts to modernize the capital markets infrastructure and reinforce investor protection. It aligns with global best practices where regulatory bodies increasingly favor coordinated supervision to enhance market integrity.

SEBI has yet to announce the exact implementation timeline for the joint inspection framework but assures stakeholders of a smooth transition to the new system. This initiative marks a progressive step toward a more efficient and effective regulatory ecosystem in India's financial markets.

Supreme Court to Hear Vodafone Idea AGR Plea on September 26



The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear on September 26 a fresh plea filed by telecom major Vodafone Idea Ltd seeking to quash additional adjusted gross revenue (AGR) demands for the period up to 2016-17. A bench comprising Chief Justice B.R. Gavai and Justices K. Vinod Chandran and N.V. Anjaria scheduled the hearing after taking note of submissions by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi for Vodafone Idea and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta representing the Centre.

Vodafone Idea has requested the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to "comprehensively reassess and reconcile all AGR dues for the period up to FY 2016-17" in accordance with the Deduction Verification Guidelines issued in February 2020. The company argues that there were arithmetical errors and duplicate entries in the earlier calculation of AGR dues, which, if corrected, could significantly reduce the liability.

This plea comes after the Supreme Court earlier this year refused to

review its 2021 order, which had rejected similar requests from telecom majors including Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea. The top court had held that the DoT's demand regarding AGR dues was final and barred any re-assessment or dispute by telecom operators.

The AGR issue dates back to the Supreme Court's October 2019 verdict, which held telecom companies liable for ₹93,520 crore of dues. To ease the financial burden, the court allowed a staggered payment over ten years, starting with 10% of the total dues by March 31, 2021, and annual installments from April 2021 to March 2031.

Vodafone Idea's latest plea indicates that the company is seeking a recalculation based on perceived errors, reflecting ongoing challenges for the telco sector in clearing AGR dues. The Supreme Court will consider the arguments on September 26, potentially providing clarity on the contentious issue that has affected India's telecom industry for years.

India's Electronics Exports Jump Over 47% To \$12.4 Billion



India's electronics exports witnessed a remarkable jump of over 47% year-on-year, reaching

\$12.4 billion in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2025-26, according to the India Cellular and

Electronics Association (ICEA). This strong performance highlights the country's growing

prominence in the global electronics market and reflects the robust demand for Indian-made products worldwide.

The standout segment in this export boom was mobile phones, which saw a significant 55% increase in exports. Mobile phone shipments soared from \$4.9 billion in Q1 FY25 to an estimated \$7.6 billion in Q1 FY26. This surge underscores India's emergence as a major hub for mobile phone manufacturing and exports, supported by initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme that has boosted domestic production capacity.

Other electronic products also contributed to the overall export growth, showcasing India's expanding capabilities beyond just mobile devices. The increase in electronics exports is a positive indicator of India's strides in becoming a global manufacturing and export destination for technology products.

Industry experts attribute

this growth to several factors, including improved supply chain resilience, enhanced manufacturing infrastructure, and government policies promoting local manufacturing and exports. Additionally, the rising global demand for electronics, driven by digital transformation and increasing consumer tech adoption, has created new opportunities for Indian exporters.

The electronics export surge is expected to continue in the coming quarters, further solidifying India's position in the global electronics market. The country's focus on innovation, quality manufacturing, and export promotion is likely to attract more investment and expand its share in global trade.

With the electronics sector playing a vital role in India's economic growth and job creation, this export performance marks a significant milestone and boosts optimism for sustained expansion in the years ahead.

GST 2.0 to Benefit Rural, Urban Households with Lower Rates

From September 22, over 75% of items purchased by rural Indians and 66% of items bought by urban households will attract either a nil Goods and Services Tax (GST) or a 5% rate, according to a new analysis by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). The report, prepared by the Thought Arbitrage Research Institute (TARI) for FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE), highlights a significant simplification and relief in the GST structure.

Currently, 56% of rural household expenditure and 50% of urban household expenditure is taxed at either nil or 5%. Under GST 2.0, the nil-rate slab will cover 29.9% of total items, accounting for 36.5% of rural expenditure and 32.9% of urban expenditure. The 5% slab will see a major expansion, comprising 40.5% of items and representing 38.8% of rural and 33.3% of urban household spending.

The 12% slab will be completely removed, while the 18% rate will reduce slightly, covering 23.1% of items and accounting for 12.3% of rural and 14.1% of urban spending. High-tax items, including those in the 28% and 40% slabs under GST 2.0, will account for a minimal share—0.5% of items and just 0.2% of rural and urban expenditure.

The study compared current GST rates with monthly per capita expenditure data, showing that the new structure ben-



efits consumers by reducing the tax burden on frequently purchased essentials. Analysts suggest that the GST 2.0 reforms will likely boost consumption,

particularly in rural areas, and support overall economic growth.

With more items moving into lower GST slabs and the elimi-

nation of the 12% rate, households across India can expect savings on daily essentials, while simplifying compliance for businesses. The new GST

structure marks a step toward making taxation more equitable and consumer-friendly, with rural consumers gaining the maximum advantage.

Rupee Dips to 88.27 Amid Dollar Strength, Equity Decline



The Indian rupee slipped 7 paise to 88.27 against the US dollar in early Friday trade, reflecting broad dollar strength and a weak trend in domestic equities. The rupee opened at 88.22 in the interbank market before hitting the day's low of 88.27, continuing the modest decline seen on Thursday when it fell 35 paise to 88.20.

Forex traders attributed the depreciation to a recovery in the US dollar and concerns over potential US tariffs on Indian goods, which weighed on investor sentiment. CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari noted that while the rupee has stumbled after recent gains, supportive trade developments and firm domestic confidence could provide room for appreciation. Key support is placed at 87.70, with further levels at 87.50 and 87.20 if the downtrend continues, while resistance is seen around 88.40.

Globally, weekly US jobless claims fell sharply by 33,000, surpassing market estimates and boosting the dollar index toward the 97 mark after briefly dipping below 96. The dollar index, which

measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, stood at 97.34, down 0.01%. Brent crude futures edged lower by 0.09% to USD 67.38 per barrel.

Domestic equities mirrored the cautious sentiment, with the Sensex falling 264.36 points to 82,749.60 and the Nifty dropping 65 points to 25,358.60 in early trade. Foreign Institutional Investors bought equities worth Rs 366.69 crore on a net basis on Thursday.

Meanwhile, India-US trade talks are progressing, with Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal highlighting discussions with Assistant US Trade Representative Brendan Lynch in New Delhi on September 16. The talks are seen as crucial following the US decision to impose a 50% tariff on certain Indian goods, and positive outcomes could ease pressure on both trade and the currency.

The rupee's movement will remain sensitive to global dollar trends, oil prices, equity performance, and ongoing trade negotiations, with traders keeping a close watch on developments in these areas.

Fiery Orange iPhone 17 Pro



Apple may be shaking up its traditionally muted iPhone Pro colour palette with the bold introduction of a vibrant orange variant for the upcoming iPhone 17 Pro and iPhone 17 Pro Max. According to a recent leak, the eye-catching shade could debut alongside standard options like black, white, and dark blue when Apple unveils its iPhone 17 series next month.

A short video shared by reliable leaker Majin Bu shows what appears to be a dummy unit of the iPhone 17 Pro in a bright orange finish. Bu called the colour “so good,” but reactions from fans online were sharply divided. Some praised the bold move, calling it a “refreshing change,” while others dismissed it as “the worst colour in iPhone history” and “hideous.”

Whether or not the orange version is real remains uncertain. Apple’s colour leaks have

often proven unreliable in the past. Still, the possibility of a bright new option has stirred excitement and debate ahead of the official announcement.

The iPhone 17 line-up is expected to be unveiled in early September, with speculation pointing to a possible launch event on September 9. Apple typically announces its flagship devices in the second week of September, and multiple reports — including from Bloomberg’s Mark Gurman — support this timeline.

In terms of hardware, the iPhone 17 and 17 Air are likely to feature the new A19 chip, while the Pro models may be powered by the A19 Pro. Display sizes are expected to range from 6.3 inches (iPhone 17/17 Pro) to 6.9 inches (Pro Max). The Pro Max is also rumoured to retain a titanium frame, while the rest of the line-up may shift to aluminium.

Instagram Rolls Out Reposts, Friend Map & New Reels Feed



Meta-owned Instagram has unveiled three new features aimed at enhancing social connectivity on the platform. The additions—Reposts, Friend Map, and a ‘Friends’ feed in the Reels tab—are designed to make the app more interactive and community-focused.

In a video message, Instagram head Adam Mosseri said the platform wants to be “not just a lean-back experience that is just fun and entertaining, but also a participatory one.”

Reposts: Share What You Love

Instagram now lets users repost public Reels and feed posts. The reposted content appears in followers’ feeds as recommendations and is saved in a new “Reposts” tab on the user’s profile. Importantly, original creators are automatically credited, giving them exposure to a broader audience, including users who don’t follow them.

This move is expected to boost engagement for creators and simplify content sharing for regular users. To repost, simply tap the repost icon below a post

or Reel.

Friend Map: Location Sharing with Control

Borrowing from Snapchat’s Snap Map, Instagram’s Friend Map lets users share their last active location with friends. The feature, accessible through the DM inbox, can be toggled on or off at any time. Users can control who sees their location—be it Close Friends, selected users, or no one.

Instagram ensures privacy by allowing users to exclude specific people or places from seeing their activity. The location updates automatically when users open or return to the app.

‘Friends’ Reels Feed

A dedicated Reels feed for friends is also being added. This feed helps users view and interact with Reels shared by their closest connections, making the app feel more personalised.

Together, these features mark Instagram’s latest effort to blend entertainment with real-time social interactions, while offering better content discovery and privacy control.

New Curiosity Discovery Points to Mars’ Watery Past

In a groundbreaking discovery, NASA’s Curiosity Rover has uncovered new evidence suggesting that liquid water once existed on Mars, potentially supporting life in the planet’s distant past. The find was made using the rover’s Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI) — a camera located on the end of its robotic arm — which captured a striking image of a coral-shaped, wind-eroded rock in the Gale Crater.

NASA scientists believe the flower-like rock formation, roughly 1 inch (2.5 cm) wide, was created by minerals deposited by ancient water flows, later shaped by billions of years of wind erosion. This unique structure resembles ocean-bottom corals found on Earth, prompting further interest in Mars’ ancient, possibly habitable environment.

The rover recently entered a region on Mount Sharp, the towering 5-kilometer-high mountain within Gale Crater, filled with boxwork formations — hardened ridges formed by underground water activity billions of years ago. NASA says these formations



may offer vital clues about whether microbial life once thrived below Mars’ surface.

Curiosity, which landed on Mars on August 5, 2012, has spent over 13 years exploring the Martian landscape. Its mission centers on answering the pivotal question: Could Mars have ever supported life? Despite the rover’s age, engineers are continually enhancing its capabilities to ensure it continues to deliver

valuable scientific data.

This latest discovery not only strengthens the hypothesis that Mars had liquid water, but also pushes the boundaries of how long the Red Planet might have remained habitable

as it slowly lost its atmosphere. With each finding, Curiosity brings humanity closer to understanding the mysterious history of Mars — and whether it once had the right conditions to support life.

OpenAI’s GPT-5 Nears Release, Smarter AI But Smaller Leap



OpenAI is preparing to launch its next-generation AI model, GPT-5, the successor to the powerful GPT-4 that helped make ChatGPT a global phenomenon in 2022. The model’s release is said to be imminent, raising anticipation across the tech world for what could be another step forward in generative AI capabilities.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman

has hinted throughout the year that GPT-5 will bring together the strengths of large-scale models and test-time compute, a technique where more computing resources are allocated during inference for improved results. This combination could make GPT-5 more adaptive and accurate across a broader range of tasks.

According to two early testers

who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity due to non-disclosure agreements, GPT-5 has shown notable improvements in coding, mathematics, and scientific problem-solving. However, they noted that while it is more capable and refined than GPT-4, the leap in performance and intelligence may not be as dramatic as the jump from GPT-3 to GPT-4.

GPT-4, launched in 2023, was praised for its multimodal abilities and more accurate reasoning. It powered the premium versions of ChatGPT and was later integrated into Microsoft products and numerous enterprise tools. GPT-5 is expected to expand on these capabilities, potentially with enhanced memory, better real-world grounding, and in-

creased reliability.

While OpenAI has not announced an official release date, the testing phase suggests that a public launch could happen soon. With AI safety, alignment, and regulation becoming central concerns globally, GPT-5’s release will also likely reignite debates about responsible AI development and the pace of innovation in the space.

Who Rules Under Oceans? US vs Russia

As US-Russia tensions intensify in a new Cold War-style standoff, the two powers are ramping up their undersea military posturing. In response to former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev’s warning of Russia’s “dead hand” nuclear retaliation system, US President Donald Trump has ordered the repositioning of two nuclear submarines to strategic waters.

This high-stakes move follows Moscow’s dismissal of Trump’s threats over tariffs and sanctions. Medvedev invoked “dead hand,” a Cold War-era semi-automated nuclear strike system designed to launch a counterattack even if Russia’s leadership is destroyed.

Russian lawmaker Viktor Vodolatsky responded to Trump’s deployment, claiming that Russian nuclear submarine activity outmatches that of the US globally. “The submarines the US ordered to reposition are already tracked and surrounded,” he said.

US Submarine Strength:



Ballistic Missile Submarines (SSBNs):

The US Navy operates 14 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines, also called “boomers.” Each can carry up to 20 Trident II D5 submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and is designed for long-range, stealth nucle-



ar deterrence. These SSBNs can remain at sea for months and operate for 15 years between major overhauls.

Fast Attack Submarines (SSNs):

The US also deploys Virginia, Seawolf, and Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarines. These

submarines are armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, and MK-48 torpedoes. They conduct offensive operations, gather intelligence, and support special operations. The Virginia-class SSNs, including the USS Hawaii and USS North Carolina, are among

the most advanced, with cutting-edge stealth and special forces capabilities.

As the US and Russia maneuver undersea, the contest for strategic dominance beneath the waves underscores the renewed risks of an arms race — this time, below the surface.

Australia Beat India in Rain-Hit 1st ODI as Rohit, Kohli Disappoint

India suffered a seven-wicket loss to Australia in the rain-affected first ODI in Perth on Sunday, as the much-anticipated returns of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli ended in disappointment. The match, reduced to 26 overs per side due to rain, saw India post a modest

136/9, with Australia chasing down the revised DLS target of 131 in just 21.1 overs.

Skipper Mitchell Marsh (46* off 52) led from the front with a powerful knock, supported by Josh Philippe's brisk 37. Their 55-run stand steadied Australia after early dismissals of Travis Head and Matthew Short. Indian pacers Arshdeep Singh, Mohammad Siraj, and debutant Harshit Rana lacked discipline, conceding extras and struggling to extract control or bounce.

Earlier, India's innings never gained momentum. Rohit, playing his 500th match, managed just 8 before being undone by Josh



Hazlewood's steep bounce. Kohli, cheered loudly on his return, fell for a duck — his first ever in Australia — edging Mitchell Starc to backward point.

Skipper Shubman Gill (12) and Shreyas Iyer (4) also fell cheaply, leaving

India at 45/4. KL Rahul (38) stood out with classy strokeplay, including two sixes off Matthew Short. He shared a 39-run stand with Axar Patel (31) and added 30 with Washington Sundar (13), but regular interruptions and

late-order collapses hurt India's final total.

Starc, Hazlewood, and Ellis bowled with discipline, exploiting the bounce and movement offered by the Optus Stadium pitch.

India will look to bounce

back in the second ODI in Adelaide, with veterans Rohit and Kohli under pressure to prove their form. Australia, meanwhile, take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series, buoyed by a clinical all-round performance.

Messi Hat-Trick Powers Inter Miami Past Nashville 5-2



Lionel Messi scored his second career MLS hat-trick to lead Inter Miami to a commanding 5-2 victory over Nashville SC at Geodis Park on Saturday. The Argentine legend now

leads the MLS Golden Boot race with 29 goals this season.

Messi opened the scoring in the 35th minute with a precise strike from outside the box. Nashville respond-

ed with goals from Sam Surridge (43') and Jacob Shaffelburg (45+6') to take a 2-1 lead into halftime. Despite being outshot 11-4 in the first half, Miami regrouped with a dominant

second-half performance.

Messi converted a penalty in the 62nd minute after a handball by Andy Najar, bringing the match level at 2-2. Just four minutes later, Baltasar Rodríguez gave

Miami a 3-2 lead with a low shot from the center of the box. Messi completed his hat-trick in the 81st minute with a trademark left-footed finish to stretch the lead to 4-2. Telasco Segovia added the fifth goal in stoppage time to seal the win.

Inter Miami defender Ian Fray praised Messi's impact, saying, "It's so obvious that he gives us an advantage every night. We have some of the greatest players to ever play the game here."

Nashville coach B.J. Calhagan admitted his side struggled to contain Messi. "We didn't do a good enough job, especially in the final 25 yards. You can't give Messi those chances."

Inter Miami ends the regular season with a 19-7-8 record and enters the MLS Playoffs as the third seed in the Eastern Conference. They are set to face sixth-seeded Nashville (16-12-6) again in the first round.

With Messi in top form, Miami look like serious title contenders heading into the postseason.

Deepti's Milestone Overshadowed as England Dominate India in World Cup Clash

Despite Deepti Sharma's historic feat, India lost control of their ICC Women's World Cup 2025 group-stage match against England in Indore on Saturday. England's middle-order, led by captain Heather Knight and Nat Sciver-Brunt, powered the visitors into a commanding position after early breakthroughs by India.

Deepti dismissed both England openers — Tammy Beaumont and Amy Jones — to give India a bright start. With Beaumont's wicket, Deepti became the first Indian woman to achieve the double of 2000 runs and 150 ODI wickets, marking a major personal milestone in her career.

Amy Jones, however, provided early momentum to England with a fluent 56 before falling to Deepti. Her dismissal brought in Knight, who anchored the innings with a composed half-century. Partnering with Sciver-Brunt, the pair steadied the innings and took the game away from India with an unbroken stand that blunted the Indian attack.

While India's bowlers started well, they gradually lost discipline and



momentum, allowing England to rebuild and accelerate. Fielding lapses and missed opportunities further compounded India's woes as the match progressed under lights.

Earlier in the day, India posted a below-par total (not detailed in the excerpt), putting pressure on the bowlers to deliver. Deepti's spell stood out, but the lack of support at

the other end allowed England to seize control.

With this performance, England strengthened their semifinal hopes, while India will now need to regroup quickly to stay

in contention for a top-four finish. Deepti's achievement will be a proud memory, but it came on a day when India's grip slipped after a promising start.

Tanvi Sharma Wins Silver At BWF World Junior Championships



Indian badminton starlet Tanvi Sharma's remarkable journey at the BWF World Junior Championships ended with a silver medal, after a straight-game defeat to Thailand's Anypat Pichitpreechusak in the women's singles final in Guwahati on Sunday. The 16-year-old lost 7-15, 12-15, becoming only the third Indian female shuttler to reach the final of this prestigious event.

The second-seeded Thai proved too strong in key moments, capitalizing on Tanvi's unforced errors, especially at the net. Despite a bright start in the second game, where Tanvi led 6-1, Pichitpreechusak's deceptive play and tactical control turned the match in her favour. The Thai clinched the gold with a sharp cross-court finish, ending India's long wait for a medal in the women's singles at the

World Juniors.

Tanvi's silver is India's first in women's singles at the tournament in 17 years. Saina Nehwal had won gold in 2008 and silver in 2006, while Aparna Popat bagged silver in 1996. With this performance, Tanvi joins that elite list.

The match began evenly with both players tied at 4-4, but a string of errors saw Tanvi trail 5-10. She fought hard in the second game, even leading 8-5 at the interval. But the Thai's precision and sharp attacking play proved decisive in closing out the match.

While Tanvi missed out on making history with a gold, her silver marks a significant achievement for Indian badminton. Her performance is a promising sign for the future as she follows in the footsteps of India's badminton greats.

Inter Milan Go Top Of Serie A After Win At Roma, Napoli Stumble



Inter Milan climbed to the top of the Serie A table on goal difference after a narrow 1-0 win over Roma at the Stadio Olimpico on Saturday. Ange-Yoan Bonny scored the decisive goal in the sixth minute, capitalizing on a defensive lapse to fire home and secure three vital points. The result puts Inter level on 15 points with Roma and defending champions Napoli, who suffered a shock 1-0 defeat at Torino.

Inter, under coach Cristian Chivu, have now won six straight matches across competitions and are staking a strong claim for the Scudetto after losing out to Napoli last season. "I'm proud of how the team prepared and played after the international break," said Chivu. Henrikh Mkhitaryan nearly doubled the lead late on but was denied by the post.

Roma had their chances, notably when Zeki Celik's shot was deflected into the side netting and Artem Dovbyk headed over

from the resulting corner. "We're disappointed but some defeats teach you something," said Roma boss Gian Piero Gasperini.

Napoli's title defence took a hit in Turin, where Giovanni Simeone scored the only goal against his former club. The 30-year-old forward weaved past Giovanni Di Lorenzo and Vanja Milinkovic-Savic before calmly finishing in the 32nd minute. Napoli thought they had equalized through Noa Lang in stoppage time, but the goal was ruled out for offside.

Injuries continue to plague Napoli, with key players Rasmus Hojlund and Scott McTominay missing the match. Both are doubtful for Tuesday's Champions League clash against PSV. Meanwhile, AC Milan could leapfrog Inter with a win over Fiorentina on Sunday, though they too face fitness concerns with Adrien Rabiot and Christian Pulisic sidelined until mid-November.



Chiranjeevi's Meesala Pilla Crosses 25 Million Views, Trends #1

Megastar Chiranjeevi continues to prove why he remains a force to reckon with in Indian cinema. The first single from his upcoming film Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, titled Meesala Pilla, has achieved a major milestone by crossing 25 million views on YouTube and is currently trending at No. 1 in the Music category on YouTube India.

Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the film promises to be a grand entertainer set for a 2026 release, and the promotional campaign is already creating massive buzz. The musical journey began with Meesala Pilla, a fun, romantic number that

blends playful charm with Chiranjeevi's signature style.

The song has struck a chord with fans across the country. Its catchy tune, energetic visuals, and Chiranjeevi's charismatic screen presence have contributed to its soaring popularity. Audiences were particularly thrilled to see the megastar showcase his trademark swag along with a lighthearted, mischievous side — a delightful throwback to his classic on-screen persona.

Music lovers and fans have flooded social media with dance covers, reels, and appreciation posts, making Meesala Pilla not just a song, but a celebration. The track

has been praised for its melody, choreography, and vibrant visuals, elevating excitement for the film's release.

Director Anil Ravipudi's strategic promotional rollout has paid off, and this musical hit sets the stage for more chartbusters to follow. With Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, Chiranjeevi seems all set to deliver another crowd-pleasing blockbuster.

As Meesala Pilla continues to dominate playlists and charts, it reaffirms Chiranjeevi's enduring popularity and ability to connect with audiences across generations. The countdown to the film's release just got a whole lot more exciting.

Rakul Preet's High-Slit Look Sets Diwali Fashion on Fire

Rakul Preet Singh lit up the festive season in her own dazzling way this Diwali, turning heads with a bold fashion statement that quickly became the talk of the internet. Ditching the traditional route, Rakul opted for a sleek black gown featuring a dramatic high slit that brought a perfect mix of glamour and edge.

The gown, tailored to perfection, featured crystal embellishments around the neckline that shimmered effortlessly under the lights — outshining even the brightest diyas of the evening. Styled with minimal accessories and flawless makeup, Rakul's look was all about confidence, elegance, and high fashion.

The moment she shared photos of her outfit on social media, they instantly went viral, with fans and fashion enthusiasts alike praising

her bold Diwali style. The high slit added a bold twist to the otherwise classic black silhouette, making it both festive and fashion-forward.

Rakul's Diwali look stood out in a sea of lehengas and sarees, proving once again that festive fashion doesn't have to follow the rulebook. With her sleek ensemble, she stole the spotlight — quite literally — and set a new benchmark for celebrity holiday dressing.

Known for her versatile fashion choices, Rakul continues to make statements that blend tradition with trend. This latest look might just go down as one of her most iconic festive appearances.

Whether on the red carpet or at a Diwali party, Rakul Preet Singh knows how to make an entrance — and this year, she did it in a high-slit gown that everyone's still talking about.



Epic Throwback of Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu & Prabhas Takes Internet by Storm

A rare and nostalgic photo featuring three of Telugu cinema's biggest stars — Megastar Chiranjeevi, Superstar Mahesh Babu, and Rebel Star Prabhas — has resurfaced and gone viral across social media platforms. The now-iconic throwback was shared by director Jayanth C. Paranjee, known for helming several star-studded films. The photo, taken on his birthday in 2004, captures a golden moment in Telugu film history. Alongside the big three, the picture also includes familiar faces like actors Tarun, Sumanth, Srikanth, and music composer Devi Sri Prasad, making it a full-

blown nostalgic treat for fans.

Posting the image on Instagram, Jayanth reminisced about the memorable day, recalling the camaraderie and warmth shared among the stars. The director's caption was filled with emotion, highlighting the close-knit bond the industry once shared during that era.

The throwback has since gone viral, with fans flooding social media timelines with admiration, nostalgia, and excitement. Many dubbed it the "photo of the year," while others praised the rare sight of Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu, and Prabhas together in one



frame — something almost unheard of in recent times given their respective superstar schedules and public appearances.

This candid moment from 2004 has sparked a wave of fond memories

among long-time Telugu cinema followers, who hailed the picture as a timeless treasure. It also reminded fans of the changing face of the industry, where such spontaneous get-togethers are now few and far

between.

As the image continues to trend online, fans are hopeful for more such glimpses from the archives — moments that celebrate the legacy and unity of Tollywood's biggest icons.

Vishnu Vishal's Aaryan Trailer Promises Gripping Action Thriller



Vishnu Vishal is back in action with Aaryan, an intense cop thriller set to release on October 31, 2025. Directed by Praveen K and produced by Vishnu Vishal Studios, the film's gripping trailer, launched in both Tamil and Telugu, has already sparked strong buzz among fans and film enthusiasts. The trailer showcases Vishnu Vishal in a fierce avatar, playing a no-nonsense police officer on the trail of a chilling se-

rial killer. The antagonist, played by Selvaraghavan in a menacing negative role, appears to be a calculating murderer who announces his victims' names before striking. This psychological edge adds a layer of intrigue to what appears to be a high-stakes cat-and-mouse chase. Set against a moody, intense backdrop, the trailer builds tension as Aaryan digs deeper into the case, hinting at layers of emotional and psychological

complexity. Is the killer driven by personal revenge, or is this a descent into pure madness? The answers are set to unfold in theatres soon. The film also stars Shraddha Srinath and Vaani Bhojan in significant roles, adding further depth to the storyline. Ghibran's powerful background score heightens the suspense, while slick visuals and sharp editing promise a tightly crafted thriller.

Aaryan marks a notable

return for Vishnu Vishal, combining action, emotion, and mystery in a gripping narrative. With Selvaraghavan making a strong impression as the antagonist and a plot that teases more than it reveals, the stage is set for a tense theatrical experience.

Releasing just in time for Halloween weekend, Aaryan is poised to offer audiences a dark and thrilling ride through crime, justice, and psychological warfare.

Samyuktha's Heroine-Centric Film Titled The Black Gold

Actor Samyuktha is set to headline her first heroine-centric film titled The Black Gold, a project jointly produced by Razesha Danda of Hasya Movies and Maganti Pictures. Directed by Yogesh KMC, the film is currently in production, with Samyuktha also serving as the presenter.

The film's title was officially unveiled on October 19, accompanied by a striking poster that hints at the grit-

ty tone and backdrop of the story. The poster features a textured black background reminiscent of coal, with a dark grey and tarnished gold color scheme that adds depth and intensity. The title design itself emphasizes the "gold" element, suggesting a narrative rooted in high stakes and raw drama.

The Black Gold is expected to showcase Samyuktha in a powerful, commanding role

— a significant departure from her previous work. With the first look scheduled to be revealed on Diwali, anticipation is building around the kind of character she will portray in what promises to be a performance-driven film. The technical team backing the film includes A Vasanth as the cinematographer, Sam CS handling the music, and Chota K Prasad in charge of editing. To-

gether, they aim to bring a visually striking and emotionally gripping story to the screen. With a bold title, a compelling visual identity, and a strong creative team, The Black Gold is shaping up to be a notable entry in the genre of female-led Indian cinema. Samyuktha's fans will be eagerly awaiting the Diwali release of the first look to get a glimpse of her intense new avatar.

