



BUZZ POINTS



ANAGANI SLAMS JAGAN - EVEN HIS FAMILY WON'T BELIEVE HIM

In a scathing counter attack on Thursday, Andhra Pradesh Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad lambasted YSRCP chief and Pulivendula MLA YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of deceiving the people with "falsehoods and fabricated allegations" against the state government. Addressing the media at the TDP Central Office in Vijayawada, the Minister said Jagan's recent press meet was an exercise in misinformation, lacking substance and evidence.

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AP CM APPEALS ABU DHABI INDUSTRIAL GIANTS TO INVEST IN AP

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, during his ongoing official visit to Abu Dhabi, urged major industrial players to explore abundant investment opportunities in the food processing and energy sectors in the state. In one-on-one meetings with top executives from prominent companies including Apex Investment, Masdar Group, Agthiya Group, and Lulu Group, the Chief Minister outlined Andhra Pradesh's vast potential and industry-friendly policies aimed at attracting global investments.

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TDP Faces Internal Turmoil as Kesineni-Kolikapudi Feud Goes Public

Factional rivalry and corruption claims threaten party's unity ahead of local polls.



The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has landed in an uncomfortable position after a heated verbal feud between Vijayawada MP Kesineni Chinni and Tiruvuru MLA Kolikapudi Srinivas spilled into the public domain, drawing attention to internal cracks within the party at a time when it is trying to project an image of unity and development. What initially seemed like a local tussle for political dominance has spiraled into a controversy that threatens to dent the TDP's reputation across Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the politically significant Krishna district.

TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 23: The timing could not have been worse, as the party leadership has been highlighting its recent achievements in attracting large-scale investments and generating employment opportunities in the state.

Accusations of Financial Misconduct The row escalated after MLA Kolikapudi Srinivas alleged that MP Kesineni Chinni had demanded ₹5 crore from him in return for securing an MLA ticket during the last elections. Kolikapudi claimed he possessed

evidence to substantiate his allegations, including details of the alleged transactions. His remarks, made at a local meeting, quickly spread through social media and triggered intense debate among the cadre. MP Kesineni Chinni fired back with a strong rebuke, vehemently denying the charges.

He termed the allegations "baseless and politically motivated," asserting that "no one in the party or public takes such false claims seriously." Chinni maintained that his record within the TDP was transparent and that such attempts were meant to tarnish his

reputation and divide the party ahead of the local body polls.

Leadership Steps In sensing the gravity of the situation, Andhra Pradesh TDP President Palla Srinivasa Rao reportedly stepped in to quell the mounting tension. He is said to have called both leaders for a closed-door meeting to seek explanations and restore calm. Party insiders revealed that senior figures are anxious to put a lid on the issue before it snowballs further, as internal disputes risk undermining the morale of the cadre and media narrative. A senior TDP leader from Vijayawada commented that both leaders were

reminded of the party's long-standing discipline and that public altercations only hand ammunition to political rivals. "We are focused on governance and development, not internal fights," he said, indicating that disciplinary measures could follow if the discord continues.

Deep-Rooted Rivalry Behind the verbal duel lies a deeper political rivalry. According to sources, Kesineni Chinni has been backing a rival faction in Tiruvuru constituency to challenge Kolikapudi's influence among local party workers. Kolikapudi, known for his outspoken nature, has frequently

locked horns with party colleagues, causing periodic tensions in the district unit. Earlier, the MLA was questioned by a party committee over complaints from the local cadre. During that inquiry, Kolikapudi reportedly challenged why other leaders accused of corruption were not being investigated, further straining relations with senior members. Chinni's camp accused Kolikapudi of planning to defect to the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), a charge he dismissed as "pure rumor designed to malign me." He countered that such claims showed how nervous

some in the party were about his growing popularity at the grassroots. History of Controversy This is not the first time Kolikapudi Srinivas has courted controversy. Before the 2019 elections, he openly criticized then TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and appeared on talk shows hosted by Sakshi TV, a channel famously supportive of the YSRCP. After his reentry into the TDP fold, Kolikapudi regained credibility by actively supporting the Amaravati farmers' movement and aligning closely with party causes. Pressure on Party

Image Party strategists worry that the ongoing spat could disrupt TDP's carefully managed narrative of progress, confidence, and administrative strength. With Andhra Pradesh recently celebrating major investment agreements and industrial expansions, the leadership had hoped to sustain a positive public image. Political analysts believe that unless the feud is swiftly resolved, it might embolden rival parties and strain the TDP's cohesion ahead of the upcoming local body and municipal elections. "Even a minor

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TRIALS ON PROCESS TO RESCUE FISHERMEN STRUCK IN BANGLADESH

A major rescue operation is underway to bring home eight fishermen from Andhra Pradesh who were accidentally detained by Bangladeshi naval authorities after they drifted into foreign waters. The incident, which occurred last week, has sparked widespread concern across the state, especially in the coastal districts of Srikakulam and Vizianagaram. According to reports, the group of eight fishermen, all residents of Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district, had set sail from the Visakhapatnam coast on October 13.

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AP CM Mobilizes Rs 10 Crore for Flood Relief Amid Torrential Rains

Naidu directs NDRF, SDRF deployment, emergency aid to protect lives and crops.

TPN BUREAU,

VIJAYAWADA, DUBAI OCT 23: Amidst relentless heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh's south coastal and Rayalaseema regions, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, currently on a UAE tour, conducted a teleconference today with state ministers, district collectors, and other officials to review the worsening flood situation caused by incessant rains in Nellore, Chittoor, Prakasam, Kadapa, Tirupati, and Annamayya districts. The Chief Minister emphasized the critical need to remain alert and directed immediate relief and rescue measures to minimize loss of life and property. Reporting from the



teleconference, the Chief Minister released Rs 2 crore each for Nellore, Chittoor, and Prakasam districts and Rs 1 crore each for other impacted districts to meet urgent relief expenses. CM Naidu firmly stated that no life or property

should be lost due to the heavy rainfalls and floods and instructed officials to deploy National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams in the worst-hit districts to aid rescue operations.

He urged the revenue, police, disaster management, irrigation, municipal, and electricity departments to coordinate their efforts efficiently and swiftly. The Chief Minister also stressed the

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Jagan Accuses Naidu of Credit Chori

YSRCP chief targets CM over Data Center, liquor scam, farmers' distress, and medical college privatization.



Former Chief Minister and YSRCP President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a blistering attack on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of "credit chori" (credit theft) regarding the Google-Adani Data Center project and other government initiatives. Speaking at a press conference on October 23, 2025, Jagan said that the seeds for the ₹87,000 crore Data Center project were sown during his government's tenure, but Naidu is misleading the public by taking credit for it. Jagan referenced how Naidu previously took credit for Hyderabad's Cyber Towers, highlighting a pattern of claiming others' work.



TPN Bureau,

Vijayawada, Oct 23: Jagan also accused Chandrababu Naidu and the TDP of running a widespread spurious liquor racket in Andhra Pradesh, alleging that party members are involved at every stage from manufacturing to sale. Stating that one out of every four liquor bottles sold in the state is fake, Jagan

claimed this racket endangers public health and has ties reaching the highest levels of TDP leadership. He demanded a Central investigation into the liquor scam, questioning leaks and official complicity, particularly referencing a controversial video involving TDP leaders.

Turning to public health, Jagan

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AP Eyes Global Logistics Hub; CM Courts Industry Giants in Visakha

Naidu pitches investment-friendly policies, AI data center, tourism, and connectivity projects.

TPN/

VIJAYAWADA / DUBAI OCT 23: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said that Andhra Pradesh has abundant opportunities for investment in vari-

ous sectors and the state government introduced 24 industry-friendly policies to attract investments. He said necessary permissions will be given within 15 days for those coming forward for setting up of industries in

Andhra Pradesh.

Addressing a road show organized here this evening to invite industry giants for Visakhapatnam CII partnership summit and to attract investments, the Chief Minister said that AP has abundant oppor-

tunities for development of logistics hub. He said that the state government determined to revive inland water ways also. He said the state government giving priority for air, water and road connectivity. Praising Dubai for pro-

moting Tourism in a big way, the chief Minister said 18 million tourists are visiting Dubai per year. He said Andhra Pradesh is also giving top priority for tourism and accorded industry status to tourism. He said that to promote

tourism 7 anchor hubs, 25 thematic circuits and 3 national parks will be developed.

Stating that Visakhapatnam is emerging as a futuristic city, the Chief Minister said that

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Jagan Accuses Naidu of Credit Chori

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vehemently opposed the coalition government's move to privatize government medical colleges in Andhra Pradesh. He described it as a betrayal of public healthcare, announcing a one-crore signature campaign and a mass movement against this

privatization. The YSRCP plans mass dhar-nas (sit-ins) across the state starting October 28 and district-level rallies on November 12, culmi-nating in submission of the collected signatures to the Governor.
Jagan noted that under his leadership, 17 government medical

colleges were sanc-tioned, seven complet-ed, and more were un-derway, but the new government is auc-tioning these public assets to private players, ex-ploiting public institu-tions while hurting poor and middle-class students aspiring to be-come doctors. On gov-

ernment employees, Jagan highlighted un-fulfilled promises, de-layed salaries, and pend-ing arrears affecting their welfare, contrast-ing it with his govern-ment's protection of employee welfare even during the COVID-19 pandemic. He said em-ployees are now strug-

gling to get their legiti-mate dues.
Regarding agricul-ture, Jagan lamented the government's ne-glect, pointing out the absence of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops and lack of subsid-ized supply of essen-tial inputs such as urea and seeds. This, he said,

has created acute dis-tress among farmers in the state. Finally, Jagan took a swipe at the re-cent public spat be-tween actor-politicians N Balakrishna and Chi-ranjeevi, stating it re-flects how low the TDP has sunk in its political discourse.
This series of accusa-

tions and announce-ments marks a sharp escalation in political confrontation in Andhra Pradesh months ahead of up-coming polls, focusing public attention on is-sues of governance, public welfare, and cor-ruption allegations in-volving both parties.

This article summariz-es key points from the recent news conference by YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on October 23, 2025, condemning CM Chandrababu Naidu's actions and outlining YSRCP's strategy against privatization and corruption in Andhra Pradesh.

TRIALS ON PROCESS TO RESCUE FISHERMEN STRUCK IN BANGLADESH

Efforts Underway to Rescue Andhra Fishermen Detained in Bangladesh Waters: Union Minister Rammohan Naidu.

TPN BUREAU,

SRIKAKULAM, OCT 23: A major rescue operation is under-way to bring home eight fishermen from Andhra Pradesh who were accidentally detained by Bangladeshi naval authorities after they drifted into foreign waters. The incident, which occurred last week, has sparked wide-spread concern across the state, especially in the coastal districts of Srikakulam and Viziana-garam. According to re-ports, the group of eight fishermen, all residents of Bhogapuram in Vizi-anagaram district, had set sail from the Vi-sakhapatnam coast on October 13.

They were aboard a fishing boat owned by Satyanarayana from the Relli Veedhi area of Vi-sakhapatnam. While continuing their fishing operations late into the night, the crew inadver-tently crossed into Bang-ladesh's territorial wa-ters due to rough sea conditions and poor nav-igation visibility. Before they could realize the situation, a Bangladeshi naval patrol intercepted



their vessel, detaining all eight men for unlaw-ful entry. In the wake of the incident, Union Min-ister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu acted swiftly to ensure the safe return of the detained fishermen.

The minister, who hails from Srikakulam, has been in constant con-tact with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian High Commis-sion in Bangladesh. He confirmed that diplom-at-ic communications are in progress to secure their early release. "I have already spoken to the External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jais-hankar, and the matter is under close observa-tion," Rammohan Naidu stated. "The Indian Mis-sion in Dhaka and our Coast Guard authorities are coordinating on all fronts to bring the fisher-

men back home safely.

Every necessary step is being taken at the highest level of government." Minister Naidu further empha-sized that maintaining the welfare and security of Indian fishermen is a national priority. He re-vealed that extensive co-ordination is ongoing between multiple agen-cies, including the Indi-an Coast Guard, the Min-istry of Defence, and the Ministry of External Af-fairs, to handle the issue diplomatically but deci-sively. "This is a sensi-tive situation involving an international bound-ary, and we are ensuring that due diplomatic channels are followed," he said.

Meanwhile, sources close to the Union Min-ister indicated that regu-lar updates are being sought from the Bangla-

desh Embassy, and ef-forts are focused on en-suring legal clearance for the fishermen's re-lease without delay. The Indian authorities are also verifying that the detained individuals are safe and have access to basic facilities during their custody. Chief Min-ister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who was in Dubai on an official visit when the news broke, also re-sponded promptly, di-recting state authorities to stay in close touch with the central government.

He assured the affected families that both the state and union govern-ments are united in re-solving the matter quick-ly. Family members of the detained fishermen in Bhogapuram have ex-pressed cautious relief after learning about the minister's swift interven-tion. They continue to hope for an early reunion with their loved ones. With constant monitor-ing from both New Delhi and Dhaka, officials ex-pect that the eight Andhra fishermen will be repatri-ated soon, marking a suc-cessful resolution to a tense cross-border mari-time episode.

ANAGANI SLAMS JAGAN - EVEN HIS FAMILY WON'T BELIEVE HIM

Anagani Satya Prasad Slams Jagan: 'Even His Family Won't Believe His Lies'

TPN/

Vijayawada, Oct 23: In a scathing counter attack on Thursday, Andhra Pradesh Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad lambast-ed YSRCP chief and Pulivendula MLA YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of deceiv-ing the people with "falsehoods and fabri-cated allegations" against the state gov-ernment. Addressing the media at the TDP Central Office in Vi-jayawada, the Minister said Jagan's recent press meet was an exer-cise in misinformation, lacking substance and evidence.

"Jagan conducted a two-hour-long press conference and yet failed to show even a shred of proof for his claims," Anagani said. "He seems to suffer from a curse that pre-vents him from tell-ing the truth," he added sarcastically. The Min-ister remarked that Jagan was trying to misguide the public and divert attention from his failures and corruption during the previous regime. Tak-ing a direct jibe at Jag-an's frequent foreign visits, Satya Prasad de-scribed him as a "part-



time visitor" to the state.

"He came back from London, took rest in Bengaluru, and then visited Tadepalli only to read a script some-one else prepared for him," he quipped. He also mocked Jagan's claim of bringing Google to Andhra Pradesh, calling it laughable. "Even his own family wouldn't believe it," he said.

The Minister further recalled the inconsis-tencies in Jagan's state-ments regarding the murder of his uncle, former minister YS Vivekananda Reddy. "When the incident oc-curred, Jagan first claimed it was a heart attack. Later, he de-manded a CBI probe, but after coming to power, he completely ignored the case," Satya Prasad alleged. He reminded that the CBI had even named some of Jagan's follow-ers in the chargesheet,

yet the investigation was deliberately ob-structed. "He did not allow justice to be served even in his own family's case," he said.

Anagani Satya Pras-ad also came down heavily on the YSRCP regime's liquor policy, branding it as the "brand ambassador of spurious liquor." He cited official reports in-dicating that nearly 30,000 people died and three lakh were hospi-talized due to consump-tion of toxic liquor dur-ing Jagan's tenure. The Minister named brands linked to YSRCP sym-pathizers Celebrate, Green Choice, Rayala-seema, Champion, and Old Timer—that were found containing haz-ardous chemicals.

He stated that the present government under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had initiated an uncom-promising crackdown on fake liquor, drugs, and gambling activi-

ties. To ensure trans-parency, the govern-ment has introduced a QR-code-based tracking system for liquor pro-duction to prevent adul-teration and safeguard public health. High-lighting the develop-mental agenda of the current adminis-tration, Satya Prasad noted that CM Naidu's re-cent visit to the UAE and IT Minister Nara Lokesh's tour of Aus-tralia were part of ef-forts to attract global investments and gener-ate employment op-portunities for Andhra Pradesh's youth.

"While Jagan hides in London to safeguard his properties, our leaders are working tirelessly abroad to bring jobs and prosper-ity to the people," he as-serted. Reiterating the government's commit-ment to truth and ac-countability, the Min-ister warned that spreading false propa-ganda and baseless al-legations would invite strict legal action. "We will not tolerate any-one misleading the public with deliberate misinformation. The people of Andhra Pradesh deserve hon-esty and progress, not deception and divi-sion," Satya Prasad concluded.

AP Eyes Global Logistics Hub; CM Courts Industry Giants in Visakha

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Google company is go-ing to set up biggest AI data center in Vi-sakhapatnam by invest-ing 15 billion US dollars. At the same time the state government giving priority for skill develop-ment to enrich youth as future work force. He said that Amravati capi-tal will be developed as futuristic city. The Chief Minister gave a power point presentation focus-ing on investment oppor-tunities in various sec-tors in Andhra Pradesh. He invited the industry giants for CII partner-ship summit to be held in Visakhapatnam on No-vember 14 and 15.

TDP Faces Internal Turmoil as Kesineni-Kolikapudi Feud Goes Public

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internal rift can be mag-nified in the current media environment," remarked a political observer in Vijayawada.

As the party's discipli-nary wing monitors devel-opments, the leadership faces the delicate task of balancing loyalty, disci-pline, and internal democ-racy. For now, the TDP ap-pears determined to turn the spotlight back to gov-ernance achievements but the Chinni-Kolikapudi feud has already reminded everyone that even the strongest political organi-zations are not immune to internal turbulence.

AP CM APPEALS ABU DHABI INDUSTRIAL GIANTS TO INVEST IN AP

On Food Processing and Energy Sectors in Andhra Pradesh

TPN

Vijayawada Abu Dha-bi Oct 23: Andhra Pradesh Chief Min-ister N Chandraba-bu Naidu, during his ongoing official visit to Abu Dhabi, urged ma-jor industrial players to explore abundant invest-ment opportunities in the food processing and energy sectors in the state. In one-on-one meet-ings with top executives from prominent com-pa-nies including Apex In-vestment, Masdar Group, Agthiya Group, and Lulu Group, the Chief Min-ister outlined Andhra Pradesh's vast potential and industry-friendly policies aimed at attract-ing global investments.

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's growing prom-inence as an investment destination, Naidu re-quested Khalifa Khouri, Chairman of Apex In-vestments, and Md Jameel Al Ramahi, CEO of Masdar Group, to consid-er investing in the green energy sector. He pointed to the upcoming Google AI data center being es-tablished in Visakhapat-



nam as a significant sign of the state's technologi-cal growth.

He encouraged these companies to focus on sectors such as solar and wind energy, battery storage, and super capac-itor products, areas in which the Apex repre-sentatives expressed ac-tive interest, agreeing to supply advanced super capacitors to Andhra Pradesh industries. In discussions with Sal-meen Alameri, CEO of Agthiya Group, and Yu-suf Ali, Chairman of Lulu Group, Naidu advo-cated for investments in the food processing in-dustry, specifically citing the availability of qual-ity cocoa in Andhra Pradesh as an ideal op-portunity to set up choc-olate manufacturing

units.

The Chief Minister emphasized the state's comprehensive approach to creating an ecosystem favorable to food process-ing, combining resource availability with cutting-edge infrastructure and policy support. Moreover, Naidu extended a formal invitation to these indus-trial giants to participate in the upcoming Visakha CII Partnership Summit scheduled for November 14-15 in Visakhapatnam. The summit aims to bring together domestic and international busi-ness leaders to explore collaborative ventures in emerging sectors such as renewable energy, tech-nology, logistics, and agro-industries. This en-gagement in Abu Dhabi forms part of Naidu's fo-

cused efforts to position Andhra Pradesh as a leading global invest-ment hub by promoting sustainable energy pro-jects and value-added food industries.

The state govern-ment's emphasis on green energy aligns with India's broader climate goals, making Andhra Pradesh a strategic desti-nation for clean energy and advanced manu-facturing investments. Naidu's visit to the UAE also underscores the strengthening business ties between Andhra Pradesh and Middle Eastern investors, with the state offering seam-less regulatory support and infrastructural fa-cilities to facilitate rapid and efficient project execution.



measures to minimize crop losses by diverting excess water into irriga-tion tanks and strength-ening river embank-ments to avoid breaches. The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Man-agement Authority men-tioned that the current low-pressure area caus-ing these heavy rainfalls is expected to weaken in the next 12 hours, yet of-ficials must maintain readiness due to the scale of the damage and ongo-ing risks.

Additional relief mea-sures include provision of essential supplies like rice, oil, onions, potatoes, and sugar to affected fam-ilies through mobile Rythu Bazaars to prevent black marketing and ensure affordability. With the threat of viral fevers and mosquito-borne dis-eases increasing due to water logging, the CM di-rected officials to run awareness campaigns and provide necessary

medical support and san-itation efforts promptly. As the floods recede slow-ly, a comprehensive door-to-door relief operation is underway to deliver food, milk, and drinking water to displaced and af-fected populations.

Over 2.3 lakh food packets, 2.5 lakh milk packets, 5 lakh water bot-tles, and 117 water tank-ers have already been distributed successfully. Chief Minister Naidu's swift intervention under-scores the state govern-ment's commitment to mitigating the impact of the disaster and restor-ing normalcy to the lives of the people affected by these unprecedented rains and floods in Andhra Pradesh. This co-ordinated effort remains crucial as the situation evolves and the govern-ment works towards providing immediate relief and long-term recovery for the flood-affected re-gions in the state.

NITI AAYOG CEO ON PURVODAYA SCHEME

NITI Aayog CEO Subrahmanyam Discusses Purvodaya Scheme, Visakhapatnam Growth Hub with AP Chief Secretary

TPN / Vijayawada Oct 23: NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer B.V.R. Subrahmanyam held an in-depth discussion with Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand at the Secretariat in Velagapudi on Thursday, focusing on the Purvodaya Scheme and the Visakhapatnam Growth Hub initiative aimed at accel-

erating the state's economic growth. Subrahmanyam lauded Andhra Pradesh as one of India's fastest-growing coastal states, possessing immense potential to emerge as a strong industrial and maritime hub under the Purvodaya framework. He pointed out that while the state already has several operational ports, there is a pressing need to establish a container mega port to enhance the state's maritime trade ecosystem and industrial expansion. The NITI Aayog CEO urged the state government to initiate proactive measures for the conceptualization and execution of such a project to strengthen Andhra Pradesh's logistical competitiveness. Highlighting the importance



of showcasing the state's progress, Subrahmanyam requested the Chief Secretary to prepare a comprehensive report detailing Andhra Pradesh's innovative development initiatives. He proposed that a special presentation be made on Andhra Pradesh

during the upcoming Chief Secretaries' Conference, underscoring the state's achievements and ongoing reforms. The meeting also reviewed the developmental potential of Visakhapatnam, Amravati, and Tirupati Growth Corridors, which have

been identified as future engines of balanced regional development. Subrahmanyam emphasized that integrated growth across these corridors can attract major industries, create jobs, and promote sustainable urban transformation, aligning with the nation-

al vision for east coast development under Purvodaya. Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand assured the delegation that the state government is fully committed to fast-tracking the Visakhapatnam Growth Hub project. He announced that a special officer would soon be appointed to oversee and expedite all related works, ensuring that project timelines are strictly adhered to. Vijayanand added that Andhra Pradesh is intensively pursuing multi-sectoral infrastructure and industrial projects through a fast-track mechanism, targeting new investments in manufacturing, information technology, renewable energy, and logistics sectors. He further informed that the state administration is maintaining active en-

gagement with the Central Government to secure adequate financial and policy support for key projects under the Purvodaya umbrella. The Chief Secretary appealed to NITI Aayog to recommend enhanced central assistance to Andhra Pradesh to strengthen its contribution to the Purvodaya vision. The Purvodaya Scheme, launched by the Central Government, is a flagship initiative focused on transforming India's eastern region—spanning Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Bihar into a dynamic growth hub driving national progress. It aims to harness the region's natural resources, skilled workforce, and cultural strengths to propel in-

dustrial expansion and sustainable economic development. The programme prioritizes investments in roads, ports, airports, power plants, and educational institutions such as IITs and skill training centers. It also seeks to boost agriculture, fisheries, and allied sectors, while fostering industrial corridors and value-addition industries. Senior officials present at the meeting included NITI Aayog Additional CEO Parthasarathy Reddy, Principal Secretary (Finance & Planning) Peeyush Kumar, Secretary (Education) K. Shashidhar, Secretary (Finance) Vinay Chand, Joint Secretary (Planning) Ananth Shankar, and MD (Skill Development) G. Ganesh Kumar.

DLDO OFFICES TO BECOME OPERATIONAL - PAWAN KALYAN



DLDO Offices to Become Functional from November 1: DCM Pawan Kalyan

TPN / VIJAYAWADA Oct 23: Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Panchayati Raj & Rural Development, Pawan Kalyan, announced that Divisional Level Development Officer (DLDO) offices will begin functioning across Andhra Pradesh from November 1, marking an important administrative milestone in the state's rural governance framework. Holding a high-level review meeting with senior Panchayati Raj officials in Vijayawada on Thursday, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the department to ensure that the new offices are operational in all divisions from the first week of November.

The move, he said, is part of the state government's broader administrative reforms aimed at strengthening local self-governance and decentralizing public service delivery. Pawan Kalyan emphasized that the reforms initiated by the coalition government must translate into visible benefits for rural communities. He said that the Panchayati Raj Department's structural redesign, including the establishment of DLDO offices, is intended to

bring decision-making closer to villages and enable more efficient monitoring of developmental activities. He pointed out that by abolishing the cluster system and recognizing all 13,351 gram panchayats as independent administrative units, the government has empowered local bodies to function with greater autonomy and accountability. "The people of Andhra Pradesh must experience tangible improvements in village infrastructure, services, and governance as a result of our reforms," the Deputy CM asserted. Highlighting the importance of sustainable financing for panchayats, Pawan Kalyan stated that the state government is ensuring uninterrupted financial support for rural development through effective coordination with the Central government. This, he explained, includes leveraging the 15th Finance Commission grants to create self-reliant local bodies capable of funding their own development activities. He instructed officials to design innovative models to promote financial self-sufficiency among panchayats, moving beyond dependency on external grants. The Deputy Chief Minister also reiterated the coalition government's commitment to rural progress and administrative transparency. He urged field-level officers and regional administrators to take proactive responsibility in

the implementation of reforms and developmental schemes. "Reforms should not remain on paper—they should transform into results on the ground that people can see and feel," he said. Pawan Kalyan directed top officials to regularly review fund utilization, ensure timelines are met for project execution, and maintain real-time monitoring of development indicators at the divisional level. He instructed that all officials must submit detailed action plans for developmental programs, particularly under the upcoming Pallo Panduga 2.0 initiative, which focuses on rural rejuvenation and infrastructural upgrades. He noted that the government's focus remains on empowering local institutions, improving governance efficiency, and enabling smoother public service delivery in villages. The establishment of DLDO offices, he added, reflects the administration's commitment to ushering in a new era of accountable rural development in Andhra Pradesh. Officials from the Panchayati Raj Department assured the Deputy Chief Minister that all logistical arrangements were in progress and that necessary staff assignments for DLDO offices would be completed before November 1. They also outlined a roadmap for integrating digital monitoring tools and data-driven systems into rural development planning.

AP POLICE CAPTURES 11 GAMBLERS - 19 LAKH SEIZED

Gambling Racket Busted in Anakapalli: 11 Arrested, 19 Lakh Seized.

Anakapalli (Andhra Pradesh), Oct 23: In a major crackdown on illegal gambling activities, the Andhra Pradesh police arrested 11 individuals and seized over Rs 19 lakh in cash during a raid conducted on the outskirts of Nakkavanipalem village. The operation, carried out late on Tuesday night based on reliable intelligence, aimed to dismantle an organized gambling ring thriving under the guise of casual entertainment.

According to Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) V Vishnu Swaroop, the main organizer was identified as Jerripothula Shiva, aged 30, a resident of Donkada Colony in Aganampudi village. Preliminary investigations revealed that Shiva,



who also runs a restaurant at Lankelapalem, had been frequently coordinating high-stake gambling sessions at secluded locations near Anakapalli to evade police detection. "We received credible information about a group engaging in card-based betting. Acting swiftly, we raided the spot at Nakkavanipalem and ap-

prehended 11 persons in the act of playing the card game commonly known as 'Kotha'. A few others managed to escape the scene, but we have initiated efforts to trace and arrest them soon," said DSP Swaroop. During the raid, police seized cash amounting to more than 19 lakh, along with 17 mobile phones, two motorcycles, one

car, and an assortment of gambling material including 10 unopened decks and 52 used sets of playing cards. Authorities also recovered lighting equipment used to facilitate the game during night sessions. The DSP further stated that the accused have been booked under Section 9(1) of the Andhra Pradesh Gaming Act, 1974, and

Section 112(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), for organizing and participating in unlawful gambling activities. The seized property has been taken into custody as evidence, and investigation is ongoing to determine the extent of the racket's operations and its possible connections with other districts. Police officials have urged the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious gambling activities in their areas. "Illegal gambling encourages criminal networks and financial exploitation. Our department is intensifying efforts across the district to curb such offenses," DSP Swaroop emphasized. The arrests mark one of the largest cash seizures in a gambling case reported in recent months in the Anakapalli region, reflecting the police department's sustained drive against organized gaming and betting operations in the state.

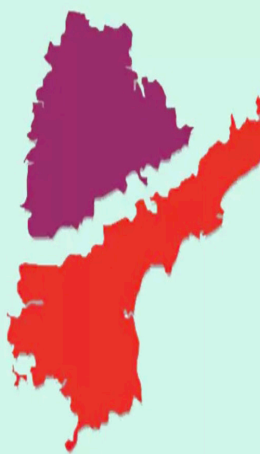
AP AND TG IN DEBTS

Financial Inclusion Rises, Yet Gender and Community Gaps Persist

TPN BUREAU, AMARAVATHI, OCT 23: India's push toward financial inclusion has reached a significant milestone, with 80.2% of citizens now part of the formal financial system. However, new data reveals underlying disparities in access and debt distribution across gender, religion, and community groups, shedding light on the uneven progress in achieving inclusive growth.

According to the findings, only 7.4% of the population is currently burdened with loans, indicating relatively low levels of indebtedness compared to the

growing financial inclusion rate. This trend suggests that while more people are gaining access to bank accounts and financial services, borrowing remains limited, possibly due to risk aversion or lack of collateral among low-income households. Among religious groups, Hindus have recorded the highest rate of participation in financial services at 88.1%, followed by Muslims at 80.8%. The gap underscores continued challenges in ensuring equitable access to banking facilities and financial awareness across communities. Experts note that cultural factors, income disparities, and regional inequalities often influence financial inclusion outcomes. Gender, too, continues to influence financial participation. While 89.8% of men are financially included, only 84.5% of women have access to formal



financial institutions. This gender divide reflects broader socioeconomic patterns, where women, especially in rural or marginalized areas, face barriers such as limited mobility, lower literacy levels, and lack of documentation. Government initiatives like Jan Dhan Yojana and digital banking schemes have improved access for women, yet the gap highlights the need for continued focus on gen-

der-sensitive financial policies. Caste and community-based differences in debt levels also draw attention. Other Backward Classes (OBCs) show a higher debt burden, with 16.6% of individuals reporting loans, compared to Scheduled Tribes (STs), where only 11% are indebted. Economists interpret this as a reflection of differing economic activities—OBC households often engage in small-scale trade, agriculture, or self-employment, leading to higher credit dependency, whereas tribal communities may rely more on subsistence livelihoods with limited credit interactions. An interesting pattern emerges when comparing household size with debt levels. Families with more members tend to have lower debt burdens than smaller households. This counterintuitive finding could be attributed to the shared

income and labor potential within larger families, which might enhance financial stability and reduce individual borrowing needs. Conversely, smaller or nuclear families might experience higher financial strain due to limited earning members, leading to greater reliance on credit. Overall, while India's financial inclusion journey continues to make impressive strides, the finer details of this data tell a more complex story. Bridging gender and community divides, enhancing financial literacy, and promoting equitable access to credit remain critical steps toward ensuring that economic opportunity reaches every household. Policymakers and financial institutions must therefore focus not just on expanding access, but on creating meaningful inclusion that empowers every section of society.

AP CS ON 34/7 COST EFFECTIVE POWER SUPPLY

AP CS DIRECTS POWER UTILITIES TO ENSURE 24X7 RELIABLE AND COST-EFFECTIVE POWER SUPPLY.

TPN | Vijayawada | October 23, 2025: Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand has directed the State's Power Utilities to ensure round-the-clock reliable and uninterrupted power supply across the state while maintaining financial discipline and cost-effectiveness in power procurement. Chairing a high-level review meeting on Thursday in Vijayawada, he emphasized the importance of dynamic planning and continuous market monitoring to manage the upcoming month's power needs efficiently.

The meeting, attended by top officials from APGENCO, APTRANSCO, DISCOMs, and NREDCAP, reviewed the power procurement plan for November 2025 in detail. Vijayanand stressed that

ensuring affordable power and system stability must remain the top priority for all power utilities, especially in view of rising demand and fluctuating renewable energy generation. Presenting the projections for November, the Chief Secretary said the total power availability has been estimated at 213 million units (MU) per day, against an expected grid demand of 218 MU per day.

He noted that renewable energy would continue to play a crucial role in meeting this demand. The state anticipates solar energy generation between 70 MW and 1,870 MW depending on weather conditions, and wind energy production ranging from 90 MW to 400 MW. To maintain grid stability, hydro generation from the Sileru Power Station (500 MW) will be strategically used for balancing during daytime and operated at full capacity during evening peak load hours.

Referring to October's performance, Vijayanand commended the

efforts of the power utilities for effectively managing a projected daily deficit of 15.33 MU and a peak shortfall of 1,800 MW without resorting to expensive long-term tie-ups. Through agile and real-time power procurement strategies, the utilities achieved significant financial savings while maintaining uninterrupted supply across all regions. He appreciated the coordinated efforts of APGENCO, APTRANSCO, and DISCOMs in ensuring system reliability and operational efficiency during the challenging month.

The Chief Secretary instructed APGENCO to sustain an average daily thermal generation of 4,200 MW throughout November to meet expected peak demand. He directed the corporation to ensure adequate coal stocks and prioritize quality fuel procurement to enhance efficiency at higher-capacity units. Vijayanand also reviewed progress on the ongoing construction works at the NTTPS ex-

pansion and MVR Rayalaseema Thermal Power Project (RTPP), urging officials to accelerate completion and commission the projects by March 2026.

In addition, Vijayanand reviewed the status of Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs) under development and called for expediting statutory clearances, tendering, and project approvals. He instructed coordination among APSPCL, NREDCAP, and related entities to establish solar parks supporting these PSPs, thus strengthening the state's renewable energy base and ensuring long-term grid stability. The review meeting was attended by APGENCO Managing Director S. Nagalakshmi, APTRANSCO Joint Managing Director Surya Sai Praveenchand, and senior officials AKV Bhaskar, JV Rao, NV Ramana Murthy, M. Sujaya Kumar, P. Ashok Kumar Reddy, APPDCL Director Srinivasa Rao, and NREDCAP Managing Director M. Kamalakara Babu.



AP GOVT MAKES A DIPLOMATIC PUSH TO BRING BACK AP FISHERMEN

AP GOVT STEPS UP DIPLOMATIC PUSH TO BRING BACK 8 VIZIANAGARAM FISHERMEN DETAINED BY BANGLADESH NAVY

TPN / Vijayawada Oct 23: In a determined diplomatic and administrative move, the Andhra Pradesh Government has intensified its efforts to secure the release of eight fishermen from Vizianagaram district who were detained by the Bangladesh Navy after their mechanized boat reportedly strayed into Bangladeshi territorial waters. Upon learning of the incident, the State Government swiftly initiated coordination with the Union Ministry of External Affairs



(MEA) to ensure the safe repatriation of the fishermen.

Senior officials stationed at AP Bhavan in New Delhi have been maintaining constant communication with MEA representatives. Joint Secretary B. Shyam has been specifically requested to oversee and monitor the case's progress at the national level. Official sources confirmed that a charge sheet has been filed in Bangladesh against the detained crew. In response, the

Indian High Commission in Dhaka has deputed a special legal team to provide legal assistance and representation.

The embassy team is actively pursuing legal remedies and engaging with Bangladesh authorities to expedite the release. Meanwhile, the State Government has extended diplomatic outreach by requesting the Bangladesh Embassy in New Delhi to cooperate in fast-tracking the legal and administrative process leading to the fishermen's return. Union Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu has personally taken up the matter with External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar, seeking immediate central intervention to resolve the issue through bilateral channels.

At the state level, Minister for MSME, SERP and NRI Af-

fairs Kondapalli Srinivas is supervising developments closely. He is also attempting to establish contact with the fishermen using satellite communication to ascertain their condition and offer reassurance to their families. On the local front, Vizianagaram District Collector S. Ramsundar Reddy directed RDO D. Keerthi to meet the families of the detained fishermen in Visakhapatnam.

She briefed them on the coordinated action being taken by both state and central authorities and assured them of full support and assistance until the fishermen safely return home. Vizianagaram MP Kaliseti Appalanaidu, MARKFED Chairman Karrotu Bangarraju, and Nellikarla MLA Lokam Nagamadhvi also visited the affected families, expressing solidarity and confidence that the government's concentrated efforts would soon yield positive results. Officials emphasized that both state and union governments are treating the matter with utmost priority, ensuring every possible step toward the safe repatriation of the eight fishermen.

WOMEN COMMISSION TO SUPPORT MINOR GIRL'S FAMILY

WOMEN'S COMMISSION PLEDGES FULL SUPPORT TO MINOR RAPE ATTEMPT SURVIVOR'S FAMILY.

TPN / VIJAYAWADA Oct 23: The Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission has come forward to extend comprehensive assistance to the family of a minor girl from Tuni who survived a rape attempt. Commission Chairperson Dr. Rayapati Shailaja emphasized that providing humane support to victims of such heinous crimes is not merely a government function but a shared social responsibility that must transcend political considerations. On Thursday, Dr. Shailaja held an interaction with the survivor through a WhatsApp video call while the girl con-



tinues to undergo treatment at the Kakinada Government Hospital.

During the call, she also spoke with the survivor's mother and relatives through the phone of the local Child Development Project Officer (CDPO). The victim's family conveyed their struggles, describing their financial hardship and the severe emotional and social pressures they have been facing since the incident. Acknowledging their distress, Dr. Shailaja directed the Women and Child Welfare Department officials to maintain continuous monitoring of the survivor's health until she regains full recovery.

This includes granting a permanent house, educational assistance, and financial livelihood support to help them rebuild their lives with dignity and stability. She further appreciated the swift response of the local administration and police authorities in addressing the case, noting that timely action by officials was crucial in ensuring the protection of the survivor and maintaining public confidence in the justice system. Dr. Shailaja reiterated that the Commission remains committed to standing by the victims of atrocities against women and minors and urged society at large to play a supportive role in helping survivors overcome trauma. She concluded by stating that the collective empathy and cooperation of all stakeholders families, officials, and citizens are vital in creating a safe and respectful environment for every woman and child in Andhra Pradesh.

MINOR GIRL'S MOLESTER DIES COMMITTING SUICIDE

ACCUSED IN MINOR GIRL'S ATTEMPTED RAPE CASE DIES BY SUICIDE IN KAKINADA.

Kakinada, Oct 23: In a tragic turn of events, the accused in the attempted rape case of a minor girl in Tuni, Kakinada district, allegedly died by suicide late Wednesday night. Police said the accused, identified as 37-year-old Tatika Narayana Rao, ended his life by jumping into Komati Cheruvu, a lake located

on the outskirts of Tuni town. According to police sources, the incident occurred around 10:30 p.m. while Rao was being escorted by a police team to be produced before a magistrate in connection with the attempted rape of a Gurukul student.

Inspector Ramakrishna of Tuni police station stated that the accused requested a halt along the way under the pretext of relieving himself. When the vehicle stopped near the lake, he suddenly leaped into the waters before anyone could react. "Despite the police personnel's immediate efforts to rescue

him, it was too late. We suspect it to be a case of suicide," Inspector Ramakrishna said.

The police have registered a case under the relevant sections, and an inquest has been conducted. Rao's body was retrieved early Thursday morning and shifted to Tuni Government Hospital for post-mortem. The accused, who faced charges under sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, had been arrested just hours earlier following allegations that he attempted to sexually assault a minor student of a government-run Gurukul resi-

dential school in Tuni mandal.

The incident had triggered outrage among local residents and parents, leading to demands for strict action. Meanwhile, the Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission has taken suo motu cognisance of the attempted rape and the subsequent developments. Expressing shock and deep anguish, Commission Chairperson Dr. Rayapati Sailaja directed authorities to ensure swift action and complete justice for the victim.

Dr. Sailaja spoke with the Kakinada District Superintendent of Police

soon after learning of the incident. She instructed the police to invoke all relevant sections of the POCSO Act against the accused and conduct a transparent investigation into the case as well as the circumstances surrounding his death. "The safety and dignity of children in residential institutions must be safeguarded at all costs," she stated.

The Women's Commission also issued directives to the District Collector's Office and the Child Welfare Committee to provide immediate protection, medical care, and legal assistance to the victim. Additionally,



the Commission instructed the Andhra Pradesh Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (AP-SWREIS) to enhance security and surveillance systems in all Gurukul schools across the state.

Dr. Sailaja said the Commission would closely monitor the investigation and has sought a detailed report

from the Kakinada District Police Department within 48 hours. She emphasized that preventive mechanisms must be strengthened to avoid recurrence of such incidents. Local authorities confirmed that counselling support has been arranged for the victim and her family.

Meanwhile, the district police have begun

reviewing standard operating procedures for handling accused persons during transit to prevent such incidents in future. The tragic sequence of events has thrown Tuni town into mourning and sparked wider debate over safety measures for minors and institutional accountability in Andhra Pradesh's residential schools.

SHARMILA BLAMES TDP ON AROGYA SRI CRISIS

Sharmila Reddy Slams TDP Government Over Arogyasri Scheme Crisis.

Vijayawada, October 23: Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) President Y.S. Sharmila Reddy launched a scathing attack on the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) government on Thursday, condemning what she described as a “dark day” in the 19-year history of the state’s prestigious Arogyasri healthcare scheme. Expressing anguish over the ongoing crisis in the program, she accused the government of neglecting the needs of the poor and turning a life-saving initiative into a dead system plagued by apathy and political mismanagement. Addressing reporters in Vijayawada, Sharmila Reddy said hospitals across the state were being forced to suspend services due to non-payment of dues under the Arogyasri scheme.

According to her, pending

ing bills amounting to 2,700 crore have crippled private and government-empanelled hospitals, pushing them to resort to protests and halting vital medical services for the underprivileged. “This is an unforgivable failure. Thousands of poor patients are being denied treatment because the government has not cleared its commitments,” she charged. The APCC chief alleged that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has remained silent despite the gravity of the situation, describing this attitude as “a sign of reckless governance.”

She said the Naidu administration, which came to power promising efficiency and reforms, has instead led the state’s flagship health insurance scheme into paralysis. “When hospitals close their doors and patients are left to suffer in pain, it is the government that must answer. Arogyasri was meant to save lives, not to become a victim of political neglect,” she stated. Highlighting the human impact of the situation, Sharmila claimed that over the past two weeks,



thousands of patients have been denied surgeries and critical treatments due to the suspension of services.

She recounted reports of patients being turned away from hospitals after waiting for hours, forcing families into despair. “This crisis is not just financial it is moral. Any death that occurs because of denial of Arogyasri care must be deemed a government-caused death,” she declared. Demanding accountability and immediate corrective measures, Sharmila urged the state government to release the pending dues without delay and ensure that all hospitals resume services under the scheme.

She also called upon the Health Department to convene an emergency meeting with stakeholders to resolve the impasse and reaffirm trust in the state’s public health system. Referring to the larger implications of the crisis, the APCC leader accused the TDP-led coalition of “politicizing healthcare and betraying the poor for financial gain.”

She challenged the government to come clean on why funds allocated for health programs were not disbursed on time and demanded transparency

in the financial management of the Arogyasri scheme. “This should not be about politics but about saving lives. The poor cannot be collateral damage to the government’s inefficiency,” she asserted.

Concluding her remarks, Sharmila called upon civil society, medical professionals, and opposition parties to raise their voices in defense of the poor. “Healthcare is a fundamental right. The Congress Party will fight until Arogyasri is restored to its true purpose—serving the people of Andhra Pradesh with compassion and dignity,” she vowed.

BHUMANA APPEARS BEFORE POLICE

Bhumana Karunakar Reddy Appears Before Police in Cow Death Allegations Case.

TPN, Tirupati, October 23: YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader and former TTD Chairman Bhumana Karunakar Reddy appeared before Sri Venkateswara University (SVU) police on Thursday in connection with the investigation into his recent allegations regarding the deaths of cows at the Sri Venkateswara Gosamrakshana Shala in Tirupati. A few days ago, Bhumana made serious allegations about the condition of cows

at the TTD’s Goshala, claiming several had died due to negligence in maintaining the facility. His comments sparked controversy in temple town circles, drawing sharp reactions from Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) officials and political opponents alike.

In response to his remarks, TTD Board Member Bhanu Prakash Reddy lodged a formal complaint with the police, demanding an inquiry into the veracity of Bhumana’s statements. Acting on this complaint, SVU police issued notices to Bhumana, directing him to produce evidence supporting his allegations and to appear for questioning. Complying with the notice, Bhumana arrived at the SVU police station and took

part in the inquiry process.

According to police sources, the former TTD chairman recorded his statement and provided clarification related to his earlier comments. Investigators are reportedly verifying the details and collecting information from TTD veterinary officials and staff members managing the Gosamrakshana Shala. The issue has attracted public attention, as it involves the reputation of the TTD administration and the sensitive matter of cow protection within temple premises. Further investigation is underway, and police officials are expected to submit a detailed report soon after reviewing all evidence and state ments.

A STERN WARNING AGAINST FALSE PROPAGANDA - KOLLU RAVINDRA

Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra Warns of Stern Action Against Spurious Liquor, False Propaganda.

TPN, Visakhapatnam, October 23: Andhra Pradesh Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra has issued a stern warning against those engaged in adulterating liquor or spreading false propaganda related to the excise administration. Speaking at Gajuwaka after unveiling the Excise Suraksha mobile app poster, the minister emphasized that the government will act decisively against individuals or groups undermining transparency in liquor sales.



during the 2014–2019 TDP government to maintain transparency and prevent adulteration. He accused the previous YSR Congress regime, led by former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, of dismantling the systems and thereby enabling the spread of spurious liquor. “After coming to power, Jagan destroyed a well-functioning system and allowed the circulation of adulterated liquor,” Ravindra alleged.

“Now, they are attempting to deflect blame onto the government through malicious propaganda. It is the YSRCP that mixed spurious substances in liquor and tried to mislead the public.” The minister further pointed out that nearly 80 percent of liquor transactions in the state are now conducted through digital payment systems, a clear reflection of the transparent mechanisms being en-

forced by the current administration under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. “Transparency is our strength, and technology is our tool,” Ravindra said.

“Our goal is to ensure that every bottle sold in Andhra Pradesh is authentic and safe for consumption.” Ravindra also criticized Jagan Mohan Reddy’s earlier promises of total prohibition, calling them hypocritical. “Those who came to power in the name of liquor prohibition ended up selling adulterated brands for profit. Such leaders have no moral right to speak on this issue,” he said. The newly launched Excise Suraksha app, officials explained, will allow consumers to verify liquor authenticity instantly, empowering the public to report any suspicious or counterfeit products directly to the department.

Kollu Ravindra, accompanied by TDP State President and MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao, launched the initiative aimed at strengthening public participation in monitoring liquor sales and ensuring consumer safety. As part of the event, the minister visited a local liquor shop and personally scanned bottles using the app, demonstrating how technology enhances the traceability of liquor stocks from production to sale.

Addressing the media, Ravindra underlined that the track-and-trace system was originally introduced

tourism, sports exchange, and coastal resilience. Drawing inspiration from Victoria’s successful Great Ocean Road model, Lokesh proposed enhancing Andhra Pradesh’s coastal and cultural tourism through eco-tourism initiatives.

He also sought collaboration in sports science, adventure tourism in Araku, and climate adaptation programs along the state’s 1,053-km coastline. Concluding his engagements, Lokesh emphasized that the partnership with Australia signals a new era of innovation-led development, combining technology, education, and sustainability to empower Andhra Pradesh’s youth and reinforce its stature as a forward-looking global hub.

LOKESH ON TOURISM, HEALTH AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN AUSTRALIA'S VISIT

Minister Nara Lokesh's Australia Visit Opens New Horizons for Andhra Pradesh in Tech, Tourism, Health, and Skill Development

TPN/VIJAYAWADA/MELBOURNE, Oct 23: Andhra Pradesh’s Minister for Education, IT, and RTGS, Nara Lokesh, continued his Australia visit with a series of high-impact engagements, forging pathways across technology, education, health, tourism, and skill development. On the fifth day of his tour, Lokesh held crucial meetings with top executives and government leaders, setting the stage for transformational collaborations that could boost Andhra Pradesh’s global presence.

In a major breakthrough, Lokesh invited Bupa Asia Pacific, a leading global healthcare and insurance provider, to establish a Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Visakhapatnam, citing the city’s rapid emergence as a digital and IT powerhouse. During his meeting with Bupa COO Bijal Sejpal and Head of Enterprise Intelligence Dinesh Kanteti, Lokesh proposed collaborations in digital healthcare, rural health innovation, and elderly care ser-



vices, leveraging Bupa’s global expertise. Bupa executives expressed optimism about Andhra Pradesh’s investor-friendly environment and infrastructure, promising positive consideration of the proposal.

During his visit to the University of Melbourne, Lokesh discussed academic and technological collaborations with Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emma Johnston, focusing on expanding research in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cyber Security, Internet of Things (IoT), and Quantum Technology. He also encouraged joint efforts in Renewable Energy, Agriculture, and Digital Health, inviting the university to partner with local institutions like Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University to mod-

ernize agricultural practices through smart technologies and sustainable solutions.

At the University of Tasmania (UTAS), recognized globally for its leadership in climate action, Lokesh sought collaboration in Pharmacy, Rural Health, and Water Research. He proposed aligning Andhra Pradesh’s paramedical curricula with Australian standards, introducing skill-certification programs, and facilitating student-faculty exchanges to expand overseas employment opportunities.

The discussions also centered on water management solutions for tribal and hilly regions. Lokesh’s meeting with Victoria’s Minister for Tourism and Sports Steve Dimopoulos explored partnerships in heritage

NIDADAVOLE ON PROGRESS - DURGESH

Nidadavole on the Path of Progress – Minister Kandula Durgesh Leading from the Front

TPN Bureau, East Godavari, Oct 23: Nearly 500 days after assuming office as the Minister for Tourism and Culture and the MLA from Nidadavole, Kandula Durgesh has been steering his constituency and the state’s tourism sector through a phase of transformation and inclusive growth. His leadership has brought a visible change across sectors from agriculture and



roads to healthcare and urban development.

During last year’s Errakalva floods, standing firm with farmers became Durgesh’s priority. More than 3,000 hectares

of crops were damaged, affecting 4,631 farmers. The Minister swiftly ensured 5.22 crore in input subsidies reached them and initiated a long-term flood mitigation plan to

prevent such hardships in the future. Healthcare in Nidadavole has also seen significant upgrades. The 30-bed area hospital is being expanded into a 100-bed modern

facility to provide better medical access. In addition, 2.84 crore from the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund has supported 344 patients suffering from critical illnesses. Infra-

structure improvement continues to be a cornerstone of his development vision. Road and building works worth 52 crore are progressing, alongside 24.27 crore for Pan-

chayat Raj road projects spanning 34.93 km. Rural connectivity has improved under central and state schemes, fueling local economic activity. Urban Nidadavole is undergoing a modern facelift, with 105.80 crore being invested in municipal development. Out of 240 approved projects, 187 have already been completed, while 4.5 crore from the 15th Finance Commission is being utilized for solid waste management, clean water, and drainage systems. The 95 crore Railway Over Bridge project 60% complete promises to eliminate traffic bottlenecks in the busy town.

Creating employment and skill development opportunities for youth has been another hall-

mark of Durgesh’s tenure. The Mega Job Mela at Velagapudi Durgamba College saw 238 placements, while 971 youth benefited from training programs through Skill Development Centers and the Skill Hub initiative. As part of the Akhanda Godavari Project, Nidadavole is emerging as a tourism hub, with 4 crore sanctioned for eco and devotional tourism facilities at Samishragudem and the historic Kota Sattemma Temple.

From rural projects to tourism circuits, Minister Kandula Durgesh’s leadership reflects a vision rooted in resilience and balanced development. Nidadavole today symbolizes a constituency on the rise where progress meets purpose.

Immigration and the Politics of Fear: From Border Control to Cultural Panic

At the United Nations General Assembly last month, U.S. President Donald Trump reignited global debate on immigration with a fiery attack on Europe's open-border policies. Declaring that "it's time to end the failed experiment of open borders," Trump warned European leaders that their nations were "going to hell" — a statement that laid bare his intent to export his brand of anti-immigrant populism to the very continent his Scottish-born mother once left behind.

In the United Kingdom, immigration has long been a politically charged issue. Historical flash-points such as Enoch Powell's infamous 'Rivers of Blood' speech in 1968, the National Front's activism during the 1970s, and the Brexit-era 'Take Back Control' rhetoric of the mid-2010s have all shaped the country's relationship with migration. What makes the current moment distinct, however, is a shift



in focus — from condemning illegal or irregular immigration to denouncing legal migration itself. The evolution of the discourse reflects a deeper nativist anxiety about identity, culture, and belonging. Where earlier debates centered on the state's capacity to manage and integrate migrants, today's narratives increasingly hinge on protecting "heritage" and "way of life." These concerns are often cloaked in the language of integration and national security, yet they resonate most strongly with populist movements seeking to mobilize fear of demographic and cultural change.

The growing prominence of far-right demonstrations — such as the recent "Unite the Kingdom" march led by English Defence League founder Tommy Robinson in London — underscores how mainstream the politics of exclusion

has become. Images from the rally, including that of a demonstrator perched defiantly atop the South Bank lion near Westminster Bridge, have come to symbolize the intersection of nationalism and spectacle in the U.K.'s political landscape.

Analysts warn that the shift from policy-based migration debates to identity-based panic risks normalizing xenophobia in public discourse. What was once a question of economic management has morphed into a cultural battlefield, where even legal immigrants find themselves under suspicion.

As global migration continues amid conflict, inequality, and climate change, the U.K. and much of the West face a defining question: whether to be guided by fear and exclusion, or by inclusion and shared humanity — a choice that will shape not just immigration policy, but the moral fabric of nations.

Bengaluru Auto Fare Chaos: Permanent Fix Needed to End Passenger Woes

As Bengaluru grapples with mounting commuter frustration over autorickshaw fares, the government's ongoing fare verification drive, slated for completion by October 31, appears unrealistic and unfair — both to drivers struggling with delayed verifications and to passengers forced to pay arbitrary fares.

The Transport Department had revised auto fares in August, fixing rates at ₹36 for the first two kilometres and ₹18 for every additional kilometre. However, compliance has been patchy at best. Many drivers continue to charge unregulated amounts, often without displaying fare charts or recalibrated meters. Passengers, left to negotiate or argue mid-ride, are bearing the brunt of administrative lapses.

The verification process has been chaotic. Several drivers reported being turned away from verification centres or told to return after October 25, due to a manpower crunch in the Legal Metrology Department, whose staff have been deputized for the Karnataka Social and Educational Survey. With poor coordination and communication, the recalibration exercise—meant to restore order—has instead



deepened confusion and emboldened fare violations.

Experts and commuter groups have urged the government to extend the deadline and, in the meantime, mandate that all autorickshaws display printed fare charts. This would protect commuters from overcharging and enhance transparency while the recalibration drive continues.

Yet, the fare crisis extends beyond street-hailing autos. Ride aggregator platforms, despite adopting the revised fare structure in August, face growing criticism for exorbitant pricing and surge fares. Commuters routinely report fares 20–30% higher than government-fixed rates, with additional opaque charges. In some cases, cab rides through the same apps are cheaper than autos, prompting questions about fairness and oversight.

Critics say that while authorities crack down on independent drivers, aggregators face little scrutiny. The government, they argue, must enforce uniform fare monitoring and curb profiteering practices under the guise of "digital convenience."

Additionally, passenger safety remains a major concern. Authorities have been urged to launch a comprehensive verification drive to check driver credentials, permits, and vehicle documents—especially vital for single women and senior citizens who depend on autos for daily commutes.

Ultimately, experts agree that fare tinkering and enforcement drives are only temporary fixes. The sustainable solution lies in strengthening Bengaluru's public transport system, ensuring that autorickshaws serve primarily as last-mile connectors, not as substitutes for the city's inadequate mass transit network.

The Long wait For A Resolution..!



The prolonged legal tussle over the Munambam land dispute has entered yet another complicated phase, following a recent order by the Kerala High Court that has added layers to an already tangled issue. Instead of providing finality, the judgment has further muddled the waters, leaving the matter open for continued legal scrutiny.

In its latest ruling, a Division Bench of the High Court declared that the disputed Munambam holding does not qualify as Waqf property. However, the court simultaneously refrained from annulling the previous actions taken by the Kerala Waqf Board concerning the same property, despite terming those actions as bad in law. This nuanced decision effectively transfers the responsibility for a conclusive resolution back to the Waqf Tribunal, which is already hearing related petitions on the issue.

The judgment, while significant, has not delivered the clarity many stakeholders had hoped for. By directing the matter back to the Tribunal, the court has reignited debates around jurisdiction, ownership rights, and the procedural correctness of the Waqf Board's earlier interventions. Legal experts note that this move could prolong the dispute, as the Tribunal must now re-examine aspects that the High Court has left open-ended.

The Munambam property, located in Ernakulam district, has long been the subject of contention between private claimants and the Waqf Board. Questions regarding its legal status and ownership have persisted for years, with both sides presenting competing claims of historical rights and religious endowments.

The High Court's decision, observers say, highlights the complexities inherent in property cases involving Waqf land, where questions of faith, community interest, and statutory interpretation intersect. The ruling may also have wider implications for similar disputes across the State, where Waqf land holdings have frequently been challenged on grounds of title and management.

For now, the case remains far from resolved. With the Waqf Tribunal tasked once again with reassessing the matter, the Munambam dispute appears destined to continue its long and winding journey through the corridors of justice — offering, at least for the moment, no clear end in sight.

Pakistan-Afghanistan Conflict Escalates After Cross-Border Strikes

The fragile peace between Pakistan and Afghanistan has collapsed into a near-war situation following what is believed to be Pakistan's first-ever aerial bombing of Afghanistan earlier this month. The drone strikes on Kabul and Paktia on October 9, coinciding with Taliban Acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to Delhi, marked a dramatic escalation in tensions after decades of insurgency and state-sponsored militancy in the region.

The cross-border attacks, allegedly targeting Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) camps, resulted in civilian casualties, including the deaths of members of a local cricket team in Urgan district. In retaliation, Afghanistan pulled out of a tri-na-

tion cricket series and responded with multiple strikes on Pakistani border areas. The violence intensified soon after a 48-hour truce expired, with Pakistan claiming its actions were provoked by a TTP suicide bombing that killed 17 soldiers.

Reports from Pakistan's Centre for Research and Security Studies show a 46% rise in violence this year, with the first three quarters already surpassing last year's toll. Analysts attribute this surge to Pakistan's counterterrorism missteps and the resurgence of militant factions like the Islamic State of Khorasan (IS-K), which has expanded its activities across Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Observers allege that Paki-



stan's security establishment may be using IS-K as a proxy against Baloch and Pashtun leaders, such as Meh-rang Baloch and Manzoor Pashteen, who lead peaceful rights movements.

A Qatar-mediated ceasefire on October 19, supported by Turkey, brought temporary relief, but tensions remain high. The agreement faced backlash in Afghanistan for referring to a "border," a term Kabul rejects. Afghan officials warned that if their Supreme Leader declared Pakistan an "invader" by religious decree, it would justify large-scale retaliation.

Meanwhile, Pakistan's leadership continues its rhetoric of escalation, with Defence Minister Khwaja Asif accusing Kabul of aligning with India and Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir issuing nuclear threats toward New Delhi. Experts believe Islamabad's strategy aims to draw the U.S. back into the region, seeking both strategic leverage and financial aid.

As violence spirals, calls for peace from within Pakistan—such as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi's plea for a 'grand jirga'—go unheeded. For now, both nations appear trapped in a cycle of vengeance, with Pakistan's military determined to escalate, even at the cost of national stability.

PM Modi to Virtually Attend 47th ASEAN Summit, Talks with Malaysian PM



TPN Bureau | Patna
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate virtually in the upcoming 47th ASEAN Summit scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur later this month, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim announced on Thursday, October 23, 2025.
Anwar shared the up-

date on X (formerly Twitter), mentioning a recent phone conversation with a close aide of PM Modi. The discussion focused on deepening the bilateral relationship between Malaysia and India to a more strategic and comprehensive level.
“Last night, I received a phone call from a col-

league of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss efforts aimed at strengthening Malaysia-India bilateral relations,” Anwar said. He highlighted that India remains a vital partner for Malaysia across several sectors, including trade, investment, technology, education, and regional security

cooperation.
The Malaysian PM also mentioned the upcoming ASEAN Summit, adding that Modi would attend virtually due to India’s ongoing Deepavali celebrations at that time. He extended his warm festival greetings to PM Modi and the people of India.
Anwar reiterated Ma-

aysia’s commitment to enhancing ties with India and strengthening ASEAN-India cooperation to promote a more peaceful and prosperous region. The two leaders discussed opportunities to expand collaboration in key areas, reaffirming the importance of their strategic partnership amid growing regional and global challenges.
This virtual participation underscores the significance India places on its ties with ASEAN nations and the importance of regional multilateral platforms like the ASEAN Summit to foster cooperation.
The 47th ASEAN Summit will focus on addressing regional security, economic recovery, and collaborative growth, with India playing a key role as a dialogue partner.
PM Modi’s virtual presence highlights India’s ongoing engagement with Southeast Asia while balancing domestic festivities and diplomatic priorities.

Gaganyaan Mission: 90% Development Work Completed, Says ISRO Chief



TPN Correspondent | Patna
The Gaganyaan mission, India’s first human spaceflight project, is progressing steadily with about 90 percent of the development work now complete, ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan announced on Thursday.

Speaking to reporters during the promotional activities for the upcoming Emerging Science, Technology, and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC-2025) in New Delhi, Narayanan detailed the extensive technological advancements involved in the mission. “A lot of technology development has to take place — the rocket has to be human-rated, the orbital module developed, along with the environmental control and safety systems,” he said.
Narayanan highlighted the importance of the crew escape system, parachute deployment system, and human-centric products critical for the mission’s success. “Now, three uncrewed missions have to be accomplished before going for the crewed mission, and we are working towards that. In the first uncrewed mission, Vyomitra, the humanoid robot, will fly,” he added, setting a target for the crewed mission by early 2027.

On August 24, 2025, ISRO successfully conducted its first integrated air drop test for the Gaganyaan program at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. The test validated the parachute-based deceleration system for the crew module, a crucial safety component ensuring a safe splashdown during re-entry.
“For the Gaganyaan programme, the integrated air drop test involved lifting a simulated module by helicopter to about three kilometers above the Earth, and using nine parachutes to ensure a synchronized and safe descent,” Narayanan explained.
The successful parachute test marks a major milestone for the Gaganyaan mission, demonstrating the reliability of the critical systems needed for human spaceflight. With development nearing completion, ISRO continues to work towards launching India’s first crewed space mission, showcasing the country’s growing capabilities in space exploration.

Bihar Battle:Tejashwi Yadav Named CM Candidate, Mukesh Sahni Deputy

TPN Correspondent | Delhi
The Opposition INDIA bloc on Thursday officially announced Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav as its Chief Ministerial candidate for the forthcoming Bihar Assembly elections. The announcement was made at a joint press conference held in Patna, attended by representatives of all alliance partners.
Senior Congress leader Ashok Gehlot, who is also the senior observer for the Bihar polls, declared the decision. “I have talked to everyone, and we have agreed to make Tejashwi Yadav the CM face,” Gehlot said, expressing confidence in Tejashwi’s political future. “He has a long political career ahead of him, and he will get the approval of the people,” he added.
Alongside Tejashwi’s nomination, Gehlot announced that Mukesh Sahni, founder of the Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP), would be one of the two Deputy Chief Ministers of the alliance. The identity of the second Deputy Chief Minister will be



declared later.
The announcement comes amid growing political activity as parties gear up for the critical Bihar polls, a key battleground in Indian politics. The INDIA bloc’s move aims to consolidate opposition votes and challenge

the ruling coalition.
Meanwhile, within the Congress ranks, murmurs of discontent surfaced over the absence of Rahul Gandhi’s photo on the alliance’s election poster, which featured only Tejashwi Yadav. The omission sparked discussions

about internal dynamics and representation in the coalition campaign.
The INDIA bloc alliance comprises several regional parties united in their effort to counter the ruling NDA alliance in Bihar. The naming of Tejashwi as the CM candidate marks a sig-

nificant step in the alliance’s strategy to rally voters under a common leadership.
As the campaign intensifies, all eyes will be on how the INDIA bloc’s choices influence voter sentiment in Bihar’s politically charged atmosphere.

Rifts Emerge Between Congress and National Conference Ahead of J&K Rajya Sabha Poll

TPN Correspondent | Srinagar
Tensions have surfaced between the Congress and National Conference (NC) in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections, with the Congress accusing the NC of “betrayal” and refusing to participate in a joint legislative party meeting called by NC leader Farooq Abdullah. The meeting took place ahead of the Assembly session starting Thursday and the voting for four Rajya Sabha seats scheduled for Friday.
The Congress has kept the NC waiting on its role in the Rajya Sabha elections after opting out of the Upper House race as well as a bye-election for Jammu’s Nagrota Assembly seat. In both instances, the Congress declined the NC’s offers to collaborate.
The rift deepened when the NC announced three candidates for the Rajya Sabha polls, leaving only one seat for the Congress. However, Congress leaders labeled the fourth seat as “unsafe” — indicating



that, given the current distribution of seats within the alliance, the victory was not assured. Consequently, Congress chose not to field a candidate for that seat.
Senior Congress leaders accused the NC of reneging on a promise made to Sonia Gandhi to ensure

Congress would secure a “safe seat.” This perceived breach of trust has heightened tensions between the allies.
These developments come at the start of a crucial Assembly session and present a political challenge for Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. Abdullah

has appealed to both his ally, the NC, and rival party People’s Democratic Party (PDP), led by former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, to unite and vote against the Bharatiya Janata Party’s (BJP) Rajya Sabha candidate.
Currently, the NC holds 41 MLAs, Congress has

six, and six independents support the government. The BJP commands 28 MLAs, while the PDP holds three.
The widening rift within the alliance adds complexity to the political dynamics of Jammu and Kashmir as the Rajya Sabha elections approach.

Delhi Lifts Ban on Chhath Puja at Yamuna, Over 1,000 Ghats to Be Set Up



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
In a significant move ahead of Chhath Puja, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced on Wednesday that the long-standing ban on organising the festival on the banks of the Yamuna river has been lifted. This marks a major shift in the capital’s festive preparations and religious policy.
Speaking at a press briefing, CM Gupta stated, “For years, the government had banned Chhath Puja on the Yamuna. This time, after our government came to power, we have lifted the ban and are providing all necessary arrangements for devotees.”
To facilitate smooth celebrations, the Delhi government will construct over 1,000 Chhath ghats across the city, with at least one model ghat in every district and sub-district. Seventeen of these model ghats will be built along the Yamuna itself. Each site will be equipped with tents, lighting, sanitation, drinking water, and mobile toilets to ensure a safe and clean environment.
The Chief Minister also said that grand welcome gates will be installed at major locations across the capital to greet devotees. “Last year, Chhath was celebrated at 929 locations. As of today, we’ve received over 1,000 appli-

cations from committees for organising Chhath Puja this year,” she added.
The decision has been widely welcomed by the Purvanchali community in Delhi, for whom Chhath Puja is a significant religious occasion.
The lifting of the ban reflects a more inclusive approach by the current administration and a focus on better management of religious events in the city. It also places a renewed emphasis on cultural and religious traditions while ensuring public safety and environmental care.
Preparations are already underway, with the festival scheduled to begin in the first week of November.

'Spoke to PM Modi'-Trump Claims India to Stop Buying Russian Oil by Year-End

TPN Bureau | United States

US President Donald Trump has reiterated that India will “stop” buying oil from Russia and reduce imports to “almost nothing” by the end of 2025. Speaking to reporters at the White House on October 22, Trump said the process would take time but expressed confidence following a recent conversation with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

“India, as you know, has told me they are going to stop (buying Russian oil)... It’s a process. You can’t just stop... By the end of the year, they’ll be down to almost nothing, almost 40 percent of the oil,” Trump said, praising India for being “absolutely great” on the issue.

China and India re-

main the two largest buyers of Russian crude oil, and Trump also said he would try to persuade China to follow a similar path. He claimed that under previous US administrations, China and Russia were “forced together” but expressed hope their relationship would not remain close.

The announcement comes amid escalating US sanctions targeting Russia’s oil industry, aimed at cutting off Moscow’s financial resources amid its ongoing war in Ukraine. The US has accused India of helping Russia finance the conflict through its oil purchases.

However, the US-India relationship has been strained recently, especially after the US doubled tariffs on Indian

goods to 50%, including a 25% additional duty on Russian crude oil imports. India criticized these measures as “unfair, unjustified and unreasonable.”

Trump also defended his tariff policies, asserting they strengthened the US economy and helped avoid conflicts. He claimed to have helped settle recent military tensions between India and Pakistan by threatening tariffs, a claim India has consistently denied, attributing the ceasefire to direct military talks.

Trump is scheduled to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping later this month at the APEC summit in South Korea, where he plans to discuss ways to end the Russia-Ukraine war.



US Vice President Vance Visits Israel, Says Gaza Ceasefire Progress Better Than Expected



TPN Correspondent | US

US Vice President JD Vance arrived in Israel, expressing cautious optimism about the fragile ceasefire in Gaza that began on October 10, 2025. Speaking during a visit to a civilian and military cooperation center, Vance said the ceasefire is going “better than I expected” after two years of intense conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Benjamin Netanyahu and other officials. On Tuesday, Netanyahu dismissed his national security adviser Tzachi Hanegbi, reportedly due to disagreements over military strategies in Gaza.

Amid Israeli frustration over Hamas’ slow return of hostages, Vance urged patience, noting many hostages remain buried under rubble or their whereabouts are unknown. Hamas announced it had recovered the remains of two more hostages, planning to hand them over soon.

Vance’s visit, his first as vice president, comes amid ongoing questions about the future of Gaza, including Hamas’ disarmament, the deployment of an international security force, and governance after the war. While emphasizing that his trip was not an urgent attempt to shore up the ceasefire, Vance warned that Hamas risks being “obliterated” if it fails to cooperate.

Trump administration Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff also highlighted progress, stating, “we are exceeding where we thought we would be at this time.” Jared Kushner, a key architect of the ceasefire, described the complex transition from intense warfare to a peacetime posture for both sides.

Vance will remain in the region until Thursday, meeting Israeli Prime Minister

The ceasefire, despite occasional flare-ups and accusations, holds as both sides reaffirm commitment. Israel awaits the return of 15 remaining hostages’ bodies from Hamas, having received 13 so far. Israel is releasing Palestinian bodies in exchange, with over 165 transferred recently.

Vance confirmed that around 200 US troops recently deployed to Israel would not enter Gaza but indicated discussions on an international security force including countries like Turkey, Indonesia, Jordan, Germany, Britain, and Denmark are underway. The focus remains on security, rebuilding, and humanitarian aid before addressing long-term governance in Gaza.

Canada to Reduce U.S. Reliance, Cut Spending in New Budget

TPN Correspondent | Ottawa

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney announced on October 22, 2025, that his government’s first budget will focus on reducing Canada’s economic and security dependence on the United States while cutting wasteful spending. Speaking in Ottawa ahead of the 2025 budget release, Carney declared an end to the decades-long trend of ever-closer economic integration with the U.S.

Carney, who took office in April, emphasized that the upcoming budget will strike a balance between austerity measures and significant investments aimed at strengthening Canada’s economy. The goal is to shield the nation from growing risks linked to U.S. protectionist policies, which Carney de-



scribed as a looming crisis.

“This budget is about safeguarding our economic sovereignty,” Carney said. “We will invest wisely but also eliminate wasteful expenditures to ensure long-term stability.”

The Canadian prime minister highlighted the need for diversifying

trade partnerships and building domestic capabilities to lessen vulnerabilities stemming from heavy reliance on the U.S. market and security frameworks. This shift reflects growing concerns over unpredictable U.S. trade policies and political tensions that have affected cross-border cooperation.

Analysts say Carney’s approach signals a new era for Canada’s economic strategy, seeking more self-reliance and resilience amid global uncertainties. The budget is expected to include measures to boost innovation, infrastructure, and domestic manufacturing, alongside targeted spending cuts.

Canada and the U.S. have historically enjoyed one of the world’s closest economic relationships, but rising protectionism in the U.S. and geopolitical shifts have pushed Canada to reconsider its dependency.

The budget will be closely watched as a test of Carney’s ability to balance fiscal discipline with the need for strategic investments, aiming to chart a more independent and sustainable economic future for Canada.



Indian-Origin Historian Sunil Amrith Wins British Academy Book Prize

TPN Correspondent | Iran

Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith has won the prestigious British Academy Book Prize for his latest work, *The Burning Earth: An Environmental History of the Last 500 Years*. The award, worth £25,000, was presented at a ceremony at the British Academy in London on October 22, 2025.

Amrith, a Yale University history professor born in Kenya to South Indian parents, grew up in Singapore and studied at the University of Cambridge. His book offers a sweeping global history that links human events with environmental change, shedding light on the roots of today’s climate crisis.

Judges praised *The Burning Earth* as “important reading” amid ongoing climate concerns. The chair of the judging panel, UK historian Professor Rebecca Earle, called the book a “magisterial account” vividly detailing how colonization, industrialization, and shifts in human settlement have shaped the modern world while also driving environmental damage.

Speaking via live

video from the US, Amrith said the book is not meant to be bleak but hopeful, highlighting “paths not taken” and sustainable ideas from history that could inspire a better future. “Perhaps we can find seeds of inspiration for a more hopeful and less violent way of living together on this planet,” he noted.

The British Academy lauded Amrith’s decades of research that spans continents and centuries, from the Americas’ conquest to British gold mining in South Africa, and from the Black Death to World War II, presenting a fresh perspective on humanity’s intertwined fate with the environment.

The prize celebrates non-fiction works that deepen understanding of the humanities and social sciences. Other shortlisted authors included William Dalrymple and Sophie Harman.

Professor Susan J Smith, President of the British Academy, emphasized that Amrith’s book combines rigorous research with engaging prose, making it a worthy winner of the international prize.

US Sanctions Russia’s Top Oil Firms, Oil Prices Surge; India Faces Import Dilemma

TPN Correspondent | Tehran

The United States imposed sanctions on Russia’s two largest oil companies, Rosneft and Lukoil, marking a sharp policy shift by President Donald Trump amid the ongoing war in Ukraine. The move, announced by the US Treasury on October 23, 2025, led to a 3% jump in global oil prices and has raised concerns in India about its continued imports of discounted Russian crude.

The sanctions aim to curtail Moscow’s ability to fund its military campaign in Ukraine, now entering its fourth year. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent stressed that these measures target Russia’s main financial sources fueling the conflict and urged allies to join in adhering to the restrictions.



This decision comes just days after Trump cancelled a planned summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Budapest, citing skepticism about achieving meaningful progress. The cancellation underscores the unpredictability of US-Russia relations in the current geopolitical climate.

While oil and gas revenues, accounting for about a quarter of Russia’s budget, have already fallen 21% year-on-year, the sanctions focus on export companies rather than direct

state revenue sources like output taxes. Analysts predict Russia might deepen discounts on oil exports to offset risks from secondary sanctions, though rising global oil prices could partially cushion the financial blow.

Indian refiners, major buyers of discounted Russian oil following Western sanctions, are reportedly preparing to sharply reduce imports to comply with the new US sanctions. The Treasury has allowed a grace period until November 21 for

companies to wind down dealings with the sanctioned firms.

Meanwhile, the geopolitical tensions persist with Trump reversing his stance to demand an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine—an outcome supported by Kyiv but rejected by Moscow. Russia continues to oppose a ceasefire, favoring a negotiated peace settlement that Kyiv views as tantamount to surrender. The conflict’s resolution remains uncertain as global powers weigh sanctions and diplomatic efforts.

HUL Q2 Profit Rises 3.8% to 2,694 Crore

FMCG giant Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) reported a 3.8% rise in its consolidated net profit for the second quarter ending September 2025. The company's net profit climbed to 2,694 crore, up from 2,595 crore during the same quarter last year, according to a regulatory filing released on October 23.

HUL's revenue for the quarter also saw growth, increasing by 2.1% to 16,034 crore compared to the year-ago period. The modest rise in revenue and profit reflects steady performance amid a competitive and inflationary market environment.

The company's board approved an interim dividend of 19 per share for the fiscal year 2025-26, underscoring HUL's commitment to rewarding shareholders amid consistent earnings growth.

HUL, one of India's leading fast-moving



consumer goods companies, operates across diverse product categories including personal care, home care, and foods. Its steady quarterly results suggest resilience in the face of fluctuating raw material costs and changing consumer demand.

The company continues to focus on innovation and market expansion to drive sustainable growth. HUL's performance in Q2 also signals confidence in navigating macroeconomic

challenges, maintaining market share, and tapping into evolving consumer trends.

Industry experts view HUL's steady profit and revenue growth as a positive sign for the FMCG sector, indicating underlying demand strength despite economic uncertainties.

With its robust portfolio and strategic initiatives, HUL remains well-positioned to capitalize on long-term growth opportunities in India's vast consumer market.

The company is expected to maintain focus on cost efficiencies and digital transformation as it gears up for the remainder of the fiscal year.

HUL's second-quarter results come at a time when FMCG companies are adapting to shifting consumer preferences and inflationary pressures, making these figures a closely watched indicator for the sector.



Sensex Jumps Over 700 Points, Nifty Regains 26,000 Level in Early Trade

Mumbai: The Indian stock markets opened strong on Thursday, with the benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty posting significant gains in early trade. The Sensex surged over 700 points, while the Nifty reclaimed the psychologically important 26,000 mark, reflecting renewed investor optimism.

The upbeat sentiment was largely driven by positive developments around the U.S.-India trade negotiations, which have sparked hopes of a potential deal that could boost bilateral economic ties. This optimism encouraged fresh

foreign fund inflows into the Indian markets, providing additional momentum.

Information Technology (IT) stocks led the rally, with robust buying interest propelling gains in the sector. Investors are optimistic about the growth prospects of IT companies amid improving global demand and increasing digital transformation initiatives worldwide.

Market analysts noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) played a crucial role in the early surge, channeling funds into Indian equities,

which helped boost liquidity and confidence. The renewed foreign inflows come at a time when global markets are cautiously watching geopolitical and economic developments.

Broader indices also followed the positive trend, with mid-cap and small-cap stocks witnessing buying interest. Market participants remained hopeful that the trade deal and strong corporate earnings could sustain the upward momentum in the near term.

The early session gains reflected a shift in market sentiment after

recent volatility, with investors focusing on favorable policy cues and potential easing of trade tensions. The move above the 26,000 level on the Nifty is seen as a key technical milestone that could pave the way for further upside.

Overall, Thursday's early trade suggested a bullish start for Indian equities, supported by strong foreign participation and sectoral buying, particularly in IT stocks. Investors will be closely watching developments on the trade front and upcoming economic data for further direction.

Rupee Strengthens by 13 Paise to 87.80 Against US Dollar in Early Trade



The Indian rupee appreciated by 13 paise to trade at 87.80 against the U.S. dollar in early trade on Thursday, October 23, 2025. Market participants attributed the gain to positive developments surrounding the U.S.-India trade deal, coupled with strong foreign fund inflows and upbeat domestic equity markets.

Forex traders highlighted that increased foreign investment inflows into Indian markets, alongside a broader risk-on sentiment globally, helped boost investor confidence and supported the rupee's upward momentum. The ongoing optimism around trade relations between the U.S. and India has played a key role in improving market sentiment and strengthening

the local currency.

In addition to the trade deal, domestic equities saw positive trends during the initial trade session, with benchmark indices like Sensex and Nifty rising sharply, further encouraging foreign portfolio investors to pour money into Indian assets. This inflow of foreign capital is a critical factor that has underpinned the rupee's gains in recent sessions.

The rupee's appreciation is also seen as part of a global risk-on environment, where investors are willing to take on more risk amid hopes for easing geopolitical tensions and improved economic prospects. This positive risk appetite has benefited emerging market currencies,

including the Indian rupee.

Currency analysts note that while the rupee remains influenced by multiple external factors such as crude oil prices, U.S. dollar strength, and global economic conditions, the current positive trajectory reflects growing confidence in India's economic outlook and trade diplomacy.

Overall, the early trade session's gain in the rupee marks a continuation of cautious optimism in the financial markets, supported by improving bilateral ties and steady foreign investments.

Traders will continue to watch global cues and domestic developments closely to gauge the rupee's trajectory in the coming days.

Reliance Industries Recalibrates Russian Oil Imports to Follow India's Guidelines



Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), one of India's largest importers of crude oil from Russia, has announced that it will recalibrate its Russian oil imports to comply with the Government of India's latest guidelines. This move comes in the wake of fresh sanctions imposed by the United States and European countries targeting Russian oil firms amid the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

A company official confirmed that Reliance is adjusting its procurement strategy to align with the directives issued by Indian authorities, ensuring compliance with evolving international and domestic regulatory frameworks. The recalibration aims to balance Reliance's operational requirements with India's broader geopolitical and economic considerations.

The U.S. and European sanctions, which target Russia's major oil producers, including Rosneft and Lukoil, have led to increased scrutiny and pressure on companies globally to reduce their exposure to Russian oil. India, being one of the largest buyers of discounted Russian crude since the onset of the Ukraine conflict in 2022, has

faceted significant diplomatic and economic challenges due to these sanctions.

Reliance Industries' decision to adjust its imports reflects the broader impact of these international sanctions on India's energy sector and highlights the government's efforts to navigate the complex geopolitical landscape while ensuring energy security. The recalibration also indicates India's intent to maintain a balanced approach in its trade relations amid the intensifying global focus on Russia's energy exports.

Industry sources suggest that while India continues to rely on Russian oil due to cost advantages, companies like Reliance are taking measured steps to align with international expectations and avoid secondary sanctions risks. The recalibration is expected to be a phased process, with companies closely monitoring the evolving situation to adapt their import strategies accordingly.

Reliance's move underscores the dynamic nature of the global oil market and the challenges faced by major importers in managing geopolitical risks while securing their energy needs.

Infosys Promoters to Skip 18,000 Crore Share Buyback

Infosys Ltd announced that its promoters and promoter group will not participate in the company's 18,000 crore share buyback program, the largest buyback the tech giant has undertaken to date. The company revealed this in a stock market filing on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. Infosys plans to buy back 10 crore shares at an average price of 1,800 per share, marking its fifth buyback in the last decade. This significant move reflects the company's strong cash position and confidence in its long-term prospects.

However, the promot-



ers — including Sudha Gopalakrishnan, wife of co-founder Kris Gopalakrishnan, who holds the largest promoter stake with 9,53,57,000 shares — have chosen not to participate in this buyback exercise. The company

clarified that promoter-held shares were excluded when calculating the entitlement ratio for the buyback.

This decision means that only non-promoter shareholders are eligible to tender their shares in the buyback, potentially increasing the percentage of shares bought back from the public and institutional investors.

Share buybacks are a common way for companies to return capital to shareholders, often signaling confidence in the firm's future performance and improving key financial metrics like earnings per share (EPS).

Infosys' buyback comes amid a phase of robust business performance and growth in the IT sector, with the

company continuously expanding its global client base and digital services portfolio.

Market analysts view the buyback positively, suggesting it could provide support to Infosys' stock price while delivering direct returns to shareholders.

Investors will closely watch the buyback process and its impact on the stock, as well as any further corporate actions from Infosys in the near term.

The company's announcement underscores its commitment to prudent capital management while maintaining flexibility for future investments.

Ultraviolette X-47 Crossover Deliveries Begin in India



Ultraviolette, the Indian electric two-wheeler manufacturer, has started delivering its much-anticipated X-47 Crossover model across India. Launched in September 2025, the X-47 Crossover received an overwhelming response with over 3,000 bookings within the first 24 hours, reflecting strong consumer interest in performance electric mobility.

Priced from Rs 2.49 lakh (ex-showroom), the X-47 Crossover is a high-performance electric motorcycle designed for both urban and adventure riding. It is powered by a 10.7 kWh battery pack, delivering an impressive IDC-certified range of 323 kilometers on a single charge. The electric motor produces 40 horsepower and 610 Nm of torque at the wheel, allowing the bike to accelerate from 0 to 100 km/h in just 8.1 seconds. The top speed is electronically limited to 145 km/h.

One of the standout features of the X-47 Crossover is its advanced driver-assis-

tance system (ADAS) called UV Hypersense. This radar-based technology offers a 150-degree front view, 68-degree rear vertical view, and up to 200 meters of tracking distance. The system provides crucial safety alerts such as rear collision warnings, lane change assist, and overtake alerts, setting a new benchmark in the electric two-wheeler segment.

Safety and control are further enhanced by dual-channel ABS, four levels of traction control, and nine levels of regenerative braking, making the ride both safe and efficient.

Ultraviolette's launch of the X-47 Crossover marks a significant milestone in India's growing electric mobility market, combining cutting-edge technology with strong performance credentials. As deliveries commence, Ultraviolette aims to solidify its position as a leader in the premium electric motorcycle segment, driving the future of sustainable transportation in the country.

YouTube Adds Daily Timer to 'Shorts' to Combat Doomscrolling



YouTube has introduced a new daily timer feature for its popular 'Shorts' video format, aiming to help users manage and reduce excessive screen time. The feature is designed to address the growing concern of doomscrolling—endless, often compulsive consumption of short-form videos—which can negatively impact mental health and productivity.

With this new update, users will be able to set a daily time limit for watching Shorts. Once the allotted time is reached, a reminder will appear on the screen, encouraging users to take a break and pause their viewing session. However, users retain the option to dismiss the reminder and continue watching if they choose.

This feature is part of YouTube's broader commitment to promoting digital wellbeing and responsible usage of its platform. Short-form video content has exploded in popularity, with millions of users worldwide spending significant time scrolling through Shorts, which

can sometimes lead to unintentional binge-watching and time loss.

By introducing the timer, YouTube hopes to encourage more mindful viewing habits, helping users stay in control of their time and reduce the chances of falling into endless content loops. The reminder acts as a gentle nudge rather than a strict lockout, giving users the autonomy to decide how they engage with the platform.

The move aligns with similar steps taken by other social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok, which have implemented tools to track and limit usage, reflecting a growing industry focus on combating digital fatigue and encouraging healthier online behavior.

YouTube's daily timer for Shorts is currently rolling out and will be available to users globally in the coming weeks. The feature is expected to be welcomed by those looking to balance entertainment with productivity and mental wellness.

Apple to Launch iPhone 20 and iPhone 18e in Early 2027 for 20th Anniversary

Apple is gearing up to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the iPhone with the launch of two new models in the first half of 2027: the iPhone 20 and the iPhone 18e. This move marks a significant shift in Apple's naming strategy, skipping the iPhone 19 to honor two decades since the original iPhone's debut in January 2007.

According to industry analyst Heo Moo-yeol, Apple will release the iPhone 20 alongside the iPhone 18e, a model expected to be separate from the flagship lineup. This early 2027 launch will break from the company's traditional September release schedule, which it has followed since the iPhone 5 in 2012.

The rest of the iPhone 20 series — including the Air, Pro, and Pro Max versions — are



anticipated to arrive in the second half of 2027. Additionally, Apple plans to introduce the second-generation iPhone Fold, following the expected debut of its first foldable iPhone in 2026.

Interestingly, Apple may discontinue the standard iPhone 18 model next year, focusing instead on the iPhone 18 Pro, Pro Max, and a new iPhone Air successor, alongside the foldable iPhone. This shift could reduce panel demand by about 20 million units compared to previous years.

The iPhone Fold is projected to see strong sales, with Apple aiming to ship over 8 million units in its first year. Overall, Apple's 2027 lineup promises innovation and commemorates a milestone for one of the world's most influential tech products.

Amazon Plans to Replace 500,000 Employees with Robots by 2033



Amazon Inc., the global e-commerce giant, is set to transform its workforce by automating a significant portion of its operations, aiming to replace approximately 500,000 employ-

ees with robots by 2033. According to a report by The New York Times, this move highlights Amazon's aggressive push towards robotics and automation within its sprawling fulfillment

network.

Amazon's robotics team is targeting automation for up to 75% of its operations. If successful, this shift could allow the company to avoid hiring an

estimated 160,000 additional employees by 2027 alone. The initiative is part of Amazon's broader strategy to streamline its supply chain and reduce reliance on human labor, espe-

cially for repetitive and physically demanding tasks in warehouses.

The company has already invested heavily in robotic technology, using machines to handle sorting, packing, and transporting goods within fulfillment centers. This next phase would significantly scale up these efforts, with robots performing more complex tasks and improving overall efficiency.

While automation promises faster delivery times and cost savings, it also raises concerns about job displacement. Labor advocates warn that large-scale replacement of workers with robots could impact thousands of families reliant on Amazon's workforce for their livelihoods.

Amazon has not officially confirmed the exact numbers but has consistently emphasized that automation helps employees focus on higher-value activities. The company also points out that technological advancements have historically created new jobs even as some roles become obsolete.

This move comes amid growing competition in the e-commerce space, pushing Amazon to leverage technology to maintain its market dominance. The coming years will reveal how successfully Amazon balances automation with workforce management in one of the world's largest employment ecosystems.

As automation reshapes the future of work, Amazon's plans are a significant marker of the broader trends affecting industries globally.

Meta Boosts Safety Tools to Protect Older Adults from Online Scams on Messenger

Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Messenger, has announced new safety measures aimed at protecting older adults from online scams. The company is rolling out advanced scam detection features on its Messenger platform, designed to warn users when they receive messages that may be potentially fraudulent.

As part of its ongoing commitment to user safety, Meta is currently testing these enhanced scam detection tools that analyze incoming chats for suspicious content. When a message is flagged as "potentially scammy," users will receive an alert warning them before engaging further. This new feature is especially targeted at older adults, who are often more vulnerable to online fraud.

In addition to the technical upgrades, Meta is launching awareness campaigns to educate users about common online scams and how to recognize them. The initiatives include informational

prompts and tips to help users stay vigilant and avoid falling prey to deceptive messages.

Online scams have been on the rise globally, with fraudsters increasingly exploiting messaging apps to trick people into sharing personal information, sending money, or clicking on malicious links. Older adults are often targeted because of their relatively lower familiarity with digital security risks.

Meta's new safety tools come as part of a broader effort by technology companies to strengthen user protection on social platforms. By combining artificial intelligence with user education, Meta hopes to reduce scam incidents and build trust among its growing user base.

The company has not yet disclosed when the full rollout will occur, but early tests indicate promising results in detecting scam attempts before they cause harm. Users are encouraged to update their apps and stay alert for any



new safety features as Meta continues refining its tools.

With these steps, Meta

aims to create a safer digital environment where users, especially older adults, can

communicate confidently without fear of falling victim to online scams.

Sri Lanka Seeks Big Win Over Pakistan in Women’s ODI

Sri Lanka is gearing up for a crucial clash against Pakistan in the Women’s ODI World Cup, aiming for a comprehensive victory to keep their semifinal hopes alive. Although mathematically still in contention, the Sri Lankan team must win big and rely on favourable results from other matches to advance.

Currently sixth on the points table with four points and a negative net run rate of -1.035, Sri Lanka needs a strong win against Pakistan, who have already been eliminated. Additionally, Sri Lanka will be hoping for India to lose both of their remaining matches against New Zealand and Bangladesh. A win for England over fifth-placed New Zealand would also help Sri Lanka’s cause.

The island nation’s campaign has been a mix of highs and lows, with one win, three losses, and two no-results due to rain disruptions. Their lone victory came against Bangladesh in their last game, a tight contest won by seven runs.



Key to Sri Lanka’s success has been batter Hasini Perera, who has scored 182 runs in five matches, including a match-winning fifty against Bangladesh. Skipper Chamari Athapaththu, while not at her best with the bat recently, played a vital role with the ball in the last game, taking three wickets in the final over to secure the win.

Weather remains a major concern, as persistent rains have affected the tournament schedule and could impact Sri Lanka’s chances of completing their matches.

On the other side, Pakistan enters the game with pride to fight for, despite being winless after six matches and sitting last on the table with just two points from rain-affected games. Led by Fatima Sana, Pakistan will look to end their campaign on a high note by spoiling Sri Lanka’s qualification hopes.

Both teams will field their best squads, with Sri Lanka’s lineup led by Chamari Athapaththu and Pakistan captained by Fatima Sana, setting the stage for a high-stakes encounter.

Liverpool Thrashes Frankfurt 5-1; Chelsea and Bayern Win Big in Champions League



Liverpool bounced back emphatically from a difficult run by thumping Eintracht Frankfurt 5-1 in their Champions League clash on Wednesday. The victory ended a four-game losing streak, including recent defeats to Manchester United and

Galatasaray. Frankfurt took the lead through Rasmus Kristensen in the 26th minute, but Liverpool quickly equalized with a goal from former Frankfurt player Hugo Ekitike, who showed sportsmanship by not celebrating. Virgil van Dijk and Ibrahima Konaté then headed in goals from corners to give Liverpool a strong halftime lead. The team continued its dominance in the second half with goals from Cody Gakpo and Dominik Szoboszlai, both assisted by Florian Wirtz.

Meanwhile, Chelsea secured a commanding 5-1 win over 10-man Ajax at Stamford Bridge. The match featured five goals, a red card, and three penalties in a chaotic first half. Teenagers Marc Guiu, Estêvão, and Tyrique George starred for Chelsea, with Guiu and Estêvão becoming the club’s youngest Champions League scorers.

Bayern Munich also recorded a comfortable 4-0 victory over Club Brugge, highlighted by 17-year-old Lennart Karl, who became Bayern’s youngest Champions League goalscorer. Harry Kane, Luis Díaz, and Nicolas Jackson also found the net for the German giants.

Real Madrid maintained their perfect start with a narrow 1-0 win against Juventus, thanks to Jude Bellingham’s goal, assisted by Vinicius Júnior’s skillful play. Madrid now joins Bayern and other top teams with nine points from three matches.

Athletic Bilbao secured their first points of the season with a 3-1 comeback win over Qarabag, fueled by a stunning goal from substitute Roberto Navarro.

Other notable results include Galatasaray’s 3-1 win over Bodø/Glimt, Sporting Lisbon’s comeback 2-1 win against 10-man Marseille, and goalless draws between Tottenham and Monaco, and Atlanta and Slavia Prague.

The Champions League action continues to thrill as teams jostle for top spots in their groups.

South Africa Levels Series with 8-Wicket Win Over Pakistan

South Africa delivered a commanding performance to thrash Pakistan by eight wickets in the second Test at Rawalpindi on October 23, 2025, leveling the two-match series at 1-1. The Proteas chased down a modest target of 68 runs comfortably, finishing at 73 for 2 in just 12.3 overs.

The victory was largely shaped by South Africa’s off-spinner Simon Harmer, who was the standout bowler with a match-winning six-wicket haul. Harmer’s brilliant spell of 6 for 50 on Day 4 dismantled Pakistan’s batting lineup, restricting them to a total of 138 in their second innings.

Pakistan had started the series on a strong note, winning the first Test inside four days by 93 runs in Lahore. However, the tables turned in Rawalpindi, where Harmer expertly exploited the spinning pitch to put South Africa in a commanding position.

The match saw solid contributions from South African batsmen as they eased through the target with minimal fuss, demonstrating composure and



clinical finishing to avoid any late drama. The win ensures that the series is now evenly poised heading into the final stages, promising a thrilling contest between the two teams.

Pakistan’s batting struggles on the spinning wicket were evident as they failed to build significant partnerships in their second innings, ultimately falling short of setting a challenging target for the visitors.

South Africa’s balanced bowling attack, led by Harmer, proved decisive, underscoring their ability to adapt and respond under pressure after their loss in the opening Test.

As the series moves forward, both teams will be keen to capitalize on momentum. South Africa’s performance in Rawalpindi sends a strong message, while Pakistan will look to regroup and make a statement in the remaining matches.

The contest between Pakistan and South Africa continues to highlight high-quality Test cricket, with fans eagerly awaiting the next chapter in this gripping series.

Neeraj Chopra Honoured with Lieutenant Colonel Rank



Star javelin thrower and two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra was conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army on October 22, 2025. The ceremony took place in New Delhi, with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh presenting the insignia in a formal pipping event held at South Block. The occasion was also graced by Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi and other senior military officials.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh praised Neeraj Chopra as an “epitome” of perseverance and a symbol of national pride. The honour recognises Chopra’s exceptional contributions to Indian sports and his role in bringing glory to the country on the global stage.

Neeraj Chopra has been a beacon of excellence in athletics, especially in the javelin throw event, where he clinched gold at the Tokyo Olympics and has continued to maintain his stature as one of India’s finest sports personalities. His success has inspired millions and brought renewed focus to athletics in the country.

The honorary rank in the Territorial Army highlights the synergy between sports and the armed forces, showcasing the commitment of athletes like Chopra who also serve as role models of discipline, dedication, and patriotism.

The ceremony marked a proud moment not only for Chopra but also for the Indian Army and the nation, reinforcing the importance of recognising sporting talent as part of India’s broader achievements.

As Lieutenant Colonel, Neeraj Chopra will continue to inspire young athletes and citizens alike, symbolising the blend of sporting excellence and national service. The award is a testament to his hard work, resilience, and his ability to represent India with distinction both on the field and beyond.

This prestigious honour adds another milestone to Neeraj Chopra’s illustrious career and cements his legacy as one of India’s most celebrated sports icons.

Rohit Finds Form with 73 as India Post 264/9 Against Australia in 2nd ODI



Rohit Sharma showcased resilience and skill as he scored a vital 73 runs off 97 balls, helping India reach a competitive total of 264 for 9 against Australia in the second ODI at Adelaide on October 23, 2025. His innings was crucial on a challenging pitch that tested the batsmen throughout the game.

Rohit’s steady knock formed the backbone of the innings, supported by a valuable 118-run partnership for the third wicket with Shreyas Iyer, who contributed 61 runs off 77 balls. Early setbacks saw skipper Shubman Gill dismissed for 9 and Virat Kohli out for a duck in quick succession, putting India under pressure.

Axar Patel’s gritty 44 off 41 balls was reminiscent of Ravindra Jadeja’s dependable lower-order contributions in Tests. His 39-run stand with the resilient Washington Sundar (12) helped India add crucial runs in the late stages. The tailenders Harshit Rana (24*) and Arshdeep Singh (13) also chipped in with a steady 37-run partnership to push the total beyond 260.

On the bowling front, Australia’s Adam Zampa impressed with figures of 4 for 60, capitalizing on the batsmen’s attempts to attack him. Xavier Bartlett also stood out, taking three wickets including the prized scalp of Kohli and delivering a maiden over.

Rohit’s innings was a blend of grit and calculated aggression, especially after a cautious start against Josh Hazlewood’s probing bowling. He initially played 17 consecutive dot balls but gradually found his rhythm with classic pulls and well-timed boundaries.

Kohli, however, struggled with the movement on offer and was dismissed early by Bartlett. Rohit’s knock showed that despite criticism, he still has the ability to anchor India’s innings and inspire confidence ahead of upcoming challenges.

India now looks to their bowlers to defend this total as the series progresses.

Fauzi FL: Prabhas's Epic Saga of Rebellion and Valor Unveiled



The excitement surrounding Rebel Star Prabhas's upcoming Pan-India film has soared to new heights with the grand revelation of its official title — Fauzi. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Hanu Raghavapudi, the film marks one of the most anticipated collaborations in Indian cinema. The title and first look were unveiled today, coinciding with Prabhas's birthday, sending fans into a frenzy across social media platforms.

Set against the intense backdrop of the 1940s, during the turbulent years preceding India's Independence, Fauzi promises a gripping narrative of patriotism, sacrifice, and inner conflict. The word Fauzi, meaning "soldier," perfectly encapsulates the film's spirit — a story of a lone warrior who stands, walks, and fights for a cause larger than himself.

The title reveal poster has already become a talking point. A visually arresting design, it features a burning British

flag, symbolizing rebellion and resistance, while Sanskrit verses and cryptic symbols embedded within the artwork add layers of intrigue. These hints suggest a deeper, mythological connection — possibly drawing parallels between the film's protagonist and Karna from the Mahabharata, known for his valor, loyalty, and tragic fate.

Director Hanu Raghavapudi, known for his rich storytelling in Sita Ramam, seems poised to deliver another emotionally charged period drama with Fauzi. With its blend of historical context, nationalistic fervor, and mythological undertones, the film is expected to offer a cinematic experience of grand scale and emotional depth.

Fans now eagerly await further updates on the cast, music, and release timeline — but one thing is certain: Fauzi is shaping up to be one of Prabhas's most powerful and defining roles yet.

Chiranjeevi Wins Court Order Protecting His Name and Image Rights

Tollywood megastar Chiranjeevi has secured a significant legal victory in the Hyderabad City Civil Court, which has ruled in his favor over the unauthorized commercial use of his name, photos, and titles. The court issued an interim injunction restraining individuals, companies, and digital platforms from using Chiranjeevi's identity for business or promotional purposes without his explicit consent.



Judge S. Shashidhar Reddy delivered the order, recognizing Chiranjeevi's "personality and publicity rights" and emphasizing that any misuse of his image, name, or voice could cause irreparable damage to his reputation. The temporary ban applies to all online entities, including clothing brands, digital media platforms, and YouTube channels that have been using the actor's identity for commercial gain.

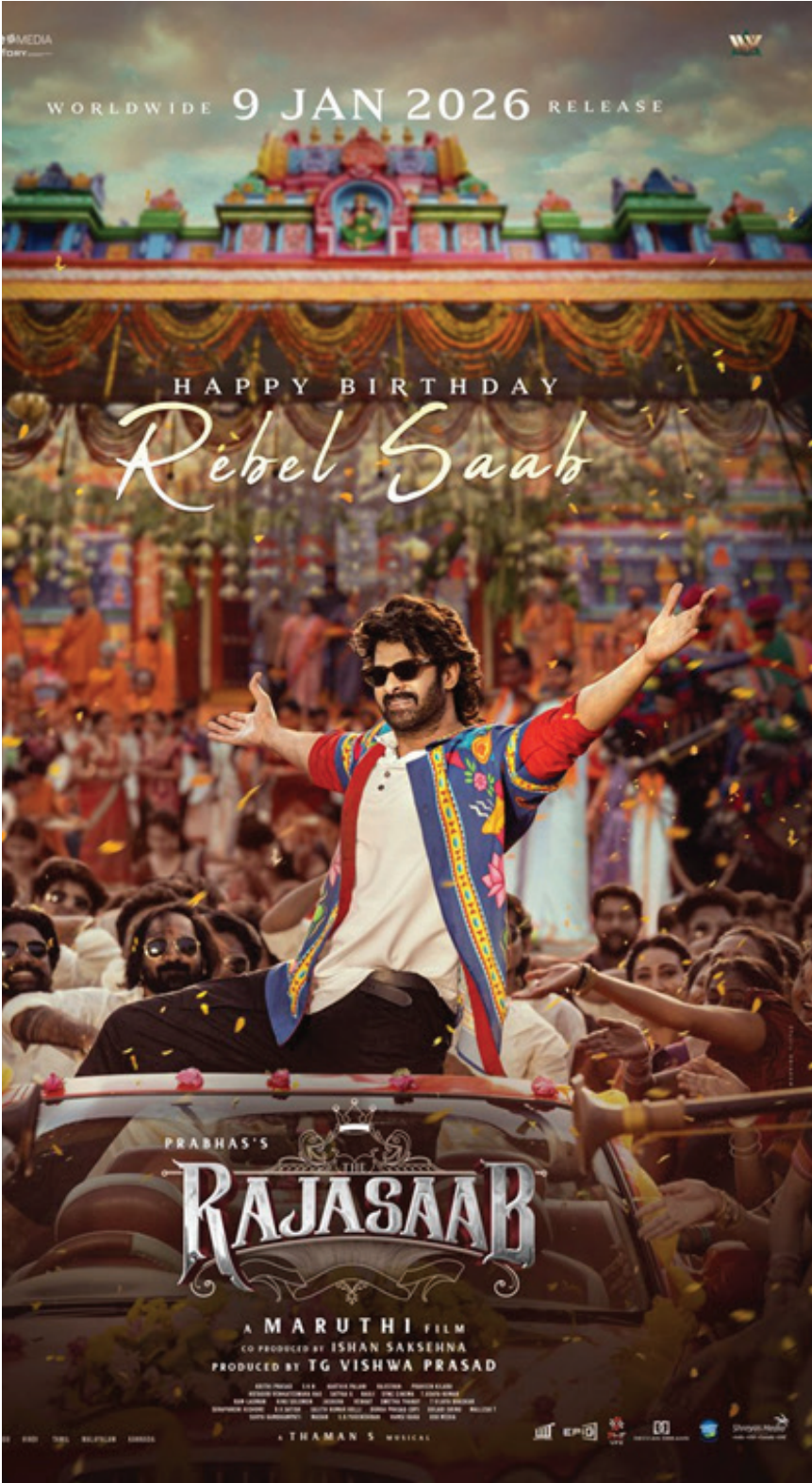
In his petition, Chiranjeevi stated that several organizations were using his name, photos, and even popular titles like "Megastar" and "Chiru" to attract customers and earn profits without authorization. He argued that such actions not only harmed his personal image but also resulted in financial loss.

The court found merit in his argument and observed that unauthorized use of a celebrity's persona for commercial benefit violates their right to privacy and reputation. Consequently, it issued an immediate injunction prohibiting such acts until further notice.

The next hearing in the case is scheduled for October 27.

This development comes amid a growing trend of Indian film stars approaching courts to safeguard their personality rights. Similar judgments in the past have favored legendary actors such as Amitabh Bachchan, Rajinikanth, and Nagarjuna, reinforcing the legal recognition of celebrities' rights to control the commercial use of their identities.

Chiranjeevi's latest victory marks a crucial precedent in protecting celebrity image rights in the digital era.



Prabhas Stuns in Festive Birthday Poster from The Raja Saab

Rebel Star Prabhas continues to dominate headlines, and his fans have yet another reason to celebrate. Following the impressive response to the recently released theatrical trailer of his upcoming romantic horror comedy The Raja Saab, the makers have now unveiled a brand-new birthday poster — and it's nothing short of spectacular.

The latest poster radiates festive energy, seemingly drawn from a grand celebration sequence in the film. Prabhas exudes effortless charm and charisma, dressed in a chic ensemble and stylishly seated on a car, surrounded by vibrant

colors and celebratory decor. The look perfectly captures the festive spirit and reinforces the film's cheerful, entertaining tone.

Directed by Maruthi, The Raja Saab promises to be a refreshing mix of romance, horror, and comedy, offering audiences a completely new avatar of Prabhas. The trailer has already ignited excitement among fans, with many claiming that the theatrical version delivers a stronger impact than its digital release, packed with moments designed to give goosebumps.

The film stars Malavika Mohanan, Nidhhi Agerwal, and Ridhhi Kumar as the leading

ladies, while veteran actors Sanjay Dutt and Boman Irani take on pivotal supporting roles. Produced by TG Vishwa Prasad and Krithi Prasad under the People Media Factory banner, the big-budget entertainer features a musical score by Thaman, whose work is eagerly anticipated by fans.

The Raja Saab is slated for a grand theatrical release on January 9, 2026, perfectly timed for the festive Sankranti season. With its vibrant visuals, star-studded cast, and Prabhas's magnetic screen presence, the film is shaping up to be a must-watch celebration at the box office.

Pradeep Ranganathan Scores a Hat-Trick with Dude Crossing ₹100 Crore Mark



Rising Tamil star Pradeep Ranganathan continues his golden run at the box office with his latest release, Dude, roaring past the ₹100 crore gross mark worldwide. The romantic comedy-drama, produced by Mythri Movie Makers, has become the first Diwali release this year to achieve this milestone, reaffirming Pradeep's growing stardom in Kollywood.

Directed by debutant Keerthiswaran, Dude stars Pradeep Ranganathan alongside Mamitha Baiju in lead roles. The film blends humor, emotion, and youthful energy, which has resonated strongly with audiences across all age groups. Despite a packed festival lineup, the movie continues to draw large crowds, proving its solid word-of-mouth appeal.

With Dude, Pradeep achieves an extraordinary feat — three consecutive ₹100 crore grossers, following the massive successes of Love Today and Dragon. Such consistency is rare, especially for

a mid-range hero, making this achievement all the more remarkable. Industry analysts hail Pradeep's streak as a sign of a new-age superstar in the making, one who connects seamlessly with the youth while also appealing to family audiences.

The supporting cast includes Neha Sshetty, Sarathkumar, Rohini, Hridhu Haroon, and Satya, all of whom contribute significantly to the film's emotional and comic balance. The vibrant music by Sai Abhyankkar has also played a key role in amplifying the film's popularity, with several songs trending across streaming platforms.

As Dude continues its strong theatrical run, trade experts predict further box office growth in the coming weeks. With this triumph, Pradeep Ranganathan cements his position as one of Kollywood's most bankable young stars, and Dude stands as yet another testament to his crowd-pulling power and storytelling charm.

Mega Family Grows: Ram Charan and Upasana Expecting Their Second Child

The Mega family has yet another reason to celebrate, as beloved star couple Ram Charan and Upasana Kamineni Konidela are reportedly expecting their second child. The news has sent waves of joy across Tollywood and among fans, marking yet another heartwarming chapter in the Mega family legacy.

Ram Charan and Upasana, who welcomed their first daughter Klin Kaara in 2023, are now preparing to expand their family once again. The couple's journey into parenthood has been cherished by fans, with Upasana frequently sharing glimpses of their happy moments on social media. The news of baby number two has quickly gone viral, with well-wishers flooding timelines with congratulatory messages and blessings.

Sources close to the family reveal that both Charan and



Upasana are overjoyed about the pregnancy. Though the couple has yet to make an official announcement, the buzz has already sparked widespread excitement across the

Telugu film industry and among Mega fans worldwide.

On the professional front, Ram Charan is currently immersed in his upcoming film Pedddi, one of the most awaited projects of 2025. Despite his busy shooting schedule, the actor is said to be spending as much time as possible with his family during this special phase.

The Mega family, known for its strong bonds and grand celebrations, is reportedly planning a private gathering to mark the joyous occasion. With another little one on the way, happiness and anticipation fill the Konidela household, as fans eagerly await official confirmation and perhaps the first glimpses of the growing family.

Indeed, it's a moment of double delight for Mega fans — celebrating Charan's cinematic success and his growing family.