

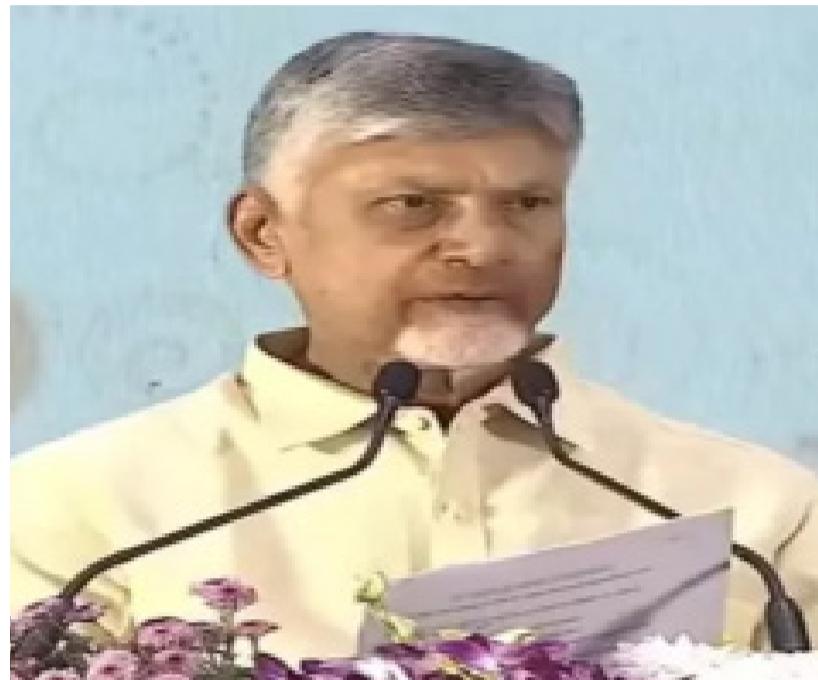
CHAIWALA Became PM because of our Constitution - AP CM

Chandrababu Naidu Lauds Ambedkar's Vision, Highlights India's Economic Rise at Mangalagiri Event
TPN Bureau | November 16

Mangalagiri: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu paid rich tributes to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, calling him the "architect of the world's finest Constitution," during a program held in Mangalagiri on Sunday to mark 75 years since the Indian Constitution came into effect. The event was organized under the aegis of the Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates Association, bringing together judges, advocates, and government officials to commemorate the landmark anniversary.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Naidu said that Dr. Ambedkar's vision had ensured that India remained a strong democracy where every citizen could rise on merit, irrespective of background. "It is because of our Constitution that someone like Chaiwala became the Prime Minister of the country. This shows the strength and inclusiveness of our democratic system," Naidu said, alluding to the journey of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Chief Minister highlighted India's imp-



An Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu paid rich tributes to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, calling him the "architect of the world's finest Constitution," during a program held in Mangalagiri on Sunday to mark 75 years since the Indian Constitution came into effect. The event was organized under the aegis of the Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates Association, bringing together judges, advocates, and government officials to commemorate the landmark anniversary.

ressive economic transformation over the past decade, crediting structural reforms and policy stability. "Economic reforms have changed

the destiny of the nation. In 2014, India was ranked as the 11th largest economy. Today, we have become the fourth largest," he noted. Naid-

"Whenever democra-

cy derails, it is the judiciary that sets it back on track. The strength of our legal system lies in its independence and integrity," he remarked. Addressing the evolving role of the media, the Chief Minister observed that technology has transformed the information landscape. "Today, in the social media era, every citizen is a writer, and every individual is an editor," he said, cautioning that such democratization of expression must come with responsibility.

Naidu expressed concern over the misuse of social media platforms for character assassination and misinformation. "Using social media for character defamation is unfortunate. We must use it constructively to strengthen democracy and public awareness," he warned. The event concluded with advocates and public representatives reaffirming their commitment to constitutional values and democratic principles.

The celebration also featured discussions on the evolution of Indian democracy, the rule of law, and the continuing relevance of Ambedkar's philosophy in the 21st century. With chants of "Jai Bhim" and "Long Live the Constitution," the gathering reflected on India's journey over 75 years of constitutional governance—one anchored in justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.

CJI Gavai Lauds Andhra Pradesh Government's Public Welfare Efforts



TPN Bureau | November 16

75 Years." Justice Gavai expressed happiness at visiting Amaravati for the first time after becoming the Chief Justice of India, noting the city's historic and cultural significance.

Drawing a personal connection, he mentioned that his birthplace in Maharashtra also bears the name Amaravati, calling it a meaningful coincidence that his judicial journey began and will conclude in places sharing the same name. Reflecting on the Constitution's journey, Justice Gavai praised its role in protecting fundamental rights and promoting equality. He urged courts to remain vigilant in safeguarding citizens' rights and emphasized Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of achieving social and economic equality through constitutional principles.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu attended the event as guest of honour along with Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court Justice Dhairaj Singh Thakur, Advocate General Dammalapati Srinivas, and several judges and senior advocates. Justice Gavai delivered a keynote address on "India and the Living Indian Institution at

Supreme Court's recent stance on Scheduled Castes (SC) categorisation, Justice Gavai said the judgment aligns with the principle of equitable distribution of benefits. He supported the idea of introducing a "creamy layer" concept within SC and ST reservations to ensure fairness.

He recalled the contributions of social reformer Jyotirao Phule and Dr. Ambedkar in fighting discrimination and promoting women's rights, praising the increasing participation of women in the legal field. The Chief Justice underscored the need to raise public awareness of constitutional rights, noting that education and opportunity have enabled citizens from diverse backgrounds to rise to prominent national positions.

He cited examples of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Speakers from humble beginnings as evidence of India's vibrant democracy and inclusive governance.

'PM Modi-CM Chandrababu Combo: A Super Hit Fueling Investor Confidence in AP'

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh's economic resurgence has found a strong footing under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, according to Minister for Medical and Health, Satya Kumar Yadav. Laudingly the success of the 30th CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam, the Minister said the dual leadership has created a wave of investor confidence, putting the state on a fast-growth track.

The three-day global summit concluded with investment proposals worth an impressive 13.25 lakh crore across 12 growth-driving sectors including information technology, infrastructure, manufacturing, healthcare, tourism, and renewable energy.

Yadav described the summit as a turning point in Andhra Pradesh's industrial landscape, attributing the record-breaking interest to the double-engine growth model, combining the Centre's strategic support with the State's administrative efficiency. Highlighting the synergy between PM Modi's national vision and CM Chandrababu's governance, Yadav said that



Andhra Pradesh is witnessing renewed global attention after years of stagnation.

"PM Modi's visionary leadership, along with Chandrababu Naidu's pragmatic and business-friendly policies, has restored investor confidence and accelerated the state's industrial revival," he observed. The Minister emphasized that the partnership between the Central and State governments has redefined the state's development narrative, transforming Andhra Pradesh into one of India's most promising investment destinations.

PM Modi's frequent visits three in the past year alone reflect the Centre's focused commitment to Andhra Pradesh's progress, he noted. These visits included inaugurations of various major projects worth nearly 2.8 lakh crore, spanning sectors from infrastructure to technol-

ogy. Among the landmark announcements at the CII Summit is tech giant Google's plan to set up India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) hub outside the United States, on the Visakhapatnam coast.

The move is expected to position Visakhapatnam as a global technology and innovation hub, further elevating the city's industrial profile. Other investors too expressed confidence in the state's "Speed of Doing Business" reforms championed by the Chief Minister, which have simplified approval processes and accelerated industrial clearances.

With large-scale investments on the horizon and a visionary roadmap in place, Andhra Pradesh seems poised to emerge as a growth engine for South India driven by leadership synergy, robust governance, and unwavering investor trust.

He underlined that schemes under the coalition government's "Super Six" promises have

Visakhapatnam CII Summit Marks a Turning Point in Andhra Pradesh's Investment Drive: Minister Anagani Satya Prasad

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: The recently concluded CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam has emerged as a transformative milestone in Andhra Pradesh's industrial and investment history, according to Revenue, Registration, and Stamps Minister Anagani Satya Prasad. Describing the summit as "a historic platform that redefined the state's growth potential," he lauded the vision and leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and IT & Industries Minister Nara Lokesh for steering the state toward becoming one of India's most attractive investment destinations.

The minister highlighted that the event showcased the combined efforts of the Chief Minister and the Industries Department in building global investor confidence through transparent governance, efficient facilitation, and a proactive business environment. Satya Prasad said that Andhra Pradesh has distinguished itself from other states with its unique "Speed of Doing Business" model, which moves beyond conven-

tional ease-of-doing-business frameworks by ensuring swift decision-making, time-bound approvals, and supportive infrastructure development.

According to Satya Prasad, the summit led to the signing of investment agreements worth 13 lakh crore, which are expected to generate over 16 lakh employment opportunities across diverse sectors. He said these commitments stand as testament to the trust investors place in the leadership of Chief Minister Naidu and the strategic initiatives being rolled out by Minister Nara Lokesh.

"These investment figures reflect not only robust economic confidence but also demonstrate the government's ability to convert vision into reality," he remarked. The minister further stated that the government's foresight in attracting industries through collaboration among key departments ranging from manu-

facturing and renewable energy to information technology and logistics reflects its strong administrative coordination.

The inclusion of new-age sectors such as electric mobility and green energy has also signaled Andhra Pradesh's intent to align industrial expansion with sustainable development. Satya Prasad emphasized that an outstanding feature of this year's CII Summit was the equitable distribution of investment commitments across all three regions of the state Coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema, and North Andhra. Each district, he noted, received focused attention with tailored industrial proposals designed to match its geographic and resource strengths.

This commitment to decentralization, he said, underlines Chief Minister Naidu's governance principle that balanced growth is essential for long-term prosperity. "Even though the

summit took place in Visakhapatnam, the benefits will flow evenly across Andhra Pradesh," Satya Prasad explained, crediting the coordinated efforts of both the Chief Minister and Minister Lokesh for ensuring state-wide coverage in industrial planning.

He added that this approach reinforces the administration's objective of making every region a contributor to, and beneficiary of, the state's development trajectory. The minister concluded by asserting that the summit's outcomes mark the dawn of a new chapter for Andhra Pradesh's economy. With continuous follow-up mechanisms and department-level monitoring of investment proposals, he expressed confidence that the commitments made will rapidly translate into operational realities, paving the way for a thriving industrial ecosystem and large-scale employment generation across the state.

AP Targets 160 GW renewable energy, Signs MoU

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Sets 160 GW Renewable Energy Target, Signs Major Clean Energy MoUs at CII Summit

Andhra Pradesh has stepped up its leadership in India's green revolution, setting an ambitious goal to contribute 160 GW to the nation's renewable energy capacity. Announced by Chief Minister Sri N. Chandrababu Naidu, this target underlines Andhra Pradesh's commitment to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Panchamrit Vision and the national drive for clean energy, economic sustainability, and climate action.

At the CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam, the state showcased its progress and future plans in renewable energy and energy efficiency, with MoUs worth over 5,000 crore signed between Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power and various sta-



te departments, industries, and the tourism sector. The signing ceremony was attended by distinguished dignitaries including state ministers P. Narayana, Kondapalli Srinivas, Kandula Durgesh, and departmental secretaries, and was led

by EESL CEO Akhilesh Kumar Dixit.

Renewable Energy Push

Chief Minister Naidu reaffirmed Andhra Pradesh's intent to fully support national climate goals declared at the Glasgow Climate Summit, includ-

ing reaching 500 GW of non-fossil fuel power generation capacity by 2030, meeting half of the national energy demand through renewables, reducing carbon emissions by one billion tons by 2030, and achieving net zero emissions by 2070.

Andhra Pradesh's planned 160 GW contribution is expected to make a significant impact in meeting these nationwide targets and positions the state as a key player in India's clean-energy transition.

LED Streetlight Initiative

sions and energy intensity, fostering more sustainable public infrastructure. For citizens, it means brighter, uniform lighting, improved safety, expanded productive hours in villages, and a boost to night-time economic activity.

Achievements and Impact

Andhra Pradesh has already saved 1,980 million kWh of energy and accrued annual financial benefits of 1,188 crore by embracing LED technology. EESL's nationwide Street Light National Programme has generated impressive results: 1.34 crore LED streetlights installed, 9 billion kWh of energy saved, 5,400 crore in cost savings, and a reduction of 6.2 million tons of CO₂ emissions every year. Andhra Pradesh's own footprint exceeds 30 lakh LED installations, underscoring its contribution to national energy savings and climate mitigation.

Geothermal Energy for Sustainable Tourism

In an innovative move, EESL has proposed de-

ploying global-standard geothermal energy systems in the Araku Valley, famed for its coffee and organic produce. These technologies, tailored for water and space heating, promise 50-70% annual energy savings and a lifespan exceeding 15 years, with a payback period of just 4-5 years. This project is expected to further strengthen Araku's reputation as a model for sustainable tourism and eco-friendly development.

Building a Green Future

Government officials emphasized that a sustained focus on renewable energy expansion, energy efficiency, water management, and environmental stewardship is vital for economic growth and improved quality of life across Andhra Pradesh.

With its robust clean energy agenda and public partnership, Andhra Pradesh is poised to set new national records and deliver lasting transformation for its citizens and future generations.

Kirloskar Pumps Eyes AP Market Expansion Amid Data Center and Green Energy Push

TPN Bureau | November 16

Amaravati: Kirloskar Pumps, a major industrial equipment manufacturer, is closely watching the pace of industrial and infrastructure development in Andhra Pradesh, as emerging trends in data centers, the capital city construction, and the state's aggressive push toward green hydrogen projects are creating fresh market opportunities. Managing Director Alok S. Kirloskar said the developments could open the door for expanded operations in the state, including possible manufacturing or service centers.

Speaking about the evolving investment landscape, Alok Kirloskar noted that Andhra Pradesh has become a prominent hub for multiple sectors. Global tech giant Google, along with Reliance Industries and Brookfield, is setting up data centers in Visakhapatnam, putting the city on the national digital infrastructure map. According to him, these new data centers demand a range of specialized pumps



for cooling and power operations in an area where Kirloskar Pumps already has substantial experience.

He explained that the company's future investment decisions in Andhra Pradesh would depend on the kind of industrial and urban projects taking shape there. "Once we have clarity on the sectors attracting investments in the state, we can better assess the demand potential for our products. Based on that, we will consider whether to set up a pump manufacturing facility or dedicated service centers in Andhra Pradesh," Alok

Kirloskar said.

Kirloskar Pumps has maintained a long association with Andhra Pradesh through several major water and irrigation projects. The company supplied equipment for the Pattiseema Lift Irrigation Project, one of the key schemes linking the Godavari and Krishna rivers, and played a role in other drinking and irrigation water supply projects across the state before its bifurcation.

"We see tremendous potential for data center-specific pumping solutions in Visakhapatnam and other parts of the state," he observed. The government's emphasis on developing Amaravati as a sustainable, modern capital and promoting large-

scale green hydrogen projects is also fueling optimism among industrial players.

The shift toward renewable energy and integrated infrastructure, he added, aligns well with Kirloskar's focus on energy-efficient and environmentally responsible engineering solutions. As Andhra Pradesh continues to invest in water, energy, and data infrastructure, we expect the utilization of pumps across sectors to rise significantly," Alok Kirloskar said.

"Once adoption scales up, establishing dedicated service centers in the state would be a natural step forward.

"With major global corporations setting up operations and the state government actively fostering green and digital growth, Andhra Pradesh appears poised for a new phase of industrial expansion. For companies like Kirloskar Pumps, this evolving landscape promises both business potential and partnership opportunities in powering the state's next wave of progress.

Labour Minister Subhash Pledges Lifelong Service to Shetti Balija Community



ANNOUNCES ₹1 CRORE DONATION FOR SAF

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Amalapuram: Andhra Pradesh Labour Minister Vasamsetti Subhash reaffirmed his lifelong commitment to the welfare of the Shetti Balija community, declaring that he would stand by his people "as long as I live." The minister made this pledge while addressing an impressive gathering at the 4th Shetti Balija Van Karthika Samaaraadhana held at the Satthemma Temple premises in Amalapuram on Sunday.

Speaking to thousands of community members from both Telugu states, Minister Subhash said the event was organized to unite Shetti Balijas on a common platform and strengthen their social, economic and political bonds.

The temple premises were packed with families, giving the meet the atmosphere of a grand festival. Subhash emphasized that Backward Classes (BCs), who form a majority of the state's population, should progress with education, awareness and determination.

He reflected on his political hardships, recalling that the former government allegedly filed false cases against him and sent him to prison. "It was my community

that stood with me like a mountain.

Their support forced the government to withdraw the cases," he said, expressing gratitude for the solidarity shown during his difficult times.

Reiterating his dedication to public service, the minister said his current position was a means to repay the people's faith in him. In a major announcement, Subhash declared the establishment of the Shetti Balija Action Force (SAF), an initiative aimed at supporting the poor and underprivileged members of the community.

He also pledged a personal donation of 1 crore to the SAF and assured that the amount would be credited to its account within a week.

"Even if I have to sell my lands, I will keep my promise," he said, drawing loud applause from the audience. Calling upon the Shetti Balijas to uphold self-respect and self-reliance, Subhash remarked, "We must live with dignity, not dependency. Let us strive, not plead."

He expressed pride in belonging to the Shetti Balija community and made it clear that he would remain a member of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and continue to work under the leadership of Nara Lokesh throughout his political journey.

Urging the central government to offi-

cially recognize Shetti Balijas under the BC category across India, the minister said such recognition would ensure equitable representation and welfare benefits.

He also reiterated his government's commitment to social justice, pointing to initiatives like the proposed BC Protection Act and the allotment of 10 percent liquor shops to toddy tappers (Getha Karmikarulu). Senior TDP leaders including Reddy Subrahmanyam, MLC Kudupudi Suryanarayana Rao, and Shetti Balija Corporation Chairman Kudupudi Sattibabu lauded Minister Subhash for his leadership and commitment to community empowerment.

They praised him for carrying forward the legacy of Shetti Balija stalwarts such as Dummeti Venkata Reddy, whose contributions were remembered with floral tributes at the start of the event. The celebration, marked by a grand procession welcoming Subhash to the temple venue, drew participation from thousands of families and community elders.

The event, observers said, stood out as one of the largest gatherings of the Shetti Balija community in recent years, symbolizing growing unity and determination for collective advancement.

50-Storey iconic tower to come up on Kailasagiri - Minister Narayana

TPN Bureau | November 16

Visakhapatnam: Minister Narayana Directs Officials to Complete Master Plan Roads to Bhogapuram Airport in Six Months. Urban Development and Municipal Administration Minister Ponguru Narayana has directed officials to fast-track infrastructure works connecting the upcoming Bhogapuram International Airport to Visakhapatnam city. Reviewing various ongoing projects with senior officials in Visakhapatnam on Sunday, the minister issued strict instructions to complete all master plan roads leading to the airport within the next six months.

During the review, Minister Narayana assessed the progress of multiple projects undertaken by the Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA), including roads, drains, housing, and urban infrastructure. Emphasizing the strategic importance of these works, he said the timely completion of these projects is vital to enhance connectivity and improve the overall image of Visakhapatnam as a future global city.

"The master plan roads are a critical link to Bhogapuram Airport for North Coastal Andhra. These roads must be completed within the stipulated six-month timeframe to ensure smooth connectivity once the air

port becomes operational," he asserted. The minister also reviewed the progress of eight MIG (Middle Income Group) housing projects implemented by the VMRDA. He instructed engineers and contractors to maintain quality standards and complete construction works as per schedule. Narayana reiterated that the government's vision is to transform Visakhapatnam into a model city with world-class infrastructure, efficient transport networks, and enhanced public amenities.

Providing an update on major urban development initiatives, Narayana announced that a 50-storey iconic tower is being planned on Kailasagiri hill, which will

serve as an architectural landmark and a symbol of the city's growth. The design and technical planning for this high-rise structure are underway, and the project is expected to boost tourism and create new opportunities for business and leisure. In addition, the minister disclosed plans for the development of a theme-based city over 120 acres near New Valasapakala, aimed at attracting both domestic and international visitors. This new township will include commercial hubs, cultural spaces, entertainment zones, and advanced civic infrastructure, positioning Visakhapatnam as a vibrant urban and tourist destination. On the housing front, Narayana announced

that all pending TID CO houses in the city would be completed and handed over to beneficiaries by the end of June next year. He assured that the government is committed to fulfilling its promises to housing beneficiaries and instructed officials to expedite works without compromising quality. He further stated that the Visakhapatnam master urban design plan would be finalized within the prescribed deadline to guide future development in a systematic and sustainable manner. The plan envisions well-structured transport corridors, and resilient urban systems that align with the city's rapid growth trajectory.

He expressed pride in belonging to the Shetti Balija community and made it clear that he would remain a member of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and continue to work under the leadership of Nara Lokesh throughout his political journey. Urging the central government to offi-

Vangaveeti Asha Kiran Announces Political Entry, Pays Tributes to Her Father Vangaveeti Ranga

TPN Bureau | November 16:

Vijayawada: Vangaveeti Asha Kiran, daughter of the late Congress leader and iconic figure Vangaveeti Mohana Ranga Rao, has announced her formal entry into politics, vowing to continue her father's legacy of service and social justice. The announcement came on Sunday after she paid floral tributes to Ranga's statue in Vijayawada. Speaking to reporters after the ceremony, Asha Kiran stated that she had been away from public life for some time but now plans to dedicate herself fully to people's welfare and public service.

"From now on, my jour-

nney will be completely public. I will stand by people in their struggles and work towards fulfilling my father's ideals," she said emotionally. Asha Kiran attended the event organized by the Radha Ranga Mitra Mandali, a socio-political forum named after her late brother Vangaveeti Radhakrishna and her father. She expressed gratitude to the organizers for inviting her and said she intends to strengthen unity among followers of the Ranga family.

"There has been a gap within the Radha Ranga Mitra Mandali in recent years. I am entering public life to bridge that gap



and bring everyone together," she remarked. Highlighting her father's

values, Asha Kiran said Vangaveeti Ranga was known for helping people

irrespective of caste, religion, or social background. She described

him as a true leader of the masses who dedicated his entire life to fighting for justice, equality, and the rights of the underprivileged. "He stood as a symbol of courage and compassion."

It is my duty to carry his vision forward by continuing to serve people selflessly," she said. Her political entry has drawn significant attention in Vijayawada and across the Krishna district, where the Vangaveeti name continues to hold emotional and political significance. Several of Ranga's followers and old associates reportedly welcomed her decision, expressing hope that her participation

would revive the ideals of the Ranga family in regional politics.

When asked about her immediate plans, Asha Kiran hinted that she would begin with grassroots initiatives focusing on social service, community welfare, and youth engagement. However, she did not disclose whether she intends to join an existing political party or launch a separate platform. She emphasized that her present focus is on uniting people and rekindling Ranga's vision before making any political alignment decisions.

Local political observers noted that Asha Kiran's re-entry could mark

the beginning of a new phase in Vijayawada's political landscape. The Ranga family has historically been influential in coastal Andhra politics, and her announcement may attract both veteran supporters and young followers inspired by her father's enduring legacy.

Asha Kiran ended her address with a heartfelt message, assuring people of her unwavering commitment. "I will dedicate my life to the people. Whenever anyone faces hardship, I will stand with them as Ranga did," she said, earning enthusiastic applause from the gathered crowd.

Chandrababu Neglects Rayalaseema - YSRCP Leader Sailajanath

TPN Bureau November 16, 2025

Vijayawada: Reiterating that Telugu Desam Party (TDP) chief and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has always ignored the interests of Rayalaseema, the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on Sunday accused the state government of depriving the drought-prone region of funds, water resources, and its rightful share in state development. Addressing the media in Vijayawada, former minister and senior YSRCP leader Dr. Sake Sailajanath

na river waters and continued to remain parched. The former minister recalled how Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy had raised the issue of regional neglect in the State Assembly and took a proactive stance in sanctioning irrigation works. "Jagan mooted major projects such as Galeru-Nagari and Hantri-Niva to provide water security to farmers, but the TDP government stalled them completely."

That shows Chandrababu's indifference to his own native region," Sailajanath remarked. He further accused Naidu of reducing the High Court decentralisation issue to a symbolic gesture. "He said a bench of the High Court would be sufficient for the region but did not even move forward with that proposal," he said. "Even in the allocation of state funds, Rayalaseema has received a raw deal under Chandrababu's rule."

"Sailajanath also warned that continued neglect of Rayalaseema could have serious political and social repercussions. He urged the Chief Minister to revisit the commitments made under the Sri Bagh Pact and take concrete steps toward equitable distribution of resources and balanced regional development. "Rayalaseema is not asking for special favours, only for justice and what it has been historically promised," he said, calling upon all parties and public representatives from the region to unite and fight for their rightful share.

The Sri Bagh Pact, signed in 1937 between leaders of Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema, was aimed at ensuring regional parity in educational institutions, administrative offices, and irrigation projects. Eighty-seven years later, the debate over its implementation continues to shape Andhra Pradesh's political discourse.

"Even after all these decades, the commitments made under the pact remain unfulfilled, and the Rayalaseema region continues to be neglected, especially under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership," he said. Sailajanath alleged that successive TDP governments have shown "utter disregard" for Rayalaseema's welfare and pointed out that the present administration has failed to implement projects and policies that could have changed the region's fortunes.

He claimed that the development of Rayalaseema was visible only during the tenures of former chief ministers Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhar Reddy and Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, when several irrigation, educational, and health projects were initiated to uplift the region. "Chandrababu Naidu took away the state capital, the High Court, and the proposed AIIMS from Rayalaseema," he alleged, adding that this had further widened the developmental and administrative gap between the coastal and interior districts.

He said the region, which heavily depends on agriculture, was deprived of its rightful share of Krish-



Government Counters 'Misinformation Campaign' on VSP; Palla Srinivasa Rao Blames YSRCP and Left Parties

TPN Bureau | Nov 16

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh government on Sunday strongly rebutted what it described as a "deliberate misinformation campaign" over Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's remarks on the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) at the recent CII Partnership Summit, asserting that opposition parties were twisting facts to mislead the public and investors.

TDP State President Palla Srinivasa Rao accused the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) and Left organizations, including CITU, of intentionally spreading false narratives about the Chief Minister's comments.

The recommissioning of the third Blast Furnace has also boosted production capacity, marking a major milestone in the plant's turnaround efforts. Officials dismissed the opposition's long-standing assertion that the steel plant cannot function without captive iron ore mines, calling the claim "technically and economically incorrect." Experts ex-

plained that iron ore deposits containing only 40 percent Fe (iron content) are commercially unviable, and the plant requires a minimum daily ore output of 15,000 metric tonnes for sustainable operations.

According to government sources, the Chief Minister's statements at the summit were pragmatic, focusing on financial sustainability, modernization, and long-term profitability rather than political rhetoric. They said any attempt to distort his words would harm Visakhapatnam's industrial prospects and the thousands of families whose livelihoods depend on the steel plant's success.

"The VSP revival is progressing with renewed investor confidence and strong Central support," a senior official said. "Spreading baseless allegations at this stage threatens not the government but the workforce and the city's economic future."

Demand for Land Allotment to All BC Communities in Amaravati Intensifies



TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: The Bharata Chaitanya Yuva Jana Party (BCYP) has intensified its demand for land allotment to all Backward Classes (BC) communities in Amaravati, urging the state government to ensure equal representation and respect for BCs in the state capital.

BCYP president Bode Ramachandra Yadav voiced these demands at the Kartheeka Vana Mahotsavam held in Mangalgiri on Sunday, where he strongly criticized the government's "dual stance" toward BC welfare and Amaravati's uncertain status.

Yadav alleged that successive governments have failed to deliver justice to the BC communities, despite repeated promises. He said that even after more than a decade since the formation of Andhra Pradesh, no gazette notification has

been issued for the capital city. According to him, the ongoing ambiguity over Amaravati's development and the illusion of investment drives have only deepened public distrust and left BCs, who he described as the "backbone of the state," in a state of neglect.

Emphasizing the need to protect the self-respect and cultural identity of BCs, Yadav demanded that the government allocate land in Amaravati to every BC social group and not just to wealthy landlords.

He also called for the construction of self-respect buildings, cultural centers, and skill development facilities for BC youth at the government's expense.

"This is not just a request but a rightful entitlement of the BCs, who form more than half of Andhra Pradesh's population," he stated. Speaking passionately about the

prolonged discrimination faced by BCs, Yadav accused political leaders of exploiting the community's support while denying them genuine empowerment.

He stated that the BCYP would soon lead a statewide agitation to defend the rights and dignity of BCs. Announcing the formation of a broad discussion platform, Yadav said it will include BC community organizations, intellectuals, and prominent social leaders to strategize future protests.

"This fight is not about one party," he declared. "It is a collective movement of all BCs, and I take complete responsibility to lead it from the front." Yadav concluded that unless the government recognizes BCs' rightful place in Amaravati, the BCYP will escalate its agitation across the state to ensure justice and equality for the community.

CPI(M) Condemns CM Naidu's Remarks, Says Threats to Steel Plant Workers Undemocratic

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has strongly condemned Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's reported threat to invoke the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) workers protesting over their working conditions. The party described the move as undemocratic and reflective of a pro-corporate mindset. In a statement issued on Sunday, CPI(M) state secretary V. Srinivasa Rao said the Chief Minister's remarks tar-

geting struggling steel plant workers were unacceptable and revealed the government's insensitivity to the hardships faced by employees. He observed that the VSP, a public sector unit of national importance, has been reeling under financial distress due to policy lapses and lack of raw material support, rather than workers' inefficiency or indiscipline as implied by the recent comments.

Rao argued that instead of addressing structural issues such as the absence of captive iron ore mines and delays in policy implemen-

tation, the state government was trying to divert attention by holding workers responsible for the plant's performance.

He pointed out that the VSP management's recent circular linking employees' wages to pro-

duction targets had worsened insecurity and anxiety among the workforce. The CPI(M) leader further asserted that successive governments had failed to ensure a level playing field for the public sector. "Private

steel companies, including Mittal Steel, were allotted captive mines even before their operations began.

But the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant continues to be denied this basic support, which is a major cause of its financial strain," he said. Recalling the Telugu Desam Party's earlier stance in support of VSP employees during the agitation for steel plant protection, Rao said the Chief Minister's current statements were in stark contradiction to the party's past promises.

He alleged that threatening workers with puni-

tive laws such as the PD Act went against democratic values and the constitutional rights of citizens. "The government's role should be to safeguard the rights and livelihoods of workers, not to vilify them," he remarked, urging the Chief Minister to withdraw the remarks and initiate constructive dialogue with union representatives.

The CPI(M) reaffirmed its support for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant employees and called for an immediate review of policies affecting the public sector undertaking's viability.



duction targets had worsened insecurity and anxiety among the workforce. The CPI(M) leader further asserted that successive governments had failed to ensure a level playing field for the public sector. "Private

steel companies, including Mittal Steel, were allotted captive mines even before their operations began.

But the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant continues to be denied this basic support, which is a major cause of its financial strain," he said. Recalling the Telugu Desam Party's earlier stance in support of VSP employees during the agitation for steel plant protection, Rao said the Chief Minister's current statements were in stark contradiction to the party's past promises.

He alleged that threatening workers with puni-

Cyber Crime Police Shut Down iBOMMA and Bapam TV Piracy Websites, Arrest Key Operator

TPN Bureau | November 16

Hyderabad: In a major crackdown on online film piracy, the Cyber Crime Police in Hyderabad have successfully shut down two major piracy platforms — iBOMMA and BapamTV. These sites had long served as notorious hubs for the illegal streaming and distribution of Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, and other regional films. Authorities confirmed that the operation was led following the arrest of iBOMMA operator Imaddi Ravi, who was compelled by the police to close both platforms using his own hands.

credentials.

According to investigators, the closure of the two websites followed a series of raids conducted under a wider campaign to curb digital piracy in Telangana and neighboring states. Acting on credible information, cyber officials traced the digital trail of iBOMMA and its secondary servers, leading to the arrest of Ravi earlier this week. Sources stated that once in custody, he was directed to provide login access and server details, allowing police to disable both websites and prevent further content uploads.

Interestingly, social



media users recently circulated an open letter allegedly written by Ravi, in which he defiantly claimed to possess data on "millions of users" and challenged the police

to stop focusing on him. The message, which went viral online, now appears ironic as law enforcement officers have managed to dismantle his entire network and take him into custody.

Officials remarked that the act of making him personally close down the websites carried symbolic weight, demonstrating the state's zero-tolerance

approach toward digital piracy. Preliminary investigation has revealed that Ravi's piracy network operated with sophisticated systems spread across multiple cloud servers to evade detection.

Cyber Crime officials seized hundreds of hard disks from his possession, which are now being forensically analyzed for evidence of copyright infringement and financial transactions. Police sources said that these storage devices contain data related to film uploads, advertising revenue, and possibly links to other piracy operators

across India and abroad. Authorities are now focusing on tracking Ravi's financial connections.

Bank account statements and digital payment logs are being scrutinized to identify money trails linked to advertising partnerships and illegal streaming income. Investigators believe the proceeds likely amount to several crores of rupees, generated through online ads and extended networks of mirror websites. Police officials have moved to seek custody of Imaddi Ravi to gather more details regarding his collaborators, data storage methods, and en-

cryption techniques used to maintain the piracy network.

A custody petition is expected to be filed before the Nampally Court on Monday. Investigators hope his interrogation will help uncover deeper links within the organized piracy industry that continues to cause heavy losses to the Indian film sector. So far, the Telangana Cyber Crime Wing has reiterated its commitment to combat piracy through strict enforcement and public awareness campaigns.

The successful shutdown of iBOMMA and BapamTV marks a significant

Minor Girl Cheated in the Name of Love; POCSO Case Registered in NTR District



TPN Bureau | November 16

Kanchikacherla: A young man has been booked under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for allegedly cheating a minor girl under the pretext of love in Kanchikacherla, NTR district. The case has drawn serious attention from local residents and law enforcement, highlighting the continuing concern over crimes against minors in the region.

According to sources, the accused, identified as Srinivasa Rao, a resident of Kanchikacherla town, developed a close relationship with a teenage girl from the same area. Over time, he gained her trust by professing love and convincing her of his intentions to marry her. Taking advantage of her emotional vulnerability, he entered into a physi-

cal relationship with her, leading to her pregnancy. When the girl later confronted him and informed him about her condition, Srinivasa Rao allegedly avoided her and went into hiding instead of taking responsibility for his actions.

Deeply distressed and dejected by his betrayal, the girl confided in her parents, who then approached the Kanchikacherla police station to file a formal complaint. Acting on the complaint, police registered a case against the accused under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the POCSO Act, which deals strictly with sexual offences involving minors. Police officials have started an investigation to trace the accused, who is currently absconding.

Statements from the victim and her family

have been recorded, and a medical examination of the girl has been conducted as part of the investigation process. The incident has shocked the local community, with residents demanding stringent punishment for the accused. Activists have also urged parents and schools to raise awareness among young girls about safe relationships and consent, and to encourage them to report any form of exploitation without fear.

Police officials have reiterated their commitment to ensuring justice for the minor victim and have assured that the case will be handled with complete sensitivity and legal diligence. They have also appealed to the public to come forward with any information regarding the whereabouts of the accused to aid in his swift arrest.

AP Government Adopts Systematic Strategy to Curb Stray Dog Menace Across Urban Areas

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: The Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MAUD) Department has initiated a methodical and intensive strategy to curb the stray dog menace across all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Andhra Pradesh, with a strong emphasis on Animal Birth Control (ABC) and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV).

MAUD Principal Secretary S Suresh Kumar and Director of Municipal Administration P. Sampath Kumar issued comprehensive direc-

tives to all municipal commissioners, mandating strict compliance with the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, and the Supreme Court orders dated November 7, 2025.

The officials said the government is committed to controlling stray dog populations and preventing potential health risks associated with dog bites. "Since June 2024, the State has undertaken several measures aligned with ABC Rules, 2023," they stated.

Across 123 ULBs, the stray dog population has

been estimated at 5.15 lakh. As of June 1, 2024, 2,24,732 dogs had been sterilized, and an additional 1,36,656 were sterilized thereafter. Currently, 45 ULBs have established ABC centres equipped with operation theatres and kennels, while others are in the process of setting up similar facilities. A workforce of 197 trained handlers and dog catchers has been deployed across the State.

Commissioners have been instructed to identify aggressive or possibly rabid dogs and house them in separate enclo-

sures. The government will begin the phased rollout of dedicated shelters for dangerous animals, starting with major municipal corporations.

To ensure coordinated implementation, the State has formed the Animal Birth Control and Monitoring Committee, along with ULB-level committees comprising officials from MAUD, Health, Animal Husbandry, Panchayati Raj, and representatives from the Animal Welfare Board of India.

Municipal commis-

sioners have been asked to prepare detailed action plans with weekly sterilisation targets, select certified agencies, conduct stray population surveys, prioritise public safety, and launch sterilisation and vaccination drives. Awareness programmes in schools and Anganwadis, securing institutional premises, and creating dedicated feeding zones have also been mandated.

"Any negligence or delay in ABC and ARV implementation will be viewed seriously,"



Officials, Public Representatives Seek Modifications to NH-65 DPR Over Traffic Woes

TPN Bureau | November 16

Amaravati: The controversy surrounding the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the National Highway-65 expansion project between Vijayawada and Machilipatnam has reached the attention of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Senior officials recently briefed him on the issue after concerns were

raised by local leaders and district authorities.

According to sources, National Highways and Metro Rail officials held a detailed meeting with Special Chief Secretary (Infrastructure and Investment) Karikal Valaven Krishna Babu to discuss the matter. The discussions mainly revolved around the DPR, which reportedly excludes plans for any flyovers or under-

passes between Benz Circle in Vijayawada and Chinagollapalem, where the Outer Ring Road (ORR) begins. Public representatives and officials highlighted that this omission could worsen the city's already severe traffic congestion.

They particularly pointed out major bottleneck junctions such as NTR Circle, Autonagar, Thadigadapa, Pothranki, Penamaluru,



Ganguru, and Edupugallu, which witness heavy vehicular pressure throughout the day. During the meeting, they suggested including flyovers or underpasses at these

points, or alternatively, constructing an elevated double-decker flyover from Benz Circle covering all key intersections. Sources added that Krishna Babu heard both administra-

tive and technical perspectives before forwarding the issue to Chief Minister Naidu.

The Chief Minister is reportedly reviewing the technical feasibility and financial implications of revising the DPR. Further consultations with experts and senior engineers are expected before a final decision is made. As per the consultancy report, the current estimated cost of the NH-65 ex-

pansion stands at around 900 crore.

Earlier, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari had announced an allocation of Rs. 2,600 crore for this highway's development during his visit to the state.

Given this context, officials believe that incorporating the proposed modifications may not face funding constraints. With growing pressure from local

bodies and public representatives, there are indications that revisions to the DPR could soon be initiated.

However, it remains to be seen whether the government will approve the construction of underpasses, flyovers, or the massive double-decker structure as demanded. A final government decision on the technical and financial feasibility is expected soon.

AP High Court Advocates Association Hosts Conference on 75 Years of the Indian Constitution

TPN Bureau | November 16

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates Association on Sunday organised a grand constitutional conference to commemorate 75 years of the Indian Constitution. The event, held in Amaravati, brought together top dignitaries including Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai, Andhra Pradesh Chief Justice Dheeraj Singh Thakur, and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

The conference began with a formal inauguration ceremony, where Chief Minister Naidu joined CJI Gavai and AP Chief Justice Thakur in lighting the traditional lamp. The Chief Minister extended a warm welcome to the visiting ju-

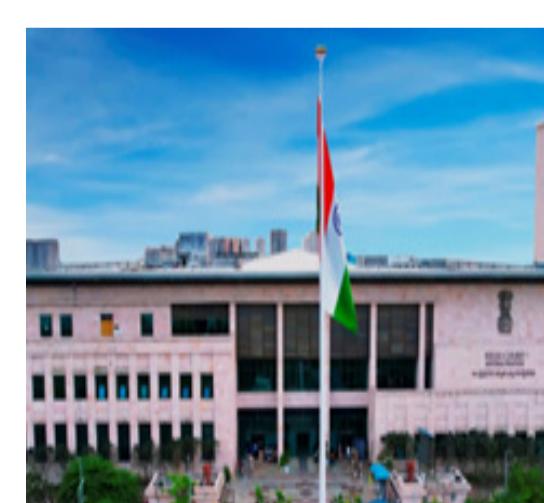
rists, noting that it was particularly fitting for the conference to be held in Amaravati, as CJI Gavai hails from Amravati in Maharashtra.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister Naidu said the occasion symbolised the strength and endurance of India's constitutional democracy. He lauded Justice Gavai as a humble and compassionate leader with a deep commitment to equality and justice. "Justice Gavai's judgments have left a lasting impression on the nation's legal heritage," Naidu remarked, describing him as a beacon of integrity in public life.

Recalling the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution, the Chief Minister said that leaders at every level wheth-



er executive, legislative, or judicial must function within the boundaries defined by the Constitution. "As Chief Minister, along with the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh, our duty is to ensure every action aligns with constitutional empowerment. He praised the Prime Minister's



leadership and reforms that he said, transformed governance and reshaped public thinking. Reflecting on India's democratic journey, Naidu cited the rise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from modest beginnings as a tea seller to leading the world's largest democracy as a powerful demonstration of constitutional empowerment. He praised the Prime Minister's

ing social wrongs and safeguarding democratic values. Expressing concern over the irresponsible use of social media, he warned that "everyone has become an editor," leading to the spread of misinformation and character assassination. He urged citizens to exercise restraint and responsibility in the digital age.

Naidu also reiterated Dr. Ambedkar's principle of "One Person, One Vote," emphasizing that India remains a nation where every citizen—regardless of wealth, gender, or social status—has equal voting rights. He called for policies promoting social and economic equality and cited the example of how the united Andhra Pradesh's decision to invest in information technology transformed Hyderabad into a global hub. Con-

cluding his address, Naidu said his government strives to build a "healthy, wealthy, and happy society" through inclusive governance and participatory development.

Stressing the philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family), he underscored the need for India to extend goodwill globally while safeguarding national sovereignty. Referring to "Operation Sindhu," he noted that the Centre had made it clear that any violation of India's sovereignty would be met firmly. "Justice Gavai and leaders of integrity like him will continue guiding the nation on its constitutional path," Naidu said, applauding the judiciary's dedication to upholding democracy and justice.

Student Dies In School Swimming Pool in Anakapalli

TPN Bureau | November 16

Anakapalli: A tragic incident in Anakapalli district has sparked public outrage after a first-grade student drowned in a school swimming pool on Saturday. The incident occurred at the Da Vinci School in Thimmarajupeta village under Munagapaka mandal, raising serious questions about safety standards and supervision at private educational institutions. According to reports, the deceased child has been identified as Janaparedy Mokshit, a student of the first standard.

After classes ended, the boy apparently did not return home at the usual time, which alarmed his parents. When their inquiries at



the school went unanswered, the family began searching the premises and were later shocked to find that Mokshit had fallen into the campus swimming pool. He was rushed to a nearby hospital but was declared dead on arrival. Relatives and local residents allege that the school management

failed to take adequate safety measures and accused the administration of negligence leading to the child's untimely death.

They questioned how a young student could access the pool area without staff supervision and demanded strict legal action against those responsible.

Parents claim that there were no lifeguards or teachers present in the vicinity when the boy fell into the water. Following the incident, grief quickly turned into a protest as the child's relatives and villagers staged an agitation outside the school. They blocked the main road, disrupting

traffic for several hours to express anger over the administration's alleged indifference. Police personnel were deployed to the spot to control the situation and to persuade the protesters to disperse peacefully. Local authorities have launched an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The police are expected to register a case under negligence and safety violation charges against the school management. Meanwhile, the education department is likely to conduct an inspection to verify whether Da Vinci School had the necessary permissions and safety infrastructure for operating a swimming pool on its campus.

Balakrishna Tours Hindupur, Launches Development Works

TPN Bureau | November 16

Hindupur (Sri Sathya Sai District): Hindupur MLA and film actor Nandamuri Balakrishna toured several parts of his constituency on Sunday, participating in a series of development and welfare programs. His visit drew large crowds as supporters organized a massive rally through the town to welcome their leader. During the tour, Balakrishna distributed subsidized tools to handloom weavers at Mudireddypalli, reaffirming his commitment to the uplift of traditional artisans.

Speaking on the oc-



casion, he said the government led by the TDP-BJP-JSP alliance was fast-tracking development across Andhra Pradesh. He emphasized that Hindupur would continue to be a model constituency, highlighting his ongoing efforts to attract new projects and im-

prove civic infrastructure. Balakrishna promised that his constituency would soon make its mark on the global map through sustained industrial and cultural initiatives.

He expressed confidence that the coalition government's policies

were boosting economic activity, improving employment opportunities, and supporting local industries such as handloom weaving a traditional occupation in the area. As part of his visit, the MLA also paid floral tributes to the statue of revered saint-poet Kanakadasa, marking the occasion of Kanakadasa Jayanti. Several local leaders, officials, and residents accompanied him during the homage.

Balakrishna's visit underscored his focus on people-centric governance and infrastructure development projects in rural and urban parts of the constituency. The programs held across various locations reflected his continued engagement with community welfare, livelihood promotion, and progress-oriented initiatives aimed at strengthening Hindupur's position as a leading constituency in the state.

6.9Cr Sanctioned for 20 Community Halls in Addanki Constituency: Minister Gottipati Launches New Facility



TPN Bureau | November 16

Addanki: Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar stated that the government is giving top priority to community infrastructure to ensure social inclusivity and convenience for all sections of society. He inaugurated the newly constructed BC Vaddera Community Hall and Gokulam Shed at T Kopparapadu village in J Panguluru mandal on Sunday. Addressing the gathering, the minister said that construction of 20 community halls is currently underway across the Addanki constituency with a total sanctioned cost of 6.90 crore.

He appreciated officials and CSR partners for completing the T Kopparapadu Vaddera Community Hall with high

quality standards in a short period. Gottipati explained that several community halls are being funded through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions from various companies, industries, and philanthropic donors. For the Kopparapadu hall alone, power utilities contributed 20 lakh under CSR, he noted.

The minister emphasized that all new halls should be built within village limits to remain easily accessible to residents. He reviewed the progress of ongoing works at different villages and directed officials to ensure timely completion. These include Kondamuru SC Community Hall (40 lakh), Kondamajuluru Community Hall (20 lakh), Panguluru BC Yadava Colony Hall (20 lakh), Takkellapadu SC

Hall (20 lakh), Budhavada SC Hall (30 lakh), and Alavalapadu Muslim Community Hall (50 lakh).

He also issued directions to expedite construction of SC, BC, and Muslim community halls in Santamanguluru and Ballikuravu mandals, where works estimated between 9.5 lakh and 50 lakh are in progress. The minister further said that the government's agenda focuses not only on infrastructure but also on empowering youth through job creation and industrial development. Gottipati remarked that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is making continuous efforts to transform Andhra Pradesh into an industrial hub, comparable with neighbouring states such as Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

He noted that several companies have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) at the recently held CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam, paving the way for large-scale investments and job opportunities. "Very soon, Andhra Pradesh youth will find employment opportunities within the state itself instead of migrating to other regions," he asserted.

Criticising the previous YSRCP administration, the minister said people had faced immense difficulties during the last government's tenure, including stoppage of pension benefits for widows. He pointed out that immediately after the coalition government assumed office, around 1.5 lakh widows were reinstated under

the pension scheme. Andhra Pradesh remains the only state that allocates nearly 33,000 crore annually for pension disbursement, he added.

Responding to local appeals, the minister announced that 4.5 crore had been sanctioned for setting up a new electrical substation at T Kopparapadu, which would be completed within six months. He also inspected canal desilting operations in Ballikuravu mandal and instructed irrigation officials to ensure that irrigation water reaches every acre without obstruction.

Gottipati reiterated that the government's development vision combines welfare with infrastructure, ensuring inclusive growth for all social groups in rural and urban areas alike.

Warden Suspended for Filming Girls Bathing at Ashram School; POCSO Case Filed



TPN Bureau | November 16

Based on the information, the SHE Team alerted Adilabad City Police, who began a preliminary investigation and gathered details from the victims and staff members. After verifying the allegations, the police filed a formal complaint at the Bela Police Station. On Friday night, a case was registered against the warden under relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, which deals with sexual exploitation and abuse of minors.

The incident has left parents and locals deeply disturbed, raising questions about the safety and supervision mechanisms in residential schools. Authorities are now reviewing protocols in ashram schools across the district to ensure such violations never recur.

Police officials said counselling and support have been arranged for affected students. They reiterated that strict legal action will be taken to ensure justice and to send a strong message against such predatory behaviour in educational institutions.

Nidadavole Marks 60 Years of Municipality Formation with Grand Celebrations



TPN Bureau | November 16

along the same route, culminating near the town's overbridge before concluding at the starting point. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Durgesh congratulated the people of Nidadavole on the municipality's 60th anniversary and called for collective efforts to make the celebratory events a grand success.

Dressed in special diamond jubilee T-shirts, volunteers, school students, and local citizens joined the event in large numbers, creating an atmosphere of unity and enthusiasm across the town. The 5K Run not only aimed to promote health awareness among residents but also symbolized Nidadavole's progress and growing civic engagement over the decades.

The celebrations will continue with various cultural, social, and developmental programs dedicated to honoring the town's history and envisioning its future growth. With the minister's assurance of continued support from the state government, the 60th-anniversary festivities are expected to strengthen the town's community bonds and highlight its heritage as one of the most vibrant municipalities in the region.

The minister, known for his energetic demeanor, joined the participants briefly to add to the festive spirit. The run commenced from the park, passed through Ganesh Chowk Center, continued up to SVRK Government Degree College, and returned

to the starting point. The run was organized by the Nidadavole Municipal Corporation and the 5K Run was flagged off by the chief guest and minister. The minister emphasized his government's commitment to urban development, stating that several measures were underway to ensure the town's comprehensive growth and modernization. Municipal Chairperson Bhupati Adinayrayana and Commissioner Krishnaveni also took part in the event, encouraging community involvement and highlighting the importance of public

Nepal Gen Z Revolt: What Should India Do?



Nepal is witnessing a wave of political upheaval following the resignation of Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and youth-led protests triggered by the government's controversial social media ban. While the protests appeared to be about online restrictions, they quickly transformed into a larger movement against corruption, nepotism, and chronic instability that has plagued Nepal for decades.

Youth Anger Boils Over

The immediate spark came from a hit-and-run incident involving a Minister's car, which killed an 11-year-old schoolgirl. But the anger runs deeper—

high unemployment, low incomes, and widespread misgovernance have driven frustration among Nepal's youth. Many see the political class as discredited and are demanding the dissolution of parliament. The army imposed curfews during the unrest, but questions have been raised about the President's absence during the crisis.

Regional Parallels and Risks for India

The turmoil mirrors recent unrest in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, highlighting a broader regional pattern of instability. For India, this is not just an internal Nepali affair. The open 1,700-kilometre bor-

der can quickly become a security concern, with risks of smuggling, trafficking, and exploitation by anti-India elements. The brief closure of the border and heightened surveillance reflect these fears.

China's growing influence adds another layer of concern. Beijing has expanded its footprint through infrastructure projects under the Belt and Road Initiative, while young Nepali protesters are wary of both Indian and Chinese interference.

Rejecting Conspiracy Theories

Speculation about "foreign hands" in the protests has circulated, but the ap-

pointment of Sushila Karki as the new Prime Minister undermines such theories. A veteran anti-corruption crusader with strong ties to India, Karki was chosen by protesters via a gaming chat app, reflecting the organic and chaotic nature of the movement.

India's Options

For New Delhi, heavy-handed intervention is not advisable. Past actions, such as the 2015 blockade, damaged relations and pushed Nepal closer to China. Instead, India must adopt a strategy of respectful non-interference while reinforcing cultural ties, completing development projects, and open-

ing dialogue with Nepal's emerging generation of leaders.

Securing the Border

Meanwhile, India must stay vigilant on border security to prevent infiltration and cross-border crime, especially after the release of 33,000 prisoners during the unrest.

Nepal stands at a crossroads. For India, the challenge is to balance non-interference with proactive support—building goodwill through development, fostering people-to-people ties, and ensuring security. Supporting Nepal's stability without overreach is critical to maintaining India's influence and safeguarding regional peace.

US threats of more tariffs on India will backfire



India in the Crossfire

India's inclusion in the tariff plan has raised eyebrows. Unlike China, India is neither a strategic rival nor a manufacturing threat. On the contrary, it has been building deeper trade ties, recently signing a free-trade pact with the UK while negotiating one with the EU. Japanese companies such as Suzuki and Honda have invested heavily in India, and financial giants like Sumitomo Mitsui and Mizuho are expanding their footprint.

EU Resistance and Global Dilemmas

The

European Union faces hurdles, particularly from Hungary's pro-Kremlin leadership, which is expected to block any secondary sanctions. Similarly, Japan and the UK may avoid fully aligning with Washington, wary of jeopardizing their strategic interests in Asia. For many advanced economies, the tariffs present a difficult balance between security priorities and economic pragmatism.

China's Leverage on Raw Materials

China, now a major competitor to Western manufacturers, could face a surge of redirected exports to Europe if the US tariffs take effect. European producers might welcome temporary protection from Chinese goods like cars, furniture, and appliances, but the move remains anti-consumer and risky. Beijing controls critical resources like rare earths and has previously weaponized this advantage in trade disputes. Analysts warn that it could easily retaliate again if faced with a broader coalition.

If pushed too hard, India may lean toward a Eurasian bloc where Chinese manufacturing dominates and Russia supplies commodities, a shift that would undermine US goals. Modi's challenge is to balance domestic political pressures with external trade demands, avoiding both agricultural concessions at home and strategic isolation abroad.

Strategic Risks Ahead

President Donald Trump, while threatening tariffs beyond the current 50 per cent, has also expressed optimism about securing a bilateral trade deal with India. Yet Washington's demands go beyond energy, pressing New Delhi to end Russian oil purchases and open its agriculture market to genetically modified US corn and soybeans. For Prime Minister Narendra Modi, conceding on agriculture could spark fresh protests from farmers who have already resisted reforms in the past decade.

Strategic Risks Ahead

If pushed too hard, India may

No handshake: Indian cricket team makes a strong statement



Post-Match

After the match, the Indian players again departed from custom. Following their victory, the team lined up but refused to shake hands with the Pakistani side, a gesture widely interpreted as a mark of solidarity with the victims of the Pahalgam attack. The move drew mixed reactions across the cricketing world, but for the Indian players, it was a statement of unity and resolve in the face of terrorism.

Global Reactions

Internationally, reactions were divided. Some former players criticized the move as mixing politics with sport, while others argued that given the gravity of the terror attack, India's actions were understandable. Social media in India was largely supportive, with fans lauding the players' stand.

The Dubai encounter, though won convincingly by India, will be remembered less for runs and wickets and more for the powerful political statement that accompanied the triumph.

Tense Start at the Toss

The tension was visible right from the toss. Unlike usual practice, Yadav and Pakistan captain Salman Ali Agha avoided eye contact and refrained from shaking hands. Instead of exchanging team sheets, they handed them directly to the match referee, breaking with long-standing cricketing tradition. This frosty start set the tone for a contest overshadowed by political and emotional undertones.

India Refuses Handshake

India's Bond Yields Rise Despite Rate Cuts, Inflation at Record Low



Mumbai: India's inflation is at an eight-year low, and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cut policy rates three times since February. Yet, in a counter-intuitive trend, the 10-year government bond yields have climbed over 20 basis points since June, closing at 6.47 percent on Wednesday.

Why Yields Are Rising

Bond yields typically fall when interest rates are reduced, but experts cite several concerns driving the unexpected surge. Lower-than-expected tax collections, fiscal deficit worries, and global uncertainties, including US tariffs on Indian exports, have unnerved investors. RBI's shift in stance from 'accommodative' to 'neutral' has also

signaled a pause in further cuts, contributing to the rise.

Market Reactions and Fiscal Concerns

Independent analyst Ajay Bodke explained that while GDP growth in Q1 is encouraging, fears of fiscal slippage remain high.

Weak tax receipts, slowing global demand, and geopolitical tensions have heightened risks. Investors are also worried about higher government borrowing if revenues fall short, which would push yields further upward.

Former Federal Bank director Ashutosh Khajuria noted that the market read RBI's neutral stance as the end of rate cuts. The bond market, he said, "sees the future" and expects inflation to

bottom out. He added that yields breached the normal 60-80 basis points spread with the repo rate, influenced heavily by global movements and US trade policies.

Impact of GST Cuts

The government's decision to rationalize GST rates to two slabs — 5 percent and 18 percent — was initially feared to cause a larger fiscal shock.

However, investors found the impact manageable, with yields softening slightly after the announcement. The Finance Ministry estimates a revenue loss of Rs 48,000 crore from the rate cuts.

Export and Outsourcing Worries

Experts warn that punitive

US tariffs are already hurting sectors like textiles, gems and jewellery, and chemicals. Services exports may also suffer if the US proceeds with the proposed outsourcing tax under the HIRE bill. Bodke said replacing US markets with alternatives will be "a long-drawn, low-margin process."

Looking Ahead

SBI Research has cautioned that yields may not moderate until the impact of tariffs becomes clear. With inflation low but global headwinds rising, the Indian bond market remains jittery. For now, the government faces the challenge of managing fiscal stability while navigating trade shocks and market anxieties.

PM Modi Says Bihar Mandate Rejects Caste Politics, Accuses Congress of Tribal Neglect

TPN Correspondent | Varanasi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday accused the Congress of neglecting tribal communities during its six decades in power, asserting that the party failed to recognise their contributions to India's freedom struggle. Addressing a gathering in Dediapada, Narmada district, on the 150th birth anniversary of tribal icon Bhagwan Birsa Munda—celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas—Mr. Modi said the BJP-led government has made unprecedented efforts to improve healthcare and welfare in tribal regions.

The Prime Minister highlighted the NDA's sweeping victory in the Bihar Assembly elections, where the alliance won an overwhelming majority in constituencies with significant Dalit and tribal populations. He said the results demonstrated that voters had rejected caste-based politics. "The people of Bihar have dismissed the politics of division," he said, adding that the electorate had voted against what he described as the "Muslim League-Maoist Congress."



Criticising the Congress further, he claimed that many within the party were troubled by the behaviour of the "namdar," a reference frequently used by Mr. Modi to target the Gandhi family. He argued that the Opposition was attempting to revive caste narratives that no longer resonated with voters.

Mr. Modi emphasised his government's initiatives aimed at improving healthcare in tribal-majority districts, particularly efforts to combat sickle cell disease, which disproportionately affects tribal communities. "A nationwide campaign is underway to address sickle cell disease. Under this initiative, six crore tribal broth-

ers and sisters across the country have already been screened," he said.

The Prime Minister said the BJP government has increased investment in medical infrastructure, education, and economic development in tribal belts, contrasting this with what he called decades of neglect under Congress administrations.

The event saw large participation from tribal communities, with leaders highlighting the symbolic importance of Birsa Munda's legacy in contemporary politics. Mr. Modi said the government would continue working to ensure "dignity, opportunity, and development" for tribal citizens across the country.

'No Terrorist Angle In Nowgam Police Station Blast': J&K Governor

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday dismissed speculation of terrorist involvement in the deadly blast at Nowgam Police Station, stating that preliminary inputs indicate the explosion was accidental and occurred during a sample-collection procedure. He said an inquiry has been ordered to determine the exact sequence of events.

"There is no terrorist angle in the Nowgam incident. Samples were being taken when this accident happened. I have ordered an inquiry into the matter," LG Sinha told reporters.

The area around the police station in Srinagar remains sealed as Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) teams and security personnel continue on-site investigations. Officials said nine people were killed and 32 injured after an explosion late Friday

night damaged the police station and nearby buildings. The injured were admitted to Shri Maharaja Hari Singh Hospital (SMHS) for treatment.

J&K Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat on Saturday urged the public to avoid speculation, reiterating that preliminary findings suggest an inadvertent blast during an authorised forensic procedure. He confirmed that the victims included one State Investigation Agency officer, three FSL personnel, two crime-scene photographers, two revenue officials assisting a magistrate's team, and a tailor involved in the operation.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday assured full government support for the families of the deceased and directed Education and Health Minister Sakina Ittoo to ensure the best possible medical care for the injured. His office added that compensation would be pro-

vided for structural damage caused by the blast.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah called for an independent and "thorough" investigation, suggesting that possible errors in handling the explosive material may have contributed to the tragedy. The incident has raised concerns

about safety protocols in forensic procedures and prompted renewed scrutiny of operational guidelines within security agencies.

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India and Canada Deepen Cooperation on Critical Minerals, Trade, and Investment



TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Amit Shah to Chair Northern Zonal Council Meet in Faridabad Today

Monday in Faridabad, where a wide range of national and regional issues—including education, health, electricity, urban planning, and the swift disposal of cases involving sexual offences—

are expected to dominate discussions.

The Northern Zonal Council includes Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, and Chandigarh.

Chief ministers, lieutenant governors, and senior officials from both the Centre and member states and Union territories will attend the meeting.

According to an official statement, the zonal councils serve as a crucial platform for resolving inter-state and Centre-state disputes, fostering coordination, and advancing administrative cooperation across regions. Monday's meeting is expected to especially focus on women and child safety, including the speedy investigation of sexual offence cases and the strengthening of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs).

Other major agenda items include expanding brick-and-mortar banking services to every village, improving the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), and enhancing nutrition, healthcare access, electricity supply, and cooperative systems within the region. Urban planning challenges faced by

rapidly expanding cities across the northern belt are also expected to be taken up.

The Northern Zonal Council is one of five such councils established under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. The Union home minister serves as its chairperson, while the chief minister of Haryana acts as vice-chairperson this year. Each state governor nominates two ministers to the council, and a permanent committee comprising chief secretaries reviews issues before they reach the full council.

The statement highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "TEAM BHARAT," noting that zonal councils have become increasingly effective in strengthening cooperative federalism. Over the past 11 years, 63 meetings of zonal councils and their permanent committees have been convened, underscoring their growing role in governance and policy harmonisation across states.

Congress Convenes Review Meet After Bihar Poll Debacle



TPN Correspondent | Patna

The Congress has called for a key organisational review on November 18, bringing together senior office-bearers from 12 States and Union Territories where the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is currently underway. The move comes amid internal turbulence following the party's heavy defeat in the Bihar Assembly elections and its escalating allegations of "vote chori" (vote theft).

The meeting will include AICC in-charges, State unit presidents, Congress Legislature Party leaders and party secretaries overseeing regions where the Election Commission's revision exercise is in progress.

Party sources said the session aims to assess the electoral rolls process, strategise organisational mobilisa-

tion, and address concerns the Congress has flagged regarding the integrity of recent elections.

The announcement follows a bruising loss for the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar, where the NDA swept 202 seats while the Opposition alliance, including the Congress, managed only 35. Senior leaders, including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, met on Saturday to examine the party's poor performance.

On Friday, Mr. Gandhi described the Bihar results as "surprising" and alleged that the election "was not fair from the very beginning." The Congress leadership publicly questioned the role of the Election Commission, implying that irregularities in the poll

process contributed to the outcome. Party officials also pointed to alleged malfunctioning of Electronic Voting Machines and discrepancies in booth-level data, though the EC has rejected such claims.

The upcoming meeting is expected to focus on ensuring greater vigilance during the SIR process, particularly in States heading to polls over the next two years. Leaders are likely to discuss strengthening booth-level structures, addressing internal organisational gaps, and preparing a coordinated response to the ruling NDA's electoral machinery.

With morale shaken and questions mounting within the party, the November 18 review is seen as a crucial step in recalibrating Congress strategy ahead of future battles.

Security Tightened in Central Delhi; 34 Unattended Vehicles Seized



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Security has been significantly intensified across Central Delhi following the Red Fort blast that killed 13 people, with police launching large-scale verification drives and enhanced anti-terror measures across the district. Officials said on Sunday that the stepped-up operations aim to bolster vigilance and deter any potential threat in crowded and sensitive zones of the capital.

According to police, 34 unattended vehicles were seized during a special operation conducted on Saturday night. In the same five-hour drive, authorities issued 417 challans under the Delhi Police Act. The crackdown forms part of a broader security strategy rolled out immediately after the blast, which has heightened alert levels throughout the district.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Central Range) Madhur Verma is overseeing the operations alongside district DCPs, ACPs, SHOs, and specialised units. The senior leadership has been holding regular coordination meetings with Market Welfare Associations, Resident Welfare Associations, shopkeepers, and street vendors to ensure community cooperation in strengthening ground-level surveillance.

Police teams have increased area domination exercises, surprise inspections, and mock drills to test readiness. Armed personnel are now positioned at high-footfall markets, religious sites, tourist areas and key installations. Verification drives have also been expanded across hotels, guest houses, cyber cafés, shopping malls, cinemas, chemical shops and SIM card retailers. Authorities are conducting intensified checks on tenants, domestic workers, labourers and security guards to prevent infiltration by anti-social elements.

On Saturday between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m., strict picket checking was carried out across multiple barriers in the district. Police examined 683 vehicles and verified the identities of 24 strangers during the operation.

Officers said the aim is to increase police visibility and real-time vigilance. Patrolling teams are making frequent public announcements urging citizens to report suspicious objects, vehicles, or individuals immediately, reinforcing community vigilance as Delhi remains on high alert.

Ukraine Working to Revive Prisoner Exchange Talks With Russia



TPN Bureau | Washington

Ukraine is pushing to restart prisoner-of-war exchanges with Russia that could see as many as 1,200 Ukrainian captives return home, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced on Sunday. His remarks came a day after the country's national security leadership signaled renewed movement in negotiations that have long remained stalled.

In a statement posted on X, Mr. Zelenskyy said Ukrainian officials were intensifying diplomatic efforts aimed at securing the release of soldiers and civilians held in Russian custody. "We are ... counting on the resumption of POW exchanges," he wrote. "Many meetings, negotiations and calls are currently taking place to ensure this."

The President did not provide details about the timeline or conditions of a potential exchange, but emphasized that the humanitarian issue remains one of Ukraine's most urgent priorities. According to Ukrainian authorities, approximately 1,200 citizens—mostly military personnel captured on the battlefield—are believed to be eligible for return if talks succeed.

The effort comes amid ongoing security challenges and continued hostilities along the front line. Kyiv has frequently accused Moscow of obstructing

exchange procedures and failing to comply with international humanitarian norms, while Russia has at times claimed that Ukraine has been unwilling to negotiate on mutually acceptable terms.

Ukraine's national security chief on Saturday indicated that recent contacts with Russian counterparts had shown "certain progress," though he also noted that the process remained delicate and dependent on multiple intermediaries. Several past exchanges were facilitated through the involvement of third-party countries and international organizations.

For thousands of families awaiting news of missing relatives, the prospect of renewed talks offers a rare moment of cautious hope. Ukrainian officials say they will continue pressing for the release of all detainees, maintaining that prisoner exchanges are a humanitarian obligation even in the midst of war.

Mr. Zelenskyy reiterated that Ukraine would pursue every diplomatic channel available to bring its citizens home, stressing that each return represents not only a personal victory for the families involved but also a moral imperative for the nation.

Gen Z-Styled Protests Spread Across Mexico After Mayor's Killing



TPN Correspondent | London

Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets across Mexico on Saturday under the "Generation Z" banner, voicing outrage over rising violence and the recent killing of an anti-crime mayor. The nationwide marches were driven in large part by anger over the November 1 assassination of Uruapan Mayor Carlos Manzo in the western state of Michoacán.

Manzo, a vocal critic of organized crime, was shot dead in broad daylight, intensifying public frustration over the government's struggle to curb cartel-related violence. In Michoacán's capital, Morelia, supporters of the slain mayor marched wearing the straw hats that symbolized his political movement. Many carried Mexican flags and posters bearing Manzo's image, calling for justice and stronger protections for local officials who have increasingly become targets of criminal groups.

Protests erupted far beyond Michoacán. In Mexico City, tensions escalated when a small group of hooded protesters tore down metal barriers surrounding the National Palace, the residence and office of President Claudia Sheinbaum. According

to Reuters witnesses, riot police responded with tear gas, dispersing the front lines of the crowd while most demonstrators remained peaceful.

The "Gen Z-styled" demonstrations reflect a broader youth-driven movement that has grown online, fueled by social media platforms where young activists have been sharing videos, organizing marches, and demanding government accountability. The hashtag-driven mobilization marks one of the most visible youth political surges in Mexico in recent years, with many participants expressing frustration over insecurity, corruption, and perceived state inaction.

While authorities condemned the acts of vandalism near the National Palace, they acknowledged the public's right to protest. President Sheinbaum has yet to issue a full statement, but senior officials said investigations into Manzo's killing were ongoing and would be pursued "with urgency."

For many young Mexicans, Saturday's marches represent not only grief for a fallen political figure but a broader call for systemic change as violence continues to grip several regions of the country.

"So Egregious": Trump To Sue BBC For Up To \$5 Billion Over Video Edit

TPN Correspondent | New York City

U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday he plans to sue the BBC for up to \$5 billion in damages, escalating a trans-Atlantic dispute over a misleadingly edited video of one of his past speeches. The UK broadcaster apologized earlier this week for the edit but rejected Trump's claim that the incident constitutes defamation or merits financial compensation.

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump insisted he would move ahead with legal action. "We'll sue them for anywhere between a billion and five billion dollars, probably some time next week," he said. "They've even admitted that they cheated."

The controversy stems from an old clip from the BBC's flagship programme Panorama, broadcast ahead



Trump, however, has continued to attack the broadcaster, saying "the people of the UK are very angry" and suggesting he would raise the matter with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer. According to Trump, Starmer is "very embarrassed," though the prime minister has publicly defended the BBC's independence while avoiding direct criticism of the president.

The broadcaster is also reviewing a separate 2022 Newsnight clip involving another altered Trump speech. The episode has reignited debate in the UK over public broadcasting neutrality, coming as the BBC prepares for crucial negotiations over its next Royal Charter, due in 2027.

Trump told GB News he feels compelled to sue: "This was so egregious. If you don't do it, you don't stop it from happening again with other people."

Pakistan Arrests More Than 100,000 Afghans Amid Surge in Returns: UNHCR

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

Pakistan has detained over 100,000 Afghan nationals so far this year, marking the highest number of arrests recorded since data collection began in 2023, according to a new UNHCR assessment cited by Dawn. The report highlights a sharp rise in detentions and returns as Pakistani authorities intensify enforcement measures targeting Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders, undocumented Afghans, and, increasingly, some Proof of Registration (POR) card holders.

Between January 1 and November 8, 2025, authorities arrested 100,971 Afghans—an exponential jump compared to 9,006 arrests in 2024 and 26,299 in 2023. Chagai and Quetta in Balochistan, along with Attock in Punjab, were the top three districts where



most detentions occurred.

Data collected by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) showed that from November 2 to November 8 alone, 13,380 Afghans were detained, a 72% rise from the previous week. ACC holders and

undocumented Afghans accounted for 76% of the week's arrests, while POR holders made up 24%. The UNHCR report also tracked large-scale returns. From September 15, 2023, to November 8, 2025, a total of 1,723,481 Afghans returned to Afghanistan. In the first week of November, 55,768 individuals crossed back through Torkham, Ghulam Khan, Chamani, Badini and Bahrampur border points—a 49% increase from the preceding week. The reopening of the Torkham crossing on November 1 contributed significantly to the rise.

Fear of arrest was cited as the primary reason for returning. Among undocumented individuals and ACC holders, 93% reported this as their main motivation; 47% of POR holders said the same. The Pakistani gov-

ernment issued several directives in 2025 affecting Afghan nationals. Orders included relocation requirements from Islamabad and Rawalpindi, the launch of the second phase of the Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan (IFRP), and a July regulation mandating PoR holders to leave after their cards expired on June 30.

Police operations have intensified, particularly in Balochistan. In Nokundi, raids led to the detention of hundreds of Afghans, who were subsequently transferred to the Girdi Jungle Refugee Camp for deportation processing.

The ongoing crackdown comes amid mounting humanitarian concerns, as return numbers remain high while conditions in Afghanistan continue to evolve.

China Warns Students Over 'Rising Security Risks' in Japan After Taiwan Remarks Row

TPN Correspondent | Bhutan

China on Sunday issued a caution to its citizens—particularly students—planning to study in Japan, urging them to "reconsider" their decisions amid what Beijing called an increasingly unstable security environment. The warning followed a sharp diplomatic exchange triggered by recent statements made by Japan's new Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi regarding Taiwan.

According to Chinese state media, the Ministry of Education said safety risks for Chinese nationals in Japan have risen due to what it described as deteriorating public security, an increase in crimes targeting Chinese citizens, and an "unfavourable study environment." The advisory reflects Beijing's heightened sensitivity to Tokyo's evolving security posture and the political tensions surrounding Taiwan.



The dispute stems from remarks Takaichi made in Japan's parliament earlier this month. She stated that Japan could deploy its Self-Defence Forces if China were to attack Taiwan, arguing that

such a scenario could pose a "survival-threatening situation" for Japan under its security laws. These laws—which permit collective self-defence under limited conditions—could allow Japan to respond

militarily if a Taiwan conflict spills over into Japanese security interests.

Japanese media, including Kyodo News, reported that Takaichi acknowledged her government might author-

ize the remarks as "reckless rhetoric" and accused Tokyo of inflaming cross-strait tensions. China maintains that Taiwan is part of its territory and opposes any foreign involvement in the issue.

The advisory to students adds a new dimension to the fallout, touching on people-to-people exchanges that have long been a stabilizing element in Sino-Japanese relations. China is the largest source of international students in Japan, and any significant shift in student flows could have broad social and economic effects.

Japanese officials have not yet formally responded to the advisory, though previous statements have rejected claims of deteriorating public safety. The row underscores the fragility of bilateral ties as both countries navigate increasingly complex regional security dynamics.

Beijing condemned

Stock Markets Snap 3-Day Rally on Profit-Taking; Adani Group Stocks Surge

Mumbai: Benchmark indices on Friday witnessed a sharp correction, snapping a three-day winning streak, as profit-taking in major blue-chip shares weighed on investor sentiment. The BSE Sensex fell 387.73 points or 0.47 percent to settle at 82,626.23, while the NSE Nifty 50 declined 96.55 points or 0.38 percent to close at 25,327.05. During the session, the Sensex touched a low of 82,485.92, down 528 points from its previous close.

Among the top laggards, HCL Tech, ICICI Bank, Titan, Trent, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Hindustan Unilever, Mahindra & Mahindra, and HDFC Bank faced heavy selling pressure. Profit-booking in HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank was a key factor behind the market decline.

In contrast, select stocks, especially Adani Group companies, witnessed robust gains. Adani Ports, Adani Power, Adani Total Gas, Adani Green Energy,



Adani Enterprises, and Adani Energy Solutions rallied up to 13 percent after markets regulator SEBI cleared

billionaire Gautam Adani and his group of allegations regarding stock manipulation made by US short-seller

Hindenburg Research. SEBI found that inter-company fund transfers did not violate any regulations, giving a sig-

nificant boost to investor confidence.

Other gainers included Bharti Airtel, SBI, NTPC, and Sun Phar-

ma, helping offset some losses in the broader market.

Global markets showed mixed trends, with South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225, and Shanghai's SSE Composite ending lower, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng closed in positive territory. European markets were trading higher, and US markets had ended higher on Thursday. Meanwhile, Brent crude dipped 0.55 percent to USD 67.07 per barrel.

Foreign institutional investors continued to support domestic equities, purchasing shares worth Rs 366.69 crore on Thursday, reflecting sustained interest from global players despite profit-booking in select sectors.

The market correction comes after a three-day rally, where Sensex had gained over 320 points and Nifty had risen by 93 points, showing renewed caution among investors amid profit-taking.

GST cuts to boost economy, but revenue loss could hit banking sector



The government is facing a significant revenue shortfall due to the recent reduction in Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates on various essential products. While official estimates put the annual revenue loss at around Rs 480 billion, a recent report by Systematix Research suggests that the actual impact could be far greater, potentially reaching nearly Rs 1.2 trillion.

The GST rate cuts, aimed at easing the financial burden on consumers and boosting consumption, cover a range of items, including essential goods and daily-use products. According to economists, such reductions are expected to stimulate demand in the short term, providing relief to households grappling with inflation and increasing disposable income for middle-class families.

However, the Systematix Research report highlights that while the rate cuts may benefit consumers, they will exert substantial pressure on government finances. The higher-than-expected reve-

nue loss could limit the fiscal space available for development projects, social welfare schemes, and infrastructure investments. Analysts caution that if such revenue shortfalls persist, the government may need to explore alternative measures, such as improving tax compliance, broadening the GST base, or adjusting rates on non-essential items.

Financial experts also note that while the move may stimulate economic activity, it underscores the delicate balance policymakers must maintain between boosting consumption and safeguarding fiscal health. The government is expected to monitor revenue collections closely over the next few months to gauge the actual impact of these GST cuts and assess whether additional measures may be required to offset the shortfall.

With the potential revenue loss reaching Rs 1.2 trillion, the debate over the sustainability of GST reductions is likely to continue among policymakers, economists, and industry stakeholders.

Tata Technologies Acquires Germany's ES-Tec Group, Shares Rise 2%



Tata Technologies Limited shares rose 2 percent intraday on Monday, September 15, following the company's announcement of the acquisition of Germany-based ES-Tec GmbH and its subsidiaries in a deal valued at up to €75 million.

The acquisition will be executed through Tata Technologies' Singapore subsidiary and is expected to close by December 31, 2025, subject to regulatory approvals in Germany and Morocco. ES-Tec Group, founded in 2006 and headquartered in Wolfsburg, is a premium automotive engineering services provider specializing in advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), connected driving, and digital engineering. The company reported €36 million in revenue in 2024 and employs over 300 professionals.

Tata Technologies said the deal will significantly enhance its engineering, research, and development capabilities, particularly in embedded systems and systems engineering. The acquisition is expected to be earnings-per-share accretive from the first full year of operations.

Warren Harris, MD & CEO of Tata Technologies, described the acquisition as a "strategic leap" that strengthens Tata Technologies' ability to deliver end-to-end product engineering solutions across the automotive value chain. He added that ES-Tec's technical depth, customer focus, and regional presence align with Tata Technologies' vision to become the first partner choice for global OEMs navigating intelligent, connected, and sustainable mobility.

Marc Wille, MD &

CEO of ES-Tec, welcomed the partnership, saying it will allow the German firm to expand its international presence and address future automotive challenges.

The acquisition posi-

tions Tata Technologies more strongly in Europe's automotive hub, at a time when global OEMs are ramping up R&D investments in electrification, ADAS, and software-defined ve-

hicle platforms. With the European engineering services market projected to grow from €4.5 billion in 2020 to €11.7 billion by 2030, the move offers significant growth opportunities

for the company and strengthens India's footprint in global automotive R&D.

The contentious issue that has affected India's telecom industry for years.

SEBI Clears Adani Group, Boosts Investor Confidence



New Delhi: Markets regulator SEBI's clearance of the Adani Group has been hailed as a major boost not only for the conglomerate but also for India's investment climate, according to Manish Singh, Chief Investment Officer at Crossbridge Capital.

On September 18, SEBI dismissed allegations by US short seller Hindenburg Research, which had claimed that Adani Group firms, including Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports, and Adani Power, had routed funds through three companies – Adicorp Enterprises, Milestone Tradelinks, and Rehbar Infrastructure – in an irregular manner. SEBI's investigation found that all loans were repaid, funds were used for intended purposes, and there was no fraud or unfair trade practice, effectively giving a clean chit to both the group and Chairman Gautam Adani.

Speaking to NDTV Profit, Manish Singh welcomed the move, saying, "This is very good news for the group, and it is also very good news for India, given the importance of the Adani Group in the Indian development story. India

needs a lot of power, and in my opinion, the country needs a few more Adanis."

He further highlighted the broader economic implications, noting that investor confidence directly affects the cost of capital, a critical factor in any country's growth trajectory. "If investor confidence erodes, it leads to a higher cost of capital, which can slow development. This SEBI order is a significant confidence booster for India," Singh said.

However, Singh cautioned

that the government should

scrutinize any malicious intent behind such allegations

to prevent future attempts at

tarnishing reputations. "The

last thing you want is investor confidence to drop because people rely on headlines without knowing the

full story. Any potential malicious intent should be investigated and exposed," he added.

With SEBI's clearance, the Adani Group's stock performance and credibility are expected to strengthen, providing a boost to foreign investor confidence and supporting India's broader economic growth story.

Vodafone Idea Shares Surge 7% as Centre Signals Relief in AGR Case



New Delhi: Vodafone Idea shares jumped 7 percent on September 19, after the Centre informed the Supreme Court that it was not opposing the telco's plea regarding adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues and added that "some solution is required."

Speaking before the apex court, the government said, "Not opposing Vodafone Idea's plea, some solution is required, government is also an equity holder. Some solution may be required, subject to Supreme Court approval," according to CNBC-TV18.

The next hearing in the case is scheduled for September 26, with the bench, led by Chief Justice B.R. Gavai, emphasizing that "there has to be some finality to these proceedings."

The Centre highlighted its 49 percent equity stake in Vodafone Idea, urging the court to consider changed circumstances and provide relief in the larger public interest. Following the announcement, Vodafone Idea's stock touched an intraday high of Rs 8.42, trading 6 percent higher at Rs 8.31 by noon.

Vodafone Idea has approached the Supreme Court

seeking to quash an additional AGR demand of Rs 9,450 crore by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). The telco argued that the fresh dues exceed the scope of the 2020 SC ruling, which had locked AGR liabilities up to FY17. Of the total demand, Rs 5,675 crore pertains to pre-merger Vodafone Group liabilities, while Rs 2,774 crore relates to the post-merger entity after consolidation in August 2018.

The company noted that Rs 5,606 crore had already been settled and requested a full reconciliation of pre-FY17 dues. Vodafone Idea warned that the revised demand threatens its financial viability, 4G and 5G expansion plans, and the livelihoods of thousands of employees. The telco's total dues, including penalties and interest, stand at nearly Rs 2 lakh crore, with installments of around Rs 18,000 crore due annually from March 2026 after the moratorium period.

Investors welcomed the Centre's statement as a potential reprieve, giving temporary relief to the struggling telecom giant in a highly competitive market.

Asus Laptops Now on Swiggy Instamart in 6 Cities



In a first-of-its-kind move in the Indian tech retail space, Taiwanese electronics giant Asus has partnered with Swiggy Instamart to deliver laptops in just 10 minutes. Starting at ₹33,990, these laptops will now be available for instant delivery in six major Indian cities: Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, and Kolkata.

This strategic partnership aims to tap into the booming quick commerce market, which now accounts for over 30% of urban tech purchases in India. Asus is targeting this segment by offering a rapid, convenient way for customers to buy laptops without visiting a store or waiting for traditional delivery timelines.

The current lineup available through Swiggy Instamart includes two consumer notebook models and one gaming laptop — the Asus TUF Gaming F16, priced at ₹74,990. The company previously offered accessories on quick commerce platforms and is now expanding to in-

clude its full range of laptops and peripherals. Customers purchasing a laptop can also add compatible accessories like keyboards, mice, and more during checkout.

“As the demand for convenience and speed rises in urban India, quick commerce is becoming a decisive factor in tech buying decisions,” an Asus spokesperson said. “We want to meet consumers where they are — which today is just a few taps away on their phones.”

This new delivery option adds another layer of convenience for students, gamers, and working professionals looking for immediate access to computing power, especially in emergency or time-sensitive situations.

With this innovative rollout, Asus becomes the first major laptop brand in India to offer 10-minute delivery, blending high-end tech with the speed of quick commerce — and reshaping how urban India shops for devices.

Broccoli also has These Side Effects



Broccoli is widely regarded as one of the healthiest vegetables, packed with essential nutrients. Yet, health experts caution that excessive consumption can lead to a variety of health issues.

While its high fiber content is beneficial in moderate quantities, eating too much broccoli can overload the digestive system, resulting in bloating, gas, and constipation. Individuals with sensitive stomachs are particularly advised to limit its intake.

Broccoli also contains compounds known as goitrogens, which can hinder thyroid function. These compounds block iodine absorption, potentially reducing the production of thyroid hormones. For people with existing thyroid conditions, overconsumption of broccoli may worsen their symptoms.

Another concern is broc-

coli's rich vitamin K content, which plays a crucial role in blood clotting. For individuals on blood-thinning medications for heart conditions or other reasons, consuming large amounts of broccoli could interfere with the drugs' effectiveness and increase the risk of clot formation.

Some people may also experience allergic reactions to broccoli, including symptoms such as skin rashes, itching, or swelling. In such cases, immediate medical attention is advised.

In conclusion, while broccoli remains a valuable part of a healthy diet, experts strongly recommend moderation. People with thyroid issues, heart conditions, or digestive sensitivity should consult a healthcare provider before making broccoli a regular part of their meals.

20 Peacocks Found Dead Near Stream in Karnataka



In a shocking incident from Hanumanthapura village in Karnataka, twenty peacocks — India's national bird — were found dead under mysterious circumstances near a stream. According to reports, local farmers discovered the carcasses of 17 female and 3 male peacocks, prompting immediate concern and investigation by the Forest Department.

Forest officials who reached the spot collected evidence and dispatched the carcasses to the Forensic Science Laboratory. Officials stated that the cause of death would be confirmed after scientific examination, with poisoning being one of the suspected causes.

This mass death comes at a time when Karnataka is already grappling with a series of unexplained wildlife fatalities. Just a month earlier, 20 monkeys

were found dead in the Chamarajanagar district, where forest and police officials also suspected poisoning.

In another alarming case, five tigers — a tigress and her four cubs

— died on June 27 in the Male Mahadev Hills Wildlife Sanctuary. Initial investigation revealed that the tigress had preyed on a cow that was allegedly poisoned

by villagers in retaliation. The meat was laced with poison, leading to the tragic deaths. Three individuals — Konappa, Madaraja, and Nagaraj — from Koppa village were arrested in that case.

Both the peacock and tiger incidents have raised serious questions about wildlife protection and human-animal conflict in Karnataka. While the for-

est department does offer compensation for livestock killed by wild animals, the benefit is not extended when such killings occur within the core areas of sanctuaries or national parks — where cattle grazing is illegal.

The recent peacock deaths are particularly disturbing given the state's commitment to preserving the species. Karnataka is home to two prominent peacock sanctuaries — Adichunchanagiri and Bankapura — both established to protect and conserve the national bird.

With multiple wildlife deaths being reported in short succession, activists and environmentalists are urging stricter enforcement of wildlife laws and better coordination between forest officials and local communities to prevent further incidents.

114-Year-Old Shigeko Becomes Japan's Oldest Living Person



Shigeko Kagawa, a 114-year-old retired physician from Japan's Nara Prefecture, has officially become the oldest living person in the country, according to Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The announcement follows the death of Miyoko Hiroyasu, who was also 114.

Kagawa, an obstetrician and gynaecologist by profession, served as a wartime physician at a hospital in Osaka during the Second World War. After a long career in medicine, she retired at the age of 86 from her family-run clinic.

Despite her age, Kagawa remains a symbol of Japan's famed longevity. She drew global attention in 2021 when, at 109, she took part in the Tokyo Olympics torch relay — becoming one of the oldest Olympic torchbearers in history.

Speaking to local media in 2023, Kagawa credited her long life to a carefree and active lifestyle. “I don't have any [secret]... I just play every day. My energy is my greatest asset. I go where I want, eat what I want and do what I want. I'm free and independent,” she told TOS News.

Before her, the title was held by Miyoko Hiroyasu, born in 1911, who passed away in a nursing home in Oita Prefecture. A former art student, Hiroyasu spent her final days reading, sketching, and playing card games. She raised three children and remained mentally and physically active until her passing.

Both women are celebrated as reflections of Japan's aging yet resilient population, where longevity continues to break global records.

Lost 'Ghost Ship' F.J. King Found After Nearly 140 Years in Lake Michigan



The long-lost schooner F.J. King, which vanished in a storm in 1886 while carrying iron ore, has finally been discovered off Wisconsin's coast, ending nearly 140 years of uncertainty. The discovery was confirmed by underwater archaeologists working with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Wisconsin Underwater Archaeology Association, as reported by NDTV.

Built in 1867 in Toledo, Ohio, the 144-foot, three-

masted cargo schooner was transporting iron ore from Escanaba, Michigan, to Chicago when disaster struck on September 15, 1886. Fierce gales and waves as high as 10 feet battered the vessel, opening its seams. Despite hours of desperate pumping, the schooner sank around 2 am. Fortunately, Captain William Griffin and his crew were rescued by a passing ship, but the exact location of the wreck remained a mystery for

generations.

Researcher Brendon Baillod spearheaded the latest effort to track down the wreck. Guided by an eyewitness account from a lighthouse keeper, his team scanned a two-square-mile area off Bailey's Harbour on Wisconsin's Door Peninsula. On June 28, 2025, side-scan sonar revealed the ship resting half a mile from the reported site. To their surprise, the hull was largely intact, though coated with

invasive quagga mussels and marine growth.

“A few of us had to pin each other,” Baillod said. “After all the previous searches, we couldn't believe we had actually found it, and so quickly.” The discovery is particularly remarkable given the heavy iron ore cargo that many believed would have shattered the vessel upon impact with the lakebed.

The find adds to a growing list of historic wrecks located

by the Wisconsin Underwater Archaeology Association. Earlier this year, the group identified the steamer LW Crane in the Fox River at Oshkosh and the tugboat John Evenson along with the schooner Margaret A. Muir off Algoma. Baillod also located the schooner Trinidad in 2023.

This rediscovery not only solves a maritime mystery but also deepens understanding of the Great Lakes' rich shipwreck history.

Sinner Begins ATP Finals Title Defence with Win Over Auger-Aliassime

Italy's Jannik Sinner started his ATP Finals title defence in impressive fashion, defeating Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime 7-5, 6-1 in his opening group-stage match in Turin. Backed by a roaring home crowd, the world No. 2 displayed sharp form and composure as he began his campaign to retain the prestigious year-end crown.

The first set was tightly contested, with both players holding serve until Sinner broke at a crucial moment to clinch it 7-5. Riding on that momentum, the Italian completely dominated the second set, showcasing his trademark power and precision from the baseline. Auger-Aliassime struggled to keep up with Sinner's aggressive pace, managing to win just one game in the set.

For Sinner, the victory not only marks a confident start to his title defence but also keeps alive his hopes of securing the year-end No. 1 ranking. To achieve that milestone, he must win



the ATP Finals and rely on Carlos Alcaraz not reaching the championship match.

Meanwhile, in another group-stage encounter, Taylor Fritz registered a solid win over Lorenzo Musetti,

who stepped in as a late replacement for injured world No. 1 Novak Djokovic. Fritz controlled the match with his strong serve and steady baseline play, ensuring a smooth start to his own campaign.

The 2025 ATP Finals promise high-voltage tennis, with the world's top eight players battling for glory in Turin. For Sinner, the tournament carries extra emotion — not only as the defending champion on

home soil but also as he chases history to potentially finish the year as the world's best.

With his opening victory, Sinner has set the tone for another thrilling week in Italian tennis.

Sumit Nagal Faces Visa Hurdle Ahead of Australian Open Playoffs in China



India's top-ranked tennis player Sumit Nagal has hit an unexpected roadblock ahead of the Australian Open Asia-Pacific Wildcard Playoffs, after his China visa was rejected without explanation. The qualifying

event, which offers players a chance to earn a direct entry into the 2026 Australian Open, is scheduled to take place in Chengdu, China, from November 24 to 29, 2025.

Taking to social media platform X (formerly Twitter), Nagal appealed to the Chinese Ambassador to India and the Chinese Embassy in India for urgent intervention. "Respected @China_Amb_India and @ChinaS-pox_India, I am Sumit Nagal, India's No.1 tennis player. I am supposed to fly to China soon to represent India at the Australian Open Playoff. But my visa was rejected without reason. Your urgent help would be much appreciated," Nagal wrote.

The 27-year-old from Jhajjar, Haryana, is currently ranked 275th in the ATP standings, making him India's highest-ranked singles player.

Having fallen outside the world's top 100, Nagal no

longer qualifies for direct entries into Grand Slam tournaments and must rely on wildcard opportunities or qualifying rounds to compete in major events.

Nagal's visa issue now threatens his participation in the Chengdu playoffs — a crucial event that could determine his path to the 2026 Australian Open. Missing the tournament would be a significant setback for his season ambitions.

The Chinese Embassy and tournament organisers have yet to issue a response to the matter.

Nagal last featured in the 2024 Australian Open, where he exited in the first round. Earlier this year, he played a vital role in India's Davis Cup victory over Switzerland, winning both his singles matches.

Fans and fellow players have voiced support online, urging quick resolution to ensure India's top tennis star can compete.

Lionel Messi Hopes for Nou Camp Return to Bid Emotional Farewell



d'Or winner spent more than two decades at Barcelona, where he became the club's all-time leading scorer and helped them win four Champions League titles and ten La

Liga crowns. His unexpected departure in 2021 left fans heartbroken, as he was unable to say farewell on the pitch due to pandemic restrictions and club turmoil.

Currently playing for Inter Miami, Messi continues to shine — scoring twice on Saturday to guide his side into the next round of the MLS Cup play-offs. Messi's message has re-

ignited hopes among fans that Barcelona will organise a special farewell match at the Camp Nou, giving the football legend the send-off he truly deserves.

West Indies to Play Afghanistan in UAE T20I Series



in India and Sri Lanka."

Echoing the sentiment, Nasir Khan, CEO of the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB), expressed enthusiasm about the contest, saying, "Competing against the West Indies before a global tournament offers an excellent opportunity for our team to fine-tune its lineup and boost readiness for the World Cup."

The opening T20I will be played on January 19 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, followed by the second and third matches on January 21 and January 22, respectively, at the same venue.

CWI's Director of Cricket, Miles Bascombe, highlighted the importance of the series, stating, "This series provides an ideal platform for our preparation. Facing strong opposition in subcontinental conditions will help us sharpen our combinations and approach. It also gives our players a chance to build confidence on surfaces similar to those we'll encounter

The West Indies, who co-hosted the previous edition of the T20 World Cup, reached the Super Eight stage but narrowly missed out on the semifinals. Afghanistan, meanwhile, made history by advancing to the semifinals for the first time.

In their past head-to-head record, West Indies lead Afghanistan 5-3 in eight T20I clashes.

The upcoming series promises

to be a competitive and strategic prelude to the 2026 T20

World Cup, offering both teams a valuable opportunity to test their strengths under similar playing conditions.

India Clinch T20I Series Against Australia as Rain Halts Final Match



Team India secured a 2-1 series victory over Australia after the fifth and final T20 International at the Gabba was abandoned due to rain on Saturday. The downpour ended any hopes of a full contest, bringing the exciting five-match series to an early conclusion.

After being put in to bat, India's openers Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma gave the visitors a fiery start, racing to a 50-run stand in quick time. Gill looked in fine touch, unbeaten on 29 off 16 balls, while Abhishek smashed 23 off 13 deliveries before rain interrupted play in the fourth over. Unfortunately, the showers intensified, forcing the umpires to call off the game without a single ball bowled in Australia's innings.

The washout meant India, who had already taken a 2-1 lead after victories in Sydney and Canberra, clinched the series despite Australia's win in Adelaide. It marks another successful outing

for India's young squad, led by Suryakumar Yadav, who showcased both flair and composure throughout the tour.

The series saw several standout performances, including explosive batting from Ruturaj Gaikwad and Rinku Singh, alongside crucial bowling spells from Mukesh Kumar and Axar Patel.

For Australia, Travis Head and Matthew Short were among the top performers, though inconsistent bowling hurt their chances of a comeback.

With this result, India continue their impressive T20 record in overseas conditions, extending their dominance ahead of next year's T20 World Cup. The team will now shift focus to the upcoming ODI series, while Australia look to regroup after a rain-marred finish in Brisbane.

Despite the anticlimactic end, India's young guns once again proved their mettle on foreign soil, sealing a well-deserved 2-1 series triumph.

Rajinikanth-Kamal Haasan Projects Spark Confusion Among Fans



Fans of Tamil cinema are left puzzled as legendary actors Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan announced upcoming collaborations without finalizing scripts. The confusion surfaced after director Sundar C exited the much-hyped Thalaivar 173, which was expected to reunite the two stars after decades.

Last week, Thalaivar 173 was officially announced by Kamal Haasan's production house, with Sundar C attached as director and Rajinikanth in the lead. However, Sundar C recently stepped away from the project due to unspecified reasons. In response, Kamal Haasan revealed that the script had yet to be finalized, as Rajinikanth had not fully approved it. The team is reportedly reviewing multiple scripts until Rajinikanth gives his go-ahead.

The revelation shocked fans, who had expected a concrete project announcement. Kamal Haasan also confirmed that both actors are considering scripts for another ambitious film together, marking their first on-screen collaboration in over forty years. Interestingly, both stars had already publicly confirmed months

ago that a joint project was imminent, adding to the confusion.

Industry insiders note that such announcements without locked scripts are unusual, even for less experienced actors, as it risks fan disappointment and media scrutiny. Critics argue that this strategy seems aimed at generating buzz rather than presenting a finalized project.

With two major films — Thalaivar 173 and the yet-unnamed Rajini-Kamal project — in the works, fans remain eager but uncertain about the timelines and final storylines. Until scripts are approved and directors confirmed, the projects remain in a preliminary phase, leaving audiences speculating about what the eventual collaborations will deliver.

The excitement surrounding these announcements highlights the enduring appeal of Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan, but also underscores the risks of building hype before the creative groundwork is complete. Fans now await official confirmations on scripts, directors, and shooting schedules before the projects move forward.

'Akhanda 2' Goes 3D: A Bold Move Ahead of Release



After a string of hits with Simha, Legend, and Akhanda, Nandamuri Balakrishna and director Boyapati Srinu are back with Akhanda 2, slated for a grand release on December 5. The first installment's massive success has set high expectations for the sequel, and the makers are pulling out all stops to deliver a bigger spectacle.

In a major announcement at a Hyderabad promotional event, the team revealed that Akhanda 2 will release worldwide in 3D alongside the traditional 2D version. A special screening of the upgraded 3D visuals at Prasad IMAX impressed media and fans, showcasing the enhanced action sequences and larger-than-life visuals that were a hallmark of the first film.

Director Boyapati Srinu promised Telugu audiences an immersive experience like never before, emphasizing the

3D format's potential to elevate the film's pan-India appeal. The ambitious attempt is aimed at giving fans a cinematic treat while positioning the film strongly in the competitive December release calendar.

However, industry experts are raising questions about logistical challenges. The availability of sufficient 3D screens across Telugu-speaking states and the provision of compatible 3D glasses could determine whether the audience fully enjoys the upgraded experience. Despite these concerns, the buzz around Akhanda 2's visuals and Balakrishna's star power has already generated significant anticipation.

With high-octane action, eye-catching effects, and now a 3D dimension, Akhanda 2 promises to be one of the most-awaited films of the year, with fans eagerly awaiting the final cinematic spectacle.

Mahesh Babu to Play Lord Sriram in Rajamouli's 'Varanasi'

Superstar Mahesh Babu will portray Lord Sriram for the first time in his career in the upcoming project Varanasi, directed by acclaimed filmmaker SS Rajamouli. The announcement officially confirms long-standing rumors about the actor taking on a divine role on the big screen.

Speaking at the event, Mahesh Babu shared that he had previously declined roles portraying deities, despite his father's advice to explore all opportunities. "I always disagreed when it came to playing God on screen," Mahesh said. However, Rajamouli convinced him, transforming Varanasi into a project the actor describes as a dream come true.

Rajamouli praised Mahesh's portrayal, stating that he embodies both charm and ferocity as Lord Sriram. The segment featuring Mahesh is set as a 30-minute episode, which the director



promises will leave audiences amazed in the theatres. According to Rajamouli, initial doubts about casting Mahesh in such a revered role were dispelled after a test shoot, leaving him "awestruck" by the performance.

The film recently wrapped shooting for this pivotal sequence, and early reports suggest that the visuals and performance have been received positively by the team. Rajamouli emphasized that Mahesh's presence brings a unique blend of intensity and grace to the divine character, making the portrayal memorable for audiences.

Earlier, rumors had linked Mahesh to Prashanth Varma's Jai Hanuman in the role of Lord Sriram, but the actor clarified that those were mere speculations. Varanasi officially marks Mahesh Babu's debut as a deity on screen, generating high anticipation among fans and moviegoers alike.

With Rajamouli at the helm and Mahesh Babu in a never-before-seen avatar, Varanasi is shaping up to be a landmark cinematic experience that blends mythology with contemporary storytelling.

Priyanka Chopra Stuns With Desi Look at Varanasi Launch



Priyanka Chopra turned heads at the Varanasi title launch, effortlessly blending elegance with traditional Indian style. Slipping a few Telugu words into her speech, she charmed the audience and won hearts instantly.

Her cream embroidered half-saree, paired with a chunky necklace, bangles, and forehead ornaments, created a mesmerizing look that seemed straight out of a dream. Fans and fashion enthusiasts alike

praised her impeccable styling and graceful presence at the event.

The excitement peaked when Priyanka posed alongside Superstar Mahesh Babu. The duo's on-stage camaraderie sparked fan speculation about their on-screen chemistry, and pictures of the pair quickly went viral across social media platforms.

Priyanka's appearance not only highlighted her fashion sensibilities but also her ability to connect

with regional audiences, adding an extra layer of charm to the film's promotional activities.

The event marked a major highlight in the promotional campaign for Varanasi, and Priyanka's desi-inspired look is being celebrated as one of her most memorable public appearances in recent times. Fans are eagerly awaiting the film, now even more excited to see the star duo together on screen.



Ram's Andhra King Taluka Gets New Release Date

Ram's fans have reason to celebrate as his much-awaited film Andhra King Taluka has been preponed by a day. The production house, Mythri Movie Makers, announced that the movie will now hit theaters worldwide on November 27, 2025.

The film's theatrical trailer is set for a grand unveiling in Kurnool on November 18, accompanied by a spectacular drone show — a first-of-its-kind promotional event in India. The songs released so far have already generated significant buzz, raising expectations for the film's storyline and performances.

In Andhra King Taluka, Ram plays a diehard fan of a film star portrayed by Upendra. Young actress Bhagyashri Borse will be seen as the leading lady. The movie is directed by P. Mahesh Babu and features music composed by the talented duo Vivek and Mervin.

The film promises a mix of action, drama, and fan-centric moments, catering to Ram's large fanbase. The production

house has emphasized that all theaters worldwide will follow proper screenings to ensure fans get the best cinematic experience.

With the preponed release, anticipation is building across social media, where fans have already begun sharing creative posts and trailers. The combination of Ram and Upendra, along with the unique promotional strategies, is expected to make Andhra King Taluka one of the biggest Telugu releases of the year.

As the release date approaches, film enthusiasts are eager to see how the story unfolds, particularly Ram's portrayal of a dedicated fan, and the chemistry between him and Bhagyashri Borse. The movie's soundtrack and high-octane sequences are also expected to be highlights during the theatrical experience.

Andhra King Taluka is shaping up to be a significant milestone in Ram's career, blending fan service, entertainment, and a star-studded cast to captivate audiences nationwide.