

Amaravathi's development unstoppable - AP CM

TPN Bureau | November 28

Amaravathi: Amaravati's push to emerge as a world-class greenfield capital has gained major momentum with Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu declaring that its development is now "unstoppable", backed by farmers' sacrifices and renewed Central support. The latest boost comes from the foundation for a financial city, a science hub and a stronger focus on horticulture-led growth and advanced technologies.

Financial city in Amaravati

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman jointly laid the foundation for new offices of 15 public sector banks and insurance companies in Amaravati. These institutions, including SBI, LIC, NABARD and several nationalised banks, are together investing over 1,300 crore to set up permanent headquarters facilities in the capital region.



44
Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman jointly laid the foundation for new offices of 15 public sector banks and insurance companies in Amaravati. These institutions, including SBI, LIC, NABARD and several nationalised banks, are together investing over 1,300 crore to set up permanent headquarters facilities in the capital region.

are together investing over 1,300 crore to set up permanent headquarters facilities in the capital region.

According to the state government, the planned "financial city" is expected to generate employment for more than 6,500

people as operations are consolidated in Amaravati instead of rented premises elsewhere. Naidu said this cluster of banking and insurance offices would be the first of its kind in the country and would anchor Amaravati's role as an integrated financial hub.

Central support and farmers' interests

Naidu recalled that Amaravati's capital works were originally launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and reiterated that the Centre has earmarked around

15,000 crore for various phases of the capital's development. He also pointed to continuing Union support for key projects such as the Polavaram irrigation project and efforts to secure the future of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

Emphasising that farmers had voluntarily parted with land under the capital region pooling scheme, the Chief Minister urged the Union Finance Minister to extend the exemption on capital gains for Amaravati farmers who could not fully utilise the earlier window. Sitharaman, for her part, underlined the need to protect the interests of these land-contributing farmers and appealed to banks to give them priority in credit and financial support.

Quantum tech, greenfield city and planetarium Naidu said the state is taking steps to excel in quantum computing, artificial intelligence, agritech and large-scale infrastructure, positioning

Amaravati as a modern, eco-friendly greenfield capital that can "make India proud". He asked banks to plan a "bankers' tower" in a proposed Quantum Valley so that cutting-edge financial services and technology-driven enterprises can grow out of Amaravati.

In a major science and education initiative, the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Astrophysics to set up an international-standard planetarium in Amaravati.

The state has allotted five acres for this project, which Sitharaman said would inspire young minds to engage with astrophysics by allowing students to observe space phenomena in near real time. Horticulture push and Rayalaseema focus

Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted the Prime Minister's emphasis on moving from mere food security to nutrition security, noting that horti-

culture is central to this shift. Citing examples such as dedicated banana and coconut trains from producing states to New Delhi, she said better logistics and value addition are crucial to improving farmers' incomes.

She pointed out that Naidu has set a goal of making Rayalaseema a horticulture hub and urged bankers to "think afresh" and extend credit for infrastructure such as cold storages, connectivity, packaging and export facilities for fruits and vegetables. Sitharaman asked banks and financial institutions to design products that back these "futuristic ideas" and support Andhra Pradesh's broader development agenda.

Focus on science education and leadership presence

While praising Andhra Pradesh's emergence as a centre for quantum technologies and AI, Sitharaman requested the state

government to continue giving high priority to basic science education, noting the state's strong track record of science toppers and experts. She said the proposed planetarium and related facilities would help nurture a new generation of scientists and innovators from the capital region.

The event was attended by Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan, Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav, IT Minister Nara Lokesh, Union Minister Pemmasani Chandrasekhar, senior Finance Ministry officials and the chairpersons and managing directors of several public sector banks and insurance companies.

With these commitments, Naidu reiterated that Amaravati's reconstruction is firmly back on track and that the capital will be developed as a world-class city showcasing India's capabilities in finance, technology and sustainable urban planning.

Suspicious Movement Near Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan During Rajolu Tour Triggers Security Concern

TPN Bureau | November 28



Rajolu: A potential security concern arose during Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's visit to Rajolu constituency in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district earlier this week. According to official sources, an unidentified individual was seen moving unusually close to the Deputy Chief Minister during his field inspection, prompting concern among his security personnel and local authorities. Pawan Kalyan had visited Rajolu to

inspect coconut farms that were damaged due to drainage issues at Shan karaguptham village. As part of the tour, he interacted with officials and farmers to assess the situation firsthand and to discuss measures for addressing the agricultural damage. During this engagement, officials reportedly noticed a man

attempting to move within close proximity to the Deputy CM multiple times. Upon preliminary verification, officials learned that the individual was allegedly affiliated with the ruling YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) and a resident of the Rajolu constituency.

The Deputy CM's office subsequently alerted senior officials, raising suspicion about the person's conduct and intentions.

District authorities, viewing the matter seriously, brought it to the attention of the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district

for further investigation. Reports indicate that the Deputy CM's security team expressed concerns regarding how the unidentified person obtained access credentials or a pass for the official event. Authorities are probing whether proper security screening was followed and if the event permit was issued legitimately. Instructions have been given to verify all passes issued for the program and review security arrangements made during the Deputy CM's visit.

Following the incident, local police have initiated an inquiry to trace the individual's background,

his political affiliations, and the reason for his presence at such close range to a senior cabinet member. Officials are also reviewing CCTV footage to reconstruct the sequence of events at the inspection site. The district administration has stated that necessary actions will be taken based on the findings of the inquiry.

Officials emphasized that maintaining high-level security for public representatives during constituency visits remains a top priority, especially given the growing number of large public gatherings involving senior state leaders.

Cabinet Clears Second Phase of Land Pooling for Amaravati Expansion

TPN Bureau | November 28



Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved the second phase of land pooling to accelerate the expansion of Amaravati, state Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development P. Narayana announced on Friday. The decision aims to strengthen infrastructure development and prepare the region to meet urban demands for the next three decades. Speaking to reporters after the Cabinet meeting, Minister Narayana said that the government would pool around 16,666.56 acres across seven villages in Amaravati and Thulluru mandals to build essential capital infrastructure. The earmarked land will be used primarily for constructing a new railway station, railway line, Inner Ring Road, and an International Sports City.

The villages identified for pooling in this phase are Vaikuntapuram, Pedamadduru, Endroyi, Karlapudi, Vaddamanu, Harischandrapuram, and Pedaparimi. According to the Minister, this expansion will complement the state government's larger vision of developing Amaravati into a full-fledged capital city with world-class facilities. Out of the total land to be pooled, 7,562 acres are located in Vaikuntapuram, Pedamadduru, Endroyi, and Karlapudi villages, while another 9,104.57 acres fall with

in Vaddamanu, Harischandrapuram, and Pedaparimi.

The government already possesses 3,828 acres of land, although a major portion of it consists of hilly terrain unsuitable for immediate development. Highlighting the government's long-term strategy, Narayana stated that Amaravati's planning framework has been designed to sustain population and economic growth for at least 30 years.

He said that for enhancing land value and stimulating capital development, establishing industries and transport hubs is crucial. In this direction, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has decided to construct a new international airport on 500 acres to improve connectivity and attract global investments. Minister Narayana emphasized that farmers participating in the land pooling will receive the same compensation and benefits that were extended during the first phase. Owners of fertile agricultural land will be allotted 1,000 square yards of residential plots and 450 square yards of commercial plots, while those with dry lands will receive 1,000 square yards of residential and 250 square yards of commercial plots.

Lease payments pre-

Foundation Laid for 25 Bank and PSU Headquarters

TPN Bureau | November 28



The foundation ceremony took place near the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) project office on the Seed Access Road, where the first block of the financial institutions' zone will be developed.

She praised the capital's planned structure, noting that Amaravati has the potential to emerge as one of the country's leading administrative and financial centers in the coming years. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu thanked the Union government for backing the state's capital development and that financial institutions establish-

ment plans and said that establishing bank and PSU headquarters will generate large-scale employment opportunities while attracting private investment.

Naidu emphasized that Amaravati would not only serve as the seat of governance but also become a hub for finance, business, and innovation. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan lauded the farmers and local residents

who had contributed their land for the capital project, acknowledging their sacrifices as the foundation of the city's future. He urged the youth to take advantage of the upcoming opportunities in financial services, technology, and administration. Residents, farmers, agricultural laborers, and women from the surrounding areas participated enthusiastically in the event, expressing hope that the renewed focus on Amaravati's development would bring prosperity back to the region.

With major public institutions committing to set up their operations in the capital, the project is expected to accelerate infrastructure creation in the CRDA-nominated zones. Officials confirmed that construction work on the first phase of the headquarters complex will begin immediately, with completion targeted within two years.



AP on High Alert for Cyclone Ditrwa

TPN Bureau | November 28
Vijayawada : The Andhra Pradesh government has gone on high alert following warnings of severe weather conditions due to Cyclone Ditrwa, which is expected to bring heavy rains and strong winds across several southern districts over the next two days. Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha has directed all district administrations in vulnerable zones to remain on constant vigil to ensure public safety and minimize damage.

According to official instructions, the districts of Tirupati, Chittoor, Kadapa, Nellore, and Prakasam are likely to face the most significant impact from the cyclone. Anitha held a review meeting with senior officials and emphasized the need for immediate preventive measures at the ground level. She instructed all Collectors and Superintendents of Police to remain accessible to the public 24 hours a day and to supervise prepared-



ness activities closely. The Home Minister stressed that local authorities must prioritize the safety of residents living in low-lying and dilapidated areas. She ordered the identification and relocation of vulnerable families to designated cyclone shelters and directed the immediate removal of unsafe hoardings and electrical structures that could pose risks during strong winds. To strengthen emergency response, State Disaster Response

Force (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams have been put on standby across the affected districts. The government has also established control rooms at both district and mandal levels to coordinate information flow, monitor developments, and respond swiftly to distress calls. These control rooms will function round the clock during the cyclone threat subsides. Officials have been asked to ensure the

availability of essential supplies, including food, water, and medical aid, in coastal and rural areas that may face accessibility issues. The Home Minister also urged farmers to exercise caution in their agricultural activities, particularly regarding crop management and livestock safety during the anticipated heavy rainfall. Public advisories have been issued through local media and communication networks, urging communities to remain indoors during high winds and avoid venturing near water bodies.

The government has cautioned that the weather conditions are likely to persist until Monday, and citizens have been requested to cooperate fully with authorities. As the cyclone approaches the state's southern coast, administrative machinery across districts has been fully mobilized to mitigate risks and ensure timely emergency response.

Nidadavole Municipality Upgraded to "Special Grade"; Government Issues Landmark Order

TPN Bureau | November 28, 2025

Vijayawada | In a major administrative milestone for the West Godavari region, the Andhra Pradesh Government has officially upgraded Nidadavole Municipality from Grade-2 to "Special Grade," recognizing its rapid progress in development, population growth, and revenue enhancement. The Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Department issued Government Order (GO) Ms No. 242 on Friday, confirming that the elevated status takes immediate effect.

According to the GO, the decision followed a comprehensive evaluation of key performance indicators over the past three financial years. Municipal Administration Principal Secretary S. Suresh Kumar stated that Nidadavole met and exceeded the parameters for upgradation, including sustained improvement in income levels, civic infrastructure enhancement, and overall urban service delivery. The special grade classification will enable the municipality to access higher administrative powers, increased funding, and expanded jurisdiction for civic planning.

Leaders Express Gratitude
Minister Kandula Durgesh expressed heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for taking swift action on the long-pending proposal. He recalled submitting a detailed representation to the Chief Minister earlier this year, pressing the need for a national-level sports facility in

Major Boost for Sports Infrastructure in Tirupati

State Government Approves 28 Acres for National-Level Sports Hub at Damededu



TPN Bureau | November 28

TIRUPATI: In a significant move aimed at strengthening sports infrastructure and nurturing athletic talent, the Andhra Pradesh government has approved the allocation of 28 acres of land at Damededu near Tirupati for establishing a world-class Sports Hub. The decision, cleared during the State Cabinet meeting on Friday, marks a major milestone in the government's vision to transform Andhra Pradesh into a sporting powerhouse.

Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) Chairman A Ravi Naidu welcomed the Cabinet's approval and extended gratitude to Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Narayana for honoring their commitment to Nidadavole. He stated that

Tirupati.

He further mentioned that Ministers Nara Lokesh, Anagani Satyaprasad, and Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, along with district officials, were also apprised of the plan and extended their support for the project's realization. Ravi Naidu described the decision as a turning point in the state's larger vision of building "Kreedandhra Pradesh," a long-term initiative to promote sports culture, identify young talent, and create state-of-the-art facilities for training and competition.

He said the proposed Sports Village at Damededu would not only cater to multiple sporting disciplines but also include modern training facilities, residential accommodation for athletes, and infrastructure for hosting national and international tournaments. "With this project, Tirupati is on its way to becoming a leading sports centre in

South India," Ravi Naidu said.

"The Sports Hub will provide athletes access to world-class coaching and facilities, improve sports science and fitness training, and contribute to the region's economic and social growth through sports promotion." Officials indicated that the Sports Hub would be designed to meet national standards, promoting both mainstream and emerging sports.

The project is also expected to attract private investments and partnerships aimed at developing the broader sports ecosystem in the state. Tirupati, already known for its prominence in education, healthcare, and religious tourism, is now poised to add sports excellence to its growing profile. The government's proactive approach and commitment to sports development are expected to create lasting opportunities for youth across Andhra Pradesh.

AP to Establish Unified Commercial Hubs for Handloom, Handicrafts, and GCC Products



TPN Bureau | November 28, 2025

Vijayawada | The Andhra Pradesh government is set to launch unified commercial hubs integrating handloom, handicraft, and tribal products under one roof, Handlooms and Textiles Minister S. Savitha announced on Friday. These centers will house merchandise from APCO (Andhra Pradesh State Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society), Lepakshi Handicrafts, and the Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC), including Araku Coffee and other tribal goods.

Addressing a departmental review meeting in Vijayawada, the Minister said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had directed officials to work toward creating sustainable economic avenues for weavers, artisans, and tribal communities through integrated sales platforms. As part of the first phase, five major commercial hubs are planned across India, with key

locations in Andhra Pradesh to include Visakhapatnam, and Tirupati.

Savitha stated that detailed project planning has commenced, and officials have been instructed to draft comprehensive proposals for the initiative. She emphasized that the hubs would not only boost sales and visibility for traditional products but also serve as cultural ambassadors showcasing the craftsmanship of Andhra Pradesh to larger markets.

Highlighting upcoming promotional events, the Minister announced that a 22-day Handloom and Handicrafts Exhibition will be organized in Tirupati from December 20 to January 10, coinciding with the Mukkoti Ekadasi festival.

The exhibition, expected to draw large crowds of pilgrims and visitors, aims to enhance market reach for local artisans. Similar expos held earlier in Vijayawada, Guntur, and Rajahmundry had garnered strong public response, prompting officials to intensify preparations for the Tirupati edition.

In another key announcement, Savitha revealed that "Lepakshi Week" will be celebrated nationwide from December 8 to 14 to promote Andhra Pradesh's traditional arts and crafts. A special Lepakshi Utsav will take place in Kadapa on December 11, where the Minister will participate in cultural and promotional activities.

She directed department officials to ensure the events are celebrated on a grand scale across all districts, reflecting the state's rich heritage and artistic legacy.

The review meeting was attended by Handlooms and Textiles Advisor Suchitra Ella, Special Chief Secretary R.P. Sisodia, Commissioner Rekha Rani, Lepakshi Managing Director Vishwanath, and other senior officials, who discussed the progress of ongoing handloom sector initiatives and strategies to strengthen marketing networks.

Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada Train Services to Be Cancelled Temporarily for Modernisation Works

TRAIN NO.	FROM	TO	CANCELLATION DATES
12717	VISAKHAPATNAM	VISAKHAPATNAM	29.01.2026, 31.01.2026
17239	VISAKHAPATNAM	VISAKHAPATNAM	28.01.2026 to 30.01.2026
17240	VISAKHAPATNAM	GUNTUR	29.01.2026 to 31.01.2026
12806	VISAKHAPATNAM	LINGAMPALLI	29.01.2026, 30.01.2026
12809	VISAKHAPATNAM	LINGAMPALLI	28.01.2026, 29.01.2026
67285	RAJAHMUNDRY	VISAKHAPATNAM	29.01.2026, 31.01.2026
67286	VISAKHAPATNAM	RAJAHMUNDRY	29.01.2026, 31.01.2026
17480	TIRUPATI	PURI	27.01.2026
17479	TIRUPATI	TIRUPATI	28.01.2026
22707	VISAKHAPATNAM	VISAKHAPATNAM	29.01.2026
17219	MACHILIPATNAM	VISAKHAPATNAM	28.01.2026, 29.01.2026
17220	VISAKHAPATNAM	MACHILIPATNAM	29.01.2026, 30.01.2026
22876	GUNTUR	VISAKHAPATNAM	31.01.2026
22875	VISAKHAPATNAM	GUNTUR	

TPN Bureau | November 28

Visakhapatnam: The East Coast Railway (ECR) has announced the temporary cancellation of several train services operating between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada due to ongoing track modernization and maintenance works.

The cancellations will be in effect between January 27 and January 31, 2026. According to a press release issued on Friday, the modernization works are being carried out within the South Central Railway (SCR) zone, particularly on the busy Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada route.

The railway authority stated that these maintenance activities are essential for the improvement of track safety, signalling systems, and passenger comfort. The East Coast Railway has appealed to passengers to take note of these cancellations and plan their journeys accordingly to avoid inconvenience. The affected trains include popular intercity and passenger services, impacting travel across several key stations in Andhra Pradesh.

Some of the major trains cancelled during this period include services between Visakhapatnam and Guntur-Visakhapatnam, Lingampalli-Visakhapatnam, Rajahmundry-Visakhapatnam, Tirupati-Visakhapatnam, Machilipatnam-Visakhapatnam, and Guntur-Visakhapatnam.

Both up and down services for these trains will remain suspended for the five-day period. Railway officials clarified that the cancellations are necessary to facilitate advanced infrastructure upgrades such as the replacement of old tracks, realignment of curves, and the installation of new automatic signalling systems. These improvements aim to reduce travel time and enhance the safety of both passengers and freight movement in the long run.

Passengers who had already booked tickets for the affected dates will be eligible for a full refund as per Indian Railways' guidelines. The authorities have also urged travellers to check the latest updates on the National Train Enquiry System (NTES) or the official Indian Railways website before commencing their journey. Senior railway officials further advised passengers to use alternative routes and train services operating from nearby stations whenever possible.

The ECR reiterated that these short-term disruptions are part of a broader plan to modernize railway infrastructure across the coastal corridor, which is expected to benefit millions of commuters in the future. The Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada route serves as one of the busiest railway corridors in Andhra Pradesh, linking industrial hubs, tourist destinations, and major cities. The temporary suspension is anticipated to streamline operations and enhance the overall efficiency of train movements once the modernization is completed.

Supreme Court Rejects Pleas by Former MLA Pinnelli's Brothers in Palnadu Double Murder Case

TPN Bureau | November 28

New Delhi | Vijayawada: In a significant legal setback for the family of former YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) MLA from Macherla, Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy, the Supreme Court on Friday dismissed two petitions filed by his brothers in connection with the Palnadu double murder case. The apex court not only struck down their appeals but also cancelled the interim bail orders that had earlier been granted.

The division bench, comprising Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta, made it clear that the accused were not entitled



to anticipatory bail considering the gravity of the charges and their conduct during the investigation. Justice Sandeep Mehta observed that the brothers had failed to cooperate

with the probe despite earlier directions from the Supreme Court and that the materials on record suggested they had attempted to intimidate witnesses and tamper with evidence.

Representing the Andhra Pradesh government, state advocates argued that the accused had consistently evaded interrogation and obstructed the investigation process. They informed the court that, although the investigating team made repeated efforts to question them, the brothers had not cooperated and had even influenced key witnesses.

After hearing the arguments, the apex court bench remarked that there was no legal barrier for the investigating authorities to proceed with the arrests of the accused immediately. It stressed that the law must take its own course, especially when custodial interrogation is found necessary in serious criminal cases such as murder. The defense counsel appearing on behalf of the accused sought two weeks' time

for their voluntary surrender.

However, Justice Mehta questioned the rationale of allowing additional time for surrender in a case where anticipatory bail had already been rejected. "How can time be granted when the court has already held that they are not eligible for pre-arrest bail?" Justice Mehta asked pointedly.

The court also expressed concern over alleged procedural irregularities during the investigation, particularly the way certain documents recorded under Section 161 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which contain witness statements, had

reached the hands of the accused. The judges sought an explanation from the state government on how such confidential materials had become accessible to the suspects.

Emphasizing the need for transparency and accountability, the Supreme Court observed that the ongoing investigation required the custodial presence of the accused to uncover the full extent of their involvement.

The bench stated that granting them protection at this stage would seriously compromise the probe.

The Palnadu double murder case, which has drawn state-wide attention, involves the killing of two individuals allegedly linked to a political rivalry in Macherla constituency. The incident had sparked public outrage and led to high political tension in the region. With the Supreme Court's latest ruling, the probe is expected to intensify.

Law enforcement agencies are now free to arrest the accused and proceed with custodial interrogation. Legal experts describe this verdict as a strong message from the judiciary that serious criminal accusations cannot be shielded under the guise of political influence or procedural delay.

Former Minister Jogi Ramesh, Brother Taken into Third Day Custody in Fake Liquor Case

TPN Bureau | November 28

Vijayawada: In a key development in the ongoing investigation into the fake liquor racket, excise officials on Friday took former Andhra Pradesh minister Jogi Ramesh and his brother Ramu into their third consecutive day of custody for further interrogation. The duo underwent mandatory medical examinations before being escorted to the Excise Department office located in Guru Nanak Colony, Vijayawada, where questioning is expected to continue throughout the day.

According to sources within the department, investigators are focusing on verifying the alleged involvement of the Jogi brothers in supporting the primary accused, identified as Janardhan Rao and Jagann Mohan Rao. Both brothers were previously arrested earlier this week after officials reportedly gathered preliminary evidence linking them to the case.

Authorities suspect that the Jogi brothers provided backing and logistical assistance that facilitated the distribution of counterfeit liquor under the guise



of legitimate brands. The excise enforcement wing has been pursuing leads suggesting that the fake liquor racket had a wider operational network spanning multiple districts.

The illicit trade reportedly involved the production and sale of spurious liquor that evaded taxes, causing significant revenue losses to the state exchequer and posing potential health hazards to consumers. During the investigation, officials seized substantial quantities of adulterated liquor and related materials allegedly sourced through illegal supply channels.

Excise officers stated that the continued custodial interrogation of the Jogi brothers is crucial for establishing the extent of their involvement and tracing the financial transactions

that may have supported the operation. Forensic experts are also analyzing the seized liquor samples to determine their composition and degree of contamination.

Currently, Jogi Ramesh and his brother remain on judicial remand at the Vijayawada district jail, where they have been lodged since their arrest. Security around the excise office has been heightened due to the sensitivity of the case and the political significance attached to Jogi Ramesh, a former minister with a sizeable following in his constituency.

Further details from the interrogation are expected to shed more light on the network behind the fake liquor syndicate and identify additional individuals connected to the illegal operations.

Government Suspends Five Engineering Officials in Pithapuram Municipality Over Misuse of Funds

TPN Bureau | November 28

Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh: In a significant administrative action, the state government has suspended five engineering officials linked to large-scale irregularities in municipal works sanctioned during the previous government's tenure. The suspended officers include three former Assistant Engineers (AEs) and two Deputy Executive Engineers (DEEs) who earlier served in the Pithapuram Municipality under the Public Health Engineering Department.

According to official sources, the vigilance and enforcement wing conducted a detailed probe into the implementation of 55 public works sanctioned under the previous regime at an estimated cost of 7.73 crore. The investigation revealed serious lapses in execution, including poor quality of construction, incom-

plete works, and payment of bills to contractors despite the absence of physical progress on certain projects. The inquiry also determined that the officials in question had failed to adhere to prescribed procedures for work inspections and financial documentation.

In some cases, records were reportedly fabricated to justify expenditure, leading to misuse of public funds. Following the findings, the government issued orders placing the officials under suspension pending disciplinary action. A senior official from the Municipal Administration Department informed that the decision reflects the government's renewed focus on accountability, transparency, and zero tolerance toward corruption in civic bodies.

The suspended engineers are accused of conspiring with contractors for wrongful financial gain and neglecting their



supervisory responsibilities, which resulted in loss to the public exchequer and compromised civic infrastructure standards. Sources indicate that apart from departmental proceedings, the vigilance authorities have recommended further legal examination to recover misused funds and to fix individual liabilities.

The government is also said to be reviewing

all projects sanctioned during the same period in other urban local bodies across the district to identify potential irregularities. Public response in Pithapuram has been largely supportive of the move, with residents demanding stricter monitoring of municipal works and stronger punishment for officials involved in corruption. Administrative ob-

servers noted that the case serves as a warning to municipal employees statewide that accountability lapses and financial misconduct will face swift action. This development marks another step in the government's ongoing efforts to strengthen oversight of public works and ensure proper utilization of funds intended for local development.

curred in Amaravati or any other parts of the state.

Amaravati:

The YSR Congress Party leaders Donthireddy Vemareddy and Balavabrabu (Diamond Babu) have strongly criticized Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and his coalition government for the severe distress faced by nearly 30,000 small and marginal farmers of the Amaravati capital region.

These farmers, who surrendered 32,000 acres of land on the assurance of developed returnable plots, infrastructure, and livelihood support nearly a decade ago, have seen no fulfillment of these promises. They continue to face issues such as lack of returnable plots, no valid land documents, inaccessibility to bank loans, and unresolved disputes, leaving them with poor livelihoods and no financial security. Vemareddy pointed out that despite the government borrowing 2.50 lakh crore in 18 months, no visible development has occurred in Amaravati or any other parts of the state.

He demanded a detailed white paper from Chandrababu Naidu on the utilization of such massive borrowings. The farmers who gave up their lands now struggle to fund their children's education, receive bank loans, or recover their livelihoods, while the government allegedly hides behind media narratives. Diamond Babu accused Chandrababu Naidu of deceiving farmers twice initially in 2015 and now by proposing another 40,000-acre land pooling despite the failure to develop even an inch of the land already acquired.

He claimed Naidu avoids meeting farmers, prioritizes promoting his son as his political heir, and neglects essential development work like roads and drains in Amaravati. Farmers and contractors remain unpaid, and the capital city is being perceived more as a business ven-

ture than a public project. The promised involvement of farmers' Joint Action Committee (JAC) in decision-making has been sidelined.

Both leaders warned that if Chandrababu Naidu continues with fresh land pooling without addressing previous commitments, YSRCP will mobilize a massive people's movement. They conveyed that farmers are now aware of the government's betrayal and are preparing to protest, with media propaganda no longer able to shield the government's failures.

This political contention highlights the deep grievances among Amaravati farmers over unmet promises and stalled development in the capital region under Chandrababu Naidu's government. The farmers' plight involves severe financial distress and broken trust, adding pressure on the state government to respond transparently and responsibly to their demands.

New Bridge Between Barrankula and Ganapewaram Inaugurated at a Cost of .80 Lakh

TPN Bureau | November 28

Nagayalanka, Krishna District: A long-awaited bridge connecting Barrankula and Ganapewaram villages in the Nagayalanka Mandal of Krishna district was inaugurated on Friday, marking a significant milestone in improving rural connectivity in the region. The bridge, constructed across the Mangaleru medium drainage channel, was built at a cost of .80 lakh through the MP-LADS (Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme) funds.

Machilipatnam MP Vallabhaneni Balashouri and MLA Budda Prasad jointly inaugurated the new structure in the presence of local officials, public representatives, and villagers. The bridge is expected to ease travel between the two villages, which had long suffered from poor access due to the lack of a reliable crossing. Addressing the gathering, both leaders noted that the project was undertaken to fulfill a long-pending demand of the people in the Barrankula-Ganapewaram area.

For years, during floods and monsoons, villagers had faced difficulties in transporting essential goods, reaching



schools, and accessing healthcare services. The completion of the bridge is now expected to end these hardships, ensuring smooth connectivity and enhancing local economic activity. Residents of Barrankula and Ganapewaram expressed their gratitude to MP Balashouri and MLA Budda Prasad for taking up the project and seeing it through to completion.

They felicitated the duo with traditional shawls and garlands as a token of appreciation. Speaking on the occasion, MP Balashouri said that strengthening rural infrastructure remained one of his top priorities. He emphasized that im-

proved connectivity directly contributes to rural development by facilitating access to markets, schools, and medical facilities.

MLA Budda Prasad echoed his sentiments, stating that the state government was committed to improving infrastructure in remote regions of the Krishna delta to support agriculture and livelihood needs. Several local leaders, officials, and representatives of development committees attended the event.

Among them were constituency youth leader Mandali Venkatram, DCMS Chairman Bandi Ramakrishna, Project Committee Chairman Devanaboina Venkates

wara Rao, DC Chairman Bandreddy Naga Mallikarjuna Rao (popularly known as Chinababu), Ganapewaram Sarpanch Bellankonda Srinivasa Rao, PACS Chairman Thota Srinivasa Rao, and senior engineers of the Drainage Department. Departmental officials participating in the event included Executive Engineer Kiran Kumar, Deputy Engineer J. Babu Naik, Assistant Engineers Chiranjeevi and Raviteja.

Other dignitaries present were AMC Director Pirati Sirisha, local leaders Bandreddy Mallikarjun, Bhogadi Shiva Vishnu Vardhan, Kamatham Naresh, Pirati Balaram, Thota Kondalu, Thota

Manasa, and Pirati Srinivasa Rao. Panchayat Secretary Mallikarjuna Rao and VRO Jayaram coordinated the arrangements for the inaugural ceremony, which saw enthusiastic participation from villagers and local youth. The newly built bridge not only fulfills an essential infrastructural need but also stands as a symbol of effective coordination between elected representatives and local administrative bodies.

With its inauguration,

people from both Barrankula and Ganapewaram can now expect safer and faster commutes, improved emergency access, and enhanced opportunities for development in the region.

Coalition Government Committed to the Health and Welfare of the Poor 700 Crore Disbursed Through CMRF



TPN | Bureau | November 28

1,897 beneficiaries have received financial support amounting to 17.69 crore under the CMRF scheme.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister reiterated that the government is implementing the Annadatha Sukhibava scheme across Andhra Pradesh as promised during the elections. Every eligible farmer is being provided 20,000 as investment support under the scheme, he said.

With the support of the Central Government, the amount is being deposited into farmers' bank accounts in phases. He criticised the previous YSRCP government for failing to extend the scheme to inam land farmers. The coalition

government, he said, has corrected this and is now extending Anna-datha Sukhibava benefits to farmers with inam lands as well.

The government is committed to making agriculture profitable and is offering agricultural machinery at up to 90% subsidy for farmers, he added. Minister Inaugurates Road Works Worth 1.77 Cr

ore After the program me, Minister Ravi Kumar inaugurated several development works worth 1.77 crore in P Gudipadu village, including multiple BT roads connecting NH-5 to surrounding villages, as well as cement roads and side drains constructed with 20 lakh.

Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath Inspects Durga Temple Development Works

TPN Bureau | November 28

Vijayawada: Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) on Friday conducted a detailed inspection of the ongoing development works at the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakeeladri Hill, emphasizing the need to expedite the modernization drive ahead of the upcoming Krishna Pushkaralu. Accompanied by Temple Trust Board Chairman Borra Radhakrishna (Gandhi), Executive Officer VK Sreeni Naik, Trust Board members, and senior engineering officials, the MP reviewed various phases of the ongoing works and discussed plans for enhancing amenities for devotees.

The inspection covered key infrastructure upgrades, including road widening, parking facilities, queue complexes, rest areas, and drinking water arrangements.



Speaking during the visit, Kesineni Sivanath said that the temple, one of the most prominent shrines in Andhra Pradesh, is being developed comprehensively in line with the State Government's vision for improving temple infrastructure. The MP reviewed the various phases of the ongoing works and discussed plans for enhancing amenities for devotees.

He noted that collaborative efforts involving local MLA Y Sujana Chowdary, the Trust Board, and temple authorities are ensuring steady progress in the projects. The MP stressed that all works are being designed with a focus on convenience, safety, and

for their consistent support in strengthening the temple's infrastructure. He said that several new amenities are being introduced to meet the expected rise in pilgrim footfall, including digital information centers and improved sanitation facilities.

Gandhi added that existing issues, such as congestion during festivals, are being carefully reviewed, and corrective measures will be implemented promptly. Former MLC Buddha Venkanna, Trust Board member Badeti Dharmarao, special invitee Velagapudi Shankar Babu, and departmental engineers also took part in the inspection.

The officials reiterated their commitment to completing the works on schedule, ensuring that the Sri Durga Temple is fully prepared to host thousands of devotees during the forthcoming Krishna Pushkaralu.

Police Commissioner Rajasekhara Babu Urges Public to Stay Alert Against Digital Arrest and Online Frauds

TPN Bureau | November 28

Vijayawada: As part of the ongoing Cyber Suraksha initiative, NTR District Police Commissioner SV Rajasekhara Babu, conducted a special awareness session for members of the Bar Association on Thursday, focusing on digital arrest scams and emerging cybercrime threats.

Speaking at the program, the Commissioner stressed that the so-

called "digital arrest" is a non-existent concept in Indian law, and urged citizens to stay vigilant. He clarified that agencies such as the CBI, Police, Customs or ED never conduct arrests through video calls, adding that cybercriminals are increasingly using threats and impersonation tactics to extort money. He advised the public not to panic if they receive threatening video calls claiming that they or their family members are being arrested. Victims should immediately contact the nearest police station or the national cybercrime helpline 1930, especially

within the first 24 hours of losing money, to increase the chances of recovery. He also urged people to alert family members and neighbours about these scams. Commissioner Rajasekhara Babu highlighted several innovative initiatives introduced under the Commissionerate, including the installation of nearly 10,000 CCTV cameras, which have played a crucial role in solving major cases. He also noted that advanced technologies like Astra are improving traffic management.

The Commissioner warned citizens against falling for investment scams circulating on Facebook, Telegram, WhatsApp, Instagram and other social media platforms. He advised the public not to invest in any scheme without a verified Demat account and to be wary of unrealistic returns.

The awareness program was attended by Cyber Crime DCP Krishna Prasanna, ACP Rajasekhar, Inspectors Gunaram and Duraprasad, as well as Bejawada Bar Association President & AP State Bar Federation President AK Basha, General Secretary KV Rangarao, Council Member Chalasani Ajay Kumar and nearly 300 lawyers.

MP Balarashouri Announces Rs. 6,000-Crore Drinking Water Project for Krishna District

TPN Bureau | November 28, Nagayalanka: A major drinking water project worth Rs. 6,000 crore is being planned to meet the needs of the combined Krishna district, announced Machilipatnam MP Vallabhaneni Balashouri. The MP made the announcement while participating as chief guest at a free medical camp organised by the Bondada Foundation on Friday in Parracheevuru village of Nagayalanka mandal, marking the birthday celebrations of Bondada Group Chairman Bondada Ra-

ghavendra Rao. Addressing the gathering, MP Balashouri said that a Canara Bank branch would soon be set up in Parracheevuru to boost local banking services. He also promised to upgrade the village's main road for better connectivity. Detailing development initiatives, the MP explained that Rs. 3,000 crore from the Jal Jeevan Mission funds and another 3,000 crore from World Bank assistance would be utilised for the comprehensive drinking water project in the next five years, describing it as another key infrastructure mile-

stone for coastal Andhra. Paying rich tributes to Bondada Raghavendra Rao, the MP praised his discipline, determination, and dedication, calling him a "gem from the soil" and a true role model for youth aspiring for self-made success. Avangadda MLA Mandali Buddha Prasad lauded Raghavendra Rao for his inspiring achievements and ongoing service to his native region.

He said Raghavendra Rao's willingness to establish an industry in Diverseema would receive full support from local

representatives and the state government. The MLA also recalled previous development allocations, noting that Rs. 60 lakh had been sanctioned for the village under the Chandranra Batta programme during the earlier TDP government, though some works remained incomplete. Under the current coalition government, Buddha Prasad said Rs. 34 lakh had been spent to lay CC roads in Parracheevuru panchayat limits. He added that the Ganapewaram-Parracheevuru main road

had been completed with an outlay of 2.5 crore, while another proposal worth Rs. 5.52 crore was prepared for the Parracheevuru-Deendayalpuram road.

The latter proposal, he said, had been taken up jointly with MP Balashouri and presented to Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, who was expected to approve it soon. Appreciating the Bondada Foundation's efforts, Buddha Prasad praised Chairperson Neelima Bondada for leading extensive social welfare and service ac-

tivities across the region. The event was attended by Agnikula Kshatriya Corporation Chairman Chilakalapudi Paparao, DCCB Chairman Bandi Ramakrishna, constituency youth leader Mandali Venkata Ram, Raghavendra Rao's son Jithin Chandra, CFO Bharatam Satyanarayana, CEO R. Srinivas Rao, HR head Vangara Kumar, senior leader Bhogadi Ramadevi, Dr. Vangara Seshagiri Rao, and several community and political representatives. During the camp, Manipal Hospital medical teams conducted free health checkups for around 450 villagers. The event concluded with the guests cutting a cake to celebrate Raghavendra Rao's birthday, followed by a felicitation ceremony where the MP and MLA jointly honoured him for his contributions to society and industry.



Chiranjeevi's Trust Gets Central Government Nod for FCRA Registration, Can Now Receive Foreign Donations

TPN Bureau | November 28

Hyderabad: In a major boost to its philanthropic activities, the trust founded by popular Telugu actor and Padma Vibhushan awardee Chiranjeevi has received approval from the central government under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA). This key clearance enables the organization to receive foreign contributions and donations legally, opening new avenues to expand its charitable and social welfare initiatives beyond domestic funding sources.

According to official reports, the Ministry of Home Affairs recently granted FCRA registration to the trust after thorough scrutiny of its activities, financial records, and governance framework. The approval marks a significant milestone in the growth of the organization, which



has been actively engaged in healthcare, disaster relief, and public welfare efforts across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Chiranjeevi, who commands immense respect both in the film fraternity and among the public for his humanitarian efforts, expressed gratitude to the central authorities for recognizing the trust's integrity and transparency.

"This approval will help us reach more people in need and enable global donors who share our vision to support welfare programs in India," he reportedly stated following the announcement. The Chiranjeevi Charitable Trust (CCT) has been one of the most active non-profit organizations in South India for over two decades. Established in 1998, it operates

the Chiranjeevi Blood and Eye Bank, which has serviced lakhs of voluntary donors and beneficiaries over the years. The trust has been especially noted for its extensive blood donation network, which has contributed to thousands of emergency requests across states.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the CCT extended vital assistance

by organizing blood donation drives, distributing food and oxygen supplies, and supporting frontline workers. Now, with the FCRA approval, the trust can legally receive contributions from international donors, non-resident Indians (NRIs), and global organizations interested in supporting its initiatives. Experts point out that the FCRA registration of

ten acts as a seal of credibility for charitable organizations, as it involves stringent compliance and background verification. Only a select number of NGOs in India manage to maintain the transparency and accountability standards needed for such approval.

The Chiranjeevi Trust's successful application thus highlights its con-

tinuous adherence to set norms and its strong record of public service.

Sources close to the trust indicate that the new funds will primarily be directed toward scaling its medical and educational programs, including expanding the reach of its blood and eye banks into rural regions and providing financial assistance for poor patients requiring surgery or long-term treatments.

Plans are also underway to collaborate with international NGOs and Indian diaspora groups to develop sustained healthcare outreach programs in underserved districts. Political and film industry circles have widely welcomed the development, praising Chiranjeevi for combining his stardom with a deeply rooted sense of social responsibility.

As his organization steps into an era of global partnerships, it is expected to set new standards for celebrity-led social causes in India. With the FCRA clearance now in place, the Chiranjeevi Charitable Trust is poised to take its humanitarian mission to the international stage, reinforcing the actor's legacy not just as a cinema legend, but as a dedicated champion of public welfare.



Minister's Son and PA Accused of Harassment; Victim Lodges Complaint with SP

TPN Bureau | November 28

Parvathipuram: In a shocking development, a woman from Andhra Pradesh has lodged a formal complaint against the son and personal assistant (PA) of a state minister, alleging mental harassment, threats, and attempts to exploit her under the guise of personal favors. The complaint, submitted to the Superintendent of Police (SP) with the support of local women's associations, has sparked outrage and demands for an impartial probe.

According to the victim's statement, the minister's PA, identified as Satish, repeatedly threatened her to comply with personal demands from the minister's family. She alleged that Satish called her frequently and insisted that she "come for an hour," suggesting improper intentions.

When she resisted, the victim claims, the PA used the minister's name to pressure and intimidate her. The woman further accused the minister's son, identified as Prudhvi, of communicating with her through messages, allegedly asking her to visit his friends and threatening consequences if she refused. She claimed that when she tried to bring the matter to the attention of the minister herself, she was insulted and humiliated in front of a group of nearly thirty people.

"The minister supported her PA instead

of protecting me. She used abusive language and accused me of lying in public," the complainant said in her statement. Outraged by the alleged misuse of political power and influence, the woman approached women's rights groups seeking justice. Together, they filed a detailed complaint with the district police, urging for a criminal case against both PA Satish and Prudhvi. The women's organizations accompanying the victim have demanded that the government immediately suspend the accused officials and ensure a transparent investigation.

"This case represents how power is being used to silence victims and how women continue to face intimidation even from those in public office," a representative of the women's group said. Police sources confirmed that they have received the complaint and begun a preliminary inquiry. Statements from all concerned parties, including the victim, are being recorded.

Officials stated that further action will be taken based on evidence and legal scrutiny. The case has generated widespread media attention, with several social groups calling for accountability at the ministerial level. Women's associations have announced plans to organize demonstrations if the matter is not handled impartially and swiftly.

RSS Leaders Emphasize Building an Ideal and Strong Hindu Society

TPN Bureau | November 28, East Godavari: The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) aims to build a strong and ideal Hindu society through cultural rejuvenation and national unity, said Dr. Ganni Bhaskar Rao, Chairman of GSL Institutions and President of the Hindu Sammelanam Committee, Rajamahendravaram. Addressing a press conference on Friday at the Aryapuram Sri Satyanarayana Swamy Temple premises, he explained the objectives of the RSS in the context of its centenary celebrations.

He also revealed plans to associate with organizations like the Red Cross during the upcoming Godavari Pushkaralu to render social service and promote community participation. RSS regional executive member Oletti Satyanarayana emphasized that the organization has spent the past century empowering Hindus and revitalizing Indian culture through continuous grassroots work.

"RSS has been strengthening emotional bonds within society and connecting people through activities that promote discipline, service, and patriotism," he said. According to him, the centenary year is being marked by large-scale organizational efforts, including meetings with community leaders, industrialists, and professionals to encourage active participation in nation-building.

"The RSS is apolitical in its nature. Committees are being formed with respected individuals across communities to guide our initiatives positively," Satyanarayana explained. Outlining the ongoing programs, he said that RSS has already conducted structured training sessions in around 100,000 local branches (shakhas) with full uniforms and routine exercises. The organization has personally reached nearly 500-600 million families to spread awareness about Hindu unity and cultural consciousness. Referring to caste divisions, Satyanarayana

noted that the RSS is making efforts to engage community elders and leaders of various caste groups to move beyond traditional barriers and adopt a broader national outlook.

Activities include awareness meetings, seminars, and youth camps in educational institutions and public spaces. The RSS leadership also resolved to establish shakhas in every village and urban neighborhood across India by the next Vijayadashami, ensuring a deeper socio-cultural presence at the grassroots.

Satyanarayana reiterated that the survival of all religions depends on the survival of Hindu dharma and emphasized ecological protection, self-reliance, and preservation of native traditions, languages, and values. Welcoming the gathering, Bandla Shankar extended greetings, while R. Subba Rao, D.H.P. Sastry, Gorrel Suresh, Challa Shiva, and several others took part in the program.



Husband Sends Death Certificate to Wife Who Left Home in Kadapa District

TPN Bureau | November 28

Kadapa: A bizarre and disturbing incident has come to light from Muddanoor mandal in YSR Kadapa district, where a husband allegedly made and sent a fake death certificate in his wife's name after she left their home following domestic disputes. The unusual episode has shocked local residents and prompted a police investigation into the matter.

According to reports, the couple, identified as Maruthi Raju and Adilakshmi, have been married for several years and have three children. However, disagreements and frequent quarrels had strained their relationship in recent months. About a month ago, Adilakshmi reportedly left her marital home without informing her husband and went to stay with her parents in another village. Since then, she had been living there with her children, refusing to return to her husband due to ongoing marital discord. Angered by her prolonged absence and unwillingness to return, Maruthi Raju allegedly took an extreme and malicious step. He is said to have fabricated a death certificate in his wife's name and mailed it directly to her parental home, intending either to intimidate her or express anger over her decision to leave. The envelope reportedly contained

Memorandum of Understanding Signed for Cosmos Planetarium in Amaravati



TPN Bureau | November 28

Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh: In a significant boost to science education and astronomical outreach, the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) has inked a pivotal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the prestigious Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) today.

This collaboration heralds the establishment of the Cosmos Planetarium, a cutting-edge facility poised to transform how students and the public in

Andhra Pradesh engage with the cosmos. The project aims to ignite scientific curiosity among the youth, providing an immersive portal into the universe's mysteries, from orbiting planets to shimmering stars and remote galaxies.

The signing ceremony, held at the APCRDA headquarters in Amaravati, was attended by key officials from both organizations, underscoring the state's commitment to fostering innovation in education. APCRDA Chairman, highlighting the initiative's alignment

with the state's vision for a knowledge-driven capital, stated that the planetarium would serve as a beacon for aspiring scientists.

"This facility will not only educate but inspire generations to look beyond our skies," he remarked during the event. Representatives from IIA emphasized their role in bringing world-class expertise to the project, drawing on their legacy of astronomical research since 1786. Located in the heart of the emerging capital city, the Cosmos Planetarium is envi-

sioned as a state-of-the-art dome theater equipped with advanced projection technology, interactive exhibits, and virtual reality simulations.

Spanning an estimated 10,000 square feet, it will feature daily shows on topics like solar system explorations, black holes, and exoplanets, tailored for school groups and families. The facility will integrate educational programs with Andhra Pradesh's curriculum, partnering with local schools to offer workshops on astronomy basics, stargazing sessions, and even citizen science projects.

This hands-on approach is expected to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and real-world discovery, particularly in a region where access to such resources has been limited.

The incident has sparked widespread discussion in the locality, with many expressing concern over how personal disputes are escalating into such shocking acts. Police have advised couples facing marital conflict to seek mediation or counseling rather than resorting to illegal and harmful actions that can have serious legal consequences.

Rapid Development Works Transforming Vadapalli Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple...



ple funds. The current administration, however, has restored confidence among devotees by introducing strict transparency measures, financial discipline, and timely recording of all income and expenditure.

These reforms have contributed to a significant and steady rise in temple revenue over the past few months.

Huge Response in Recent Hundi Counting..

The temple conducted its recent Hundi counting last week. The results reflect the renewed faith of devotees:

1.59 crore total income collected in just 27 days

1.30 crore from Sri Venkateswara and Sri Visweswara Swamy temple hundis

29 lakh from Annadanam hundis

15 grams of gold, 910 grams of silver

Foreign currency from 8 countries (35 notes).

The process was supervised by:

Amudalapalli Endowments AO (In-charge officer)

Assistant Commissioner V. Satyanarayana (Inspection)

Temple EO staff, archakas, villagers, volunteers, media personnel.

Development Works

Completed – 1.26 Crores..

A total of 18 works, aimed at ensuring better amenities for devotees, have already been completed with temple funds:

Major Completed Works..

Flyover at East Rajagopuram – 6,98,727

40-ft Pedalas in Four Mada Streets – 15,81,060

28 Air Coolers at temple, queue lines, Annadanam hall – 4,63,893

Kerala Coir Mats for mada streets, queue lines, dining area – 5,32,206

500-L Water Coolers (4 +

1 Donor Unit) – 5,90,000

12 Wall-mount Fans in queue complex – 50,000

S Queue Lines – 4,00,000

Temporary Cattle Shelter (Goshala) – 7,88,497

Griha Sankalpam

Flooring – 4,01,071

Temporary Annadanam She d Flooring – 7,23,743

11-12. Archaka Quarters (2 Works) – 9,09,764 & 7,72,854

Queue Line Phase-I – 4,88,596

Queue Line Phase-II – 5,80,113

15-ft Overbridge – 6,89,727

CC Road-2 – 4,17,084

17-18. Two Toilet Blocks – 12,57,772 each.

Ongoing Major Engineering Projects – 15.13 Crores..

Under Dc Nallam Chakradhararao supervision, several large-scale works are progressing rapidly:

Compound Wall (Sy. No. 7/1A) – 1.1 crore – In progress

SS Queue Lines Expansion – 1.34 crore – In progress

Radha Shala Construction – 38 lakh – In progress

Policarbonate Sheet



Shed at Annadanam Hall – 10 lakh – In progress

Koneru Beautification & Improvements – 2.8 crore – In progress

Annadanam Hall Construction – 6.25 crore – In progress

Swachh Bharat Bathrooms – 54 lakh (Temple share: 16.20 lakh) – In progress

SS Queue Lines Expansion – 1.34 crore – In progress

Levelling of 6.82 cents

– 64 lakh – In progress

ture Works – 20 lakh Flyover at West Rajagopuram – 5 lakh..

A Model for Temple Development..

Devotees and the local community are expressing immense satisfaction with the transformation underway at the temple. Key aspects appreciated include:

Strict supervision and timely completion of works

Zero-compromise approach to quality

Significant increase in daily amenities for devotees

Transparent accounting and responsible fund utilisation

Rapid pace of infrastructure development never seen before at the temple

The Vadapalli Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple is now emerging as a model for devotion, development, and transparent administration in the Konaseema region.



TPN Bureau, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema.. The historic Vadapalli Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema district is witnessing unprecedented development and modernization in recent months. Under the dynamic leadership of Deputy Commissioner Nallam Surya Chakradhar Rao the temple administration has taken up a series of works aimed at improving fa-

cilities for devotees, ensuring transparency in governance, and upgrading the temple infrastructure to match the growing influx of pilgrims.

From Negligence to Transparency..

In the past, despite the temple receiving substantial income, allegations were raised about mismanagement, negligence by previous administrations, and even diversion of tem-

ple EO staff, archakas, villagers, volunteers, media personnel.

Development Works

Karnataka Congress Tussle Hinges on Rahul Gandhi



The ongoing power tussle in Karnataka Congress between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has intensified, with all major developments pointing toward Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as the ultimate decision-maker. The high-stakes battle is testing the party's ability to balance ambitions, caste equations, and political stability in the southern state.

arrangement, necessary to maintain party stability and discipline.

Siddaramaiah, a veteran leader and representative of the 'AHINDA' coalition of minorities, OBCs, and Dalits, is determined to maintain his authority until at least after the state budget session. He has resisted calls for immediate change, citing potential disruptions, and has sought to end speculation around his exit through strategic moves, including a cabinet reshuffle to reinforce his command. Siddaramaiah also emphasizes the need for public backing from Rahul Gandhi, which would solidify his position and signal stability to his supporters.

Meanwhile, other regional leaders add complexity to the scenario. The party must navigate factional loyalties, electoral considerations, and public perception, all while ensuring stability in a state where political equations can shift rapidly.

Senior Dalit leader and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is closely observing developments and could serve as a compromise candidate.

Satish Jarkiholi, a known critic of Shivakumar, has ambitions to become state Congress president, while G Parameshwara has publicly expressed interest in the chief ministership. These multiple power centers make internal consensus a challenging task for the high command.

The Congress leadership faces a delicate balancing act. Any abrupt shift risks alienating key caste blocs—the OBC Vokkaliga support base crucial to Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah's AHINDA coalition of minorities and backward classes. The party must navigate factional loyalties, electoral considerations, and public perception, all while ensuring stability in a state where political equations can shift rapidly.

As Karnataka Congress grapples with competing ambitions and strategic maneuvers, Rahul Gandhi's role as mediator and arbiter becomes decisive. His intervention will likely determine the future leadership structure, manage internal friction, and maintain the coalition that delivered the party a strong mandate.

With multiple stakeholders, intricate caste dynamics, and high political stakes, the ultimate resolution hinges on the Congress high command's ability to reconcile ambitions without destabilizing the party.

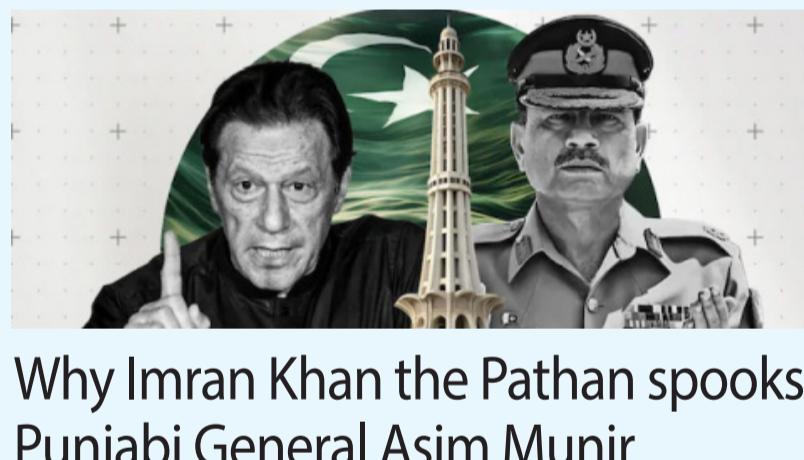
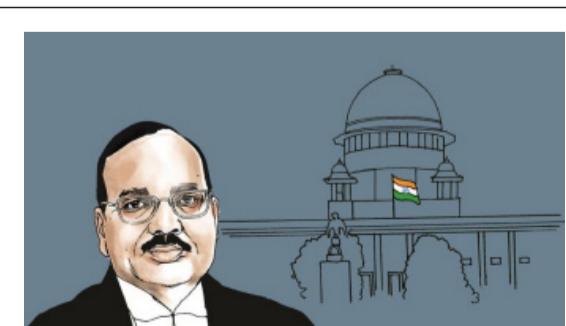
CJI Surya Kant Upholds Dissent as Pillar of Democracy

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant, in his tenure as the 53rd head of the Supreme Court, has reiterated that dissent is an essential pillar of democracy, emphasizing the judiciary's role in upholding rights and ensuring accountability. His life and career serve as an inspiration to young lawyers, showcasing that excellence arises from preparation, per-

severance, and integrity rather than privilege. Justice Surya Kant, hailing from a modest middle-class family in Hisar, Haryana, embodies the ideal that talent and honesty can propel individuals to the highest echelons of India's judicial system. His journey reflects the Constitution's faith in equal opportunity and merit, resonating deeply with aspiring legal

professionals across the country. In recent addresses and public interactions, CJI Kant highlighted that the existence of differing opinions and the freedom to voice them are fundamental to a functioning democracy. "No democracy can thrive without dissent," he remarked, underlining that judicial independence and free expression are inseparable from the nation's constitutional ethos.

Beyond championing democratic ideals, Justice Kant is known for his empathetic approach, signaling a just system that is accessible and sensitive to the needs of ordinary citizens. He has encouraged the younger legal fraternity to pursue excellence with unwavering dedication, stressing that integrity and perseverance often outweigh privilege in shaping a distinguished legal career.



Why Imran Khan the Pathan spooks Punjabi General Asim Munir

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's continued influence and Pashtun roots have emerged as a source of unease for Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir, despite Munir's control over the military and state institutions. Analysts suggest that Munir's fear is not merely political but deeply tied to ethnic and regional dynamics in Pakistan.

The rift between Khan and Munir is widely considered personal. Khan had removed Munir from the position of ISI chief in 2019, citing corruption probes involving Khan's wife, Bushra Bibi. Since then, the former cricket star-turned-politician has remained a persistent thorn in Munir's side. Khan's charisma and moral authority, coupled with his victimhood and resistance, continue to challenge Munir's legitimacy as Pakistan's de facto ruler.

Pashtun resentment against the Punjabi-dominated establishment amplifies this tension. Pathans, historically sidelined in Pakistan's power hierarchy dominated by Punjabis, have long-

standing grievances over underdevelopment in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and perceived ethnic bias. These feelings have been intensified by recent tensions involving Afghan refugees, airstrikes in eastern Afghanistan, and aggressive deportation policies, fueling anti-establishment sentiment among Pashtuns.

Observers suggest that Khan's continued popularity and Pashtun identity pose a unique threat to Munir, as releasing or mistreating Khan could trigger mass protests or even ethnic backlash. Khan's political survival and symbolic stature have thus become a crucial factor in Pakistan's fragile power dynamics, turning a personal rivalry into a broader ethnic and national security concern.

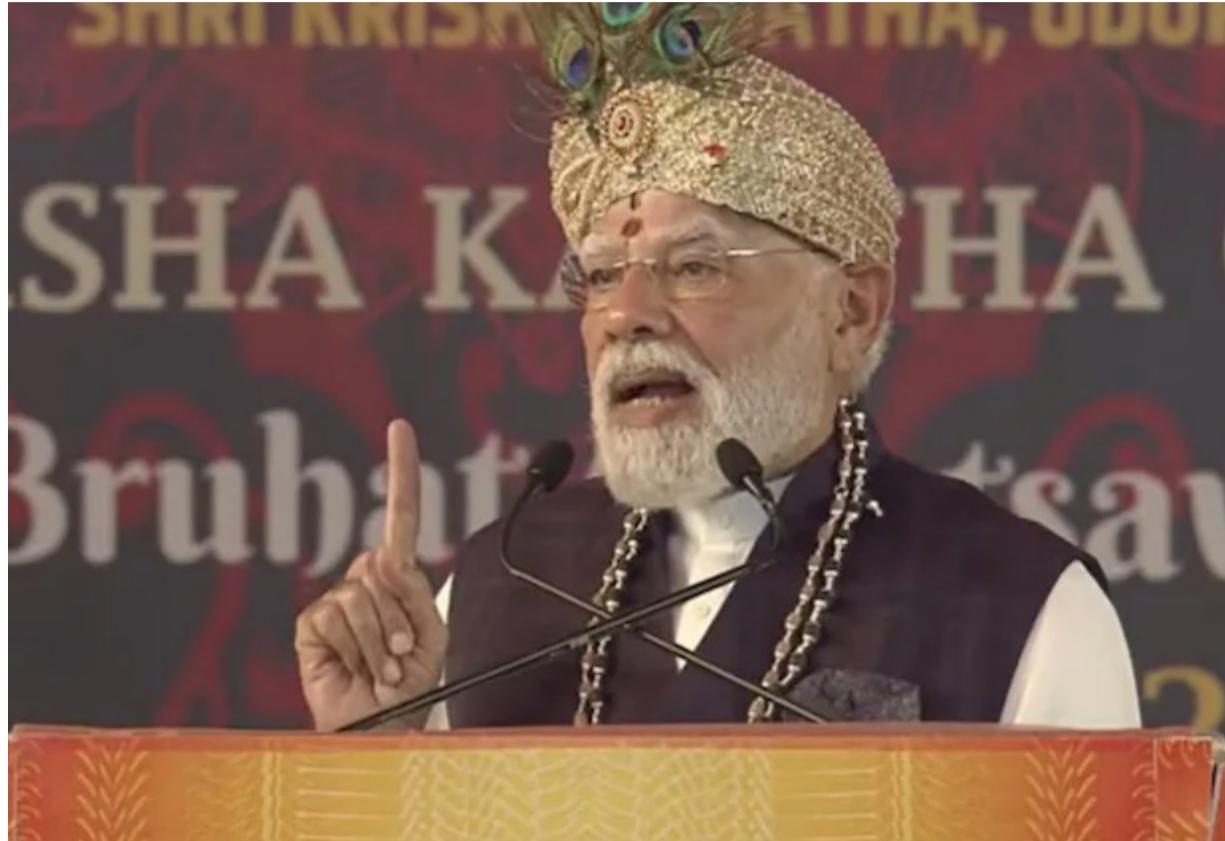
Imran Khan, for Munir, represents not just a political opponent but a mobilizing force for marginalized Pashtuns, making him a singular challenge to the Punjabi-led establishment's authority.

“New India Neither Bows Nor Hesitates From Protecting Its People”: PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Delhi Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday highlighted India's firm stance on national security, asserting that "new India neither bows nor hesitates" in protecting its people. Speaking in the temple town of Udupi during the Laksha Kantha Gita Parayana, where one lakh devotees recited the Srimad Bhagwad Gita, Modi said previous governments often hesitated to respond to terror attacks, unlike today.

Recalling the Pahalgam terror attack in April, in which 26 people, including visitors from Karnataka, were killed, Modi praised the government's swift response through Operation Sindoora, India's military action on terror launchpads in Pakistan. He also announced Mission Sudarshan Chakra, aimed at creating a security wall around key public and industrial sites.

Modi linked national policies to the teachings of the Bhagwad Gita, emphasizing peace, public welfare, and Dharma. He highlighted slogans like "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and "Sarvajan Hitaya", noting their inspiration from Gita verses and their role in shaping schemes such as Ayushman Bharat and PM Awaas Yojana. He further cited Gita's guidance on women's safety and empowerment, which influenced initiatives



like the Naari Shakti Vandana Adhiniyam.

Lauding Swami Vishwesha Teertha of Pejawara Math, Modi acknowledged his pivotal role in the Ram Janmabhoomi movement and the recent flag hoisting at the Ayodhya Ram Temple. He also high-

lighted the cultural link between Udupi and Ayodhya through the arch gate dedicated to Sri Madhwacharya, founder of the Madhwa sect.

The Prime Minister offered prayers at the Sri Krishna Temple, paid tribute to saint-philosopher Kanakadasa, and

participated in the Gita recital alongside Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot and religious leaders.

Modi's visit included a grand roadshow, where he waved to enthusiastic crowds showering flowers, reflecting Udupi's vibrant cultural heritage.

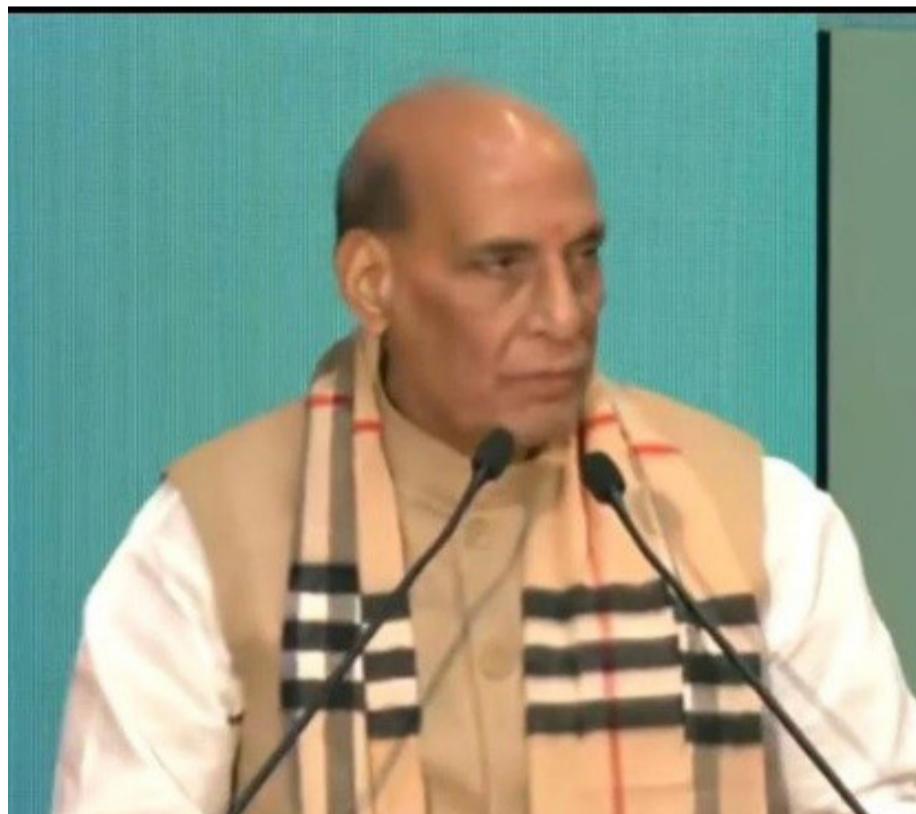
The event reinforced the connection between India's spiritual traditions and governance, with Modi underscoring that Dharma, protection of citizens, and cultural values guide the nation's policies and security framework.

India Emerges as Voice of Balance, Responsibility: Rajnath Singh

TPN Correspondent | Delhi Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday asserted that India has emerged as a voice of balance and responsibility in the current global environment, emphasizing the country's growing role in shaping international discussions. Speaking at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue in New Delhi, Singh highlighted India's approach to global affairs as rooted in strategic autonomy, civilizational values, and a commitment to peace.

"India believes in peace and dialogue, but it does not compromise on its sovereignty and security," he said, underlining the nation's firm stance on defending its national interests while engaging constructively with other countries. Singh emphasized that India's positions are guided by both pragmatism and principle, allowing it to navigate complex global challenges effectively.

The Defence Minister noted that countries in the Indo-Pacific and the Global South increasingly view India as a reliable partner, capable of contributing to regional stabil-



ity and economic growth. He stressed that India's voice in

global forums reflects responsibility, maturity, and a com-

mitment to constructive engagement rather than

confrontation.

Singh also highlighted the importance of India's civilizational values, which, he said, provide the country with a unique perspective on diplomacy, development, and security. By combining these values with modern strategic thinking, India has been able to assert its interests while supporting global peace initiatives.

Addressing the defence and strategic community at the dialogue, Singh called for greater collaboration among nations to tackle shared challenges, including security threats, technological disruptions, and geopolitical tensions. He reiterated that India's path forward is rooted in strengthening partnerships, fostering dialogue, and balancing national priorities with global responsibilities.

The address reflects India's growing confidence on the world stage, signaling its intent to continue playing a stabilizing role in international affairs while protecting its sovereignty and promoting peace.

77-Foot Lord Ram Statue, Tallest In The World, Unveiled By PM Modi In Goa

TPN Correspondent | Delhi Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday unveiled a 77-foot-tall bronze statue of Lord Ram at the Shree Samstan Gokarn Jeevottam Mutt in Partagali, South Goa, marking the tallest Lord Ram statue in the world. The statue was crafted by renowned sculptor Ram Sutar, who also designed the Statue of Unity in Gujarat.

The mutt, one of India's oldest monastic institutions, is celebrating 550 years of spiritual, cultural, and social contributions. The mutt premises, established 370 years ago, will host programmes from November 27 to December 7, attracting 7,000 to 10,000 visitors daily. The statue is expected to become a major center of devotion and cultural tourism in the region.

PM Modi's visit to Goa followed his earlier engagements in Udupi, Karnataka, where he participated in the Laksha Kantha Gita Parayana, during which over one lakh devotees recited the Bhagwad Gita. In Udupi, the Prime Minister inaugurated the Suvarna



Teertha Mantapa and dedicated the Kanaka Kavacha, a golden cover for Kanakana Kindi, the sacred window associated with saint Kanakadasa.

Addressing the gathering, Modi praised Udupi as the "karmabhoomi of Jana Sangh and BJP's model of good gov-

ernance", recalling initiatives from the 1960s that laid the foundation for cleanliness, water supply, and civic infrastructure. He linked the event to India's spiritual heritage, noting the unity and devotion displayed by participants during the Gita recitation. The Prime Minister high-

lighted the confluence of faith, culture, and governance, saying the Gita continues to inspire national policies and societal values. He expressed that Udupi and Goa exemplify India's enduring divine and cultural legacy, where devotion and civic responsibility coexist.

The unveiling of the Lord Ram statue in Goa, combined with Modi's spiritual engagements in Udupi, reinforces the government's focus on preserving India's cultural heritage, promoting spiritual tourism, and showcasing the nation's devotion as an enduring part of its identity.

Rahul Gandhi Calls Air Pollution "Health



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday urged Parliament to hold a detailed discussion on the severe air pollution plaguing Delhi, calling it a "health emergency". He criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi for remaining silent and questioned the government's lack of urgency and accountability in addressing the crisis.

Speaking to mothers at his residence, Gandhi shared a video highlighting their concerns. He said, "Every mother I meet tells me the same thing: her child is growing up breathing toxic air. They are exhausted, scared, and angry. Modi ji, India's children are choking in front of us. How can you stay silent?"

Gandhi demanded a strict

and enforceable action plan to curb pollution, insisting that India's children deserve clean air, not excuses or political distractions. He emphasized the need for immediate parliamentary attention and actionable measures to tackle the worsening situation.

Delhi has been experiencing very poor air quality for the past 15 days, with forecasts indicating the conditions will persist in the coming week. The Air Quality Early Warning System predicts the pollution levels will remain in the 'very poor' to 'severe' categories throughout the winter.

Health experts have warned that prolonged exposure to toxic air increases the risk of airway inflammation, reduced lung function, and aggravation of pre-existing respiratory or cardiac conditions. Doctors have urged residents, especially children, asthma patients, smokers, and people with underlying health issues, to undergo regular diagnostic screenings to detect early signs of pollution-related health deterioration.

The Delhi pollution crisis has reignited debates over government responsibility and the need for concrete, enforceable measures to protect citizens. Gandhi's call for parliamentary action underscores growing public concern and demands for accountability amid escalating health risks linked to toxic air.

The Opposition leader's appeal stresses that clean air is a fundamental necessity, urging the government to treat the ongoing pollution crisis as a national priority rather than a seasonal inconvenience.

'Remove 18% GST on air purifiers': Kejriwal



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday demanded that the Central Government immediately remove the 18% GST on air and water purifiers, citing the worsening air quality in Delhi-NCR.

In a post on X in Hindi, Kejriwal emphasized that clean air and clean water are fundamental rights of every citizen. He criticized the government, saying, "In Delhi and across North India, the air has become deadly. Instead of providing solutions, the government is collecting more taxes from the public."

The AAP supremo highlighted that families attempting to protect themselves by buying air purifiers are forced to bear an additional financial burden due

to the GST, calling it "outright injustice." He urged the Centre to act promptly: "If you cannot provide solutions, at least stop burdening the pockets of the people."

Kejriwal's demand adds to growing public and political pressure on the government to tackle the pollution crisis effectively. While citizens are struggling to mitigate health risks, the imposition of GST on protective devices has sparked criticism that the government is adding financial strain instead of offering solutions.

As Delhi faces one of its most severe pollution episodes in recent years, calls for policy interventions, fiscal relief, and urgent public health measures are gaining momentum, with Kejriwal urging the Centre to act immediately.

Imran Khan 'dead or alive'? Son demands proof of life



TPN Correspondent | Abuja, Nigeria

Rumours over the alleged death of former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan have intensified after an unverified Afghan media report claimed he was killed inside Adiala Jail. The claims, circulating widely on social media, prompted his son Kasim Khan to demand immediate proof that his father is alive, as well as urgent access for family members.

Kasim, in a post on X, said his father has been detained for 845 days and has allegedly spent the past six weeks in a death cell, held in complete isolation with no contact with family. He claimed that despite court orders, Khan's sisters have repeatedly been denied visits. "No phone calls, no visits, and no information about his well-being," he wrote, calling the secrecy "deliberate" and accusing authorities of concealing Khan's condition.

He urged international human rights organisations to intervene, demanding confirmation of Imran's safety, restoration of family access, an end to "inhumane isolation", and the release of what he termed a political prisoner.

Imran's sister Aleema Khanum also alleged that court-mandated visits were not being honoured. The family's concerns escalated on Wednesday when PTI supporters and Khan's sisters staged a sit-in outside Adiala Jail, drawing thousands. Some supporters reportedly attempted to breach the jail checkpoint before police assured Aleema that a meeting would be arranged.

Adiala Jail officials, however, firmly denied all death rumours. In an official statement, authorities said Imran Khan is in "completely good health", remains inside Adiala Jail, and is receiving "all necessary care". They dismissed reports of his transfer or deteriorating condition as "baseless".

Khan, imprisoned since August 2023, faces multiple cases he says are politically motivated. Earlier this year, he and his wife were convicted in a corruption case and sentenced to long prison terms. Despite the government's assurances, concerns over Khan's isolation and safety continue to fuel tensions across Pakistan.

Putin to Visit India on December 4–5 for Annual Summit, MEA Confirms



TPN Correspondent | Tel Aviv/Europe

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has confirmed that Russian President Vladimir Putin will undertake a state visit to India from December 4–5, following an invitation from Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The visit marks Putin's first trip to India since 2021 and will include participation in the 23rd India–Russia Annual Summit.

According to the MEA, President Droupadi Murmu will receive Putin and host a state banquet in his honour. The summit will allow both nations' leaders to review progress in bilateral cooperation, strengthen their 'Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership', and exchange views on key regional and global developments.

The two leaders last met in person in September this year in Tianjin, China, on the sidelines of the SCO Summit. Preparations for the annual summit have been underway, with MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal noting that both countries are working to deepen ties across strategic sectors.

The Kremlin also under-

scored the significance of the upcoming visit. Citing a statement from Russian state agency TASS, Moscow said the trip will provide an opportunity to discuss an "extensive agenda" covering political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and humanitarian cooperation. These issues will be central to Putin's talks with the Indian delegation led by Prime Minister Modi.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who met Putin in Moscow last week, conveyed the Prime Minister's greetings and reviewed preparations for the summit. He later wrote that he deeply valued Putin's perspectives on enhancing bilateral ties.

Further signalling the importance of the visit, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov confirmed that Russia is "actively preparing" for Putin's arrival, expected to be "meaningful" for both nations.

India and Russia's strategic partnership, formalised in 2000 and elevated in 2010, continues to anchor cooperation across defence, energy, trade, and emerging technologies—areas expected to feature prominently during the December summit.

US Will Permanently Pause Migration From All '3rd World Countries': Trump

TPN Bureau | Washington

Two West Virginia National Guard members were critically injured in a brazen shooting on Wednesday afternoon, just blocks from the White House, in what authorities are investigating as a targeted act of violence. The incident occurred near a busy metro station as downtown streets and offices were bustling, heightening concerns over security in the nation's capital.

The suspected shooter, identified as 29-year-old Afghan national Rahamanullah Lakanwal, came to the United States during the 2021 Afghanistan airlift under Operation Allies Welcome and had been resettled in Bellingham, Washington. Lakanwal reportedly lived in Washington state after his arrival. Law enforcement officials confirmed he was shot four times during



the confrontation and taken into custody, though he is also severely wounded.

Speaking at a media briefing, US President Donald Trump condemned the attack as



"an act of evil, hatred, and terror" and blamed the suspect was brought to the US under the Biden administration. Trump described Afghanistan as a "hell-hole" and vowed to re-examine the entry of all aliens from Afghanistan during Biden's presidency. He called the shooter an "animal" and warned he would "pay a very steep price."

In response to the shooting, Trump ordered 500 additional National Guard troops deployed to Washington, DC, and extended

his support to all military and law enforcement personnel. The shooting has renewed debate over Trump's militarisation of American cities, particularly in Democrat-run areas, which has faced criticism and lawsuits from local officials.

FBI Director Kash Patel and Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser confirmed that the two guardsmen are hospitalized in critical condition. The FBI is investigating the attack as a possible act of terrorism. Authorities continue to search for motives and any potential accomplices, while the city remains on heightened alert following the shocking attack.

The incident has sparked national outrage and raised urgent questions about security protocols for National Guard members deployed in the capital.

Cyclone Ditwah Batters Sri Lanka, 56 Dead as Floods and Landslips Worsen

TPN Correspondent | Colombo

Sri Lanka is reeling from the devastating impact of Cyclone Ditwah, which has triggered severe flooding, widespread landslips, and powerful winds across the island. As of Friday morning (November 28, 2025), authorities have confirmed at least 56 deaths, while dozens more remain missing as rescue teams struggle to reach isolated communities.

Over the past two days, torrential rains have pounded multiple districts, with some areas recording unprecedented levels of rainfall. Roads, bridges, and key highways have been inundated or blocked by landslips, severely hampering emergency response efforts. In Badulla, one of the worst-affected regions, major road sections have collapsed under continuous downpours, leaving residents stranded and



prompting urgent evacuations.

The Sri Lankan Disaster Management Centre has warned

that conditions may deteriorate further as Cyclone Ditwah continues to move north and north-west, heading

toward the Tamil Nadu coast. Coastal and low-lying regions remain on high alert, with authorities urging residents to relocate to safer ground. Temporary shelters have been set up in schools, temples, and public buildings to

accommodate those displaced.

In a significant humanitarian gesture, India has agreed to deploy helicopters from INS Vikrant, its aircraft carrier currently docked in Colombo, to assist with ongoing rescue and relief operations. The aircraft are expected to support aerial surveys, transport essential supplies, and aid in evacuations from cut-off areas. Sri Lankan officials welcomed the move, calling it a "critical boost" to their emergency response capabilities.

With more rain forecast over the weekend, emergency teams are racing against time to locate the missing, clear roadways, and deliver aid to affected families. Authorities have urged the public to follow safety advisories closely as the nation confronts one of its most damaging weather events in recent years.

Hong Kong Fire Death Toll Rises to 94 as Rescue Ends



TPN Correspondent | Hong Kong

Hong Kong's authorities are nearing the end of search and rescue operations after the city's worst fire in nearly 80 years engulfed the Wang Fuk Court housing complex in Tai Po, leaving at least 94 dead and

dozens still unaccounted for. The massive blaze, which began on Wednesday afternoon, has devastated the eight-tower estate home to more than 4,600 residents. Firefighters reported that the blaze was largely contained, though it spread rapidly due to ongoing renovations. The buildings were covered in bamboo scaffolding and green mesh at the time of the fire, which likely contributed to the speed and intensity of the flames. Authorities confirmed that the complex had been undergoing extensive re-

furbishment, raising questions about fire safety compliance. In the wake of the disaster, three men, including two directors and an engineering consultant of the construction company overseeing the renovations, have been arrested on suspicion of manslaughter. Investigations are ongoing to determine if negligence or safety violations contributed to the high death toll.

Rescue teams have been working tirelessly to locate survivors amid the charred ruins. Emergency crews reported retrieving dozens of residents from the wreckage, though the scale of the fire has made recovery operations extremely challenging. Hospitals in Hong Kong have admitted numerous injured residents, with some in critical condition due to smoke inhalation and burns.

The tragedy has sparked widespread outrage and grief across Hong Kong, with officials promising a full investigation into the circumstances surrounding the fire. Authorities have also urged residents of other high-rise estates undergoing renovations to exercise caution and ensure compliance with fire safety regulations.

The Wang Fuk Court fire is now considered one of the deadliest residential fires in Hong Kong's modern history, underscoring concerns about building safety standards in densely populated urban areas.

Families of victims continue to seek information on missing loved ones as authorities work to conclude

recovery operations.

SBI and Bharti Airtel Lead Top Firms' Market Valuation Gains

The combined market valuation of seven of India's top-10 most valued companies soared by 1,18,328.29 crore last week, reflecting renewed investor optimism in equities. State Bank of India (SBI) and Bharti Airtel emerged as the biggest gainers during this period, as the BSE benchmark surged 721.53 points, or 0.88 per cent.

SBI's market capitalisation jumped 35,953.25 crore, taking its valuation to 7,95,910 crore, while Bharti Airtel added 33,214.77 crore, reaching 11,18,952.64 crore. Reliance Industries, continuing its dominance, saw its market cap rise 17,389.23 crore to 19,04,898.51 crore. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) also posted gains, climbing 12,952.75 crore to 11,46,879.47 crore.

Other winners included Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), whose valuation edged higher by 12,460.25 crore to 5,65,612.92 crore, and Infosys, which rose 6,127.73 crore to 6,39,901.03 crore. HDFC Bank's market cap inched up by



230.31 crore, taking it to 14,84,816.26 crore.

On the flip side, some major companies saw declines. ICICI Bank's valuation fell 10,707.87 crore to 10,01,654.46 crore, Bajaj Finance dipped 6,346.93 crore to 6,17,892.72 crore, and Hindustan Unilever lost 5,039.87 crore, standing at 6,01,225.16 crore.

Overall, the week highlighted strong performance by state-owned and tech-centric firms, signaling sustained investor confidence amid positive market sentiment. Reliance Industries retained its position as the most valued company in India, followed by HDFC Bank, TCS, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, SBI, Infosys, Bajaj Finance, and Hindustan Unilever.

As equities continue to show momentum, investors are closely watching the performance of these blue-chip companies, whose market movements often influence broader market trends and investor strategies.

Major Carmakers Slash Prices Ahead of Navaratri, GST Cut Benefits



Buyers are in for a bonanza as leading automakers Maruti Suzuki, Tata Motors, Hyundai Motor India, and luxury carmakers like Mercedes-Benz and BMW announce significant price cuts effective from September 22, coinciding with the start of the auspicious Navaratri period. Two-wheeler makers are also joining the trend, passing on GST benefits to customers.

Maruti Suzuki India, the country's largest carmaker, has reduced vehicle prices by

up to 1.29 lakh. The company aims to attract two-wheeler users to four-wheelers by offering additional discounts on small cars beyond the GST cut of 8.5%. Popular models such as S-Presso, Alto K10, Celerio, Wagon-R, and Ignis have seen price reductions ranging from 71,300 to 1,29,600. Premium models including Swift, Baleno, Dzire, Fronx, Brezza, Grand Vitara, Jimny, Ertiga, and XL6 also received substantial cuts, with savings of up to 1.12 lakh.

Tata Motors has cut prices across its passenger vehicles by 75,000 to 1.45 lakh, including Rs 85,000 off the compact SUV Punch and Rs 1.55 lakh on Nexon. Premium SUVs Harrier and Safari now cost 1.4 lakh and 1.45 lakh less, respectively. Mahindra & Mahindra has already reduced prices by up to 1.56 lakh on models like Bolero, XUV300, Thar, and Scorpio Classic. Hyundai, Honda, Kia, and Toyota are also implementing reductions, with Hyundai Tucson seeing

the highest cut of 2.4 lakh. Luxury automakers have followed suit. Mercedes-Benz announced reductions ranging from 2 lakh (A-Class) to 10 lakh (S-Class), while BMW Motor India is cutting prices by up to 13.6 lakh across its portfolio. Audi and Jaguar Land Rover have also reduced prices, with cuts ranging from 2.6 lakh to 30.4 lakh.

In the two-wheeler segment, Hero MotoCorp and Honda Motorcycle & Scooter

India are lowering prices by up to 15,743 and 18,800, respectively.

According to Maruti Suzuki India Senior Executive Officer Partho Banerjee, "With car penetration in India at just 34 per 1,000 people, there is no better time to put India on wheels." Consumers are expected to benefit significantly from these combined GST-related and additional price cuts, making the festive season an ideal time for vehicle purchases.

Wholesale Price Inflation at Two-Year Low, Core Inflation Rises



India's factory gate inflation, measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), stood at a two-

year low of -0.58% in July, continuing the deflationary trend observed in June. Analysts

attribute the recent change in the wholesale price trajectory to an upswing in food prices

after months of decline.

Paras Jasrai, Associate Director at India

Ratings and Research, noted that food prices played a significant role in reversing the deflationary trend. In August 2025, food prices rose 0.2% compared with the same month last year, while the decline in vegetable prices slowed to 14.2% year-on-year—the slowest pace in six months. Edible oils recorded a sharp increase of 22.9% in August, marking the highest surge in three months.

Jewellery prices also climbed significantly, rising 32.6% year-on-year in August, contributing to a rise in core inflation, which reached a five-month high of 1.6%. Experts expect core inflation to remain around 1.8% through the end of 2025 due to a low base effect, keeping overall price pressures in check.

Food items accounted for 73 basis points of the

110 basis points uptick in the headline WPI between July and August, highlighting the dominant role of essential commodities in inflation trends. Non-food manufactured items, which make up the core WPI, added 27 basis points to the headline print, according to Rahul Agrawal, Senior Economist at ICRA.

While deflationary pressures have eased, the rise in essential commodity prices indicates that inflation dynamics remain sensitive to changes in food and commodity markets. Policymakers and analysts will continue to monitor WPI and core inflation trends closely as India navigates supply-side pressures and prepares for the upcoming festive season, where consumer demand is expected to rise.

Driven by strong global demand, India has become one of the world's most mature flexible office ecosystems, with international firms accounting for 72 per cent of flex space absorption in 2024, according to Cushman & Wakefield's Global Trends in Flexible Office 2025 report. The remaining 28 per cent of demand came from startups, leveraging flexible offices to manage costs, attract talent, and scale efficiently in a competitive landscape.

India scored a perfect 100 on Cushman & Wakefield's maturity index, surpassing global peers including the UK at 98, France at 97, the US at 81, and Japan and Singapore at 77. The score reflects multiple metrics, including flexible inventory as a share of total office space, number of operators, leasing activity, emerging agreement structures, and overall market depth.

Ramita Arora, Managing Director, Bengaluru & Head - Flex, India, Cushman & Wakefield, highlighted India's market maturity, diversity of operators, and ability to pivot with demand, noting that many Western markets are still evolving.

Flexible office demand in

India's Forex Reserves Cross USD 700 Billion, Third Weekly Rise in a Row



India's foreign exchange reserves rose by USD 4,698 billion in the week ending September 12, reaching USD 702,966 billion, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest 'Weekly Statistical Supplement.' This marks the third consecutive week of gains and sees the much-anticipated USD 700 billion milestone crossed.

The largest component of the reserves, India's foreign currency assets (FCA), increased by USD 2,537 billion to USD 587,014 billion. Gold reserves also contributed to the rise, climbing USD 2,12 billion to reach USD 92,419 billion.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, following the latest monetary policy review, emphasized that India's foreign exchange reserves are sufficient to cover approximately 11 months of the country's imports. This provides a strong buffer to manage external shocks and support the stability of the Indian rupee.

Historical trends show India steadily building its forex

India Emerges as Leading Flexible Office Market Globally



India has risen nearly six-fold since 2020, with 2024 alone seeing flex space account for 15 per cent of new office leasing. Operator expansion has surged, with 33.5 million square feet leased between 2022 and 2024—equivalent to over 500,000 seats. Annual take-up has tripled over five years, confirming flexible workspace as a mainstream solution rather than an alternate option.

India is now the largest flexible office market in APAC, with 79.7 million square feet of stock across the top eight cities, expected to reach 85 million square feet by year-end and surpass 100 million by 2026. Managed office and enterprise models now dominate, accounting for 70-80 per cent of demand. Bengaluru leads with 30 per cent of national flex inventory, followed by Delhi NCR, Pune, and Hyderabad.

Institutional interest is growing, with four operators already public and more IPOs anticipated. The next 3-5 years are expected to see consolidation, with leading players strengthening market share while niche operators continue to meet specialised needs.

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



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

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

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

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

Interestingly, Apple may dis-

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

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

YouTube Adds Daily Timer to 'Shorts' to Combat Doomscrolling



NASA's rover Perseverance has discovered an unusual 80-centimeter rock in the Verney-noden area of Mars' Jezero Crater, sparking excitement among scientists. The rock, named "Phippsaksla," stood out due to its size and structured appearance compared to surrounding stones.

Images captured by Perseverance's Left Mastcam-Z camera on September 19, 2025, show Phippsaksla both up close and from a distance, revealing details that prompted the team to investigate further.

To analyze its composition, the rover used its SuperCam instrument, which fires laser pulses at targets and examines the reflected light. Preliminary findings indicate that the rock contains iron and nickel, elements uncommon in typical Martian geology but often found in asteroids, suggesting that the rock may have formed elsewhere in the solar system.

"This could be a meteorite," NASA scientists noted, though further study is required to confirm its origin and how long it has been on the Martian surface.

Phippsaksla joins a growing

list of metal-rich rocks identified on Mars by previous missions. The Curiosity rover documented several iron-nickel meteorites, including the one-meter-wide "Lebanon" in 2014 and "Cacao" in 2023. Earlier rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, also recorded similar findings, offering valuable insights into materials that have traveled across the solar system to reach Mars.

Each metallic discovery enhances understanding of the diverse composition of objects impacting Mars, helping scientists piece together the planet's history and its interactions with space debris.

For Perseverance, Phippsaksla represents a new chapter in exploring extraterrestrial meteorites. The research team will continue analyzing data to determine its precise origin, composition, and the story it tells about Mars' cosmic neighborhood.

This discovery highlights how even a single rock can provide profound insights, reinforcing the importance of ongoing robotic exploration in expanding humanity's knowledge of the solar system.

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

Amazon Inc., the global e-commerce giant, is set to transform its workforce by automating a significant portion of its operations, aiming to replace approximately 500,000 employees with robots by 2033. According to a report by The New York Times, this move highlights Amazon's aggressive push towards robotics and automation within its sprawling fulfillment network.

Amazon's robotics team is targeting automation for up to 75% of its operations. If successful, this shift could allow the company to avoid hiring an estimated 160,000 additional employees by 2027 alone. The initiative is part of Amazon's broader strategy to streamline its supply chain and reduce reliance on human labor, especially for repetitive and physically demanding tasks in warehouses.

The company has already invested heavily in robotic technology,



using machines to handle sorting, packing, and transporting goods within fulfillment centers. This next phase

would significantly scale up these efforts, with robots performing more complex tasks and improving overall

efficiency. While automation promises faster delivery times and cost savings, it also raises con-

cerns about job displacement. Labor advocates warn that large-scale replacement of workers with robots

could impact thousands of families reliant on Amazon's workforce for their livelihoods.

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

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

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

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

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

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

In addition to the technical upgrades, Meta is launching awareness campaigns to educate users about common online scams and how to recognize them. The initiatives include informational prompts and tips to help users stay vigilant and avoid falling prey to deceptive messages.

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

er familiarity with digital security risks.

Meta's new safety tools come as part of a broader effort by technology companies to strengthen user protection on social platforms. By combining artificial intelligence with user education, Meta hopes to reduce



scam incidents and build trust among its growing user base. The company has not yet disclosed when the full rollout will occur, but early tests indicate promising results in detecting scam attempts before they cause harm. Users are encouraged to update

Ultraviolette X-47 Crossover Deliveries Begin in India



Ultraviolette, the Indian electric two-wheeler manufacturer, has started delivering its much-anticipated X-47 Crossover model across India. Launched in September 2025, the X-47 Crossover

received an overwhelming response with over 3,000 bookings within the first 24 hours, reflecting strong consumer interest in performance electric mobility.

Priced from Rs 2.49 lakh

(ex-showroom), the X-47 Crossover is a high-performance electric motorcycle designed for both urban and adventure riding. It is powered by a 10.7 kWh battery pack, delivering an impres-

sive IDC-certified range of 323 kilometers on a single charge. The electric motor produces 40 horsepower and 610 Nm of torque at the wheel, allowing the bike to accelerate from 0 to 100

km/h in just 8.1 seconds. The top speed is electronically limited to 145 km/h.

One of the standout features of the X-47 Crossover is its advanced driver-assistance system (ADAS) called UV Hypersense. This radar-based technology offers a 150-degree front view, 68-degree rear vertical view, and up to 200 meters of tracking distance. The system provides crucial safety alerts such as rear collision warnings, lane change assist, and overtaking alerts, setting a new benchmark in the electric two-wheeler segment.

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

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

Pukhraj Singh Gill Second, Four Indians Tied Sixth at Bharath Classic

Pukhraj Singh Gill delivered a stellar performance on Day 1 of the Bharath Classic 2025 at Kensville Golf Resort, Gujarat, carding a 6-under 66 — his best-ever round on the Asian Tour. Using a new putter he purchased last week in Mumbai, Gill, a former IGPL Tour winner, recorded eight birdies against two bogeys in an aggressive display. He lies two shots behind Korean Hee-min Chang, who leads after an eight-under 64, including an eagle on the Par-4 15th.

Tied second with Gill are Korean Wooyoung Cho and Thailand's Jazz Janewattananond and Poosit Supramai, all shooting 66. Other Indians also had a strong day: Ajeeet Singh Sandhu, Olympian Udayan Mane, Sachin Baisoya, and amateur Ishaan Chawhan all shot 5-under 67 to share sixth place. Indian-American Varun Chopra also carded a 67, alongside recent Asian Tour winner Ekpharit Wu of Thailand.

Saptak Talwar, veteran Naman Dawar, Sudhir Sharma, and Gaurav Pratap Singh finished 3-under 69,



tied 17th. The inaugural \$500,000 Bharath Classic is jointly sanctioned by the Asian Tour and the Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL). The event is key for players aiming to improve their Asian Tour Order of Merit rankings or secure a

spot in the Asian Tour Q-School and 2026 International Series India.

Gill said, "I played aggressively, and my experience on the IGPL helped me. Hitting well off the tee and using the new putter gave me confidence. My goal is to win, but

I also aim to secure a place in the Asian Tour Q-School."

Chang, making his first appearance at Kensville, adapted well to slower greens, saying, "It's a good result. My course management worked well, and I am happy with my start."

Meanwhile, in-form players Yuvraj Sandhu and Shaurya Bhattacharya struggled with even-par 72s, while Aman Raj shot 1-over 73. With the Asian Tour back in India, the tournament promises competitive rounds and a chance for emerging talent to shine.

Donyell Malen Stars as Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest Win in Europa League



Donyell Malen scored twice to guide Aston Villa to a 2-1 victory over Young Boys in a Europa League

clash on Thursday, a match briefly marred by crowd trouble. Malen opened the scoring with a

header from a Youri Tielemans cross but was hit on the head by an object thrown from the away sup-

porters' section while celebrating. Despite a minor cut, the Dutch forward shrugged off the incident and doubled Villa's lead just before half-time, assisted by Morgan Rogers.

The match saw brief interruptions as Young Boys fans clashed with police. Captain Loris Benito intervened to calm the situation. Joel Monteiro pulled one back for the Swiss side, but Villa secured their fourth win in five group-stage games, sitting just behind Lyon and Midtjylland on goal difference. The victory continues Villa's impressive form, marking 10 wins in 12 matches across competitions after a five-game winless start to the Premier League season.

Malen told TNT Sports he

was "fine" after the incident and praised the team's turnaround.

Nottingham Forest also recorded a commanding 3-0 win over Malmo at the

City Ground. Ryan Yates opened the scoring with a curling effort, followed by Arnaud Kalimuendo's first goal for the club and Nikola Milenkovic's strike to seal the win. The result lifted Sean Dyche's side to 16th place in the group with eight points. Yates called the match "unbelievable" and emphasized the special European nights at home.

Elsewhere in the Europa League, Lyon crushed Maccabi Tel Aviv 6-0 with a hat-trick from Corentin Toliso, while Midtjylland suffered a 2-1 loss to Roma, ending their perfect run. Celtic defeated Feyenoord 3-1, and Rangers drew 1-1 with Braga, with both teams reduced to 10 men.

The latest round of fixtures has intensified the race for Europa League playoff positions, with Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest consolidating their strong starts in the competition.

India to Host Sri Lanka for Five-Match Women's T20I Series



India will host Sri Lanka for a five-match women's T20I series from December 21 to 30, with the first two games scheduled in Visakhapatnam and the remaining three fixtures in Thiruvananthapuram, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced on Friday. BCCI Secretary Devajit Saikia confirmed that the first two matches will be held at the ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium in Visakhapatnam on December 21 and 23. The final three games are set for December 26, 28, and 30 at the Greenfield International Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram.

The series comes as India's first international outing after their historic maiden Women's ODI World Cup victory in Navi Mumbai earlier this month. It will also form an essential part of India's preparations for the 2026 ICC Women's T20 World Cup, scheduled in England from June 12 to July 5.

Visakhapatnam has previously hosted India's

league matches against South Africa and Australia during the 2025 Women's ODI World Cup, as well as a ten-day pre-tournament camp. Thiruvananthapuram will host women's international cricket for the first time, having previously hosted men's T20Is, ODIs, and youth matches. The T20I series

announcement follows the postponement of Bangladesh's scheduled tour to India in December due to political tensions, which had earlier impacted India men's tour of Bangladesh, now rescheduled for September 2026.

Following the T20I series, India will host the fourth edition of the Women's Premier League

(WPL) from January 9 to February 5, 2026, across Navi Mumbai and Vadodara. The national team will then embark on a multi-format tour of Australia from February 15 to March 6, providing further preparation ahead of the 2026 T20 World Cup.

The Sri Lanka series is

expected to offer India an opportunity to consolidate their post-World Cup momentum while giving emerging players valuable exposure ahead of the next global T20 tournament. Fans across the two host cities are set to witness high-octane action as the Indian women aim to continue their winning run on home soil.

Sultan Azlan Shah Cup: Selvam's Late Strike Seals 3-2 Win for India Over New Zealand



Ipoh, Malaysia — Selvam Karthi scored the decisive goal

in the final quarter as India edged past New Zealand 3-2 in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup on Thursday, November 27, 2025.

India got off to a fast start with Amit Rohidas opening the scoring in the 4th minute. New Zealand fought back, but Sanjay extended India's lead in the 32nd minute. The Kiwis responded strongly, with George Baker netting twice in the 42nd and 48th minutes to level the score at 2-2.

The match remained tense as New Zealand attempted to dominate the midfield in the opening minutes, but the Indian defense held firm under pressure.

In the final quarter, Selvam Karthi broke the deadlock with a clinical finish, securing India's second consecutive win in the

tournament.

India had previously recorded a thrilling 4-3 victory against the hosts Malaysia on Wednesday, November 26. With two wins from their opening matches, India looks well-positioned to advance in the tournament.

The team's defense and counter-attacking play were crucial in managing New Zealand's pressure, while their clinical finishing ensured they stayed ahead on the scoreboard. Selvam's late goal drew praise for composure under pressure, highlighting India's ability to perform in tight situations.

India will now look to maintain their momentum in the remaining matches of the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup as they aim for a strong finish in the prestigious tournament.

Sri Lanka Beat Pakistan by Six Runs to Enter Tri-Nation T20I Final



Sri Lanka defeated Pakistan by six runs in a thrilling Tri-Nation T20I clash at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Thursday, successfully defending their total of 184 and securing a spot in the November 29 final against the same opponents.

Sri Lanka posted a challenging total thanks to a fiery 76 off 48 balls from opener Kamil Mishara, who struck six fours and three sixes. He shared a 66-run partnership for the second wicket with Kusal Mendis, who contributed 40 off 23 balls. Despite wickets falling at regular intervals, Mishara added a crucial 57-run stand with Janith Liyanage, while skipper Dasun Shanaka finished the innings strongly with 17 off the last 10 balls.

Chasing 185, Pakistan got off to a shaky start, losing four wickets in the Powerplay. Captain Salman Ali Agha led a fightback, scoring a career-best 63, forming crucial partnerships with Usman Khan

(56-run stand) and Mohammad Nawaz (70-run stand). Nawaz's quickfire 27 helped keep Pakistan in contention, but the duo fell short in the final overs.

Sri Lanka's Dushmantha Chameera emerged as the match-winner, taking 4-20 and defending 10 runs in the last over. He dismissed Faheem on the fifth ball when Pakistan needed seven from two, securing the six-run victory and earning the Player of the Match award.

Earlier in the innings, Eshan Malinga bowled tightly, picking up two wickets for 54 runs, while Maheesh Theekshana and Dasun Shanaka bowled economically without taking wickets. Pakistan's chase saw some late resistance, but Sri Lanka's balanced bowling attack and timely hitting proved decisive.

With this win, Sri Lanka booked their place in the final of the Tri-nation T20I series, ending Pakistan's hopes of a sixth consecutive T20I victory.

Vanara Teaser Promises Crazy, Entertaining Ride



The teaser of the upcoming Telugu entertainer Vanara has created an instant buzz, offering audiences a glimpse into a quirky, action-packed world. Directed by Avinash Thiruveedhula, who also plays the lead, the film features Simran Choudhary as the female lead. The teaser was launched in a grand event, unveiled by Rocking Star Manchu Manoj, adding star power to the film's promotional kick-off.

The teaser opens with a compelling voiceover by Mass Ka Das Vishwak Sen, setting the stage for the film's imaginative premise. Vanara explores a fascinating question: What if a Vanara Senapathi went to war with Ravana? This bold and creative idea forms the backbone of the narrative, showcased through striking visuals and a gripping background score.

Avinash's character embodies traits of a Vanara, blending raw instinct with youthful eccentricity. The teaser humorously introduces a pivotal moment when his beloved bike gets taken away during a political rally. This triggers a

chain of chaotic events that shape the film's core conflict. The madness, energy, and emotional outbursts that follow hint at a story packed with entertainment, action, and whimsical charm.

The chemistry between Avinash and Simran Choudhary shines through in the brief glimpses offered. Their interactions are lively, playful, and promising. Avinash stands out with a performance that balances intense action sequences, emotional depth, and sharp comic timing. His screen presence, combined with the film's imaginative concept, helps the teaser leave a strong impression.

Andhra King Taluka, the latest Telugu entertainer starring Energetic Star Ram Pothineni, opened to highly positive reviews and has already made a strong mark at the overseas box office. The film, directed by Mahesh Babu P, features Bhagyashree Borse as the female lead along with Kannada superstar Upendra in a pivotal role.

The action-packed drama has brought Ram back into his energetic form, and the response from audiences in the Telugu states indicates a solid opening day. Early trade reports suggest the film is set for impressive numbers across domestic markets. Meanwhile, the North American box office has delivered a major boost, with the film crossing the \$250K milestone shortly after its premiere.

Ram Pothineni and Bhagyashree Borse are currently touring the United States to promote the film,

helping build momentum as it heads into an extended weekend. Industry analysts expect the film to witness a strong surge in ticket sales, putting it well on track to surpass

the half-million-dollar mark in North America by the end of the first weekend.

The supporting cast includes familiar performers Rao Ramesh, Murali Sharma, Raghu Babu, Rajiv Kanakala, and Tulasi, each adding depth to the narrative. The music, composed by Vivek and Mervin, has also contributed to the film's buzz with its energetic tracks and background score.

Backed by Mythri Movie Makers, Andhra King Taluka blends mass action, entertainment, and emotional elements, striking a chord with fans of commercial Telugu cinema. With positive word-of-mouth and strong overseas traction, the film appears poised for a successful opening weekend and a promising box-office run.

As the extended weekend unfolds, all eyes are on how high Andhra King Taluka can climb in the global market.

Andhra King Taluka Races Past \$250K in North America



Naveen Polishetty Spreads Festive Cheer with 'Bhimavaram Balma'



Chikiri Madness: From 45-Min Trek to 100M Views



Peddi, the highly anticipated rustic sports-action drama starring Mega Power Star Ram Charan, is already creating massive buzz ahead of its March 27, 2026 release. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana and produced by Venkata Sathish Kilaru under Vruddhi Cinemas, the film gained extraordinary momentum with its first song, "Chikiri Chikiri," which has now turned into a global viral sensation.

The chartbuster track has stormed past 100 million views, sparking an online wave of reels, shorts, and dance covers from fans worldwide. Riding on this remarkable response, the makers unveiled an exclusive making video titled "Behind the Chikiri Madness," giving audiences a closer look at the effort and energy behind the viral hit.

The behind-the-scenes footage reveals that the song's key sequence was shot at a stunning hill station accessible only after a 45-minute uphill trek. The climb was not just picturesque but also strenuous, with the team navigating

steep and tricky terrains using ropes for support. Despite the challenges, Ram Charan effortlessly delivered the signature hook step in the breathtaking natural backdrop, reflecting his dedication and physical stamina.

The making video showcases the meticulous planning required to pull off such a visually captivating song. From choreographing high-energy steps in uneven terrain to coordinating camera movements in a rugged outdoor setting, the crew's passion is evident in every frame. The scenic location, combined with Ram Charan's electrifying screen presence, contributed significantly to the song's massive appeal.

With Peddi already riding high on unprecedented hype, the success of "Chikiri Chikiri" has further elevated expectations. As anticipation builds toward the film's release, fans await more glimpses of the world Buchi Babu Sana has crafted—one that blends raw emotion, powerful visuals, and Charan's commanding performance into a promising cinematic experience.

Star entertainer Naveen Polishetty is back in action with his upcoming film Anaganaga Oka Raju, promising audiences a laughter-filled festive season as Sankranti approaches.

On screen, Naveen is paired with Meenakshi, and the duo showcases a vibrant chemistry that elevates the visual appeal of the lyrical video. Their playful interactions and energetic presence complement the song's celebratory spirit.

The song marks a special milestone for Naveen as it features his debut as a playback singer. Bringing his lively persona into the recording studio, he infuses the track with infectious enthusiasm, making it a perfect festive cel-

lulation number. With pulsating beats and an instantly catchy rhythm, "Bhimavaram Balma" is designed to get audiences grooving.

On screen, Naveen is paired with Meenakshi, and the duo showcases a vibrant chemistry that elevates the visual appeal of the lyrical video. Their playful interactions and energetic presence complement the song's celebratory spirit.

The musical backbone of the track is crafted by Mickey J Meyer, whose upbeat composition ensures the number stays in the listener's mind long after it ends. Chandrabose adds a trendy linguistic flair to the song with his catchy lyrics, enhancing its mass

appeal. The female vocals by Nutana Mohan beautifully balance Naveen's spirited singing, creating a lively duet dynamic.

Adding to the visual charm is Sekhar Master's choreography, which blends festive dance movements with modern flair. The colorful frames, vibrant costumes, and dynamic steps make the song a wholesome audio-visual treat.

With "Bhimavaram Balma," the makers of Anaganaga Oka Raju have set the tone for a fun-filled festive entertainer. The song's strong reception has further amplified expectations, positioning the film as one of the most exciting releases of the coming season.

Tere Ishk Mein: Fair Start, Weak Finish



Dhanush and director Anand L Rai reunite for the romantic drama Tere Ishk Mein, which hit theatres on November 28, 2025. Co-starring Kriti Sanon and Prakash Raj, the film arrived with solid buzz but ultimately delivers an uneven cinematic experience. Produced by Anand L Rai, Himanshu Sharma, Bhushan Kumar, and Krishan Kumar, the film features music by A.R. Rahman, whose score and songs provide strong emotional depth.

The story revolves around Shankar Gurukka (Dhanush), a violent college student battling uncontrollable rage. Mukti Behnwaal (Kriti Sanon), a dedicated PhD student, works on a thesis proposing that even the most aggressive individuals can be rehabilitated through specific scientific and psychological treatments. Determined to prove her theory, she attempts to reform Shankar, setting off a chain of events that change both their lives in unpredictable ways.

Despite outstanding performances and Rahman's evocative music, Tere Ishk Mein struggles to maintain momentum. A promising beginning gives way to a muddled and stretched finale, resulting in a film that falls short of its potential.